

Report to PPERRIA, 4-24-06

Items:

- I. Central Corridor DEIS
- II. Dining Out for Life at Saint Martin's Table
- III. Sustainability Indicators
- IV. Wind Turbines
- V. Tower Bistro
- VI. Garage at 1547 E River Terr
- VII. Industrial Land Use study

- I. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Central Corridor LRT line is available to view. It can be viewed online at www.centralcorridor.com – click on the “links and documents” link. It can also be viewed in person at any St. Paul public library. There will be a public hearing about the DEIS on Monday, May 22nd, 6:30 PM, at the Radisson Metrodome, 615 Washington Ave SE.
- II. Please join me April 27th at St. Martin's Table, 2001 Riverside Avenue for lunch (12-1pm) and a portion of the proceeds will go to the Aliveness Project, which provides supportive services for HIV-infected Minnesotans. Then have dinner at one or more of the other Second Ward participating restaurants, (among the 103 statewide). They include Prospect Park's own Cupcake, the Birchwood, Pizza Luce, the Clicquot Club, the Longfellow Grill, the Village Wok and the Signature Café. For more information visit: www.diningoutforlife.com.
- III. In March, the Council approved amended Sustainability Indicators and targets. These offer the potential to help drive City decisions and activities in a positive direction. They are available here: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/environment/Sustainability-Initiatives.asp
- IV. I have introduced a change to the zoning code to broaden and expand the allowable uses of electricity-generating wind turbines in Minneapolis. I believe that the solution to our energy problems is not just to increase the amount of renewable energy we use, but to increase the amount we generate in the urban environment.
- V. I have heard concerns from neighbors about some aspects of the proposed bistro for the old Tower Grocery site, including parking, noise and liquor license concerns. As this development works its way through the process, I will be actively engaging the immediate neighbors, the owner of the building and prospective business owners and PPERRIA's zoning and land use committee. I am hopeful that we can come to consensus and make the most of this exciting opportunity to establish another community-centered small business in Prospect Park.
- VI. At the request of the PPERRIA zoning and land use committee, I have asked the Planning Commission to postpone the hearing on Warren Czaia's application for expansion of a non-conforming use to allow construction of a detached garage for a duplex in an R1 district and variance for garage side setback from 6 feet to 1.5 feet. The decision about whether to postpone or not will be made by the Planning Commission.

VII. The Industrial Land Use study has come out with a new Draft Summary and Redevelopment Analysis. SEMI is one of the areas the study focuses on (pages 20-23 of the Redevelopment Analysis are devoted to SEMI). Both documents can be viewed here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/industrial-landuse.asp>.