

Report to WBCC, 3-15-06

- Items:**
- I. Wi-Fi forum on 3-6-06
 - II. Wi-Fi pilot project
 - III. Wi-Fi Community Benefits meeting 3-16-06
 - IV. Community Policing Initiative
 - V. Commuter Challenge Bike/Walk event 5-19-06
 - VI. Ward 2 Blog
 - VII. Cam at the Cedars
 - VIII. Industrial Land Use Study Meeting
 - IX. Ward 2 Land Use and Transportation forum 4-11-06
 - X. Development projects near Plaza
 - XI. Carlson School meeting
 - XII. Transportation Action Plan Workshops

- I. I held a forum about the proposed wireless broadband (Wi-Fi) network, the Cedar/Riverside pilot project and the potential Community Benefits Agreement on March 6th. Minutes of the meeting are available on the Ward 2 website:
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward2/>
- II. The Wi-Fi pilot project in the Cedar Riverside neighborhood will be starting soon. I have heard that there will be opportunities for residents to test the network at the Coyle center during the pilot.
- III. The Alliance for Metropolitan Stability is holding a series of meetings to design the Community Benefits Agreement that we're working to make part of the Wi-Fi network contract. There will be a public meeting tomorrow, 3-16-06, at 5:30 PM, at 2525 E Franklin Ave, Suite 200,. Please call (612)332-4471 to RSVP and visit <http://digitalaccess.org> for more information.
- IV. The Minneapolis Police Department is holding an event to update residents on the ongoing Community Policing Initiative. It takes place Thursday, March 30th, from 4-6 pm at the Zurah Shrine Center, 2540 Park Ave S. A report on the Initiative will be posted on the City website on the 30th, and if you can't attend the event, please email comments to police@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.
- V. May is Bike Month, and Minneapolis will again be celebrating the Commuter Challenge Bike/Walk Event, which encourages commuters to get to work using healthier, more environmentally-friendly transportation modes. This year's event will take place on May 19th. If you're interested in helping to plan the event and/or getting the West Bank connected to it, please call Mackenzie Turner at 670-3987 or email her at: mturner@mplstmo.org.

- VI.** Starting today, my office will be regularly updating a public policy weblog (commonly known as a “blog”). For a link, email me at cam.gordon@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. The blog will outline some of what I’m working on, give the reasons for my votes and other actions, and share some stories of life in City Hall. Please feel welcome to comment on my posts. I hope this can be an effective tool for residents of the West Bank to know what I’m up to, understand my reasoning and give me feedback in a public forum.
- VII.** I will be holding a public meeting at 630 Cedar on March 20th at 6:30pm. There will be a Somali translator. Please stop by and share your thoughts and concerns.
- VIII.** There will be an industrial land use forum for the West Bank/Seward/Longfellow area on Tuesday, March 21st, 6:30pm to 8:30pm, at the Longfellow Community Center, 3435 36th Ave S. The questions I distributed with my last report will be asked and results made part of the study’s findings. I encourage all interested West Bank residents to participate. For more information, please visit: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/industrial-landuse.asp>
- IX.** As part of my ongoing series of community forums on issues of importance to residents of the Second Ward, I will be holding a forum on land use and transportation policy on April 11th, 6:30-8:30 pm, at Pratt School, 66 Malcolm Ave SE. The City is engaged in discussion about long-term land use planning, especially focused on industrial land uses. Should we preserve industrial land uses in the city? We are also in the midst of establishing a 10-year transportation plan for the city. I believe this planning can only be successful with input from residents.
- X.** I continue to work with CPED staff to help move the development projects between Riverside Plaza and the Coyle center along. The City has allocated up to \$900,000 to help with these projects. I remain excited about the potential of this area, and will continue to help in any way I can.
- XI.** The University of MN is holding another consulting meeting regarding the proposed addition to the Carlson School of Management on Friday, March 24, 2006, 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, at the Humphrey Center, 301 19th Avenue South, room 180. Please RSVP to Carolyn, manth002@umn.edu, by Friday, March 17.
- XII.** The City of Minneapolis is hosting a series of workshops to give the public an opportunity to share their ideas on how the City can improve its transportation system. The workshops will provide an overview of the City’s 10-Year Transportation Action Plan, which is under development, and will provide information on the transportation challenges facing the City. The nearest workshop to the West Bank will be held on Thursday, April 20, 6:30–8:30 pm, at the CWA Hall, 3521 East Lake Street.