



9th Ward E-News

From Minneapolis Council Member Gary Schiff

2008 National Night Out Edition

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9th Ward E-News
twice monthly!
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Hiawatha public works facility to go green



Brad Kaspari and Carolyn Braaksma have been selected to design public art for the city's new Hiawatha Maintenance Facility.

The city's former concrete and asphalt plant, at 26th Street and Hiawatha Avenue in Phillips, will undergo a dramatic transformation later this year when ground is broken for a new facility. When complete, the \$15 million Hiawatha Maintenance Facility will be the highest rated environmentally-friendly building ever built by a city in Minnesota.

The building will house over 300 employees who build and maintain the city's sewers, bridges and streets.

According to Council Member Schiff, 25 percent of the site will be landscaped, including the planting of nearly 300 trees. Impermeable pavement will help manage storm water on site, and buildings will feature the latest in energy efficiency. The former asphalt processing plant will be removed and replaced with an asphalt storage silo that does not emit fumes.

Two artists, Brad Kaspari and Carolyn Braaksma are designing large-scale public art for the site.

"This project demonstrates the city's commitment to sustainability while we maintain our roads, bridges and sewers," Council Member Schiff said.

A public presentation explaining the sustainability components of the new buildings will be taking place at the August 14th East Phillips board meeting at Holy Rosary Church, 1614 East 24th Street.



The new Hiawatha Maintenance facility will house over 300 city workers who fix city roads, sewers and bridges.

New policy eases options for more speed bumps



Speed bumps can be an effective traffic calming technique.

Council Member Gary Schiff is sponsoring a new policy to make it easier for neighborhoods to pay for speed bumps, a vital tool for traffic calming. The new policy allows property owners to spread out costs over time as voluntary assessments. "In the past, speed bumps had to be paid for up front, which has proven to be a barrier for most neighborhoods," Schiff says.

Due to rising oil prices, asphalt speed bumps are costly. A pair costs \$4,500 total, which includes construction engineering, installation and project administration.

The new policy proposes residents submit two petitions in order to participate. The first petition must show that 75% of property owners do not object to the placement of a pair of speed bumps on the block. The second petition is signed only by property owners who are voluntarily agreeing to split the cost of the speed bump through a voluntary assessment, spread out over ten years. The

more property owners that agree to participate, the lower the cost per household. Schiff says the average city block has 26 properties and full participation could result in voluntary assessments as low as \$25 per household.

Serious crime drops second year in a row

Livability crimes remain number one neighborhood complaint

Serious crime rates have dropped for the second year in a row, including lower incidents of murder, rape, robbery and assault. Council Member Gary Schiff and Police Chief Tim Dolan credit the results to more resources for juveniles, investments in technology, community partnerships and more police officers.

Through June 2008, citywide violent crime fell 14 percent from 2007 and 27 percent from 2006. There has been a 31 percent drop in homicides from 2007 and 44 percent reduction since 2006. Other types of violent crime—rape, robbery and aggravated assaults—have seen a 13 percent drop from 2007. Statistics in the Third Precinct, which includes the Ninth Ward, show violent crime falling 8 percent in the past twelve months and 17 percent in the past two years.

Strategies to prevent youth violence have been a growing priority for the city. The new MPD juvenile unit has handled more than 2,000 cases of missing and runaway youth, robbery and assault. As a result, youth are being connected to supportive services at the first sign of violent behavior.

Over \$2 million in technology investments are also paying off. There are now more than 135 public safety cameras in high crime areas, many of which connect to gun shot sensors. The MPD has added 32 more officers to its ranks this year, bringing the total number of sworn officers to 879, the highest number since 2000. For more information about crime statistics and anti-crime initiatives go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police.

Breakfast with Gary

Join Council Member Gary Schiff for breakfast the final Friday of every month. Hear guest speakers and learn about topics important to you.

Friday, August 29th, Gary welcomes newly appointed city attorney **Susan Segal** and **Police Chief Tim Dolan**. Both will talk about **new strategies for prosecuting livability crimes such as drug dealing and prostitution**.

Breakfast with Gary takes place 7:30-9:00am at Mercado Central, 1515 East Lake St. \$5 buys breakfast.

Ecuadorian community celebrates consulate



15,000 Ecuadorians live in Minneapolis, the highest concentration north of Quito.

After five years of presence on Lake Street, the Ecuadorian government has approved consulate status for its Minnesota office, previously an honorary consulate. The office will join Canada and Mexico as the third consulate in Minnesota.

On August 9th and 10th the Ecuadorian Civic Committee will holding on a block event on 13th Avenue at Lake Street. There will be traditional Latin American food, live music, dance and children's activities beginning at 10:00 a.m. each day. This event will celebrate the Ecuadorian Independence and honor honorary Consul Mr. Juan Moreno. The Ecuadorian independence's celebration will take place on Sunday, August 10 at 12: 30 p.m. For more information call 612-716-1667 or email comcivecu@hotmail.com.

There are an estimated 15,000 Ecuadorians living in Minneapolis. After five years of presence on Lake Street, the Ecuadorian government has approved consulate status for its Minnesota office, previously an honorary consulate. The office will join Canada and Mexico as the third consulate in Minnesota.

En Agosto 9 y 10 el comité Cívico Ecuatoriano tendrá un evento de vecindario en la avenida 13 en la calle Lake. Habrá comida Latinoamericana tradicional, música en vivo, baile y actividades para niños comenzando a las 10:00am durante los dos días. Este evento será para celebrar la Independencia de Ecuador y para festejar la Cónsul honorario Juan Moreno, que después de servir 5 años a la comunidad Ecuatoriana se retira. La celebración de la Independencia Ecuatoriana y la ceremonia de despedida para el Sr. Juan Moreno tomara lugar el Domingo, Agosto 10 a las 12:30 p.m. para mas información llamar al tel: 612 716-1667 o enviar correo a: comcivecu@hotmail.com.

Hay mas de 15,000 Ecuatorianos viviendo en Minneapolis. Después de cinco años en Lake Street, el gobierno ecuatoriano ha aprobado el consulado oficial en Minnesota, que antes era un consulado honorario. Será el tercer consulado en Minnesota junto con Canadá y México.



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