



August 2008

Eighth Ward News

"Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Field-Regina-Northrop, Kingfield, Powderhorn"

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

Subscribe to 8th Ward E-news by sending an e-mail to:

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Neighborhood Meetings

Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council
www.bancroftneighborhood.org
Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 pm
4120 17th Avenue South

Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Organization
Meets 1st Tuesday, 7 pm
Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

Central

CANDO
Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm
Sabathani Community Center
310 East 38th Street, Room 304

Central Weed & Seed
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 5:30 pm
Green Central School

Field-Regina-Northrop

www.frnng.org
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7 pm
1620 E 46th Street

Kingfield

www.kingfield.org
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm
ML King Park, 40th & Nicollet

Powderhorn

www.ppna.org
Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm
821 E 35th Street

38th & Chicago

38th & Chicago Implementation
Committee
Meets 3rd Monday, 6:30 pm
Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago Ave S

The Future of NRP

For the last 20 years, the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) has provided funding for neighborhood-designated needs, with a requirement that over 50% of funds be used for housing programs. Because the current NRP expires at the end of 2009, the City Council has been working on options for continuing this program in a new phase to begin in 2010. Due to the work of our Minneapolis delegation in the 2008 legislative session, funding for post-2009 NRP was made available by reauthorizing redevelopment districts (TIF funding, or capturing property tax revenue a specified purpose) for several Minneapolis commercial properties. Unfortunately, Hennepin County, a critical partner in the first 20 years of NRP, has to date not agreed to participate in future funding for NRP.

On August 20, 2008, at 5pm, in Room 317 of City Hall, the City Council will hold a public hearing on the final report of the NRP work group, titled **Framework for the Future**. You can review the latest version of the report and all related documents at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement.as. What's in the report? A proposal for the future focus, funding, and governance of the NRP program. The report also includes responses to many of the comments submitted by individuals and neighborhood organizations to an earlier version of the **Framework for the Future** in April 2008.

You can submit written comments on the **Framework**, in lieu of appearing at the public hearing, until September 11, 2008. The City Council will consider adoption of the report at its September 12th meeting (Committee of the Whole). Written comments may be forwarded to Committee Clerk Anissa Hollingshead at anissa.hollingshead@ci.minneapolis.mn.us or by mail to her at Council Committee Clerk, 350 South 5th Street, Room 304, Minneapolis, MN 55415.

The Council has also begun to receive information, through its Ways & Means Committee, on the funding for NRP provided by the reauthorized TIF districts. Decisions about reauthorizing the TIF districts will impact NRP funding, debt relief for the Target Center, and property taxes. All presentations regarding NRP will be posted on the community engagement website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement.asp.

Budget Time at City Hall

Although summer is not yet over, work has begun in earnest on the City's 2009 budget. Mayor Rybak will present his proposed 2009 budget on August 14, 2008. The City Council, and its Ways & Means Committee, will meet throughout September and October to review the budget and listen to presentations from each department. The 2009 budget will be adopted in December, after the Council holds a "truth and taxation hearing" on December 1 at 5 pm. Stay tuned for more information on the City budget process, including short and long-term implications for property taxes.

Hot Fun at Southside Festival: August 23rd

The seventh annual Southside Community Festival and Get Out the Vote Drive is guaranteed to bring the heat once again this summer. The festival at Green Central School & Park will feature the **Westside Band**, the **Mexican Hat Dancers**, and the **Green Central Steppers**. R&B sensation **Kendra Glenn** and the **Art of Dance** are also scheduled to perform, along with many other exciting acts.

This year the festival will start with a drum roll: the **UNL Drill Team** and **Mystic Toyz** will lead a parade around the neighborhood within two blocks of the park. Many political candidates are scheduled to appear and there will be ample opportunity for on-site voter registration. An additional treat is a boxing tournament sponsored by **Circle of Discipline**, featuring amateur champions. As always, there will be food, games for kids, and face painting.

The **Southside Community Festival** takes place **August 23rd, 2008, 11am – 5pm, at Green Central Gym & Park (3400 4th Avenue South).**

Neighborhood Arts: Plays by Area Youth

If you are looking for some incredible entertainment right in the 8th Ward, the Pillsbury House Theatre's Chicago Avenue Project has an upcoming performance – free to the public – that you should check out. **Up and Away** is a collection of short plays written by eight neighborhood youth and performed, directed, and mentored by some of the area's top theatre professionals. The performances are a culmination of playmaking classes, a writing retreat, and rehearsals over a one-month period.

Performances of these eight world premiers take place on August 25th at 7pm and August 26th at 4:30pm and 7pm at 3501 Chicago Ave S. All performances are free. You can get more information about Pillsbury House

Theatre and the Chicago Avenue Project at www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org.

Early Mornings with Elizabeth: August 15th

Early Mornings with Elizabeth is a monthly community breakfast for 8th Ward residents at Turtle Bread, 48th & Chicago, 7:30-9am every fourth Friday. In order to bring you some great speakers on **Building Community through Traffic Calming**, Early Mornings will meet on the special date of August 15, 2008.

Our featured speaker is author and sought-after-speaker **Jay Walljasper**, who will talk about **creative solutions for traffic calming issues** and how to **create great spaces for pedestrians, bikers, transit and cars**. We also welcome **Charleen Zimmer**, the project manager for **Access Minneapolis**, the City's Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan, and **Anna Flintoft**, who has guided the development of the City's new Pedestrian Master Plan (www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/trans-plan/). Please join us August 15th, 7:30 – 9 am at Turtle Bread, for a great program!

Youth Forum: August 13th

On **Wednesday, August 13th**, neighborhood youth – with assistance from partners including the Circle of Discipline, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association, and the 8th Ward City Council office – have planned a **Youth Forum**. The **Youth Forum** will take place from 5:30 – 8 pm, at Powderhorn Park (3400 15th Ave S).

The **Youth Forum** is a great opportunity for young people to learn about employment options, after school activities, and youth violence reduction models. Adults are encouraged to attend and hear from young people about issues important to them! In addition to a panel presentation on safety and youth jobs, the **Youth Forum** will feature a live DJ, youth entertainment, and free pizza. For more information contact: Andrea Jenkins, 8th Ward Policy Aide at (612) 673-2208 or Shonda Allen, PPNA Community Organizer at (612) 722-4817.

Stay in Touch with Elizabeth!

Join Elizabeth for her **community office hours** every Monday, 9-11am, at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E 38th Street, Room 129. Call for an appointment or just stop by to visit. You can always contact the 8th Ward office directly with your questions at (612) 673-2208 or elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

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