



November 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:

elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

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
Helps 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, 6:30 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, 7 pm
Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago Ave S

Deliberations Continue on 2009 City Budget

Mayor Rybak presented his proposed 2009 budget on August 14th, with major policy decisions for the council on how to address a backlog of street maintenance and infrastructure needs. Since that time, the world has changed – it is clear that the credit crisis will negatively impact state and city revenues, as well as the pocketbooks of Minneapolis residents.

Just weeks ago, Minneapolis learned that because of the downturn in the investment market, the City (and thus the taxpayers) will likely need to pay **an additional \$38 million on pension obligations**. Payment of these obligations must be balanced with the need to maintain essential city services, such as public safety, continued investment in small businesses and commercial corridors, and the need to maintain streets and infrastructure that will only be more expensive to repair as time passes.

Throughout September and October, the City's Ways & Means committee has conducted budget hearings. What remains?

- **December 1, 5:00pm**, City Hall, 350 South 5th Street, Room 317 – **Truth in Taxation hearing** (public hearing for all city residents to speak about the budget)
- **December 5 (9am – 5pm) – Budget Mark-up** (Ways & Means committee members will move amendments to the Mayor's proposed budget)
- **December 11 (5pm) – Budget Adoption** (full Council votes on the budget)

We invite you to a **Community Meeting on the Mayor's Proposed 2009 Budget**. This is an important opportunity to learn how the budget may impact property taxes, review policy choices at issue this year, and weigh in on funding choices. Heather Johnston, Minneapolis' Budget Director, and Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden will be on hand to present budget information and answer questions. The **2009 Budget Review meeting will be held on Monday, November 24th, 6:30pm, at Calvary Lutheran Church, 3901 Chicago Ave, in the fellowship hall (located in the basement)**. Please contact Elizabeth at (612) 673-2208 or elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us if you would like more information but are unable to attend the meeting.

Celebration in Honor of Rep. Neva Walker on Nov. 20th



Please join your friends and neighbors at a **community celebration in honor of retiring State Representative Neva Walker (61B)**. This is an opportunity to thank Neva for her advocacy on behalf of our neighborhoods; for her policy work on behalf of mental health, affordable housing, youth and education, seniors, and much more; for her work to mentor young people; and for her leadership as the first black woman to serve in the Minnesota Legislature.

Featuring presentations by Dr Josie Johnson and Dr Mahmoud El-Kati, the celebration will include a DJ, youth entertainment, and light refreshments.

The Celebration honoring Neva Walker is **Thursday, November 20th, 5:30-7:30 pm, at Powderhorn Park Rec Center, 3400 15th Ave S.** We hope to see you there!

Openings on City Boards and Commissions



The City of Minneapolis is accepting applications for positions on several boards and commissions. Information on open positions, including application forms, is available at the City Clerk's office by calling (612) 673-3358 or at

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/. Current openings include:

- **Minneapolis Arts Commission** (2 open positions - closes 11/14/08)
- **Minneapolis Housing Board of Appeals** (1 open position and 1 alternate - closes 11/21/08)
- **Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission** (7 open positions for Minneapolis residents - closes

11/19/08). The newly created Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission will shape how the City engages its residents and works with neighborhood and community organizations. The Commission will also oversee programming details and funding for neighborhood revitalization work.

City Communications Department Wins Emmy



In late 2007, the City's Communications Department produced a short video on the City's response to the I-35W bridge collapse, titled *Minneapolis Responds*. In October 2008, the **Minneapolis Responds video was awarded a regional EMMY** from the Midwest chapter of the National

Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. EMMYs are awarded for outstanding television production, and are presented in various sectors of the television industry at ceremonies held throughout the year.

We congratulate the entire staff of the Communications Department for their achievement, and project lead Casper Hill in particular. The video itself reflects the outstanding work done by every city department in the minutes, hours and days after the I-35W tragedy.

Lost Your Job? Need Help for Your Business? Resources are Available



Minneapolis residents who have lost their job during the current recession can turn to resources being offered by the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Central Library and the State of Minnesota.

- The City of Minneapolis provides employment and training services to individual workers who lose their jobs through no fault of their own due to closings, reorganizations, or other permanent layoffs and who need assistance with the transition to new employment. Free services include career counseling, skill updating, retraining and job search assistance. For service locations, and other information for those seeking employment, call (612) 673-5298 or go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/metp.asp.
- The Minneapolis Central Library also offers workshops on job searching, resume writing and other employment assistance. Information can be found at www.hclib.org/pub/events/AllEventsAction.cfm and search for "employment."

City financial programs to assist Minneapolis businesses have been enhanced in response to current economic conditions. More information is available at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/business-finance.asp or by contacting Bob Lind at (612) 673-5068.

- The **Working Capital Guaranty Program**, retooled with assistance from the small business community and banking partners, is designed to help small businesses regain access to working capital in the marketplace. The City now guarantees up to 80% of working capital term loans or lines of credit, with a maximum guarantee of \$75,000.
- **2% Loans** for building improvements and production equipment. The City, in partnership with banks, funds half of the loan up to a designated maximum.

for the park system and is seeking community input in late 2008 and throughout 2009.

The CIP is a prioritized list of infrastructure improvements that guides long-term investment and rehabilitation in the park system. The resulting plan for each activity will identify infrastructure changes or improvements as well as programming opportunities for that activity. The review will begin with biking/walking/rolling activities and field sports. Potential activities for future review include winter recreation, court sports, and environmental programming.

To complete a survey go to www.minneapolisparcs.org. Public meetings will be held in early 2009, with details available at www.minneapolisparcs.org after January 1st or by calling 612-230-6400.

Make 911 Work Better for You in an Emergency



When there's an emergency, 911 is the quickest way to get assistance from police, firefighters or ambulance EMS teams. If you are in doubt about whether to call 911 or 311, call 911! 911 operators will quickly assess your situation and are trained to assess emergencies.

Here's what you should know if you ever need to call 911:

- Stay on the line until your call is answered. Hanging up and re-dialing will slow the response to your call.
- State the location of the emergency and the number you are calling from. If you are calling about a crime at a business or residential property, state the exact address *if you are able*.
- State your emergency immediately after the 911 operator answers. For example, say "I want to report a car accident" or "My neighbor's house is on fire."

Park Board Seeking Input for Capital Improvement Program (CIP)



The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is developing a new Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

- Follow all instructions and answer all questions – the 911 operator is trained to ask questions and guide the conversation to get relevant information as quickly as possible.
- When calling 911, all situations are prioritized according to the severity of the situation. For instance, a crime in progress will take precedent over one that has already occurred. If the situation at your emergency changes for better or worse, call 911 again so the operator can reassess your situation.

When to call 311? Minneapolis 311 is designed for non-emergency city assistance and information; operators are available from 7 am to 11 pm Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

referendum, and the oversight committee, is available at www.mpls.k12.mn.us.

Ward 8 Community Office Hours



Elizabeth holds community office hours every Monday, from 9-11:00 am at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th Street, Room 129. In Elizabeth’s absence for maternity leave, 8th Ward Policy Aide Andrea Jenkins will attend community office hours and meet with constituents – please drop by or call our office for a time certain meeting. Also, you can always call the 8th Ward Office with your questions at (612) 673-2208 or e-mail Andrea Jenkins with your questions at andrea.jenkins@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Strong Schools Referendum Approved



On November 4th, over 70% of Minneapolis voters approved support for the “Strong Schools Strong City” Referendum. The Referendum will provide \$60 million per year to the Minneapolis Public Schools

(MPS) for the next 8 years, starting with the 2009-10 school year. The new referendum replaces the existing referendum of \$29 million per year, which will expire this school year. The overwhelming rate of approval for the referendum is particularly striking since most Minneapolis residents do not have children attending Minneapolis public schools.

MPS has taken strong measures to ensure accountability to Minneapolis residents by establishing a referendum oversight committee. The committee will review referendum expenditures annual and draft an annual public report analyzing whether referendum funds are spent as intended and promised. More information about the