



City of Minneapolis

Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

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Community Office Hours Are Here!

Thanks to the generosity of Sabathani Community Center, Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden will hold community office hours in the heart of the 8th Ward every Monday morning from 9 – 11 a.m. Please stop by to visit and discuss neighborhood and city-wide issues. If you would like more information, please call the 8th Ward Office at 612.673.2208.

8th Ward Community Office Hours

Monday mornings, 9-11 am

Sabathani Community Center- 310 E 38th Street, Room 129.

We look forward to meeting you!

Spring and Summer Safety Strategies

On March 30th, Councilmember Glidden hosted a stakeholder meeting between various law enforcement agencies and neighborhood representatives to outline measures being taken to address crime and safety concerns. A series of community meetings are being scheduled to engage the broader community in these discussions. The first meeting is:

Summer Safety Strategies:

April 25th, Powderhorn Park Community Center 3400 15th Ave South, 7-9 pm

Graffiti News: New Solutions and Reports Now Taken by 311

Starting this summer, the Solid Waste and Recycling department will offer a new solution for graffiti removal – it will remove graffiti from sensitive surfaces (such as stucco, brick, and metal) and graffiti more than eight feet above ground. The City already offers free paint-over solutions for non-sensitive surfaces. After graffiti is reported (**call 311 to report!**) the City will notify the property owner that graffiti must be removed from his or her property. If a property owner does not respond in 10 days, the City will remove the graffiti and assess the property owner for the service. The City will also apply, for cost at residents' request, a protective coating to sensitive surfaces which makes graffiti removal much easier and cheaper. The City Council approved funding for this program of \$350,000 at its most recent Council meeting.

Youth Violence Prevention Grant

The City of Minneapolis, at its March 31st meeting, voted unanimously in support of a \$500,000 grant program targeted for Youth Violence Prevention. The money will be awarded over a two-year period to community based organizations that serve youth ages 10-18, who are disconnected and at risk of joining gangs. A request for proposals will be issued in late April, with the goal that grants will be awarded by June 1st so that additional programming will serve our youth during the summer months. For more information, call the Minneapolis Department of Health at 311 or the 8th Ward Office at 612.673.2208.

Transportation Issues

Crosstown Commons Reconstruction

Construction will begin this summer on the Crosstown Commons reconstruction project. To keep residents up to date on this major project, the City of Minneapolis has a website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/cip/35w/>. In addition, the City's Public Works Department will host an informational meeting about the project in May 2006, which will be attended by staff from the Police and Fire Departments, as well as MN-DOT. The 8th Ward Office will provide an update allocation for the meeting are confirmed.

Transit on I-35W

As part of the Crosstown Commons project, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) will be introduced on I-35W. BRT requires dedicated bus lanes on I-35W, which will permit the busses to travel at 55 mph. A transit station for BRT is planned for the 46th Street Bridge. We invite you to join neighbors, elected officials, and staff from MN-DOT, Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County to discuss BRT and how it might serve our neighborhoods. A first meeting on BRT was held February 27th and attended by over 50 residents. Please join us on April 24th and make your voice heard! Contact the 8th Ward office for more information at 612.673.2208.

Martin Luther King Park Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis

Monday April 24, at 7 pm

Help Develop Minneapolis' 10-Year Transportation Action Plan

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 City is focusing on improvements for bicyclists, walkers, and transit, as well as automobiles. The Transportation Plan will include new street design guidelines and a transit and street operations plan for downtown. Please attend this upcoming meeting on the 10-year Transportation Action Plan:

Martin Luther King Park Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 27, 2006

Meet your 8th Ward Staff

Many of you met our temporary Council Associate Molly Richardson via phone or e-mail over the past few months. Molly's engaging personality and helpful manner quickly endeared her to many of our constituents. However, Molly has decided to pursue her goal of attending Law School and will be matriculating to the University of Iowa Law School this coming fall. Help us extend our deepest gratitude to Molly for her dedication to neighbors in the 8th Ward.

On that note we'd like to introduce you to Jennifer White, who is the new Council Associate. Jennifer is a recent graduate of the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts, majoring in African American studies and Sociology. Jennifer has worked in the Public Works and Human Resources departments at the City of Minneapolis and her many skills include speaking fluent Spanish. We are thrilled to have her join our team!

Feel Free to contact our office at:(612) 673-2208