
12TH WARD UPDATE

Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

February 2003

**Sign up for the monthly Update by sending an e-mail with “Update” in the subject line to:
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Cub Foods Store Proposed at 46th and Minnehaha

Super Valu and Oppidan (Investment Company) have approached the city about developing a Cub Foods Store near 46th and Minnehaha. When they first talked with me, I asked them to wait for the community to complete the 46th Street LRT Station Area Master Plan. They did wait, and redrew their plan to more closely resemble the community’s plan, but there are significant differences. When Oppidan returned to me, after meeting with the Mayor, I asked them to take their plan out to the neighborhood before making any applications to the city. Longfellow Community Council plans to sponsor a meeting in February or March to give residents the chance to review the proposal. I remain committed to the vision created by the community through the planning process. My desire is to have as many people as possible see this proposal and hear from Oppidan, so that Oppidan can hear directly from area residents about what this community wants and expects. **Please watch your e-mail box for a special notice of the date and location for the LCC meeting once it’s set and find time to attend, or spread the word to a friend, or both.** I am excited to see interest in the area around the LRT station and look forward to hearing everyone’s opinion.

NRP

Before my time on the City Council, I was a volunteer active with NRP. I know that NRP has led to many improvements that have stabilized housing and made neighborhoods more livable, as well as developing a mechanism in each neighborhood for decision making.

On January 31st, I voted in favor of a five-year financial direction to department managers. Part of that plan is \$33 million for community development. The difficult discussion now before us is how these resources will be used.

During the meeting, Council Member Johnson and I moved to delay the vote on the Minneapolis Housing Trust Fund, but lost. I supported delay of the Trust Fund allocation because I feel the discussion about spending any community development dollars should happen within the context of affordable housing, NRP, and the MCDA, not just one or two of these important activities. In the end, I did vote to establish the Trust Fund.

One of the encouraging points in the meeting came when the Mayor spoke in favor of my call for a blue ribbon task force to work on how we can plan and finance a continuation of the neighborhood capacity that has been built by NRP. I think it is as important to have, as he says, “the smartest people,” working on the future of NRP as it is for affordable housing.

I invite everyone to provide input as the process moves forward. We are faced with very challenging decisions, and as we approach a decision on how to divide community development funds, it will be important to understand what residents in the 12th Ward expect from the city in the areas of taxes, core city services, and community development.

Housing Trust Fund

As you may already know, I voted last Friday with a strong majority of the City Council to establish the first municipal housing trust fund in Minnesota. Affordable housing is an issue of demonstrated need in Minneapolis and the establishment of the housing trust fund is a major step forward.

During Council deliberations, I supported a motion to postpone the vote on the housing trust fund resolution because I wanted to discuss the funding of affordable housing within the context of all community development functions, including NRP and the MCDA. When the motion failed, I was happy to support the trust fund resolution because of its importance to the future of the city.

I have always (for 25 years) been supportive of practical efforts to put people into affordable, decent homes while not taxing other people out of theirs - a very difficult balance to strike.

I sincerely hope, now that the Trust is in place, the dedicated volunteers for affordable housing will turn their efforts to connecting with the neighborhood organizations and the citizen volunteers involved there, on the very difficult issue of finding locations throughout our community to accept affordable housing. Needed as it is for seniors, young families, and working people of all ages whose wages cannot keep up with the inflation of housing costs, affordable housing is not welcome or appropriate everywhere. Establishing the Trust was an enormous step in the right direction, but a lot of work remains on getting neighborhoods to accept affordable housing projects.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LONGFELLOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Patrick's Cabaret, 3010 Minnehaha Avenue South
February 13, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

HWY 55 SPEED LIMIT SUBCOMMITTEE

Hiawatha Park School, 4220 44th Avenue S
February 20th, 7 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: ETHICS ORDINANCE

Minneapolis City Hall, Room 317
February 24th, 1 p.m.

OPPIDAN CUB STORE PROPOSAL COMMUNITY MEETING

Call LCC for details (722-4529)

MONTHLY NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

SENA BOARD MEETING

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 4000 28th Avenue S
February 10, 7:00 p.m.

For more information, visit www.standish-ericsson.org

LCC BOARD MEETING

Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Avenue S
February 20, 7:00 p.m.

For more information, visit www.longfellow.org

NENA BOARD MEETING

3000 East 50th Street
February 27, 7:00 p.m.

For more information, visit www.nokomiseast.org

OPEN APPOINTMENTS

Deadline for application is February 14th.

Call City Clerk's Office (612-673-3358) for application

- Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee
- Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People With Disabilities
- Minneapolis Private Industry Workforce Council
- Public Health Advisory Committee
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee to the Mayor and City Council

For more information, visit

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/citywork/clerk/boards/open/index.asp>

Anti-Graffiti Efforts get Results

Minneapolis showed another quarterly reduction of graffiti incidents in December of 2002, bringing the citywide reduction for the year to 24% (909 incident decrease). In 2002, the police department made 77 arrests, an average of 6 graffiti arrests per month. This trend is the result of a city policy adopted 3 years ago to really treat graffiti as a crime and the practitioners as criminals.

Recently, an additional Community Service Office from the Police Department has been assigned to work on graffiti, allowing for improved tracking of graffiti activity and hopefully to speed up the removal of graffiti.

A new graffiti website will be coming soon with educational pieces, a tip-line on graffiti vandals, information on how to remove graffiti, and online reporting. PLEASE report all graffiti by calling 673-2090 (the hotline) or by filling out the online form at:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/contact/email-form-graffiti.asp>

Apartments in 70dnl to Receive Sound Insulation

A successful MAC pilot project for the sound insulation of multi-family residential buildings tested methods for reducing exterior sound in the buildings' living spaces. All of the methods tested exceeded the MAC's objective of reducing the interior sound level by five decibels.

Based on the positive results, MAC staff included funding in the airport's Capital Improvement Program for a multi-family building sound insulation program from 2003 to 2005. Approximately fifty buildings (900 units) located in the current 70dnl noise mitigation eligibility area will be treated.

As with the single family sound insulation program, buildings closest to the airport will be the first to participate. MAC anticipates that eight buildings with a total of 200 living units may be provided sound insulation in 2003

War Resolution

I received calls and e-mails from 12th Ward residents in support of a resolution opposing the possible war with Iraq. This resolution most recently appeared in front of the full City Council on January 31st. The Chair ruled the resolution out of order and his ruling was supported on a 7-5 vote by the Council.

I supported the Chair's ruling the resolution out of order, therefore voting not to debate the resolution, because I do not believe the voters elected me for my views on foreign policy. I was elected to create public policy for the City of Minneapolis, not to tell elected representatives at the federal level what they should do, and I truly believe those federal representatives will respond more to citizens who contact them directly than contacts through another government.

I wholeheartedly encourage everyone to continue to make your views heard, especially to our representatives in Washington D.C.

Your Suggestions Please!

The "12th Ward Update" is a work in progress. Please let me know what topics interest you or how this publication can be more useful.