May 2008

City of Minneapolis — Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

12th Ward Update

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New Ordinance:Stop Idling, Start Saving

Most of the air pollution in Minneapolis comes from gas- and diesel-powered traffic. The particulate matter, dirt, nitrous oxides, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide they release into the air are linked to increased rates of cancer, heart and lung disease and asthma and are the major source of human-caused global warming. Children are especially vulnerable to vehicle air pollution because their lungs are still developing, and they inhale more pounds of pollution per pound of body weight than adults do. According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, there were 178 days of "moderately unhealthy" air in our city in 2007.

And reducing idling saves money in fuel. In general, 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel then restarting the car and all vehicles get zero mpg when idling. Warming up a car's engine in winter needs no more than 30 seconds, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Engines generally pollute more when they are cold, and driving a vehicle cuts the warm-up time in half. Idling a cold engine actually pollutes more than driving it does, and idling is harder on the engine.

In Minneapolis, reducing vehicle idling will translate into substantially less air pollution. That is why Council member Colvin Roy introduced a new ordinance to restrict idling to no more than 3 minutes unless a vehicle has a need for the engine to be running in order to carry out its purpose, ie, fire trucks need the water to stay liquid in winter. Exceptions will allow more time to create cabin comfort if the temperature is below zero or above ninety degrees. The new ordinance will complement policies in place for the City's Police, Fire and Public Works that have already saved money.

Explaining her support for this change, Colvin Roy says "Attention from drivers to their own behavior can save them money while saving all of our lungs and helping to reduce a cause of global climate change. That's a good deal."

What impact will a Delta/NWA merger have on Noise Mitigation?

The short answer is "none". The current noise mitigation/ sound insulation program at MSP is the outcome of a lawsuit settlement agreement between Minneapolis, Richfield and Eagan and the Metropolitan Airports Commission. While Northwest Airlines was an intervening party to the cities' lawsuit, they are not a party to the Consent Decree which is the basis for the work.

Section 4.12 of the Consent Decree addresses circumstances which would be beyond the control of MAC which could trigger a "Force Majeure" event which could then result in delays to the program. Of these defined events, either a prolonged strike or a year over year reduction by more than 50% of operations at MSP might potentially be related to merger activity. It is unlikely either of these circumstances will result from the announced merger.

WIN $15,000 IMPROVEMENTS FOR YOUR HOME

The Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) wants to give energy-efficient improvements to one Minnesota house that uses a lot of energy. It will award up to $15,000 to the homeowner for the makeover and showcase the improvements on the Minnesota Energy Challenge Web site to show how energy improvements can save you money and help the environment.

Ten finalists will receive a complete energy analysis, an estimated $600 value. A random drawing will select 25 winners for prizes including certificates toward energy star appliances, programmable thermostats, compact fluorescent light bulbs, appliance energy meters and more.

May 15, 2008 is the application deadline. To apply, simply go online at www.mnenergychallenge.org and tell us about your home and why it should be selected for the Makeover Contest. For more info or a paper application, call CEE at (612) 335-5852.

350 S 5th Street, Room 307, Minneapolis, MN 55415 – Phone: 612-673-2212 – Sandra.Colvin.Roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Events & Special Meetings

Minnehaha AARP Spring Concert
May 1 1:00 pm Minnehaha United Methodist Church 3701 - East 50th St..

Midtown Farmers Market is Back!
May 3 8 am-1 pm Corner of E Lake St & 22nd Ave

Letter Carriers Food Drive
May 10 Nation's largest 1-day food drive. Place cans of food by your mailbox. Donations go to local food shelves.

MPS Area B Parent Advisory Council
May 15 6:30-8:00 pm, South High 3131 19th Ave. S. Contact Community Liaison Kristin Berg Thompson at kbergthompson@gmail.com.

NENA Annual Mtg & Silent Auction
May 15 6:30 Elections 7:30 Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 50th St & 37th Ave.

Stevens House Event
May 26 12-4 pm, Minnehaha Falls Park. Vintage games & toys, refreshments, tours & more.

Longfellow Shasta Planting
May 31 8:30-12:30 Volunteers needed to spread native prairie seed, plant oak trees & shrubs. Register at www.greatrivergreening.org or 651-665-9500 ext 11.

Street Sweeping Continues!
Visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/streetsweep, to find out which week your street is scheduled to be swept.

Open Appointments

Mpls Workforce Council
All applications due Friday, May 9th. For more information visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/index.asp

LCC Lands Graffiti Busting Grant

In the past, Longfellow Community Council has partnered with RE-MOV (Removing Existing Graffiti Marks of Vandalism) a resident created group that gathers weekly to clean graffiti off public property. The partnership created graffiti removal kits available at the LCC office to any resident. The kits contain all materials one would need to remove graffiti.

Now LCC is moving into a mural project to convert 3 frequently targeted buildings into canvases for community art. They hope to recruit 25-30 youth participants and an artist experienced with youth, community organizing, education and community art that is capable of taking an instructing position. The primary goals are neighborhood beautification, graffiti reduction and a positive engagement for young people with art and adults in their community. The project will be funded in part by a $4500 graffiti micro-grant from the city.

Lk Nokomis Community Schools Cinco de Mayo Carnival—May 2nd 5:30-8 at Wenonah, 5625 23rd Av S

This very popular Carnival is the schools' largest fundraiser of the year. Join students, staff and parents for an evening of fun.

2008 Goals from Chief Dolan

"Building on our successes. We reduced violent crime by 13% in 2007. This was accomplished by targeting top level offenders and increased enforcement of livability crimes and by coordinating MPD expertise and resources in our specialized units across the city.

Diversity in MPD is at an all-time high. We hired 48 new officers in 2007 and over 30 recruits graduated on Apr. 18th. Recruiting and retaining officers from diverse backgrounds is a top priority. It is important— it's the right thing to do and it builds community trust.

Our renewed commitment to improving public relations is also underscored by our new motto: To Protect with Courage, To Serve with Compassion. This statement best reflects what we do and how we do it. You'll see this new motto on our newly designed squad cars which will be phased in to the fleet over the next few years. Our new squads will be black and white with a large badge on the door."

Bits & Pieces

Paint -A-Thon Reminder: Application deadline is May 9th. For information call Diedre @ 612-721-8687, ext.321

Minneapolis is the 8th greenest metropolitan area in the country, according to Country Home magazine's "Best Green Places" study. The magazine examined data for 379 metro areas.

Foreclosure map now on web at: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/foreclosure/MortgageForeclosureMaps.asp