

## Report to SECIA, 4-4-06

### Items:

- I. Transportation Action Plan workshops
- II. Violence prevention grants
- III. Environmental initiatives
- IV. Reminder: Ward 2 Land Use and Transportation forum 4-11-06
- V. Billman properties egress windows

- I. 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 workshops will provide an overview of the City's 10-Year Transportation Action Plan, which is under development, and will provide information on the transportation challenges facing the City. The nearest workshop to Southeast Como will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 6 6:30 - 8:30 pm, at East Side Neighborhood Services, 1700 2<sup>nd</sup> St NE. More information is available at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news>.
- II. At the last Health, Energy and the Environment committee I moved and won unanimous passage of the Department of Health & Family Support's great plan for violence prevention. Under this program, HFS will allocate up to \$500,000 over two years of Local Public Health funds for violence prevention grants to community based organizations serving youth. At the last Council meeting I successfully changed the age range from 10-15 to 10-18, because I believe we should not be giving up even on our older at-risk kids. It is my hope that this program will have a direct impact on violence prevention this summer and next.
- III. My office is currently working on three separate environmental initiatives. 1) Looking into zoning obstacles to installing solar systems (both heat and PV). 2) Changing the current overly restrictive regulations of wind turbines in the City. 3) Significantly strengthening the City's green procurement policies and practices. We will keep in communication with SECIA on these initiatives. If you have additional ideas, please share them.
- IV. Please join me for a forum on land use and transportation policy on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm, at Pratt School, 66 Malcolm Ave SE. The City is engaged in an extensive land use study, especially focused on industrial land uses. We are also in the midst of establishing a 10-year transportation plan for the city. The City Council will likely face difficult policy decisions in the months ahead. Your participation and input will be greatly appreciated.

- V. Rodney Billman has applied for an expansion of a nonconforming use to allow egress windows in three properties: 941, 947 and 951 17<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. On 947 and 951, the first applied for, staff is recommending the application be denied. That application will be heard at the April 10<sup>th</sup> City Planning Commission (CPC) meeting. The expansion of nonconforming use application for 941 17<sup>th</sup> Ave SE will be going to the April 24<sup>th</sup> CPC meeting.