



City of Minneapolis — Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

12th Ward Update

Sign up for the monthly Update by sending an e-mail to sandra.colvin.roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

FREE CONFIDENTIAL MORTGAGE ADVICE

Home foreclosures are a difficult issue for an increasing number of homeowners, one that threatens a family's stability and financial future. While the 12th Ward is seeing far fewer foreclosures than other parts of the city, our neighborhoods are seeing a noticeable increase over 2006.

There are local nonprofits that work in partnership with the Minnesota Home Ownership Center to offer free, confidential, advice that will answer questions and help create a plan for homeowners who are experiencing problems with their mortgage. Resident can call 311 for help connecting with these services.

Information about the local nonprofits is also available by logging onto www.hocmn.org.

MPLS—FORBES 5TH CLEANEST CITY

Forbes magazine recently released a list of the top ten clean cities in the world. Minneapolis ranked fifth behind Calgary, Honolulu, Helsinki, and Ottawa.

This ranking focused on the “green” sense of clean rather than on garbage in the streets. Forbes also considered in the educational and business community.

Our efforts to reduce emissions, improve water quality, and embrace sustainable business practices surely brought Minneapolis to the top of the list. Forbes specifically mentioned our robust biking community as a factor in their rating.

Forbes article: www.forbes.com/2007/04/16/worlds-cleanest-cities-biz-logistics-cx_rm_0416cleanest.html

HIAWATHA BEACH TO REOPEN THIS SUMMER

After remaining closed for two seasons because of budget problems (NOT due to water quality as the sign at the beach once stated), Hiawatha Beach will be open for swimming this summer.

As with other small beaches in the park system, Lake Hiawatha will be open and staffed with a life guard Friday through Sunday. Beaches are open from Saturday, June 9 through Sunday, August 12.

HOW GREEN IS MINNEAPOLIS?

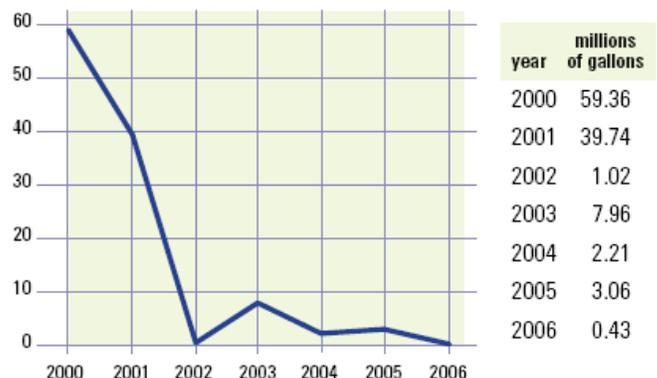
GREENPRINT REPORT TELLS THE STORY

The City of Minneapolis has produced *Minneapolis GreenPrint*, a roadmap used to track our efforts to sustain and enhance our environment. *Minneapolis GreenPrint* is based on a vision and goals developed by City leaders—the Mayor, City Council and citizens—to create a more ecologically sustainable city.

Minneapolis is considered one of the most environmentally-friendly cities around. We're known for our sparkling lakes and waterways, beautiful parks, vibrant neighborhoods. We want to keep it that way. That's why protecting and enhancing our environment is one of the City's top priorities. The graph at right shows a success story I am personally proud of the dramatic reduction of untreated sewage flowing into the river.

You can view the full report at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/GreenPrint07_home.asp

Combined sewer overflows into the Mississippi River in millions of gallons



Source: Metropolitan Council

During intense rainstorms, untreated sewage may overflow into the stormwater sewers and discharge into the Mississippi River. The City of Minneapolis has dramatically reduced this, both how often it happens and how much overflow ends up in the river.

EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

Midtown Public Market Opening

Saturday, May 5, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

22nd and Lake (Across from the Midtown YWCA)

10:00 Sheep Shearing

11:00 Storytime

<http://www.midtownfarmersmarket.org/index.html>

Blooms Day

Saturday – May 5, 9-1

Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E M'haha Pkwy

Talk to experts on plants, trees and water gardens. For more information about Blooms Day or to volunteer for the event, call Metro Blooms at 612-673-3014.

46th Street Transit Oriented Design Public Workshop

Tuesday, May 15, 7 p.m.

Hiawatha/Howe School Gymnasium

3rd Precinct Open House

Tuesday, May 15, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

E. Lake St. and Minnehaha

NENA Riverview Road Design Charrette

Tuesday, May 15, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Keewaydin Community Center

Nokomis Library Renovation Planning Meeting

Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m.

Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 E 50th Street

Crosstown Commons Construction Info Session

Thursday, May 24, 4:30 to 8 p.m.

Richfield Lutheran Church, 8 W 60th St.

Longfellow Gardens Planting Day

Saturday, May 26, 8:00 a.m. – noon

Call Teresa at (612) 230-6523 to volunteer

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

SENA Board Meeting

Monday, May 14, 7:00 p.m.

SENA office - 1830 East 42nd Street

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

LCC Board Meeting

Thursday, May 17, 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Hiawatha Park, 4305 42nd St. East

For more information, visit www.longfellow.org

NENA Board Meeting

Thursday, May 24, 7:00 p.m.

3000 East 50th Street

For more information, visit www.nokomiseast.org

WIRELESS BROADBAND PROJECT UPDATE

The City's WiFi project has been out of the news recently, but that doesn't mean the project has slowed down. Construction of the network is currently underway in Downtown and it will move into SW Minneapolis in May. We expect all 59 square miles of the city to be covered by a wireless broadband network by November of this year. You can view the complete roll-out schedule along with additional project information at: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/wirelessminneapolis/

Residents will be able to sign up for wireless accounts with US Internet that will provide wireless access anywhere in Minneapolis. For residents, this access will cost \$19.95 a month.

The City also signed a groundbreaking community benefits agreement (CBA) with US Internet. They will contribute millions of dollars to fund digital inclusion programs designed to promote Internet access and improved computer literacy to bridge the digital divide. The CBA also includes exciting provisions for free limited-time access at parks and public places as well as a free "walled garden" for important neighborhood, government, and community services information, something like the public access reserved for citizen use of television.

CRIME FIGHTING COOPERATION PAYS OFF

This story with a very good end demonstrates why you should never hesitate to call 911 when you see something suspicious. Sector 3 Crime Prevention Specialist Sue Roethle wrote to her e-mail list:

The fight against burglars got a big boost from a resident who saw suspicious persons breaking into a garage near 46th and Bloomington in the precinct's Sector 3, about 2:20 p.m. Sunday

The information she provided led to the arrests of those three suspects in that incident and in connection with a burglary which had taken place the night before in Sector 2. One male, 18, was booked at Hennepin County Jail for Burglary of Dwelling; a second 18-year-old male was booked on burglary and narcotics; and a juvenile male was booked at the Juvenile Detention Center.

"As a direct result of the outstanding police work by Officers Garman, Menter, Johnson and Kist, the three arrested burglars have been directly linked by Property Crimes Investigator Sgt. Sandberg to several other burglary cases within nearby neighborhoods," said 3rd Precinct Lt. Mike Sullivan, of Sector 3. He said this was a great example of the community and police partnership.

And I'll just point out that we've had at least three other instances recently in which witness information has helped nab groups of thieves responsible for multiple burglaries in 3rd Precinct. We depend on residents to use their eyes and ears to help us. Thank you for all you do.

Visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert/emaillist.asp if you are interested in subscribing to the list for your area.