

## Report to PPERRIA, 5-22-06

### Items:

- I. Crime & Safety Forum 5-23-06
- II. Gophers Stadium victories
- III. Station 19
- IV. Central Corridor
- V. Mercury Ordinance
- VI. Green Power Challenge
- VII. CRA Work Group
- VIII. Dancing on the Street
- IX. Instant Runoff Voting
- X. Youth Seats on Boards

- I. As part of my ongoing series of community forums on issues important to the Second Ward, I'm hosting a forum on crime and safety. We will discuss neighborhood crime concerns, the Community Policing Initiative, the search for a new Chief, Restorative Justice and more tomorrow, May 23rd, 7:00-9:00pm at Van Cleve Community Center.
- II. In the final version of the Gophers Stadium bill, the Stadium Area Advisory Group was granted \$1.5 Million, \$700,000 more than originally proposed. I consider this a terrific win for Southeast neighborhoods, and thank PPERRIA for all your hard work on this.
- III. As part of the Gophers Stadium bill, the Legislature specifically disallowed the University from using eminent domain to acquire Stadium 19. Again, congratulations to PPERRIA for your successful work preserving the current appropriate use of this historic building.
- IV. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Central Corridor LRT line is still available to view. It can be viewed online at [www.centralcorridor.com](http://www.centralcorridor.com) – click on the “links and documents” link. You can send comments to the following address by June 6<sup>th</sup>: [DEIScomments@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:DEIScomments@co.ramsey.mn.us). The DEIS can also be viewed in person at any St. Paul public library. There will be a public hearing where you can submit comments tomorrow, Wednesday, May 24, 6:30 PM, at Central High School, 275 North Lexington Parkway, St. Paul. An open house for questions and answers will precede the hearing from 3:30 to 6:30 PM.
- V. The City Council voted unanimously to support mercury reduction ordinances I supported, authored by Committee Chair Scott Benson in collaboration with Environmental Justice Advocates of Minnesota.
- VI. I am working with Green activists and the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee on a Green Power Challenge initiative to promote energy conservation and the use of renewable energy in Minneapolis.

- VII.** I am Vice Chair of the City Hall CRA work group formed to address problems with the Civilian Review Authority. The group meets weekly, Thursday 8:00 am – 9:30, in room 319. So far the following recommendations were made to, and approved by, the Council in May.
- a. A review of Internal Affairs Unit operations be conducted by an outside, independent auditor and be reviewed by the Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee.
  - b. That staff from departments including Police, City Coordinator, Human Resources, Civil Rights, and City Attorney, and the Police Federation, work to optimize an Early Intervention System for the Police Department. Early Intervention Systems allow departments to identify officers who are having performance problems and intervene before a major incident.
- VIII.** Friday, May 12, at my initiative, the City Council unanimously voted to remove its ordinance making it illegal to dance in the streets. I'm looking into doing the same for the laws against loitering, lurking and trespassing that are often used in discriminatory ways to target people with mental illness or suffering from homelessness.
- IX.** I served as chair of a city sponsored Instant Run-off Voting Task Force that reviewed the steps and costs of implementing Instant Run-off Voting in City elections. I am also co-author of a resolution placing the proposed charter amendment, to be placed on the ballot in November, to elect city officials using this ranked choice voting method.
- X.** I am working to make it possible for the City Council to reserve seats on its boards and commissions for people under 30.