

# Ward 11 Monthly Newsletter

Council Member Scott Benson

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## WI FI for Minneapolis

The City of Minneapolis has developed a strategic vision to become a premier unwired city. The goal is to have the private sector finance, develop and deploy an advanced, high quality wireless broadband network throughout the fifty-nine square miles that comprise the City of Minneapolis. This broadband digital communications infrastructure will provide City of Minneapolis institutional, residential and commercial users with universal Broadband communications services at an affordable cost. The major benefits to the City resulting from the implementation of a universal broadband network include:

- Improved delivery of City services through the expanded use of lower cost mobile data communications services by City Departments.
- Extensive, citywide, broadband network infrastructure upgrades financed, deployed and managed by the private sector and available to residents, businesses, and institutions in the city.
- Economic development enhanced through universal fixed/wireless broadband internet access for businesses and the urban hospitality industry.

The City issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) in April 2005. The city received nine responses and is in the process of selecting the best proposal. The RFP calls for the internet provider to initially deploy wireless broadband services to meet the institutional needs of City government, but the responses will also be evaluated by how easily they will be able to provide broadband access to residents, businesses and visitors.

Universal broadband wireless services could be available across the City of Minneapolis within 12 months. Significant enhancements in access speeds; overall network capacity, applications development and standards compliance are expected within 24 months. A clear and achievable 60-month broadband technology life cycle strategy and detailed business plan will be required under this agreement.

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### Important Phone Numbers

- Ward 11 Office  
673-2211
- Graffiti Hotline  
673-2090
- Housing Inspection  
673-5858
- Garbage/Recycling  
673-2917

# A Vision for Minnehaha Creek

Minnehaha Creek is a valuable asset, not only to south Minneapolis, but to several communities stretching from Lake Minnetonka to the Mississippi River. But how should it be managed and what should be done to make the use of the creek more enjoyable to residents. Over a year ago, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) convened a committee residents from communities along the creek known as the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC took a detailed look at the condition of Minnehaha Creek in the past, the current conditions of the creek, and finally where the residents would like to see the creek in the future. The CAC recently delivered their recommendations for safeguarding the future of the creek. This report is available on the Ward 11 website at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward11](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward11) and look under current ward issues. This report is part of a larger watershed-scale planning and design effort for the watershed. The recommendations will be considered by both the MCWD and the USACE as they move forward with plans and designs. It is also intended as guidance for other organizations, such as cities and the Minneapolis Park Board, which share creek corridor management responsibilities. The hope is that all organizations can work together toward a common vision for the creek.

## Lyndale Ave Planning– The Next Step

Join LASR-CC, the City of Minneapolis, the Hoisington Koegler Group Inc., and your neighbors from Kenny, Lynnhurst, Tangletown, and Windom for the second of three community meetings about a new vision for Lyndale Avenue, south of Minnehaha Creek.

**August 15, 7:00-9:00 PM**

**Richfield United Methodist Church**

5835 Lyndale Ave S.

Come preview ideas and give your thoughts on the preliminary ideas for Lyndale. We want your input.

This is the second of three community meetings that Lyndale Avenue South Renewal — Creek to Crosstown (LASR-CC), will host to receive community input to shape a new vision for Lyndale Avenue. To learn about the work of LASR-CC and the community effort to create a new vision for Lyndale Avenue, visit

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/south-lyndale.asp>, or call Ward 11, 612/673-2211, to request hard copies of any information.

# Mayor Rybak delivers 2006 budget to Council

Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak proposed a \$1.3 billion budget for 2006 that provides additional funding for public safety and planning while holding the property tax levy to an increase of 8 percent. The Mayor presented his recommended budget at a special session of the Minneapolis City Council on July 28. The City Council will begin budget deliberations in September (see budget process calendar at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/city-budget/>) with final approval of the budget expected in December. You can view the Mayor's recommended budget at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/finance/>.

The Mayor's budget address will be replayed on Minneapolis cable channels 14 and 79 (Time Warner Cable) at 9 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays and 12 noon on Tuesdays and Saturdays through August. You can also view the budget address on the City's Web site at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/webcasts/>.

## New Housing Guide Available

The Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) recently developed a new Housing Development, Rehabilitation and Ownership Resource Guide. It can be found on the City's Web site at:

[http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/housing\\_resource\\_guide.pdf](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/housing_resource_guide.pdf)

The CPED Housing Policy and Development Division created this resource, with input from the City's Finance Department, to provide an overview of its Multifamily, Single Family, and CityLiving Mortgage and Home Improvement funding programs. The guide is intended to provide a brief overview of the various sources of funds that are available to developers and individuals seeking information on the housing finance resources that the City offers. It also is hoped that the guide is useful tool for neighborhood groups as they review proposed housing developments in their neighborhoods, and also in preparing their Phase II NRP Action Plans.

If you have any questions or suggestion about the guide, please contact Elizabeth Ryan, Director, CPED Housing Policy and Development Division at [elizabeth.ryan@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:elizabeth.ryan@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) or 612-673-5128

## Electronic Newsletter

Council Member Benson publishes an electronic newsletter to keep you up to date on what is happening at City Hall. If you would like to receive this update, please e-mail me at [scott.benson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:scott.benson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) and put the words "E-mail Update" in the subject line.

## Monthly Community Meetings

<p><b>EHFNA</b> Meets First Wednesday 7:00 PM, Lyndale Farmstead Park 3900 Bryant Ave S</p>	<p><b>Field Regina Northrop</b> Meets Third Wednesday 6:30 PM Lake Nokomis Presbyterian</p>	<p><b>Hale Page Diamond Lake</b> Meets Fourth Monday 7:00 PM Emmanuel United Methodist</p>
<p><b>Kingfield</b> Meets Second Wednesday 7:00 PM Martin Luther King Park 4055 Nicollet Ave S</p>	<p><b>Lynnhurst</b> Meets Second Thursday 7:00 PM Lynnhurst Community Center 1345 Minnehaha Pkwy</p>	<p><b>NENA</b> Meets Fourth Thursday 7:00 PM NENA Office 3000 E. 50<sup>th</sup> St</p>
<p><b>SENA</b> Meets Second Monday 7:00 PM Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 4000 28<sup>th</sup> Ave S</p>	<p><b>Tangletown</b> Meets Third Monday 7:00 PM Fuller Community Center 4800 Grand Ave S</p>	<p><b>Windom</b> Meets Second Thursday 7:00 PM Windom Community Center 5821 Wentworth Ave S</p>

## Coffee With Scott

Join Scott for a cup of coffee and talk about City issues. He will be at the following coffee shops from 8-9 AM

<p><b>Betsy's Backporch</b> 5447 Nicollet Ave S <b>September 21</b></p>	<p><b>Nokomis Cafe</b> 5155 Bloomington Ave <b>August 3</b></p>
<p><b>Java Jacks</b> 818 W. 46<sup>th</sup> St <b>September 7</b></p>	<p><b>Sister Sludge</b> 4557 Bloomington Ave <b>August 17</b></p>

## Open Appointments

[Hennepin Theatre Special Services District Advisory Board Vacancy \(closes 8/5/2005\)](#)

[Civil Rights Commission \(closes 8/12/2005\)](#)

For information <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/>