



Fourth Ward Report

Council President Barbara Johnson
Minneapolis City Council

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Minneapolis 311

Dial 311 from any phone in the City limits. Outside of the City call: 612-673-3000

E-mail 311:

Minneapolis311@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

311 Online Services:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311/online-services.asp>

4th Ward Neighborhood Group Links

Cleveland

Folwell

Lind Bohanon

Jordan

Shingle Creek

Victory

Webber Camden

2009 Minneapolis Budget

The City of Minneapolis approves a new budget each December for the following year. Although a 2009 budget was approved by the Mayor and City Council, City leaders are working to revise the 2009 budget following a significant cut to state local government aid to Minneapolis. Additional cuts to state aid to cities may occur as the State Legislature faces an approximately \$5 billion deficit over the next two years.

Despite cuts in state funding over the last five years, Minneapolis has consistently approved fiscally sound budgets that have dealt with financial challenges while still maintaining high quality services to the public. Further state aid cuts will require City leaders to make difficult decisions about the City's budget and the City services it funds.

Minneapolis' approved 2009 budget (which is being revised) is \$1.4 billion. To learn more about some of the many considerations that went into crafting Minneapolis' 2009 budget, visit the link below.

[Budget Fact Sheet](#)



Top 5 Fourth Ward Service Requests to 311

Minneapolis 311 is a simple, three-digit number residents, businesses and visitors can call to reach the City to inquire about services, report problems, check the status of issues, or get information.

[Between Dec 1, 2008 and Dec 31, 2008]

- 1 Public Works - Sidewalk Snow & Ice Complaint - 155
- 2 Regulatory Services - Residential Housing Conditions Complaint - 51
- 3 Police - Abandoned Vehicle - 34
- 4 Public Works - Street Snow & Ice Complaint - 27
- 5 Regulatory Services - Animal Complaint - 23

Contact Us

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Enter "newsletter" under questions/comments and you will be added to the distribution list.

New Minneapolis Advantage Funding Offers Aid to Home Buyers

The City of Minneapolis, the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) of Des Moines and Wells Fargo have announced that \$1.5 million in new funding from FHLB Des Moines will be used to help homeowners in more than twenty neighborhoods with down payment and closing costs to purchase foreclosed properties in areas most affected by foreclosures.

Through FHLB Des Moines Affordable Housing Program (AHP), \$1 million is available for home purchases in north Minneapolis and \$500,000 in the northeast and south central areas of the City. Funds will help low income households (those making less than 80% of area median income) purchase foreclosed homes. The homebuyers will also receive homebuyer and homeownership education through the Minnesota Home Ownership Center.

FHLB Des Moines considered Minneapolis for this grant because of the City's successful Minneapolis Advantage program, piloted in 2008 to provide 50 grants for mortgage down payment and closing cost assistance to purchase foreclosed properties in areas most affected by foreclosures. Wells Fargo, a FHLB Des Moines member institution, submitted the competitive bid application on behalf of the City of Minneapolis.

The Minneapolis Advantage program provides \$10,000 grants to homebuyers for down payment and closing cost assistance for the purchase of foreclosed properties. The property must be a foreclosed property, purchased for owner-occupancy, and owned for a minimum of five years. The FHLB Des Moines grant will be added to existing city and private funds for Minneapolis Advantage.

Minneapolis neighborhoods with a significant percentage of vacant and boarded properties were selected for this program including: Harrison, Hawthorne, Near North, Willard-Hay, Cleveland, Folwell, Jordan, Lind-Bohanon, McKinley, Webber-Camden.

These grants can be used for the purchase, construction or rehabilitation of rental and single family housing that assists households that are less than 80% of area median income. Each year FHLB Des Moines commits 10 percent of its annual net income to developing affordable housing. Since 1990, FHLB Des Moines has awarded more than \$168 million through its Affordable Housing Program to create 34,703 homeownership and rental units.

Watch for further details of the application process coming in March 2009.