

Ninth Ward E-News

From Minneapolis City Council Member Gary Schiff
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward9

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City Expands Graffiti Removal Program

The City Council approved \$350,000 today to expand graffiti services. Last year the City started free clean up on painted surfaces,



the additional services will coordinate removal of graffiti from properties with sensitive surfaces (brick, metal and stucco) and graffiti more than eight feet above ground level. Under the expanded program, properties owners will be notified of graffiti and the need for removal. After ten days, if property owners do not remove the graffiti, the City of Minneapolis will remove the graffiti, and place a layer of protective covering. Property owners will be assessed for the cost. "Gang graffiti is a public safety threat. If it isn't cleaned up quickly, rival gangs will add to the problem, and more neighbors are affected. Today's action gives us one new tool to remove graffiti from brick and stucco" said Council Member Gary Schiff said. To report graffiti, [click here](#).

City Creates Gang Prevention Grants

The Minneapolis City Council voted today to allocate \$500,000 of public health funds for youth gang-prevention programs. "This is the first time that the City of Minneapolis has ever specifically allocated money for gang prevention programs," Council Member Gary Schiff said. "This funding is just a start in creating a comprehensive gang prevention plan." The funds will be available to organizations submitting proposals to the

city's health department. For more information, please call the 9th Ward office at (612) 673-2209.

Homeownership in Phillips Expands



Village in Phillips Phase 1

Phase two of Powderhorn Residents Group's Village in Phillips project is moving forward. The Franklin Station Condominiums will include 36 affordable home ownership options

in two buildings on the corners of 24th Street East and Bloomington Avenue, with space for a coffee shop. Construction begins in early summer. Eight units will be affordable for buyers under 50% of area median income, six units affordable for buyers under 80% of area median income and twenty-two will be market rate units.

Interested families should contact Erin Green at (612) 721-7556 x12 or erin.green@prginc.org. "VIP is one of the most beautiful and most financially accessible developments in town. Before Phase I was built, the houses on those blocks were really toxic and damaging to people," said Carol Pass, East Phillips neighborhood activist. "Owning a home is the groundwork for families becoming stable in the long run and having some wealth, and the neighborhood's work with PRG has provided this for a lot of folks who wouldn't have been able to have it otherwise."

National & Global Youth Service Day is April 21-23

National and Global Youth Service Day in Minneapolis is April 21-23. Visit the [Project Registration page](#) to sign up a youth project in your neighborhood. Minneapolis youth are encouraged to participate in service-learning projects in their communities for this global event! All participants will receive a t-shirt and a ticket to the citywide celebration at Minneapolis Community and Technical College on Saturday April 22 from 3-6 pm. The citywide celebration will recognize all Minneapolis projects and will feature live entertainment, music, food, and a raffle.

City Assessor To Hold Annual Property Tax Meeting

The [Minneapolis City Assessor's](#) office is holding a meeting to help property owners understand their

property taxes. The meeting will give an overview of the property tax system, the Limited Market Value program, explain property tax relief programs. In addition, residents will have an opportunity to speak to residential and commercial appraisers and pick up forms for property tax credits and refunds. Two meetings will be held – Tuesday, April 4th from 4:00-6:30pm at Pearl Park Neighborhood Center (414 E. Diamond Lake Road) and April 6th from 4:00-6:30pm at the National Guard Armory (1025 Broadway St. NE).

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