

12th Ward news

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[June, 2011]

RiverLake Greenway Grand Opening Celebration, June 11

Please join us for a day of fun to celebrate the Grand Opening of the RiverLake Greenway! The RiverLake Greenway is a bicycle route between West River Parkway and Lake Harriet. It runs along 40th and 42nd Streets. The idea for the greenway originated with residents in 1996 and has been implemented in phases. The final phase is now complete creating a significant connection between existing bike networks.

RiverLake Greenway Grand Opening Celebration

Saturday, June 11, 2011 1:00-5:00 pm

Remarks & Ribbon Cutting 1:00 (lawn of Minnehaha Academy, 4200 W River Pkwy)

Event schedule: <http://bikewalkweek.org/events-2>

Immediately after the ribbon cutting you are invited to bike along the greenway – do the whole thing or just a segment. The energetic sounds of the Sabathanite Drum Corps will send you off and there are many fun things to do along the way. Visit participating local businesses and other destinations and enter for a chance to win in a prize drawing. Decorate your bike and participate in a bike rodeo and kids bike parade at the following times and locations:

2:00 to 3:00 pm: Longfellow, Hiawatha School Park – E 42nd St & S 43rd Ave S

2:30 to 3:30 pm: Bancroft, Calvary Lutheran – E 39th St & Chicago Ave S

3:00 to 4:00 pm: Kingfield, MLK Park – E 40th St & 1st Ave S

Enjoy refreshments at Sibley Park between 2:00-4:00 pm and talk to representatives from biking organizations and local bike shops. Check the event website for details or additions to the calendar: <http://bikewalkweek.org/events-2>.

This event coincides with Bike Walk Week which takes place June 4-12. For more Bike Walk Week events, go to: bikewalkweek.org

Update: Hiawatha Avenue Signal Improvements

Last year, the Minneapolis Public Works staff formed a study team with Metro Transit, Mn/DOT, Hennepin County and national experts in rail and signal operations at Council member Colvin Roy's urging.

The long-awaited results of the study team's work to improve the flow of traffic – cars, pedestrians and bikes - along the Hiawatha Corridor have been revealed. Work will begin this summer, although more analysis is needed of some elements.

The study team worked throughout 2010 into early 2011 to develop a multi-faceted project to better address traffic flow in the Hiawatha corridor. The total project consists of approximately \$1.1 million of equipment, construction and services. The City is now working to finalize funding arrangements; some funds will not be available until 2012.

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North Side Volunteer Clean-Up Day - Saturday, June 4, 2011

Saturday, June 4 will be the official North Side Volunteer Clean-Up Day in north Minneapolis. Urban Homeworks, a local housing organization, has helped coordinate 3,000 volunteers who have conducted initial debris assessments and cleanup; professionals are now handling the removal of heavier debris in the affected area.

Additional volunteers are not needed for debris cleanup until Saturday, June 4 when the City is hoping to mobilize 2,000 volunteers to help in light debris cleanup in the affected area.

Those who would like to volunteer must call 311 OR (612-673-3000) to register beforehand. **Only people who have registered will be able to take part in the effort that day.** [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Activities that residents can expect in 2011 include the following:

- The traffic signal “phasing” or sequencing order of some of the vehicle movements along the corridor will change.
- Traffic signal operation of the “pre-track signals” will change to increase the efficiency of the signal and decrease the time required for a train preemption event.
- Traffic loop detectors (sensors in the road) will be updated and installed so that the traffic signal control operations can be more responsive to actual vehicle activity. This will lead to more efficient signal timing.
- The linkage of the LRT and roadway traffic signal circuitry will be reviewed and analyzed further in 2011. Changes to the circuitry will be applied in 2012

Additional work to be completed in 2012 includes:

- New traffic signal controllers with improved capabilities for dealing with and responding to train preemptions will be acquired and installed at each intersection (this equipment has been developed since the 2004 start of LRT in the corridor.)
- The physical changes in circuitry may not be visible to residents, but the outcome of this work will provide additional efficiencies to the roadway traffic signals, allowing them to be more effective in responding to a preemption event.
- Further study by the city of possible lane use changes for east-west traffic at 32nd and 35th Street intersections.

The results of the entire project will lead to improved operations along the corridor for automobiles, bikes and pedestrians.

Construction for Lake Hiawatha Water Quality and Flood Relief

This summer and fall you may notice construction activity near the north end of Lake Hiawatha. The Surface Water & Sewer Division of Public Works will be constructing new storm sewers and drains along E 44th St between 19th Ave S and 16th Ave S, including two alleys south of 44th St. The changes will prevent flooding of some structures during big rain events and disconnect two CSO (combined sewer overflow) sites, which will improve the water quality in Lake Hiawatha. Residents should expect 44th St to be closed to thru traffic while under construction. Total road closure will occur during parts of the project.

The water quality of Lake Hiawatha will be improved because more area stormwater will be directed to the holding ponds on the golf course where pollutants settle out before entering the lake. Next year, a raingarden near 43rd Street (outside of the golf course fence) will be built to serve the same function for a smaller area. This is the final capital improvement being made as result of a citizen group whose scientific study recommended ways to improve Lake Hiawatha’s water quality and better manage area stormwater.

Twin Cities Residents Healthiest in Nation

Minneapolis-St. Paul are top ranked for health living according to the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM). ACSM ranks the 50 healthiest and fittest metropolitan areas in the United States, using the American Fitness Index (AFI).

Exercising more and smoking less are two of the main reasons for the ranking. Moderate-to-low rates of chronic health problems such as obesity, asthma, heart disease and diabetes factored into the high score

At the opposite end of the index were, Memphis, Tenn., Louisville, Ken. and Oklahoma City which ranked the lowest.

Free Wood Chips

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board offers woodchips for free to Minneapolis residents on a first-come, first-served basis at 11 park sites throughout the city. Woodchips can go quickly and the Forestry department does not monitor quantities after delivery to sites. To find a location near you, go to: www.minneapolisparcs.org

Community Meeting

Join us for a community meeting about the Roosevelt Library.



 Hennepin County Library
Tuesday, June 14, 7–9 p.m.
Sibley Recreation Center
1900 East 40th Street, Minneapolis

Roosevelt Library Renovation: Plans are under way for renovating Roosevelt Library (4028 28th Ave. S.). Community meetings will be held by Hennepin County so that residents can learn about the scope of the project and offer input on the design.

The first meeting will be Tues., June 14, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at Sibley Park Recreation Center (1900 E. 40th St.).

Join neighbors, Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, City Council Member Sandra Colvin Roy, Hennepin County staff and project designers. Learn about the Roosevelt Library renovation project and offer feedback. Questions? Call Kelli Koob at 612.543.8628 or email kkoob@hclib.org. You may also comment online at: <http://www.hclib.org/cac/?BlogPostID=60>



Public Works Staff Recognized: The week of May 15 marked National Public Works Week. Representatives of various Public Works departments accepted a resolution from the council honoring their work. Public Works has had many outstanding achievements this year including managing record snow fall and preparing for spring flooding.

City E-mail and Website Get New Domain Name

the City of Minneapolis is transitioning to a new, shorter, easier domain name and Internet address in mid-July:
www.minneapolismn.gov.

The new formula for e-mail addresses will be:
First.Last@minneapolismn.gov.

To make the transition easy for users, the current domain (ci.minneapolis.mn.us) and e-mail addresses will still be valid.

Funds Available for Your Stormwater Project

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is currently offering a [cost share program](#) for private homeowners who want to improve stormwater management on their property. Visit the [MCWD website](#) or contact Aldis Kurmis for more information: 952-641-4523.

Events & Special Meetings

Gateway Garden Weeding Party

June 4, 9-11 am Time for spring weeding at Gateway Garden, located across 50th St. from the 50th St LRT Station. Bring your own beverage and weeding tool; donuts will be provided. Additional weeding & maintenance: June 18th, July 2nd, 16th & 30th, August 13th & 27th.

Seed Saving Workshop

June 4, 10-10:30 am Dowling Garden, 39th St & 46th Ave S. Rain or shine. Featuring seed-saver and Dowling Community Gardener Charlie Bowler. Follow signs to the heirloom plot. Free of charge, no registration required.

Garden Pest Workshop

June 4, 10:30 am – Noon Dowling Garden. Neil Cunningham, formerly of MN Department of Agriculture's Biocontrol division, shares his extensive knowledge about major garden pests to help people manage them without using pesticides. Free of charge, no registration required.

Longfellow Garden Club

June 8, 7-9 pm Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave S. Design and color in flowering containers. www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub or <https://sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclubminnesota> for details.

Community Warming Party

June 8, 6-8 pm Glacier's Café, 3019 Minnehaha Ave. Free custard & appetizers, live music, artwork from League of Longfellow Artists (LOLA) and a chance to meet your neighbors and learn about the Longfellow Community Council. Suggested donation of \$10 (more if you can, less if you can't) benefits Longfellow Community Council.

RiverLake Greenway Grand Opening

June 11, 1-5 pm Remarks & Ribbon Cutting 1 pm, lawn of Minnehaha Academy, 4200 W. River Parkway. Celebrate the opening of the RiverLake Greenway, a bicycle route between Lake Harriet and West River Parkway. For information about planned activities, visit <http://bikewalkweek.org/events-2>.

SENA Neighborhood Garage Sale

June 11, 9 am – 3 pm 9th annual community event from Lake St to Minnehaha Pkwy and Cedar Ave to Hiawatha Ave. Individual households set up their own sales at their own homes. SENA and Corcoran Neighborhood Association will take care of the publicity.

To be added to SENA's sales guide and map, call SENA office at 721-1601 by Friday, June 3rd. Free map and guide to all sales available from 8:45 am – 5 p.m. day of the sale at: Midtown Farmer's Market (Lake St & 22nd Ave), A Cup A Joe (3445 Cedar Ave S), Angry Catfish Bicycle & Coffee Bar (4208 28th Ave S) and Caribou Coffee (4745 Cedar Ave).

Roosevelt Library Renovation Meeting

June 14, 7-9 pm Sibley Park Rec Center, 1900 40th Street E. Hennepin County staff and project designers will speak and answer questions about the upcoming renovation of Roosevelt Library. Community members of all ages are invited to participate. Residents unable to attend are encouraged to e-mail comments to Kelli Koob at kkoob@hclib.org.

Abandoned
Vehicles

Crime Prevention

Utility Billing

Housing
Inspections

Metro Transit

Report Graffiti

Animal Control

USI Wireless

LCC

NENA

SENA

Reduce Burglaries and Crime in Greater Longfellow

June 15, 6:30-8 pm Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave S. Join LCC and 3rd Precinct for a workshop on how to make your neighborhood a safer place to live, work and play.

Sibley Park Ice Cream Social

June 16, 6-8 pm 1900 40th St. E. Enjoy your favorite ice cream flavor and visit with your neighbors. There is a small fee for ice cream.

Community Energy Services Workshop

June 16, 6:30 pm Lake Nokomis Community School, Keewaydin Campus, 5209 30th Ave S. Participants receive personalized energy use tracking and information on financing and rebates. Schedule a customized home energy visit which includes a blower door test and installation of energy-saving materials. This \$400 value costs only \$30. RSVP to Ashley Robertson at 612-335-5869 or arobertson@mncee.org

3rd Precinct Block Leader Training

June 16, 6:30-8 pm 3rd Precinct, 3000 Minnehaha Ave. Are you interested in being a block club leader? Meet your Crime Prevention Specialist (CPS), learn how to organize a block club, how and when to use 911 and more. RSVP for this training by calling CPS Sue Roethle at 612-673-2839.

Nokomis East Neighborhood-Wide Garage Sale

June 25, 8 am – 4 pm Got too much stuff? Hold a garage sale on this date and advertise for free. Register your sale by June 15. Visit www.nokomiseast.org or call 612-724-5652 to register or see a list of sale locations.

I am honored to serve the residents of the 12th Ward. If you have any questions or comments please call me at 612-673-2212 or e-mail me at Sandra.Colvin.Roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

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