

Ward 11 Newsletter

Council Member Scott Benson

April 2007

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Citywide Transportation Action Plan

The City of Minneapolis is working on a comprehensive citywide Transportation Action Plan that addresses a full range of transportation options and issues, including pedestrians, bicycles, transit, automobiles, and freight. The 10-Year Action Plan will also include additional materials, including a Web-based transportation fact book; a transit and street operations plan for downtown; and new street design guidelines that reflect the characteristics of the surroundings.

The plan will also assess transportation needs in 2030 (with particular emphasis on the next 10 years) and will evaluate up to three scenarios for transit operations in downtown and recommend specific actions that should be taken over the next 10 years.

The Downtown Action Plan is the first part of the four-part citywide transportation plan to be drafted. The other three components include a Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan, street and sidewalk design guidelines, and a streetcar feasibility study. The remaining three plan elements will be discussed at future public meetings, which will be held in the coming months. The public will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the Downtown Action Plan recommendations and to discuss key transportation issues facing downtown at the following workshops:

**11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Wednesday, April 11,
Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall – Doty Room**

**5 p.m. – 7 p.m., Thursday, April 12,
St. Olaf Catholic, 215 S. 8th St. – Gathering Room**

More detail about the Transportation Action Plan is available at:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/trans-plan/>

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Important Phone Numbers Ward 11 office

673-2211



Rain Barrels

The City of Minneapolis is making 2,000 rain barrels available to Minneapolis households this summer at a reduced cost. When connected to a downspout, the 55-gallon rain barrels store rainwater for later use. Rain barrels help protect the environment by reducing water consumption and cutting down on runoff that ends up in our lakes and streams. The barrel connects to a standard garden hose so it's easy for folks to use them to irrigate lawns and gardens.

Minneapolis is making the barrels available thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 5 Great Cities Program and in partnership with Minneapolis/Metro Blooms and the Green Institute.

The cost of a rain barrels is \$45, which is about half their normal retail price. Barrels are available to Minneapolis residents for use on Minneapolis properties, and there is a limit of one per household. You can order the rain barrels at www.thereusecenter.com or by phone at 612-724-2608. Quantities are limited.

Starting in May, pre-ordered barrels will be available for pick-up at the ReUse Center at 2801 21st Ave. S. Re-Use Center hours are Monday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the center accepts credit cards, checks, or cash.

The 55-gallon rain barrels are made of 100 percent recycled plastic. They are bulky, so bring a suitable vehicle to pick them up (rain barrels are 32 inches high and 24 inches wide and weigh 18 pounds).

REMINDER: Spring street sweeping starts April 10.

Watch for the No Parking signs.

Yard Waste Pickup begins April 9

City program brings trees to residents

Want to make your neighborhood a little greener? Maybe you should plant a tree in your yard this spring.

Through a partnership with Tree Trust, the City Trees program is making up to 1,500 trees available for Minneapolis residents. For a co-pay of \$15 you can choose from six tree varieties: birch, oak, pine, serviceberry, hawthorn and a disease-resistant variety of elm. Mulch will also be provided, along with information on proper planting.

To reserve your tree, you must order it by April 15. Pick up a form through your neighborhood group or order a tree online at <http://www.treetrust.org/orderhere/index.html>.

February Crime Statistics

NEIGHBORHOOD	TOTAL	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
Diamond Lake	17		1	2	1	5	7	1	
Field	4				1	1	1	1	
Hale	3					1	2		
King Field	31		1	2	2	13	9	4	
Northrop	21					11	9	1	
Page	4					2	2		
Tangletown	16					9	6	1	
Wenonah	9		1		1	3	1	3	
Windom	7				1		2	4	

Definitions of the types of crimes and statistics from other months can be viewed at:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-statistics/>

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 and put the words "E-mail Update" in the subject line.

Monthly Community Meetings

<p>Field Regina Northrop FRNNG.org Meets Third Wednesday 6:30 PM Lake Nokomis Presb. 46th St. & 17th Ave</p>	<p>Hale Page Diamond Lake HPDL.org Meets Fourth Monday 7:00 PM Emmanuel United Methodist 5144 13th Ave S</p>	<p>Kingfield Kingfield.org Meets Second Wednesday 7:00 PM Martin Luther King Park 4055 Nicollet Ave S</p>
<p>NENA Nokomiseast.org Meets Fourth Thursday 7:00 PM NENA Office</p>	<p>Tangletown Tangletown.org Meets Third Monday 7:00 PM Fuller Community Center 4800 Grand Ave S</p>	<p>Windom Windomcommunity.org Meets Second Thursday 7:00 PM Windom Community Center 5821 Wentworth Ave S</p>

Coffee With Scott

Whatever is on your mind, you can sit down with **Scott Benson** and talk about it over a cup of coffee, from **8:00 AM until 9:00 AM** at coffee shops around the 11th ward.

May 3	Sister's Sludge 4557 Bloomington	July 12	Mike's Corner Store 5601 Chicago Ave
June 7	Anodyne @ 43rd	Aug 2	Betsy's Backporch

Open Appointments

The City of Minneapolis has more than 45 boards, commissions and advisory committees. These organizations, composed of citizen volunteers, advise the City on current issues and assist the City in policy development and administration of services.

[Public Health Advisory Committee \(PHAC\) \(closes 4/13/2007\)](#)

[Senior Citizen Advisory Committee \(closes 4/13/2007\)](#)

For more information:

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