



March 2008

Eighth Ward News

"Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Field-Regina-Northrop, Kingfield, Powderhorn"

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

Subscribe to 8th Ward E-news by sending an e-mail to:

elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Neighborhood Meetings

Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council
www.bancroftneighborhood.org
Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 pm
4120 17th Avenue South

Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Organization
Meets 1st Tuesday, 7 pm
Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

Central

CANDO
Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm
Sabathani Community Center
310 East 38th Street, Room 304

Central Weed & Seed
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 5:30 pm
Green Central School

Field-Regina-Northrop

www.frnng.org
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7 pm
1620 E 46th Street

Kingfield

www.kingfield.org
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm
ML King Park, 40th & Nicollet

Powderhorn

www.ppna.org
Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm
821 E 35th Street

38th & Chicago

38th & Chicago Implementation
Committee
Meets 3rd Monday, 7 pm
Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago Ave S

38th and Chicago Small Area Plan Update

Small Area Plan Approved by Zoning & Planning Committee

On March 6th, at long last, the Small Area Plan for 38th Street and Chicago Avenue (www.38thandchicago.org) passed one of its last major hurdles: approval by the Zoning and Planning Committee of the City Council. The area covered by the plan includes 38th Street from 2nd Avenue to Bloomington, and Chicago Avenue from 31st Street to 40th Street. The full City Council will vote to approve the Plan on Friday, March 21st. Congratulations and thanks to Bryant, Bancroft, Powderhorn Park and Central for the many hours residents, board members, staff, and business owners and community organizations put in to develop the 38th and Chicago Small Area Plan!

Development Project for 38th & Chicago

Right on the heels of the 38th and Chicago Small Area Plan, there is a development project in the works for 38th and Chicago. The Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (www.cafac.org) is a new non-profit arts and educational organization founded by neighborhood residents that will be focused on art forms produced by heat, spark, and flame. The Fire Arts Center has signed a purchase agreement for the Wreck Bros building, at 3749 Chicago. The closing date for this purchase is May 2008.

To learn more about the Fire Arts Center you can attend an informational event and fundraiser at Bancroft Elementary School - Old Gymnasium, 1315 East 38th Street, Thursday, March 13th from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

38th and Chicago Implementation Committee

Work on the 38th Street Corridor and Chicago Avenue continues through meetings of the newly formed 38th and Chicago Implementation Committee. You are welcome to attend these meetings, which take place every 3rd Monday, 7 pm, at Pillsbury House (35th Street and Chicago Avenue). The next meeting is March 17, 2008.

Open House for Minneapolis' Pedestrian Master Plan



Minneapolis is hosting an open house to gather public input on the Pedestrian Master Plan and discuss some of the major challenges the city faces in meeting pedestrian needs. Mark up maps, record your observations and opinions, and discuss key issues with City staff, the consultant team, and other members of the public.

Pedestrian Master Plan Open House
Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall
Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For Further Details please visit
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/pedestrian/pedestrian-masterplan.asp>.

Grants for Anti-Graffiti Projects: Deadline March 14th



The City of Minneapolis is offering grants to neighborhood groups to support anti-graffiti projects. **The deadline for applications is Friday, March 14th.** Grants from

\$1,000 to \$10,000 will be made available for projects that incorporate landscaping, murals and other innovative approaches. Your imagination is the limit!

Because eligibility is limited to community and non-profit organizations (churches, business associations, neighborhood organizations, schools, parks, etc), work with a local organization to sponsor your project. For a grant application and more details go to:
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/graffiti/graffitimicrogrants.asp.

Congratulations 8th Ward Block Clubs



The Minneapolis Police Department has chosen 14 block clubs from across the city as winners of 2007 Building Blocks Awards, which are awarded each year to the city's most active and effective block clubs (see full list of block clubs at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police). Four of those block clubs are 8th Ward clubs. They are:

- Parkside West Block Club, Powderhorn Park
- 3700 Block of Elliot Avenue Block Club, Powderhorn Park neighborhood
- 3400 Block of Chicago, Columbus, and Park Avenues Block Club, Central neighborhood
- 4200 Block of 10th Avenue South Block Club, Northrop neighborhood

Minneapolis has a long tradition of strong block clubs, with neighbors working together to prevent crime, connect people who live and work on the block, and take on issues in their neighborhoods. Block clubs can improve the general quality of life, helping neighbors develop a feeling of mutual support from their community. Each year, the Minneapolis Police Department makes a special effort to honor volunteers and block clubs who have done outstanding work.

If you don't have a block club on your street, consider starting one yourself. For more information, visit: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/safe.

City Offers Grants to Combat Climate Change



Last year's effort to fund projects that help fight global warming was so successful that the City of Minneapolis is offering a new round of climate change grants in 2008. Neighborhood, business, and faith-based associations are eligible to apply for these grants,

along with non-profits, libraries, park and recreational centers, and other public organizations that serve Minneapolis residents.

Two types of grants are available through the program:

- **Grassroots Climate Change Micro Grants** (up to \$1,500 awarded, deadline March 20, 2008)
- **Climate Change Innovations Grants** (up to \$10,000 awarded, deadline March 24, 2008)

To learn more and get an application, to go www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability.

Kingfield Community Arts Show: Come and Support Walldogs!



On Saturday, March 22, Kingfield will host its 3rd annual community art show and silent auction. The theme this year is Living Art. The Community Art Show

and Silent Auction will take place at Rau + Barber, 4244 Nicollet, March 22nd, 7-10 pm. See www.kingfield.org/livingart/ for ticket information and other details.

Auction proceeds from **Living Art** are split 50/50 between the artists and the **Walldogs on Nicollet**, a project of the Kingfield and Lyndale neighborhood associations. The project will involve local and national artists coming together to paint 6-10 murals along Nicollet Avenue from Lake Street to 46th Street from July 24th to 27th, 2008. The project is being done to increase foot traffic on Nicollet Avenue, prevent graffiti, and build stronger relationships between local businesses and residents. Find out more at www.walldogs.lyndale.org.

As some residents know, the first Walldogs mural, on Nicollet Fischer Grocery (34th and Nicollet), was destroyed last month in a fire that required demolition of that business and some apartments. Over 1,000-volunteer hours went to plan and create

this mural, which you can view at www.kingfield.org. As Kingfield director Sarah Linnes-Robinson said, "The mural symbolized for many of us . . . what is good in our community and what can come of us working together with a common vision." You can help spur great community work by showing your support for **Living Art** and **Walldogs on Nicollet**.

Instant Runoff Voting



In 2006, 65% of voters approved using Instant Runoff Voting for municipal elections (mayor, councilmembers, parks). Minneapolis' goal is to implement IRV for its 2009 election. Over the past year, Minneapolis participated as a leader along with stakeholders from cities, counties, the legislature, and community organizations in the Ranked Choice Voting Task Force, convened by Secretary of State Mark Ritchie. The Secretary of State's Task Force formulated recommended rules for ranked choice (IRV) elections and put together a bill for the legislature that would enable cities and counties to adopt IRV for their elections. The work of this Task Force not only assists Minneapolis with its implementation plan, but will provide assistance to other cities that are reviewing IRV and Ranked Choice Voting methods, including Hopkins, St Paul, St Louis Park, and Duluth.

To implement IRV, Minneapolis must adopt rules governing IRV elections (using as a basis the Secretary of State's recommendations), and must solicit proposals for certified voting equipment capable of running an IRV election. At a March 7th Elections Committee meeting, Chair Elizabeth Glidden directed elections staff to begin preparing a Request for Proposal for IRV-compatible elections equipment. Information on the Secretary of State's task force and the steps Minneapolis is taking to implement IRV is available at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/elections.

Crosstown Commons: The Latest News



As spring approaches, work on the Crosstown Commons reconstruction project is ready to heat up again. **The 46th Street Bridge is tentatively scheduled for removal in early April, weather permitting.**

The northbound exit ramp from I-35W is tentatively scheduled to close on March 17 and the southbound exit ramp from I-35W is scheduled to close in the spring of 2008.

A **Crosstown Project Open House** will be held **Tuesday, March 25, 2008, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, at Richfield Lutheran Church, 8 W 60th Street, Minneapolis** (intersection of Nicollet Ave and 60th Street). Childcare will be available for children ages one year and older.

For more information about the event, call the **Crosstown Project hotline**, 1-866-743-6590, or email crosstown@rranow.com. Get more information and sign up for project e-mails at www.dot.state.mn.us/projects/crosstown.

Early Mornings Elizabeth!

We are privileged to be joined for **Early Mornings with Elizabeth** by **State Senator Linda Berglin** (invited), **Speaker of the House Margaret Anderson Kelliher (60A)**, **Representative Neva Walker (61B)**, and **Representative Frank Hornstein (60B)**, who will give us a mid-session report. Don't miss this event -- it may be one of the few remaining opportunities for us to hear from our own Rep. Neva Walker, as she has announced her retirement at the end of this year.

Friday, March 28th
7:30-9:00am
Turtle Bread, 4762 Chicago Ave S
In the Pizza Biga Room

*Free coffee, courtesy of **Turtle Bread!***



Arts and Creative Economic Development Series

Featuring City of Minneapolis guest speaker **Reggie Prim**, Community Arts Consultant.



A sought after speaker on activist art, arts in the public domain and the community cultural development movement, Reggie Prim leads workshops, designs public arts experiences, and serves as a volunteer leader for a number of cultural organizations in the Twin Cities. He is also a Playwright, cultural worker, radio host, and arts writer who served as the community programs manager for The Walker Art Center. He is a co-author of **Art and Civic Engagement: Mapping The Connections** - an internationally recognized model for activating the social potential of the arts.



Next meeting will be held:

Monday, March 24th
6:30-8:00pm
Center for Independent Artists
4137 Bloomington Ave S

Questions? Contact 8th Ward Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden and Council Aide Andrea Jenkins at (612) 673-2208 or andrea.jenkins@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

How to Reach Elizabeth



Join Elizabeth for her community office hours every Monday, from 9-11:00am at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th Street, Room 129. You can always call the 8th Ward Office with your questions at (612) 673-2208.