

Ward 6

Council Member Robert Lilligren



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Notes from Robert

May 27, 2011

Greetings from Council Member Lilligren

The last few weeks brought many challenges to our city.

On the afternoon of Sunday, May 22, 2011 a tornado cut diagonally through North Minneapolis causing the loss of two lives, many injuries and considerable property damage. The people of our city; our neighbors and friends; governmental and non-governmental agencies; and our large and small businesses have responded quickly and generously. Progress is being made cleaning things up and plans are being laid for longer term response. It will be a long-haul effort to rebuild North Minneapolis and it will take ongoing cooperation and support from all our residents and community partners. To find out how you can help with the effort please call 311.

The regular session of our State Legislature ended at midnight on Monday, May 23rd. While there were a few bills passed into law that benefit our city – like the Variance Bill (House File 52) which clarifies and restores a city's authority to grant zoning variance – many were not passed, or were passed – like a pension bill that provided a workout and property tax relief on the city's two remaining closed pension funds. Overall, the City of Minneapolis had to play defense and work to protect revenues in a generally hostile legislative environment.

Governor Dayton vetoed several pieces of legislation, including the Omnibus Tax Bill. This means that he will need to call a special session of the legislature once agreement has been reached between the Governor, the State Senate and House. Meanwhile, in case no agreement is reached, preparations are being made at the state and local level for a possible state government shutdown on July 1, 2011.

Of special note, both houses passed a proposed amendment to the state's constitution to be put on the 2012 ballot limiting recognition of marriage in Minnesota to between one man and one woman. While the MN Defense of Marriage law already includes this provision, a majority of MN lawmakers voted to put this to a vote and, if it prevails, actually write discrimination into our state's constitution. The campaigns both for and against this ballot measure will cost millions of dollars and divide communities. I look forward to standing with fair-minded people to defeat this measure.

Please contact me or my staff and let us know how we can best serve you. Also, please feel free to stop by my weekly community office hours - more information about that is listed in this publication

Robert

Council Member Lilligren's Community Office Hours

Council Member Lilligren has Community Office Hours once a month at each of the four 6th Ward Neighborhoods, on Mondays - 9:30-11:30am. To schedule an appointment, call Connie at (612-673-2206). Drop-ins are welcome – however, you will be asked to wait if there is a scheduled appointment. There will be no Community Office Hours when the Monday lands on a City holiday or conflicts with another City Council-related meeting. Translation is available by appointment.

June 6 –9:30-11:30AM @ Whittier Alliance - 10 E 25th Street Shortened office hours due to a meeting in St. Paul. [1 time slot left - 9:30-10am - drop ins welcome]]

June 13 - 9:30am-11:30am -@ Phillips West - 1st floor of the Lutheran Social Service Center for Changing Lives 2400 Park Avenue –[All time slots available – drop-ins welcome].

June 20 - 9:30am-11:30am @ Stevens Square Community - 1925 Nicollet Ave [All time slots available – - drop ins welcome]

June 27 - 9:30-11:30am - @ American Indian CDC – Room 200 (Many Rivers East Building) 1508 E Franklin [All time slots currently available - drop ins welcome].

Ward 6 Happenings

- **May 24 - Special Council Meeting** called to approve and extend the Mayor's Declaration of Local Emergency for conditions, resulting from the tornado of May 22, 2011 [More information on tornado listed in this publication]
- **2008 Pillsbury Avenue - Samuel Hewson Hous** - Council approved designation as a local historic landmark - **Council Member Lilligren** voiced support of the HPC staff recommendation to approve the landmark designation of 2008 Pillsbury Avenue, Samuel J. Hewson House, echoing the concern in the community to protect historic assets like the Hewson House. The recent activities that threatened this property illustrate for us the need to act to protect it, and other historic assets. Great work by the HPC, as well as the Whittier Alliance, to identify and protect historic properties.
- **Ventura Village, Ridgewood & Pillsbury Aves Street Resurfacing Project** -Portions of three neighborhoods will get resurfaced streets in 20(11 or 12). Some of these roadways have not been resurfaced since they were originally built some 70 years ago. The resurfacing program is a way the City of Minneapolis extends the life of a street at about a quarter of the cost of a total reconstruction. Paste this link to see maps and staff report: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/2011-meetings/20110415/Docs/Ventura-Village-Ridgewood-Pillsbury-RCA.pdf>
Public hearing to be held on June 7th - Project cost estimate: \$985,642

Top 311 Service Requests for Ward 6

From: May 15, 2011 7:35:01 PM To: May 22, 2011 7:35:01 PM

Ward Number: 6

Rank	Department Name	Service Request Type	Number of Service Requests
1	PW Solid Waste & Recycling	Graffiti complaint / reporting	29
2	PW Transportation Maintenance & Repair	Pothole	11
3	Regulatory Services	Parking Violation Complaint	10
4	Fire	Residential Conditions Complaint HOD Tenant	6
5	311	311 Police Report Callback	4
5	Regulatory Services	Animal Complaint - Livability	4



Minneapolis RECOVERS: North Side Tornado

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER

The Disaster Recovery Center at Farview Park got a late start opening its doors this morning as crews responded to a medical emergency inside, but the facility opened at around 9:30. In its first day of operation, more than 1,200 people were helped at the Disaster Recovery Center in north Minneapolis. More than 300 staff and volunteers were on hand to help the residents and small businesses affected by the tornado who came out to the Recovery Center today. The Center was opened and providing assistance until well after 7 p.m. (when the Center was scheduled to close for the day). Folks who arrived after 3 p.m. were asked to return tomorrow to ensure that everyone in line made it through the Center today.

This is intended as a “one-stop” location for folks hardest hit by the tornado to get services and information to help them with short and long term recovery issues. Staff will be determining hours of operation after May 27.

The City of Minneapolis is operating the center in partnership with Hennepin County, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minnesota Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), the Salvation Army, Lutheran Social Services, and the Red Cross.

INFO FLYER IN NORTH NEWS TOMORROW (MAY 26)

Thanks to North News, about 12,000 information flyers will be inserted in its newspaper being delivered tomorrow to the areas impacted by

Sunday’s tornado. The flyer (attached) provides information about the services at the Disaster Recovery Center, and also information that would be helpful for folks who cannot get to the Center.

FEMA & THE STATE

Today, the Mayor, Council President and Council Members Hofstede and Samuels met briefly with Paul Ricciuti from FEMA and Kris Eide, Director of Minnesota’s office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The meeting was in advance of a media availability to announce FEMA’s process to conduct its preliminary damage assessment to estimate the extent of the disaster and its impact on individuals and public facilities. Tomorrow, teams consisting of staff from the State Department of Public Safety, FEMA, the Small Business Administration, and the City, will be touring the impacted areas to assess damage. They will be on the ground throughout the day Thursday and Friday. The results of this preliminary assessment are used to determine if the situation is “beyond the combined capabilities of state and local resources and to verify the need for supplemental federal assistance.” This is a necessary step in determining if a federal disaster will be declared.

NORTHSIDE TORNADO RESPONSE TEAM

While the City is not yet making a broad call for volunteers, a North Side community response team is organizing volunteers and assisting with cleanup. New members have joined and include East Gateway Partnership, Harrison Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis Park Board,

Summit Academy, Urban Homeworks, St. Olaf Community Campus, Northside Achievement Zone, Nexus, Thor Construction, City of Minneapolis, UROC, World Vision, Sanctuary CDC, Minneapolis Urban League, West Broadway Coalition, We Care Northside, NAMC, Urban Mass Media.

Volunteer work on debris removal

- 100 percent through Zone 1.
- 70 percent through the path of the tornado in Zone 2.
- Summit Academy started work through Zone 3 today.
- Work continues through the remainder of Zone 2 and Zone 3 for completion.
- First wave of debris removal by volunteers will be complete by Friday or Saturday of this week.
- Next week City of Minneapolis Public Works is going through and cleaning large piles of debris that volunteers are unable to do.
- Plans are underway for a Tornado “volunteer” day ... the date is to be determined; however when plans are finalized, folks will be able to register with 311.

Volunteer work on needs assessment

- Volunteers coordinated by Urban Homeworks, UROC, Sanctuary and Summit Academy are doing a formal needs assessment and did approximately 500 homes today.
- Emerge has taken the lead of the human needs team to find resources to meet these needs of the community.

- That information is being passed to the City of Minneapolis not for response, but for informational use.

CONTRACTOR RESOURCES FOR HOMEOWNERS

A coalition of contractors—National Association of Minority Contractors, Salem LLC, Summit Academy, Pillsbury United Communities and Thor Construction—hosted a meeting this morning for northside contractors. A hotline has been established where residents can get assistance with finding a contractor. The coalition matches a contractor with the homeowner’s needs. This information as well as the listing of northside contractors is also available on the City’s website.

CITY’S WEB SITE NOW PORTAL FOR TORNADO RECOVERY

Get the latest information on how Minneapolis is working to help people recover from the May 22 tornado. The site includes what resources are available for affected families, and how the public can help. Information is updated as new resources become available, and we will be expanding the site in the coming days. You can get to the page directly from the City’s home page – it’s the info tab on the upper left corner.

HOW THE PUBLIC CAN HELP

People throughout Minneapolis and the region have been asking how they can help people affected by the tornado. There are several ways to help:

1. Minnesota HELPS-- Northside Recovery Fund. This is an unrestricted flexible fund for

immediate and midterm relief.

2. Northside Home Fund Tornado Relief. Funds earmarked for housing and directed by the Northside Home Fund.

Checks should be payable to Minnesota HELPS or Northside Home Fund Tornado Relief. Information can be found at www.mplsfoundation.org. Donations can be mailed to the Minneapolis Foundation, 80 South Eighth Street, Suite 800, Minneapolis, MN 55402.



	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 2 Annex	Zone 3	Total	Percent of Total
Major					274	3.9%
Minor					1608	22.9%
Affected					1831	26.1%
Placard Known	28	30	24	65	147	2.1%
Garage Placard	3	14	12	22	51	0.7%
Permit Required	236	272	296	928	1732	24.7%
Mast Down	171	191	196	473	1031	14.7%
Total Parcels in Zone	973	1854	649	3544	7020	

Candidate Application Deadline Extended to Friday, June 3 for Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission Elections

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/NCEC-election.asp> As of Friday, May 20th we have received only 2 applications from candidates for election to the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (one from District 3 and one from

District 5). Because we have not received candidate applications for Commission Districts 1 and 7, the **Neighborhood and Community Relations Department is extending the filing deadline until Friday, June 3, 2011.**

- Candidate filing forms are available at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/docs/2011NCECNeighborhoodApplication.doc>.
- A Candidate Guidebook is available at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/docs/2011NCECAppliationGuideBook.pdf>.

This year, seats from Commission districts 1, 3, 5 and 7 are up for

election through the neighborhood election process (For more information on the Community Engagement Commission, and to see a map of the Commission Districts click [here](#)). Each district will elect one representative to the Commission. The City-wide meeting to elect four neighborhood Commissioners will be held on Saturday, June 25, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the American Indian OIC, [1845 Franklin Avenue](#).

City-Wide Election for Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7

Saturday, June 25, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
American Indian OIC
1845 East Franklin Ave,
Minneapolis, MN
publicized meeting with at least 40 days notice in order to maximize resident participation.



CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS AND NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

By Council Member Lilligren

The City of Minneapolis is taking another step forward in improving relations between city government and our Native American community with the creation of a workgroup to advance the Memo of Understanding between City Hall and the American Indian Community (the AI MOU).

The MOU was passed back in May, 2003. It was the product of about a year-long series of dialogues initiated at the request of the leadership of the Metro Urban Indian Directors. As the first American Indian tribal member elected to the Minneapolis City Council (White Earth Band), it was very gratifying to carry this important piece of policy to unanimous support by the Mayor and Council during my first term in office. Regular progress was made on the recommendations of the AI MOU for the first year or so, but has slowed in recent years.

The action creating the workgroup and appointing members brings new life and energy to the AI MOU.

As the Council's appointment to the group, I look forward to working with other City and Native leadership to advance the recommendations of the MOU and to continue to work with this important part of our community.

For more information:
http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/2011-meetings/20110527/Docs/RCA_AmericanIndianMOU.pdf

New local food resource hubs help residents grow produce

Do you want to grow your own food, but don't know how? Are you interested in low-cost seeds, seedlings, wood chips or classes? Do you want to become part of a neighborhood-based support network of urban gardeners?

If the answer to these or related questions is "yes," then join a Local Food Resource Hub, a new initiative the City of Minneapolis, community partners and Gardening Matters. The hubs are designed to get Minneapolis residents and community gardeners the tools and education they need to grow, preserve, cook and compost their own fresh produce, by offering supplies, classes and connections. Hubs — which are not physical locations, but rather partnerships of individuals, businesses and community organizations — are now serving residents and community gardens in three Minneapolis neighborhoods: North Minneapolis, Powderhorn/Central and West Phillips/Ventura Village.

The Local Food Resource Hubs Network was a recommendation originating from Homegrown Minneapolis, a comprehensive initiative of the City of Minneapolis to improve the growing, processing, distribution, consumption and waste recovery of healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods within the city.

Residents can join a Local Food Resource Hub and select one of three types of membership: \$10 for a household garden, \$30 for a

community garden or nonprofit, or \$10 for an advocate. A limited number of memberships are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve your membership spot, contact Gardening Matters (612) 821-2358 or download the membership form (in English, Spanish, Hmong or Somali) at <http://www.gardeningmatters.org/hubs>. Questions can also be emailed to info@gardeningmatters.org.

The Local Food Resource Hubs Network is made possible by funding from the Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support and the Minnesota Department of Health's Communities Putting Prevention to Work initiative of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.



Police urge drivers, pedestrians and cyclists to increase caution; recent accidents prompt hike in enforcement

The Minneapolis Police Department is urging all drivers, pedestrians and cyclists to use caution as warmer weather is upon us. The City has seen a dramatic increase in pedestrian and bicyclist

versus vehicle accidents in the past week. Just this morning there was one serious pickup truck versus pedestrian accident downtown and a fatal accident involving a bicyclist and semi-truck in the Dinkytown area.

Warmer weather brings many people into the streets to walk to work, cycle or get out in the fresh air. As this occurs drivers, especially in areas which see considerably more pedestrian and cyclist traffic such as the entertainment districts and downtown, need to exercise more caution as they drive. Additionally, though state law does grant the right of way to pedestrians, Minneapolis Police are asking pedestrians and cyclists to watch out for themselves. An accident between a walker or cyclist and a vehicle can have fatal or life altering consequences. The use of bicycle helmets by cyclists of all ages is encouraged and makes a person much less likely to sustain a serious head injury.

As a result of these accidents the Minneapolis Police Department has already begun to step up enforcement of drivers not yielding to pedestrians, pedestrians jaywalking in congested areas and cyclists not obeying the rules of the road. This enforcement effort is aimed at preventing accidents which can result in life changing events for families.

You can view or update your subscriptions, password or e-mail address at any time on your [User Profile Page](#). All you will need are your e-mail address and your password. You can always use the "Reset your Password" link on the Log-In page for help.

This information is provided to you by the City of Minneapolis Police Department

P.S. If you have any questions or problems e-mail support@govdelivery.com for assistance.





May 27, 2011

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Transportation Panel #3 -
Thursday, June 9th - 6:30pm - Focus on
Streetcars!! At Loring Park Community
Arts Center

[Preview of June 9](#)

PHILLIPS WEST

The Phillips West Neighborhood Board Cordially invites you to attend...

The Phillips West Neighborhood Annual Community Meeting

Thursday June 2nd, 2011

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Located in the Centrum Room of the Center for Changing Lives building at 2400 Park Avenue
(Free Parking is available at the rear entrance of the building located on Oakland & 24th)

Free Famous Dave's BBQ Catered Buffet will be served at 6 p.m.

There is also a chance to win excellent Door Prizes Please Join Us!

INFORMAL AGENDA INCLUDES:

Annual State of the City Update given by Minneapolis City Council Vice President Robert Lilligren &
Crime Update from Minneapolis Police Crime Prevention Specialist Don Greeley.

To sign-up to
receive the 6th
Ward newsletter,
please [click here](#)

To be removed
from the newsletter
list, please e-mail:

Connie.kiser@ci.mi
nneapolis.mn.us

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spelling of your name, your full
address and zip and a phone number.

Our number is 612-673-2206