



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Cam Gordon
City Council Member
Second Ward

350 South 5th Street - Room 301M
Minneapolis MN 55415

Office 612-673-2202
Fax 612-673-3250
Cell 612-296-0579

Email: cam.gordon@minneapolismn.gov

www.minneapolismn.gov/ward2

If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at 612-673-2162 or email Ahmed.Muhumud@minneapolismn.gov

Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may call 311 or 612-673-3000. TTY users may call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Attention: If you want help translating this information in language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, call 311

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the West Bank, 10-16-13

**Cam's next West Bank Office Hours:
Tuesday, November 5th, 9:30-11:00am
Hard Times Café, 1821 Riverside Ave**

- 1) Vote November 5th
- 2) Gluek's Tied House
- 3) Information on Mayor's Race
- 4) Community Solar
- 5) Curry Park Tax Increment Financing District
- 6) Trap-Neuter-Return Passes Council
- 7) Shooting on Cedar Avenue
- 8) New First Precinct Inspector
- 9) One Minneapolis One Read
- 10) More People Walking and Biking
- 11) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The next municipal election is on November 5th. You can find your precinct online here: vote.minneapolismn.gov.
- 2) Last week, the Council's Zoning and Planning committee voted unanimously to allow the demolition of Rainbow Gallery / Gluek's Tied House at 6th St S and 15th Ave S. While I definitely value this building, I was convinced by City staff and the developer that demolition is appropriate for two main reasons. First, unfortunately, the building has lost much of its original historic character, and is no longer one of the best examples in Minneapolis of its building type. There are other examples of historic Gluek's Tied Houses, including Nomad World Pub and Club Jager, that still have their historic interiors mostly intact, and continue to fill the same function. Second, I have been convinced that the Five15 on the Park project has no reasonable alternative to tearing down this building if it is to move forward. This Tied House cannot be incorporated into the new building, and the costs and difficulty of moving it to a different location are too great. Moving the building to a new location would also be of questionable historic preservation value, as it is clearly meant to occupy a corner lot. The City has already given the Five15 on the Park project its land use approvals, in addition to a considerable amount of financing from other levels of government, and the difficulty of preserving this building jeopardizes that project. I realize that some in the community will be disappointed by this outcome, and I want to acknowledge that I am disappointed as well. I wish this building could be preserved, but I have become convinced that it cannot.
- 3) I have been asked by many constituents for more information about the upcoming municipal election. There are some good resources for people looking to do more research about candidates, especially for mayor. Minneapolis E-Democracy has compiled a list of all of the candidates running for office in Minneapolis which you can find here: http://pages.e-democracy.org/Minneapolis_elections. Our local Second Ward community radio station, KFAI, has recorded interviews with many, if not all, of the 35 candidates available at their website, <http://kfai.org/news/62>. Additionally there are several mayoral forums coming up including:
 - Oct. 16 – 7-8:30pm – League of Women Voters Forum - Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall
 - Oct. 17 – 7-8:30pm – Minneapolis American Indian Mayoral Forum - NACDI, 1414 East Franklin Ave.
 - Oct. 23 – 7-8:30pm – Urban Ag Forum – Sabathani Community Center, 310 E 38th St # 200,
 - Oct. 24 – 10am-Noon – Public Housing Forum – Details TBD
 - Oct. 29 – 7:30-9pm – WCCO Radio Forum – Details TBD
 - Oct. 30 – Time TBD - Theater of Public Policy Forum - Bryant Lake Bowl, 810 W. Lake St.
 - Nov. 1 – Noon - MPR Forum - Westminster Presbyterian Church on Nicollet Mall in downtown \

For more information you can also check out:

<http://www.southwestjournal.com/elections/calendar>

- 4) Xcel Energy has complied with the state law that requires them to put in place a community solar program by filing their proposed plan with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission just before the September 30 deadline. Community solar is a program that allows people to invest in and benefit from solar panels that are not on their own property. The idea is to allow, for example, homeowners with shady yards to partner with nearby commercial property owners on solar installations, and pay off that investment over time. Unfortunately, Xcel's community solar plan leaves much to be desired. I plan on working on a response to this unimpressive filing by Xcel with City sustainability staff, solar industry experts and my colleagues.
- 5) People may review and comment on the proposed Currie Park Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan that includes the Five15 on the Park project, and the related Currie Park Redevelopment Plan and Modification No. 8 to the Cedar-Riverside Urban Renewal Plan at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/public/index.htm> . The plans have been prepared to facilitate the already approved development of Five15 on the Park, a 259-unit mixed-income transit-oriented rental housing project with approximately 5,000 square feet of ground-level neighborhood-serving commercial space in a new six-story building at the intersection of 6th Street South and 15th Avenue South in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood and West Bank area of Minneapolis. The City Council can approve, amend or reject the proposed plans after consideration of comments received. It is anticipated that the Plans will be the subject of a public hearing of the City Council's Community Development Committee at approximately 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 in Room 317 City Hall. The full City Council is expected to consider the Plans at its meeting on Friday, December 6, 2013. Comments are due on Monday, November 18, 2013. If you or your organization would like to meet to discuss the proposed Plans, if you would like paper copies, or if you have questions, please contact: Matt Goldstein, Multifamily Housing Finance Specialist, Residential Finance, CPED, (612) 673-5075, matt.goldstein@minneapolismn.gov
- 6) The Trap-Neuter-Return ordinance I authored has passed the Council. The purpose of this ordinance is to humanely and effectively reduce the populations of feral cats in Minneapolis by partnering with nonprofits that spay or neuter feral cats and return them to their environments.
- 7) On October 2nd at about 2am, a man was shot four times near the Nomad World Pub on Cedar Avenue in Cedar Riverside. The victim survived, and the suspect fled on foot. No arrests have been made at this time.
- 8) First Precinct Inspector Bryan Schafer is leaving the Minneapolis Police Department for a new position as Chief of the Hastings Police Department. I have appreciated working with Bryan as head of the First and Second Precincts, and as the former head of the Juvenile Unit, and wish him the best in his new position. Police Chief Janee Harteau has appointed Medaria Arradondo, a 24-year veteran of the Minneapolis Police Department, to take his place leading the first precinct. Inspector Arradondo started his career with the MPD in 1989 working as a Public Housing Enforcement officer and School Liaison Officer. In 1997, he was promoted to Sergeant and worked in investigations, Internal Affairs and served as the assistant to the Chief of Police. In 2003, he was promoted to Lieutenant and oversaw the Federal Mediation Agreement, served as Public Information Officer, acting Inspector of the Second Precinct and worked many years in the Fourth Precinct. In December 2012, Arradondo was appointed as Commander of the Internal Affairs Unit.
- 9) One Minneapolis One Read, a community read where everyone in Minneapolis is invited to read the same book and join the conversation, is hosting a gallery reception on Monday, October 7, from 5-6:30pm at the Hennepin County Government Center, Public Service (skyway) level, 300 S 6th Street. This year's book is "A Choice of Weapons" by Gordon Parks. Parks, a photographer for Life magazine, writer, composer, artist, and filmmaker, was 16 when he moved from Kansas to Saint Paul, Minnesota in 1928. At the reception you can meet Robin Hickman, great-niece of Gordon Parks; Wing Young Huie, author of the book's foreword and photographer; and Steve Floyd, photographer. The event will be hosted by Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman and Minneapolis City Council Member John Quincy and is sponsored by the Hennepin County Board, Hennepin County Libraries, Minneapolis Public Schools and the City of Minneapolis. See www.oneminneapolisonearead.com for more One Minneapolis One Read events.
- 10) The Census has released 2012 data on bicycling and walking in Minneapolis, and there's great news. In 2012, **6.9%** of Minneapolis residents walked to work, up from 5.8% in 2011. And **4.5%** of Minneapolis residents biked to work. This is up from 3.4% in 2011 and marks the largest percentage of Minneapolis residents biking to work since records have been kept. We have regained our place as the second-highest city in the nation – after Portland, OR – in terms of the percentage of trips made by bike. But while this is welcome news, this new mode share is still less than a third of the 15% biking goal the Council recently adopted as part of the Climate Action Plan. We have to do more, and one of the best ideas out there for increasing bike ridership is to build protected, separated bikeways that are safer and more comfortable for all types of people.
- 11) Applications are now being accepted for open positions on the following City boards and commissions: Animal Care and Control Advisory Board, Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities, Minneapolis Workforce Council, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Police Conduct Oversight Commission, Police Conduct Review Panel, Seniors Advisory Committee and Telecommunications Network. For a full list of appointment opportunities and position descriptions, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings.