



Community Planning and Economic Development Department

Media Advisory

Contact: Krista Bergert, (612) 673-5015; cell (612) 360-8702



Minneapolis City Goals: A Safe Place to Call Home ▫ Jobs & Economic Vitality ▫ Eco-Focused ▫ Livable Communities, Healthy Lives ▫ Many People, One Minneapolis ▫ A City That Works

April 25, 2011

Groundbreaking to Mark the Start of the Revitalization of Historic Riverside Plaza

Includes media opportunity to tour renovation

WHAT: Residents of Riverside Plaza and the Cedar Riverside neighborhood, along with Mayor R.T. Rybak, George Sherman of Sherman Associates and other stakeholders, will mark the official start of the \$132 million refinance and renovation of the historic Riverside Plaza. A kindergarten choir from Cedar Riverside Community School starts the event to celebrate the revitalization of this iconic set of structures.

For the press, four tour stops will showcase the renovation plans and work underway:

- Apartment unit/Chase Building: 65 units are being renovated each month, from February 2011 to October 2012. The strict four-week construction schedule begins on the first day of every month.
- Hotel unit/F Building: Residents are temporarily relocating to “hotel” units while their unit is under construction; there are 90 “hotel” units and all include the same amenities typically received.
- Cedar Riverside Community School Expansion Work/D1 Building: The school at Riverside Plaza is expanding with the renovation; 140 students are enrolled in grades K-8 and the expansion will allow another 40 to attend. 80% of the students reside at Riverside Plaza.

- Colored Panels: Color testing on the panels has begun. Over the next two summers, the panels will be returned to their original 1973 appearance.

WHEN: **Wednesday, April 27**

Tour, for press only, of renovation, 3:15 p.m.

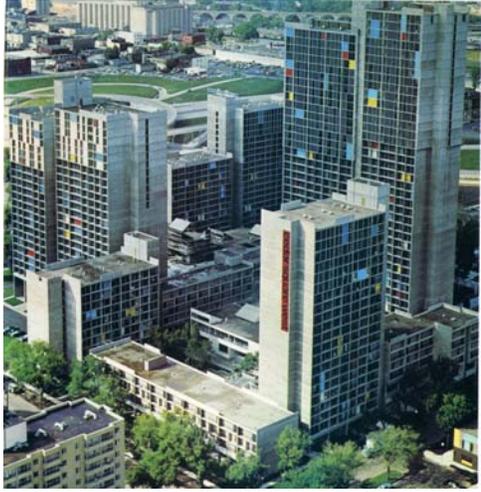
Please note appropriate footwear: closed toe shoes only allowed. Please RSVP for the tour by contacting [Krista Bergert](#), (612) 673-5015, or by cell (612) 360-8702.

Program begins at 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Riverside Plaza, 1525 South 4th Street. Meet at the Knutson booth on the Plaza Level.

MORE: The \$132 million refinance and renovation of the iconic Riverside Plaza is one of the largest HUD-supported projects in the country. It will improve 1,303 units of affordable housing and create 200 construction jobs, 90 of which are reserved for Minneapolis residents, with a focus on providing the opportunities to the residents of Riverside Plaza and the Cedar Riverside neighborhood. Information on the Riverside Plaza renovation can be found online at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/riverside_plaza.asp.

The work at Riverside Plaza, coupled with infrastructure improvements and greater access to light rail transit via the existing Hiawatha line and the Central Corridor line now under construction, will help create one of the most transit-oriented neighborhoods in the country. Information on transit, housing and infrastructure improvements can be found online at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/crwb.asp.



Historic Riverside Plaza, circa 1970s.

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