



# Minneapolis Connects



Minneapolis **Neighborhood & Community Relations**

Call **311** or visit [www.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.minneapolismn.gov)

If you need this material translated or in an alternative format, please call 673-2162.

*December 2013*

## Upcoming Events

- **12/6:** Native American Holiday Craft Sale and Fundraiser Luncheon
- **12/6:** Holiday on 44th
- **12/7:** Lynnhurst Holiday Boutique
- **12/7:** La Guadalupana
- **12/7 & 12/8:** Seward Winter Frolic: Art in the 'hood!
- **12/8:** Standish & Ericsson Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration
- **12/9:** CIDNA Art Mart
- **12/10:** North First Winter 2013 Social Event
- **12/11:** City Budget - public comment hearing
- **12/14:** La Posada
- **12/14:** Saturnalia Festival
- **12/19:** Homeless Memorial March and Service
- **12/22:** Cold Flows for Warm Clothes: a benefit to support American Indian youth in South Minneapolis.

Additional events and details can be found online:  
[www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/calendar](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/calendar)

## Save the Date – 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Community Connections Conference

The second annual Community Connections Conference will be held on **Saturday, March 22, 2014** at the Minneapolis Convention Center!

This year's conference theme – **Common Ground: A City That Works for All** – aims to explore ways to hone organizational and communication skills, better understand how to work with and influence city government, and build broad-based efforts that involve all segments of the City's neighborhoods and community-at-large.

The Conference will enable participants to:

- Gain practical skills and tools to improve our efforts
- Explore common challenges that most of our small organizations face
- Share ideas and approaches used to address these challenges
- Meet others, build new relationships and "broaden the table" around our common goals and interests
- Gain a better understanding of City government, its departments and the people who work there

Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

## Stay informed about Snow Emergencies this Winter



Knowing when a Snow Emergency is in effect is one of the best ways to avoid a ticket and tow in the winter. You can sign up to receive Snow Emergency alerts via emails, texts and phone calls or you can like or follow the City's Snow Emergency Facebook and Twitter pages.

The City of Minneapolis has also created a new Parking Rules App that is available to download on your iPhone or Android. The new app tells you where you can and can't park on Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3 of a Snow

Emergency to help you avoid a ticket and a tow. This app does not tell you if and when a Snow Emergency has been declared, but it's easy to find out using the app since it features a quick call button that connects you with the Snow Emergency hotline.

Snow Emergency information is also provided in Spanish, Somali and Hmong languages. For more information, please visit:

[http://www.minneapolismn.gov/snow/snow\\_stay-informed](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/snow/snow_stay-informed).

## Neighborhood Stories: 54<sup>th</sup> and Lyndale Neighborhood Priority Plan

On November 19, the NRP Policy Board approved the 54th and Lyndale Neighborhood Priority Plan. The Plan was submitted jointly by neighborhood organizations in Kenny, Lynnhurst, Tangletown, and Windom. Plans for streetscape improvements for the 54th and Lyndale corridor have been a longstanding priority for each of the four neighborhoods that meet at this intersection. Strategies for proposed improvements were included in the neighborhoods' NRP plans, and each had worked on developing the South Lyndale Corridor Master Plan, which was approved by the City in January, 2006. Unfortunately, progress had stalled.

The introduction of Neighborhood Priority Plans provided an opportunity for the neighborhoods to renew their efforts. The neighborhoods established several goals, including loosening restrictions on a specific date to establish a special service district, nourishing a connection with Public Works, and improving communication all around. Discussions were fostered by Council Aid John Dybvig of Councilmember John Quincy's office.

By the time of Policy Board approval, most of the neighborhoods' goals had already been met. Physical improvements may begin as early as this summer – which for change, is sooner than even the neighborhoods may be ready for. For more information, please visit: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/programs>.

## Apply for vacancies on the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC)



There are currently two vacancies on the NCEC in Districts 6 and 8. The NCEC advises the Mayor and City Council on a wide range of community engagement issues. The NCEC is responsible for developing guidelines for the City's principal neighborhood funding program, the Community Participation Program. The Commission also works to broaden participation on advisory boards and commissions, develops recommendations for improving the City's public participation process, and reviews the business plan for the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department.

These two seats are chosen through the neighborhood elections process. The NCR Department will be accepting applications now through Friday, December 27th. For more information and to apply, please visit [www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr), or contact Howard Blin, 612-673-3163 or [Howard.Blin@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Howard.Blin@minneapolismn.gov).

## Meet Michelle Chavez, NCR's newest Neighborhood Specialist

Please join us in welcoming Michelle Chavez as a Neighborhood Support Specialist with the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department. Michelle has worked at the City of Minneapolis for fifteen years in various positions at the Health Department, Community Planning and Economic Development and Public Works.

She has collaborated with neighborhoods, schools, non-profits and private sector businesses on several successful City initiatives. She was integral in the start of the STEP UP summer jobs program and most recently was the project lead on the City's transition to one-sort recycling.



## Neighborhood and Community Relations Department Director, David Rubedor

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*The City of Minneapolis invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event within our city. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or should you require this document in an alternative format, please let us know by contacting 612-673-3737.*