

Second Ward Summer 2019 E-newsletter

News from Cam Gordon

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2019 Open Streets. The 2019 Open Streets Minneapolis season kicked off Sunday, June 2 for the ninth year. Open Streets events give people a chance to enjoy city neighborhoods by walking, biking and rolling in a car-free environment. The seven Open Streets events for this year include three in Ward 2 neighborhoods: Lake/Minnehaha (**Sunday, July 21**), Franklin (**Sunday, August 25**), and University of Minnesota + Motley (**Sunday, September 8**). For more information see <https://www.openstreetsmpls.org/>.

National Night Out. The 37th annual Minneapolis National Night Out will be held on **Tuesday, August 6th**. National Night Out is a city-wide celebration of community partnerships where residents can get to know each other better. You can register a National Night Out (NNO) event and apply to close a street or alley online at http://www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nno_register. Some streets, like bus routes, cannot be used for block events. Also, you will need permission of 75% of your neighbors to be approved for street closure. If you register by July 23 you can block your street for free. If you register from July 24 through July 29, there is a \$100 fee. You will not be able to block off your street if registering after July 29. Registration also places you on the list of events that is distributed to City and County staff. City and County staff and elected officials, including me, usually attend as many events as they can. For more information see http://www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nno_planning.

Summer Cooling Options. As heat watches and warnings come and go in the coming in the weeks, remember that there are public options available to help people stay safe. You, and others in need, can find a list and map of cooling centers available in Hennepin County at <https://www.hennepin.us/residents/health-medical/cooling-centers>

Minneapolis Black Business Week. The City will celebrate the first ever Minneapolis Black Business Week this July 19-27. The City and partner organizations will be hosting events to highlight and support black-owned businesses throughout the city. You can participate by dining, shopping, and working out at featured businesses, see free movie screening at the Commons park, or enjoying art and entertainment at the Flow Northside Arts Crawl. Visit www.minneapolisblackbusinessweek.com for more information.

Capital Improvement Budget Recommendations. The 2019 Report for the 2020 – 2024 Capital Improvement Program has been submitted by our Capital Long Range Improvement Committee and posted at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/reports/WCMS1Q-068780>. Capital improvements include non-program and non-personnel investments like parks, bridges, streets,

water pipes, and public buildings. This year, CLIC reviewed 113 proposals and is recommending funding 95 of them at a proposed cost totaling \$980.5 million. The recommendations will be reviewed by the Mayor for possible inclusion in his proposed budget. I am very grateful to our 2 Ward 2 committee members, Martha Rogers and Claire Haskell, for all the intense work and review they put into this process, along with the 31 other committee members.

Regional Indicators Dashboard. On June 24, the Greater MPS economic development partnership of business groups, nonprofit organizations, foundations, institutions of higher learning and government, released its 2019 Regional Indicators Dashboard. The dashboard tracks 5 years of data on 56 indicators covering economic, environmental and social outcomes within the 16 County metropolitan statistical area. It also ranks our area among 11 peer regions. <https://www.greatersp.org/regional-indicators-2019/>. I commend the Greater MSP for creating this comprehensive and valuable data set that reveals progress as well as deficits particularly in racial disparities, energy, affordable housing and educational success. Next, they will be developing a set of goals “most critical to our economic future,” and they are asking “everyone” who cares about the region to participate. People are invited to pitch their goal (<https://greatersp.gv-one.com/requests.html?gId=722&rId=1890>) and otherwise get involved. Introducing this organization to the ideas and views of people not necessarily embedded in or embraced by the mainstream economic system could be helpful.

Affordable Homeownership. We are reviewing our long term affordable homeownership programs to better understand the challenges for buyers in the current market with a focus on addressing racial disparities in homeownership. I am hoping that improvements can be made to the program to help address these disparities, including lifting the cooperative ownership restrictions. There will be two (2) public feedback sessions on this. The first will be on **Wednesday, July 17** from 6pm - 7:30pm at Matthews Recreation Center, 2318 29th Ave S, (<https://LTA-matthewsrec.eventbrite.com>), and the second on **Thursday, July 18** from 11am - 12:30pm in the North Regional Library, 315 Lowry Ave N, (<https://LTA-northregional.eventbrite.com>). For more info visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/housing/WCMSP-219469> or contact Aarica.Coleman@minneapolismn.gov.

Public Housing Director. In June, the director of the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority, Greg Russ, announced that he is resigning to take a new job as director of the Public Housing Authority in New York City. I am hopeful that the pause to recruit and hire a new director will be used an opportunity to find someone whose skills include building community trust, partnering with residents and finding a broadly embraced path to ensure that we preserve and grow our supply of public housing for the future. The MPHA board has will likely appoint the current Deputy Director, Tracey Scott to serve as interim executive director. The City Council will need to confirm this and also his final replacement.

Public Housing Waiting List. The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA), Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and St. Paul Public Housing Agency opened their Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program waiting lists from June 12-18. Over 14,700

applications were received for the MPHA where 2,000 names will be drawn to comprise a new waiting list. The Metro Authority had 17,336 applicants and St. Paul had 13,408. Seventy-two percent of the applications came from female-headed households, nearly half came from households with children, 70% identified as people of color or indigenous, and about 28% of applicants indicated they are homeless, in transition, or living in a temporary shelter or motel. See <https://mphaonline.org/section-8/applicants/hcv-waiting-list/>, <https://mphaonline.org/section-8/> and <https://metro council.org/News-Events/Housing/Newsletters/Metro-HRA-waiting-list-applicants-2019.aspx> for more

Public Housing Listening Sessions. On June 27th I participated a second listening session on public housing. This was hosted by the Victory Neighborhood Association at Folwell Park that was also attended by Council Member Cunningham and a new Public Housing Commissioner, Tessa Wetjen. In the weeks ahead, I will be working with local sponsors and Sharmarke Issa, the new MPHA Chair, to conduct additional listening sessions regarding the future of Public Housing in Minneapolis. If you or your local organization is interested in hosting a session, please let me know.

Comments to HUD on Section 18 and Scattered Site Public Housing. Last month I wrote a letter to the Public Housing Director that I shared with federal Housing and Urban Development staff, expressing my concerns and recommending a postponement of their Section 18 application to that would change the ownership of their “scattered site” housing units until after the next presidential election and after a functioning Scattered Site Housing Resident Council is in place.

Renter Protections Ordinance. Council Members Bender and Ellison are working on a set of renter protection ordinances that I expect to come forward for a public hearing in September. They include a cap on the amount of money that a renter must give to a landlord before getting housing (through things like security deposits and application fees) and one that looks to reduce renter screening barriers like eviction filing and criminal history by limiting the number of years a landlord can look back on these kinds of issues. This stems from and helps implement the recent Renters First policy that the Council adopted unanimously. I am very supportive of the City doing more to protect renters. I will be considering community feedback and reviewing the proposal carefully as it comes forward in a final draft.

Home Ownership Works. The Council has approved revisions to the Home Ownership Works (HOW) program that align the program with recent changes to the Minneapolis Homes Development Assistance program. The revised goal of the program is “to provide and sustain affordable, owner-occupied, one- to four-unit housing for low- and moderate-income purchasers throughout Minneapolis and reduce racial disparities in homeownership.” From now on, rather than only applying to nonprofit developers and single family vacant properties in certain parts of the city, it covers owner-occupied 1-4-unit housing throughout all of Minneapolis. It will also now be open to public, nonprofit and private developers and include currently occupied, as well as vacant, properties. For more information see http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/housing/cped_how

Legal Services for Tenants Facing Eviction. In June, with my strong support, the Council authorized a two-year basic service agreement with Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid of up to \$650,000, to provide critically important legal representation to low-income Minneapolis tenants facing eviction. The contract will run from August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2021. For more details visit <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00710>

Section 8 Ordinance Upheld. The Minnesota Court of Appeals has upheld the Section 8 Anti-Discrimination Ordinance that passed in 2017. The ordinance prohibits discrimination against Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher holders and puts voucher holders on equal footing with other people seeking housing Minneapolis. I expect us to start enforcing the ordinance as soon as possible. Here is a link to the opinion: <http://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/Appellate/Court%20of%20Appeals/Standard%20opinions/OPa181271-061019.pdf>. My thanks to City attorneys Kristin Sarff and Tracey Fussy, for preparing and presenting the case on behalf of the City. I hope that this decision will not be appealed to Minnesota Supreme Court.

4d Affordable Housing Incentive Program. The City's 4d Affordable Housing Incentive Program, which helps property owners obtain property tax reductions for agreeing to keep rental units affordable for 10 years, has enrolled 770 housing units throughout Minneapolis. Since the 4d pilot program launched in 2018, 51 property owners have enrolled in the program with a total of 129 buildings. Owners of unsubsidized multifamily properties with two or more units are eligible to apply. At least 20 percent of the property's rental units must be affordable to households making 60% of the area median income (AMI). For 2018, 60% of AMI for a household of four was \$56,580; and for an individual it was \$39,600. The median rent for a one-bedroom apartment enrolled in the program was \$845 a month and was \$950 a month for a two-bedroom apartment. Property owners enrolled in the 4d program also agree to limit rent increases to 6% or less per year. Property owners participating in the program are can also get free or low-cost energy assessments, solar energy installations and energy efficiency improvements. To date, the 4d program's annual energy savings are equivalent to the annual energy use of 25 single family homes or the annual gas consumption of 46 cars. Learn more at www.minneapolismn.gov/4d.

Home Visiting Nurse Program. The City, through the work of our Health Department, has approved accepting a \$1.7 million grant from the State of Minnesota Department of Health to fund a Home Visiting Nurse program through 2022. This will allow us to contract with the Minnesota Visiting Home Nurses Association to MVNA to reach an estimated 700 new mothers in the hospital after childbirth to enroll them in a home visiting program and improve the health of parents and children.

Opioid Crisis Response. The Council, with my strong support, will consider approving agreements and accepting grants that will help us further implement the recommendations of our Opioid Task Force, and likely also help address the concerning increase in the use of methamphetamine that is occurring at the same time. If approved, the Health department will

become host to 2 Minnesota Opioid Response Corp members (as part of the AmeriCorps program) and we will be accepting a grant of \$200,000 from the National Association of County and City Health Officials to assist us in our opioid response program. For resources and more information on how we are working to address this crisis see <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/health/toolkit/opioidresources>.

County Respond to Opioid Crisis. I commend the County Board for addressing opioid addiction in July by securing a \$937,990 grant to provide medication-assisted therapy for people with opioid use disorder are booked into the Adult Detention Center, sentenced to the Adult Corrections Facility and diverted to the Behavioral Health Center and state funding to expand access to Naloxone in the community. Because of that funding walk-in hours will be increased to distribute Naloxone kits and clean syringes at the Red Door Clinic, and staff will educate and distribute Naloxone kits to residents of Little Earth. To learn more about how Hennepin County is responding to the opioid epidemic at hennepin.us/opioidresponse.

Health Inspections Study. In June the Council received a report, directed as part of staff direction I brought forward last year, from an outside consultant, (Colibri Consulting) on the City's health inspections, permitting, and Food, Lodging, and Pools licensing process. The findings make it clear that current staffing levels, which are on par with other jurisdictions, should be maintained and recommends several ways to improve our operations. These include: maintaining most inspection practices, de-emphasizing non-critical violations, developing a minimum set of field note-taking standards, improving the license fee structure and streamlining several administrative practices. The findings and recommendations are detailed in the full report and executive summary you can find here <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/RCA/4490>.

Violence Prevention Grants. To coincide with the creation of the Office of Violence Prevention, the 2019 budget called for establishment of a Violence Prevention Fund to invest in community-led strategies that address violence in the City. Following and evaluation of the responses to the Request for Proposals for the Citywide Violence Prevention Fund issued in April, the Council has approved funding the projects of 7 organizations. This includes the Lake Street Council who will receive \$10,000 to support the South Minneapolis Public Safety Coalition; MN Peacebuilding Leadership Institute who will receive \$10,000 to address violence and the psychological trauma it produces; Banyan Community will receive \$50,000 to violence that impacts the neighborhoods of East Phillips and Midtown Phillips and expand the Lighthouse Network (LHN) block clubs; Juxtaposition Arts will receive \$50,000 to prevent youth and peer violence in the Jordan, Hawthorne, and Folwell neighborhoods using paid youth apprentices from their creative sector employment and training program: Art is My Weapon who will receive \$44,250 to focus on peer and community violence, group/gang violence, and family violence; The Camden Promise who will receive \$50,000 to address violence in the Camden community; and, the East Phillips Improvement Coalition who will receive \$25,000 to help address multiple forms of violence through a Youth Leadership for Community Engagement project.

Director Named for Office of Violence Prevention. Sasha Cotton has been hired as the director for the City's new Office of Violence Prevention, housed within the Health Department. Sasha has been our youth violence prevention coordinator since 2014 and will likely help the transition to this broader effort more seamless with both community stakeholders and partners within state and local governments, including departments right here in City Hall. I have appreciated her work over the past few years coordinating efforts to decrease youth violence. The new office will allow the Health Department to do more to use a public health approach to end violence in various forms for all ages of people in our City.

Transportation Improvement Plan. The Metropolitan Council's Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) recently approved and released the Draft 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The draft includes highway, transit, bikeway and pedestrian projects. Public comments will be received until 5:00pm, **Friday, August 9** and can be mailed to Metropolitan Council, 390 Robert St. N., St. Paul, MN 55101, E-mailed to public.info@metc.state.mn.us or phoned in at 651-602-1500. They can also be made in person at two meetings to be held at the Mill Ruins Park at the entrance to the Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis on **Saturday, July 20** from 1 to 3pm and **Tuesday, July 23** from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The final document will be considered on August 21 by the advisory committee. The Met Council plans to consider final adoption of on September 25. For more information, contact Joe Barbeau, Metropolitan Council, at 651-602-1705 or joseph.barbeau@metc.state.mn.us. Visit <https://metrocouncil.org/News-Events/Transportation/Events/TIP-popup-2019-07-20.aspx> for more information.

Accessory Building Height Regulations. In June I introduced, and the Council voted to refer to a committee, an ordinance amendment I am sponsoring that would amend rules about the heights of accessory structures so that, at least in some cases, they would be allowed to be taller than a primary structure. I am doing this in response to concerns I have heard from some homeowners who own particularly small homes but would like to add space to a garage or other accessory building on their property. This would potentially allow a garage or an accessory dwelling unit to be taller than a home, but will likely require the property owner to apply for and be granted a variance in order to do so.

Adult Entertainment Regulation Ordinance. Following meetings with workers, owners and managers, Council Member Palmisano and I are preparing for a public hearing and committee vote on our amendments to the Adult Entertainment License ordinance. The focus of the amendments is on protecting workers in these establishments. You can find an overview of the issue and new standards at <http://www.minneapolis.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/policydocument/wcmsp-218989.pdf> and the ordinance draft at <http://www.minneapolis.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/policydocument/wcmsp-218990.pdf>. I expect the hearing and committee consideration to occur at the Public Health, Civil Right and Community Engagement Committee in August.

Wage Theft. This month the Council approved taking up an ordinance amendment that would amend Title 2 of our Code of Ordinances relating to Administration, preventing wage theft,

adding overtime and break requirements, and restricting City contracts from being awarded to entities with outstanding wage obligations. The public hearing for the new ordinance will be set for **Monday, July 29th** at 1:30pm in Room 317 in City Hall.

Freelance Worker Protection Ordinance. The Council has referred ordinance amendments related to worker protections adding a new section that would establish freelance worker protection. Authors, Fletcher, Palmisano and Cunningham will be drafting formal language in the weeks ahead.

Employment Grants and Contracts. Following a review of proposals and the staff recommendation, the Economic Development Committee is recommending that the Council approve grants to fund community-based workforce organizations who operate “pathways programs” that help recruit, train and place residents in specific high demand jobs. If approved by the Council HIRED will receive \$250,000, Twin Cities RISE will receive \$75,000 and the Jewish Family and Children’s Services will receive up to \$218,550. In June the Council approved contracts increases with 7 other organizations for a total additional \$5 million to provide employment and training services to Minneapolis residents. For details on the pathway program see <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00749> and on the other services visit <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/RCA/4511>.

Inclusive Procurement. The City is joining a Citi Foundation and Living Cities’ City Accelerator initiative on Inclusive Procurement – an effort to increase opportunities for minority-owned businesses to gain city contracts. The City will receive a \$50,000 grant, technical assistance, and other support to our purchasing power to help us focus on spending more public dollars with black, indigenous, Latino and immigrant owned businesses and reach spending goals for City departments that will close the racial disparities in companies that provide services and products to the City.

Tobacco Shop Regulations. The moratorium on the establishment of new exclusive (adults only) tobacco shop licenses will be ending in August and the Council is preparing to move forward new regulations based on the recommendations of the study completed in June. The Public hearing has been set for **July 30** at 1:30pm for the new ordinance that would impose a spacing requirement on any new shop, similar to the 2000-foot spacing requirement with liquor stores. The proposal would require a 3000-foot spacing between any new exclusive tobacco shops and liquor stores that can sell menthol tobacco. Currently licensed stores would be allowed to continue operating in their current locations.

Drive-Through Ordinance Amendments. The Planning Commission is recommending that the City approve an ordinance amendment that would prohibit new drive through businesses from opening in the City. The Zoning and Planning Committee is expected to consider this in July.

Short-term Rentals Ordinance. The Council has voted to take up amendments, authored by Council Member Fletcher, to amend provisions related to short term rentals.

Land Use Annual Reports. The 2018 annual reports for the City Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, and Heritage Preservation are now available. The City Planning Commission report can be found at

http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms_p-217908.pdf with and interactive map at

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d72750da11c4910b9454f71e8285754&extent=-93.4678,44.8717,-93.0634,45.0535>. The Board of Adjustment report is at

http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms_p-218047.pdf The Heritage Preservation report is at

http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms_p-217259.pdf This represents an enormous amount of work by the people who volunteer to

serve on these boards and the City employees who assist them. Last year was the 8th consecutive year of record development in Minneapolis.

Building Boom Continues. The value of the new buildings so far this year is estimated to be at \$1,116,580,524 based on building permit valuations for 2019. In June alone, the building permit valuation is at \$269,106,037. The top ten projects by building permit value in 2019 so far are a mix of rental housing and commercial projects as well as one public building. They include the City's new Public Service Center (valued at over \$120 million), the Odin - 335 Unit Apartment Building, a remodel of the Thrivent building, the 6 Story 240 Units Mixed Use apartment building at 1400 Park Ave., the Lake Haus 200 unit Apartments at 3100 Lake St., the River Loop Apartments (218 units) at 801 West River Parkway N, the Rand Hotel Conversion, 600 5th Ave Mixed Use 122 Unit Building, 1400 Loring Mixed Use, and the East Town Apartments at 618 9th Ave S.

Sustainable Building Policy. This summer I am moving forward with my colleague Jeremy Schroeder on a policy that will require new developments that are supported by the City to meet sustainability standards above the state building code. We are modeling this policy on the very successful St. Paul green building policy that has been in place for over a decade, and we are working in conjunction with the same building experts at the University of Minnesota Center for Sustainable Building Research who helped St. Paul craft their ordinance. I look forward to having a proposal to present in the next few months.

Inclusive Financing for Energy Improvements. In June the Clean Energy Partnership discussed the new financing tool that would put the costs of energy efficient and renewable energy investments on a person's utility bill while also saving them money. After discussing the results of a U of M study on the topic the Board adopted key features of a pilot program and agreed on specific steps to take in order to have specific program recommendations to be considered for approval at the next meeting. You can find the meeting materials and motion that was considered at <https://mplscleanenergypartnership.org/recent-news/>.

Xcel "Time of Use" Pilot. Parts of Ward 2, including much of Seward and parts of greater Longfellow, are in the area where Xcel Energy will be piloting a new "time of use" rate for electricity. Thousands of households in the area will get new smart electricity meters, and be

sorted into an experimental group that will be put on the time of use rate, and a control group that will not. The purpose of this pilot is to see if people will be willing and able to shift electricity consumption to times when it is less expensive to generate, and, even more importantly, more renewable. During peak demand times, the utility relies more on fossil fuels, which emit carbon and are less cost-effective than renewables. Customers in the pilot will pay less for electricity they use during off-peak hours, from midnight to 6am, when electricity is cheapest to produce. Electricity prices during the peak period – between 3pm-8pm on weekdays – will be higher. The rate has been designed to be cost-neutral for most customers, and to offer people an opportunity to save money on their utility bills by shifting their consumption to off-peak times. You can find out more here:

https://www.xcelenergy.com/company/rates_and_regulations/filings/time_of_use_pricing_pilot/time_of_use_faq

New Director of Regulatory Services. Following a public hearing on June 25th the Economic Development and Regulatory Services Committee voted to recommend Mayor Frey's nomination of Kim Keller to be the new Director of Regulatory Services. Keller has served as Operations and Engagement Director of Regulatory Services, Assistant to the Director in Regulatory Services, as the Results Management Program Coordinator and a senior policy aide to two City Council Members.

Regulatory Services Dashboard. There is a new online resource with information on Regulatory Services inspections with information about fire and housing violations and inspections. Violations range from nuisance violations, such as unkept grass, to safety violations, such as having no fire alarms. The information updates each morning to provide the previous day's work. (Information on follow-up actions for the violations, such as citations, are not included, nor are violations issued by other City departments, such as Business Licensing.) You can access the new dashboard from <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/regservices/reports>.

World Refugee Day. The City celebrated World Refugee Day on June 20 with a program in City Hall's Rotunda. World Refugee Day was established by the United Nations and recognizes the many millions of people who are forced to leave their homes because of war, conflict and persecution. The City of Minneapolis World Refugee Day celebration is organized by the City's Neighborhood and Community Relations Department's Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) and 2020 Census We Count campaign. Learn more about how the City is working to ensure immigrants and refugees are counted in the 2020 census at minneapolis.mn.gov/census.

Census Bureau Jobs. The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting people to work temporary part-time positions to help with the 2020 census count. The temporary positions feature flexible hours, which makes them a perfect fit for people who already have other commitments but are open to earning a little extra money. Counting every person in Minnesota is necessary to fully benefit from political representation and valuable funding over the next 10 years. For more information visit 2020census.gov/en/jobs.

Regenerative Agriculture. In June, the Council passed a resolution supporting “regenerative agriculture,” a holistic land management practice that restores soil health and its carbon content to benefit the environment and the people living in it. We also got a report on the use of an ancient technology, called biochar, that pulls carbon from the air and returns it to the soil for faster growing, larger plants. Carbon is the main greenhouse gas emission contributing to climate change. Regenerative agriculture supports the production of nutritious, locally grown food and provides economic opportunities. To learn more see the resolution at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/Download/RCA/9388/Regenerative%20Agriculture%20Biochar%20Resolution%20final.docx%206.21.19.pdf> and watch this video explaining what biochar is and how it helps our climate and food: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQIDnXiG4Oc&feature=youtu.be>.

Biennial Budget Charter Amendment. The Charter Commission has sent a letter supporting passing a proposed Charter amendment by ordinance that would establish a biennial budget process for the City Budget. As a result, the Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Minneapolis City Council will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on **July 24**, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 317 City Hall, 350 S 5th St. to consider amending the City Charter regarding a biennial budget process. I am opposed to making such a charter change by ordinance without putting the question on the ballot for the voters to approve. For more information see <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-01413>.

Snow and Ice Sidewalk Inspection Report. Public Works staff presented a report on the new sidewalk snow removal efforts they put in place this last winter. During the 2018-19 snow season, Public Works implemented new outreach, communications and inspection strategies to increase awareness and improve the quality and consistency of clearing snow and ice from sidewalks. Strategies included a letter to every resident, a resource list for sidewalk shoveling assistance and proactive sidewalk inspections that included Proactive Inspection included a sample of 35,386 (of the total 130,000) being inspected in Minneapolis. Of those parcels inspected 4% (1,323) were found to be in violation and got a warning letter. Over half of those got their sidewalks cleared after the warning but 42% were charged and had a city contractor do the clearing. Public Works plans to expand the program and inspect more parcels proactively next year. I continue to favor more City involvement in clearing sidewalks. This is a service that many other cities provide and, when they do, pedestrian access through corners, at bus stops and along streets is greatly improved. The City (including the Park Board) already does snow clearance along many trails, corners, bus stops and sidewalks. Perhaps we could at least provide a service where property owners could opt into adding this as a service on their utility bill and then the City could contract the work to be done by local small companies. <http://lims.minneapolismn.gov/Download/RCA/9496/Proactive%20Sidewalk%20Inspection%20Presentation%206.11.19.pdf>.

Truck Parking. Because of ongoing and citywide concerns with large semi-truck parking in industrial areas throughout the City, Public Works is now evaluating a citywide ban on large truck parking throughout Minneapolis, except for when they are loading and unloading. I expect a new ordinance amendment to be introduced on this subject in July.

Don Fraser. The City honored the passing of Don Fraser with a resolution in June. Don was a role model for me and an outstanding public servant for decades. Many of the things we take for granted today in City government, including the Youth Coordinating Board and the Executive Committee on which I serve, were started while he was Mayor. Don served as a member of the Minnesota Senate, from 1955 to 1962; for 16 years in Congress representing Minnesota's Fifth District from 1963 to 1979; and as mayor of Minneapolis, for 14 years, from 1980 to 1994, the longest-serving mayor in the history of the City. You can read the resolution at

<https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Download/File/2405/Don%20Fraser%20Honorary%20Resolution.pdf>

Bike Cops for Kids Officer of the Year. I offer my thanks and congratulations to Officer Mike Kirchen, the Minneapolis Police Officer who founded Bike Cops for Kids, for receiving the 2019 Officer of the Year Award from the Minneapolis Police and Peace Officers Association. You can read more about him at

<http://www.startribune.com/minneapolis-cop-named-officer-of-the-year-for-community-outreach-efforts/511208272/>.

Homeless Encampments & Drug Use. The Navigation Center closed on June 3rd, and businesses and residents in the area have been felt the impact, especially in West Seward and Cedar Riverside near the Franklin Light Rail station. In June, I participated in meetings with nearby residents and with the Seward Civic and Commerce Association to learn more. In all cases people are looking for both long term solutions to better address the problems of drug addiction and homelessness and short-term solution to address more immediate public health, safety and livability concerns. Trail patrols have increased, and we are working with a coalition of partners that includes the County and Met Transit to address concerns about used needles and safety throughout the area. The 3rd precinct is asking everyone to report any tents popping up or encampment style conditions that you notice to 311. The City has Sergeant assigned full time directly to these issues, and 311 will ensure reports of encampments reach his desk.

Garage Burglaries. In June, there was a significant increase in garage burglaries in some areas of South Minneapolis, including parts of Ward 2. Police Officers are actively patrolling the areas where the burglaries have occurred. Crime prevention specialist recommend that you always keep your home and garage secured and locked; always lock your vehicle doors inside your garage and take all valuables out of the vehicle (including small change, insurance and registration information); never leave your garage door opener in your car outside of your garage unlocked; consider investing in Wi-Fi Security Cameras to help investigators identify potential suspects; use motion sensitive lights on garage doors and homes. Please call 911 when you see or hear suspicious activity.

Second Ward Pedestrian Advisor. The Council has approved the reappointment of Aaron Berger as the Ward 2 representative to the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. I am grateful for

Aaron's commitment and passion for pedestrian safety and access and am glad that he is willing to serve another term.

University District Alliance. I was glad to learn that the University District Alliance Board has acted to reaffirm its value and reset its Board and Committee structure. It will continue to be a partnership between the neighborhoods, businesses, student groups, City and University, but will now also include seats for the U of M foundation and one other regional nonprofit. Council Member Fletcher, me, and the City Coordinator, Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, are the three City representatives on the UDA Board.

O'Shaughnessy Distillery. Land use applications have been submitted for the O'Shaughnessy Distillery project to be located at 600 Malcolm Avenue SE. Because the distillery building and the parking lot that will serve it will be constructed on separate lots and separately owned, the proposed development requires two sets of applications: one for the distillery lot's site plan review and another for a conditional use permit for a parking facility with its own site plan review. Additionally, a subdivision application to formally create the two lots has been submitted.

Glendale Pedestrian Safety Study. With my support, the City Health Department, in cooperation with the Minneapolis Public Housing authority has applied for and been awarded a state grant for a Walkable Community Workshop to improve pedestrian safety in the Glendale Townhomes area. As a result, I expect a half-day workshop to occur this October at Luxton Park. It will be led by state health department experts and comes with a \$5,000 grant to start implementing solutions. Learn more at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/physicalactivity/walkablemn.html>. In addition to looking at access to the light rail and throughout the townhomes area, I am hoping that it will look at pedestrian crossings of 27th Ave. I have heard that the pedestrian crossings on 27th Ave SE and Essex St SE is dangerous, including for children going to and from a charter school and Luxton Park.

Cleanup Grants for Ward 2 Projects. In July, The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) awarded \$3.4 million in cleanup grant funds to 15 redevelopment projects across the state. Six of the 15 projects are in the city of Minneapolis and 2 are in Ward 2. The Second Ward awards included \$73,451 in cleanup funds for Malcolm Yards Market, an "urban food hall" in the Prospect Park neighborhood, and \$328,488 in cleanup dollars for Bessemer at Seward Commons where a former metal machining site will be redeveloped for a five-story, 128-unit apartment building.

Northstar at Siebert Field Apartments. Greg Jansma, owner of this property at 1611 8th Street SE, is proposing an addition to current the 4-story apartment building and one-story parking ramp pm the site. He is proposing to add 5 residential stories to a rebuilt and strengthened one-story parking structure where the current structure now sits. The addition would include a roof terrace on top of the existing apartment building. He is applying for a conditional use permit to allow 20 additional dwelling units, a conditional

use permit to increase the maximum allowed height from 4 stories, 56'-0", to 6 stories, 80,' and a variance to reduce the minimum parking requirement from 59 spaces to 48 spaces.

Maya Commons Funds Added. In July, the Council will likely approve funding up to \$375,000 in additional funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Contingency Pool to assist in the construction of this apartment building at 937 13th Ave SE. When completed it will provide 50 new units of affordable rental housing in a five-story building at the former Bunge Grain Elevator site. All 50 units will be restricted to households earning less than 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) and 12 units will be set-aside at 30 percent AMI for individuals experiencing long-term homelessness. The project includes 25 studio, 15 one-bedroom, and 10 two-bedroom units. These funds are the final funding required and, if approved, will position the project to close and start construction at the end of July.

Como Tap. Joe Radaich, who previously operated Sporty's Pub and currently operates Domo Ramen in NE Minneapolis, and Jana Kern are planning to open a new restaurant called Como Tap at 2124 Como Ave SE, the current site of Sporty's Pub. They plan is to open in August and operate the with the same type of license, hours of operation, sidewalk seating, entertainment, parking, and number of seats. They are applying for a Liquor License with Entertainment Class D (karaoke, trivia, bingo, etc.). I expect the application to be approved by the Council in July.

St. Catherine University West Bank Campus Sold. St. Catherine University announced in June that the University's Minneapolis campus has been sold to Fairview Health Services. The University, which is currently in the process of moving its Minneapolis-based programs to its St. Paul campus, will lease space within the Old Main and Education buildings on the Minneapolis campus through the end of 2020. Fairview will bring employees from spaces it rents today in other areas of the Twin Cities to this location which is adjacent to its corporate offices and the University of Minnesota Medical Center campus.

West Bank City Parking Lot A For Sale. In June the City's Economic Development division announced that they would be preparing another Request for Proposals for sale of the large surface parking lot across from the Mixed Blood theater and Riverside Plaza.

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Jobs with the City. The City has several job openings among more than 900 different job types. To learn more and view current openings see <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/jobs>

Open Office Hours in the Ward. My Community "Office Hours" in the ward occur on 4 Monday mornings month from **10:00 to 11:30am**. Please feel free to call the office to reserve some time when I will be there or just stop by.

First Mondays at the Birchwood Café, 3311 E 25th St;

Second Mondays at Black: Coffee and Waffles, 1500 Como Ave SE;

Third Mondays at the Afro Deli, 720 Washington Ave SE, and
Fourth Mondays at the East Lake Library, 2727 E Lake St.

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