



January 2009

Eighth Ward News

"Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Field-Regina-Northrop, Kingfield, Powderhorn"

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

Subscribe to 8th Ward E-news by sending an e-mail to:

elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Neighborhood Meetings

Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council
www.bancroftneighborhood.org
Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 pm
4120 17th Avenue South

Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Organization
Meets 1st Tuesday, 7 pm
Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

Central

CANDO
Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm
Sabathani Community Center
310 East 38th Street, Room 304

Central Weed & Seed
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 5:30 pm
Green Central School

Field-Regina-Northrop

www.frnng.org
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 pm
1620 E 46th Street

Kingfield

www.kingfield.org
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm
ML King Park, 40th & Nicollet

Powderhorn

www.ppna.org
Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm
821 E 35th Street

38th & Chicago

38th & Chicago Implementation
Committee
Meets 3rd Monday, 7 pm
Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago Ave S

State Funding Cuts Require Revised 2009 City Budget

On December 26th, only two weeks after the Council adopted the 2009 City budget, the City received a cut of \$13 million in budgeted local government aid (LGA) from the state. This significant cut is only the beginning of what are likely to be ongoing budget reductions for the City, which uses state aid to support police, fire, and road and infrastructure repair (as part of the general fund).

In response to the anticipated funding cuts the Council approved a hiring freeze in December, to ensure it would be in the best possible position to respond to these tough times. The City has absorbed the \$13 million cut by going into its reserve fund and reducing that fund to 11% of budgeted revenue. The Ways and Means Committee, on which I serve, directed finance staff in January to rebuild the reserve fund back to its required 15%. This responsible action has a direct impact on the City's ability to maintain high ratings from bond rating agencies, resulting in lower interest rates for the City.

The Mayor will present a **revised 2009 budget** in mid or late February. Because of the magnitude of state aid cuts to come, in addition to the reduction of state aid to Minneapolis of \$35 million per year since 2003, the City must put all options on the table and look at new ways of doing business. The Mayor and Council are gathering information on potential cuts, the impact of those cuts on service levels, unfunded state mandates, regional services performed by Minneapolis, and more. It will be important for policymakers at all levels of government to hear from you regarding your priorities as we face difficult budget decisions in a time when residents need good public service more than ever.

I invite you to attend my morning breakfast program, **Early Mornings with Elizabeth, Friday February 27th**, 7:30-9:00am, at Turtle Bread, 48th and Chicago, **to discuss proposed revisions to the 2009 budget.** Mayor RT Rybak will be our featured guest for this important meeting.

Inaugural Celebrations



Tuesday, January 20, 2009, we will celebrate the inauguration of Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States of America and our nation's first black president. You can watch this historic event and celebrate with your neighbors and friends at two local viewing parties:

- The Midtown Global Market invites you to a viewing party, complete with hot dogs and apple pie, starting at 9 am. The festivities will take place at Mapps Coffee breakfast space, located on the northwest side of the market.
- Sabathani Community Center invites you to experience history with your community starting at 10 am, viewing the inauguration on the jumbo screen in the auditorium. Afterwards share your thoughts and some light refreshments in the banquet center on the 2nd floor. Please bring a non-perishable item for the food shelf.

Minneapolis Youth: Apply Now for STEP-UP Summer Jobs



The application for Minneapolis STEP-UP summer jobs is now available. Applications have been distributed to Minneapolis schools - including public,

private, alternative and charter – as well as community organizations. The STEP-UP application is also available at Minneapolis Libraries, the North and South Minneapolis WorkForce Centers and online at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/SU_Application.pdf.

The STEP-UP program is an opportunity for Minneapolis youth ages 14-21 to take part in a summer work experience. Youth ages 14 and 15

work 9 weeks for an average of 30 hours per week, earn minimum wage, and are placed in jobs in Minneapolis non-profit organizations. Youth ages 16-21 work 8-12 weeks for 20-40 hours per week, earn from \$7-10 per hour, and are placed at private businesses, government or educational institutions. Typical positions include teacher's assistants, graphics interns, administrative support staff, landscapers, computer interns, and camp counselors.

The STEP-UP application deadline is January 30, 2009. Completed applications can be returned to:

- The Career and College Center in any Minneapolis Public High School
- The North or South Minneapolis Workforce Centers
- The Minneapolis Central Library or the Franklin Library.

For more information, contact Tammy Dickinson at 612-673-5041 or

tammy.dickinson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Home-Based Business Fair: Sat. Jan. 31st



The Lake Street Council is organizing a

Home Business Fair to be held on Saturday, January 31 from 10am to 1 pm at the Midtown Global Market. This will be a terrific chance to network with the home business community and Lake Street businesses. Areas of interest include:

- How to Get a Good Start on Your Work Day, with yoga instructors and life coaches available
- Bookkeeping, Accounting and Taxes
- Other resource information will include local tech support, legal services, home office design, guerilla marketing, database management, website design and maintenance, graphic design, and more

Questions? Call Joyce Wisdom, Executive Director of the Lake Street Council, (612) 822-0232 or jwisdom@lakestreetcouncil.org.

Neighborhood Arts Roundup



Throughout the year, residents in the 8th Ward and other Southside neighborhoods continually engage in creative community building activities. Here are just a few:

- **Art Sled Rally** – February 7th, Powderhorn Park, 1 pm. Join your neighborhoods and watch the fun, or participate in the action! Free art sled workshop January 31st at Powderhorn Park. More information at www.artsledrally.com.
- **Powderhorn photography project** – featuring a photo for every day of the year in 2009. Photos posted at www.powderhorn365.com.
- Call for artists: **Kingfield 4th Annual Community Art show** (ReCreate, ReDefine, ReInvent). Local artists are invited to create two-dimensional or 3D art, with registration to submit art due March 5th. Start planning now for the March 21st art show, which has become a hugely popular event featuring great local artists. www.kingfield.org.

Riverlake Greenway Community Meeting



On February 4, 2009, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, come and view a design update for the planned River Lake Greenway at Roosevelt High School Auditorium, 4029 28th Ave S.

The RiverLake Greenway is a bicycle/pedestrian route that will extend from Lake Harriet to the Mississippi River via 40th St., Nokomis Ave. and 42nd St. The segment from Lake Harriet to I-35W

is complete and passes through East Harriet and Kingfield Neighborhoods. Construction of the segment from I-35W to the River is expected to take place in 2010. The new greenway segment will pass through Bryant, Bancroft and Standish-Ericsson Neighborhoods and the Longfellow Community.

A resident advisory committee has been meeting for about a year to discuss design options for construction in 2010. Please attend to give your feedback and help determine the final greenway design. Topics to be discussed include bikes and autos sharing the road, biker and pedestrian safety, traffic calming, and landscaping.

Want to view the project web site? Go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/cip/riverlake. Questions? Contact project lead Don Pflaum, (612) 673-2129 or Donald.pflaum@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Lead Poisoning Prevention



The Central neighborhood is targeted for programs to reduce lead paint poisoning, as it has an unacceptably high density of lead poisoning for children. One of the most frequent methods of poisoning is from lead paint chips on old window frames.

Minneapolis has received two grants for lead abatement in Central and Phillips neighborhoods that can be used to replace old windows with lead paint. For this program, the first 20 homes or rental properties will not require matching funds. The program will allow 120 homes and apartments built prior to 1978 to have full lead inspections, with lead-contaminated windows replaced with energy-efficient windows.

To be eligible, a child under age 6 or a pregnant woman must live on the property. A four person household earning \$58,000 or less will qualify for funding. Window replacement is funded at a 50% match up to \$4,000 per rental unit. Funding is available on a first-come first-serve basis through 2011.

Over the past year, 37 residential units have been made lead safe through these grant programs, with 21 of those in the Central neighborhood. A second grant program has started enrollment, with 28 residential units enrolled, 24 of which are in Central.

To enroll or determine if you qualify, call Gloria Flores at (612) 673-3529 or Gloria.flores@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. You can find out more about this program and lead poisoning on the city website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/lead-hazard-control/grants.asp.

Street Lighting Program Adopted (At Last!)



After a close to 10 year moratorium on installation of new street lighting, the City Council has at long last adopted a new street lighting policy. As part of this policy, Councilmember Glidden led the charge to ensure that new streetlight fixtures would direct their light at the street and sidewalk, rather than into the sky, thus reducing night sky pollution and glare. This means that public works will require any vendors to meet the “full cut-off” standard for lighting in any issued RFP.

Under the new policy, areas as small as four blocks can petition to have residential level street lighting. The petition process will seek to ensure 70% of property owners agree to be assessed for street lights. The new policy also increases the light standards required for pedestrian areas, such as heavily used transit routes (i.e. Chicago and Nicollet) and neighborhood business corners.

Information about the new street lighting program will be posted at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/streetlighting. Councilmember Glidden will be working with 8th Ward neighborhoods desiring streetlight installation months to come – please call the 8th Ward office at (612) 673-2208 or Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us with any questions.

Prostitution and Human Trafficking a Priority for City’s State Legislative Agenda

In December of 2008, the City Council approved its state legislative agenda – this is the document that guides the city’s lobbying efforts for 2009. Councilmember Glidden partnered with the City Attorney’s office to ensure that reducing prostitution and domestic human trafficking was a priority for the City and reflected in our state legislative agenda for 2009.

Some of the changes Minneapolis will advocate for include increasing our ability to publicize “johns” who offend in our neighborhoods, ensuring it is easier to effectively prosecute prostitution-related offenses by streamlining laws, and recommending designated funding for treatment and transitional housing programs to support men and women in leaving a life of prostitution.

Thank you to the 3rd Police Precinct, City Attorney Paul Kruchowski, and community organizations (including PRIDE, Division of Indian Work, and many others) for working to make a difference in this area. Thank you also to the many residents who have raised concerns about how to address prostitution in our neighborhoods – you have helped this become a priority issue for the city. Councilmember Glidden looks forward to working with you as we prepare for this legislative session. Look for more information to come soon!

Ward 8 Community Office Hours



Join Elizabeth for her community office hours every Monday, from 9-11:00am at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th Street, Room 129. You can always call the 8th Ward Office with your questions at (612) 673-2208.