



April 2010

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

Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 pm

4120 17th Avenue South

Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Association

Meets 1st Thursday, 7 pm

Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

Central

CANDO

www.CANDOmpls.org

Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm

Sabathani Community Center

310 East 38th Street, Room 304

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

Mayor Presents Supplemental 2010 Budget on April 8

For the second year in a row, the City of Minneapolis must revise its approved budget mid-year due to the massive state deficit and major reductions in promised state funding.

In 2009, Governor Pawlenty unilaterally "unallotted" millions of dollars from Minneapolis and other cities. The Minnesota Supreme Court is now reviewing whether the Governor properly used the power of unallotment.

In 2010, Governor Pawlenty again proposed dramatic reductions to local government aid, which affected cities across the state. The Governor's proposed cut to Minneapolis was \$29.1 million.

While Minneapolis will not see a cut of \$29.1 million in LGA, thanks to action by the Minnesota House and Senate, we now know that Minneapolis must make a mid-year cut of \$10.9 million. This cut, on top of other funding losses and uncertainty of future state LGA funding, continues the dramatic impact on Minneapolis services – specifically police, fire, and road repair.

Mayor Rybak will announce the Supplemental 2010 budget on Thursday, April 8, with his proposal on how to balance the city budget for the remainder of the year. The Mayor's proposed budget will be reviewed by the Ways & Means Committee of the City Council, with approval of the Supplement Budget planned for the end of April.

Please contact Councilmember Glidden with your questions at (612) 673-2208 or Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. We will keep you updated on the details of the city budget.

2010 Census Update



The participation rate to date for Minneapolis is 57%. We need your help to increase participation in Census 2010!

You should have received your 2010 Census form by now. If you haven't, please call 1-866-872-6868 (for Spanish call 1-866-928-2010).

If you have questions, need translation, or didn't get your census form in the mail, questionnaire centers are now open. Ward 8 sites include most parks and libraries, Sabathani Community Center (38th Street & 4th Ave) and El Colegio Charter School (42nd and Bloomington). **You can also call 3-1-1 to find the location nearest you.**

Want to help "get out the census?" **Minneapolis "Human Billboard" and Doorknock for Census 2010!** Sat April 10th, 11:30am, Midtown Global Market. Make noise on Lake Street **or** knock on doors reminding neighbors to fill it out, mail it back.

Need Help with Energy Bills? Thousands of Dollars Are Available for Qualifying Residents



If you need assistance paying gas or electric bills, or would like to make energy efficient updates to your home, Community Action of Minneapolis has resources.

Energy Assistance Program: For **renters and homeowners** who meet income eligibility requirements, financial assistance is available for utility bill payments.

Home Weatherization: A second program provides grants up to \$6,500 for energy saving improvements on your home. Examples include improving insulation, better fitting doors and windows, and more. Home energy improvements can save you hundreds of dollars on utility bills. Funding for this program comes from the federal

stimulus program. Call **Community Action** today to determine if you qualify at 612-335-5837 or go to www.campls.org.

Earth Day Celebrations and Cleanup: Saturday, April 17



The annual Earth Day clean up is a long-standing tradition in Minneapolis. Volunteers gather on Saturday morning to clean up trash and debris from lakes, parks, and the Mississippi River.

What do you need? Just show up at any of the clean up sites on Saturday, April 17, between 9:30am and noon and help keep Minneapolis beautiful. Sites in Ward 8 include: Martin Luther King Park, Phelps Park, Powderhorn Park, McRae Park. Contact your neighborhood association or the Minneapolis Park & Rec Board for more information visit www.minneapolisparcs.org.

Celebration of Earth Day continues at the **Midtown Global Market** on Sat, April 17, 2010, with music, children's activities, local farmers and more from 11 am – 4 pm. The inaugural MGM Recycled Art Fair will open at the event and be on display at the Market through May 17. And **Do It Green! Minnesota** will host the grand opening of their Midtown Global Market Resource Center on April 17. More info at www.doitgreen.org.

311's Online Services – One More Way to Report Neighborhood Issues



In response to our growing need for on-line service, Minneapolis 311 has significantly improved ways you can report issues online. Go to

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311 to check it out – save this link as a "favorite" for fast reporting in the future!

Minneapolis 311 online services are available 24/7.

The most frequently reported 311 issues can also be reported on-line: graffiti, potholes, housing code violations, street light out, and much more. There

are extra features for on-line reporting too – for instance, you can send in a digital photograph of graffiti as part of your report, helping Minneapolis respond faster and track emerging graffiti patterns.

Resources for Business: Greening Your Business Expo



To better connect businesses with “green” product and service opportunities, the Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the second annual **Greening Your Business Expo!**

Tuesday, April 27, 4:30 pm-7:30 pm,

Legends Club - Target Field

Located in the Legends Club of Target Field, this B-2-B expo features more than 50 exhibitors showcasing sustainable products and services for the workplace. Admission to Expo is FREE with a business card. Pre-registration enters you into a drawing for two Twins tickets!

Visit www.GreenMinneapolisBusiness.com for more information.

Minneapolis Streetcar Plan Moves Forward



On April 2, the Minneapolis City Council approved a plan that moves forward our goal to bring streetcars back to Minneapolis!

First, the Council approved a long-term streetcar network of six lines, including lines that would travel along Nicollet Avenue and Chicago Avenue in Ward 8.

Second, the Council approved a financial framework and authorized our staff to work on financing strategies. This work will move us closer to being able to apply for federal funding now available with the help of the Obama administration and Chairman Jim Oberstar’s dedication to rail options.

To find out more, and view the long-term plan, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/transplan/StreetcarStudy.asp.

Chicago Ave Gets a Facelift in 2010



As part of the City’s 2010 Street Resurfacing program, Chicago Avenue from Lake Street to 38th Street will be resurfaced this construction season. Resurfacing projects use a mill and overlay process, removing a portion of the existing asphalt pavement surface and placing a new surface over the entire street.

The purpose of the resurfacing program is to extend the life of a roadway by approximately 10 years. Minneapolis’ resurfacing program focuses on highly traveled streets, bringing improvements in a more timely way to our roads.

As happens with all street improvement projects, property owners along Chicago will be assessed a portion of the project’s cost, with the ability to spread repayment over five years.

Cracking Down on Illegal Dumping



A frequent complaint received in Minneapolis is about illegal dumping – when garbage, including old furniture, appliances, and tires, is left in alleys or “dumped” in residential or commercial property.

The City Council recently took action to crack down on illegal dumping, a practice which is against the law. To reflect the seriousness of this crime, the fine for a first time offence has been increased to \$1,000. Data shows that before someone is caught doing illegal dumping, they have likely done it many many times. As well, since Minneapolis hauls away most debris (including appliances) for free, illegal dumpers often live outside of Minneapolis in cities where they are charged for disposal of these items.

To crack down on used tire dumping, the City Council passed an ordinance that requires registration of authorized tire haulers. This will help ensure tire and junk dealers and auto-related stores work with authorized tire haulers who will properly dispose of tires. The City can now use this ordinance in working both with businesses and tire haulers on compliance.

If you witness suspected illegal dumping, call 311 to report. Providing license plate and other identifying information will help the city take action on your complaint.

Shop Local – New Ward 8 Businesses



Despite difficult economic times, several new businesses have opened in the 8th Ward. We have many options to “shop local,” including 48th & Chicago, 38th & Nicollet, Lake Street,

and more.

Here are new offerings on Chicago Ave – businesses making a difference in buildings long vacant or underutilized.

- **Steven Be: A Yarn Garage Workshop.** 3448 Chicago Ave. Steven is expert in knitting, spinning, & fabric arts, with fantastic events and classes every week. www.stevenbe.com or (612) 259-7525.
- **Derrick’s Southern Style BBQ, 3801 Chicago.** Derrick specializes in BBQ and other southern style treats. Check out this new restaurant at 38th & Chicago. www.derrickssouthernstyle.com.
- **The Beauty Room, 4300 Chicago.** In the former location of the “Deluxe Spa,” this gorgeously updated building with beautiful picture windows now showcases a full service beauty salon. www.thebeautyroommpls.com.

More businesses are on the way, including updated commercial buildings in the 3400 block of Chicago Ave S and the anticipated Chicago Avenue Fire

Arts Center, 3749 Chicago, still set to open this summer. www.fireartscenter/blogspot.com.

Environmentally Conscious Businesses Get a Boost at 39th & Nicollet! Mulroy’s Body Shop and Start-Up ReGo Join Forces



Mulroy’s Body Shop has just completed a large solar panel installation at 39th & Nicollet property. Consisting of 177 panels which will produce 40 kilowatts, Pat

Mulroy installed the solar panels to lower his energy costs and do the right thing environmentally. This investment was made possible by a 30% federal tax credit for solar installation that is available through stimulus funds. The installation was done by SolarFlow Energy, which has created an innovative way to bring solar to homes and businesses by leasing.

To help celebrate this incredible investment, **Senator Al Franken** will visit Mulroy’s on Wed, April 7, at 2:30 pm. Senator Franken will tour the business and talk with employees about the solar installation.

Adding to its reputation as an environmental pioneer, Mulroy’s Body Shop is also the new home of **ReGo Electric Conversions**. ReGo is an environmentally conscious startup business, the brain child of Ward 8 resident and founder/co-president Shayna Berkowitz.

ReGo provides cost-effective and accessible electric car conversion services – with services for individuals and fleet car companies. Minneapolis is proud that a start-up like ReGo has chosen to locate in our City! As well, the City of Minneapolis is now evaluating ReGo’s services for its own fleet, looking for potential partnerships. Check out more about ReGo at www.regoelectric.com.

Congratulations Mulroy’s Body Shop and ReGo Electric Conversions on your fantastic partnership and environmental stewardship!