



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

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Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Longfellow, 1-17-13

Cam's next Cooper/Seward Office Hours:
Tuesday, January 22nd, 9:30-11:00am
Birchwood Café, 3311 E 25th St

Items:

- 1) 2013 Budget
- 2) Regulatory Restructuring
- 3) Self-managed Special Service Districts
- 4) STEP-UP
- 5) Applications for New Firefighters
- 6) Regulating Firearms I
- 7) New Police Leadership.
- 8) 2012 Election Report
- 9) Open Streets
- 10) CLIC Appointees
- 11) Recreational Fires
- 12) Trap Neuter Return
- 13) The Year of the Dakota
- 14) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The City Council approved the City's \$1.085 billion 2013 budget in December. This is 3% less than the 2012 budget, but still includes a 1.77% increase in the total property taxes we will collect. The budget includes more money for streets and other infrastructure. It adds \$2.5 million to the Police Department with the aim of having 10 more officers on the force by next summer and \$1.1 million to the Fire Department. Noteworthy amendments passed include: shifting funds to retain six Community Crime Prevention Specialists; adding two 911 operators, fully funding the City's Domestic Abuse Prosecution team, adding \$46,000 to support the Minneapolis Television Network (MTN) and providing \$40,000 to support Restorative Justice programs in Minneapolis. All of these amendments were accomplished without increasing the total budget, and most will use unexpended revenues from 2012. I supported all of them and co-authored, with Council Member Colvin Roy, an amendment that increased restorative Justice funding to \$40,000.
- 2) The most significant change made through this budget process involved the restructuring of the Regulatory Services Department. Licensing and building inspections have been moved to the Community Planning and Economic Development department and Environmental Health has moved to the Health Department. A smaller, more focused, Regulatory Department will include Housing Inspections, Animal Care and Control and Traffic Control.
- 3) This month the Council's Transportation and Public Works (TPW) committee has directed staff to develop a strategy for how the City can allow more self-managed special service districts in Minneapolis. This should provide enough time for districts that are interested in transitioning to self management or forming as self-managed service districts - to proceed in order to get up and running at the beginning of 2014. To learn more about and comment on this policy there will be a meeting **Thursday, January 31st**, at 3:30pm at the Hiawatha Maintenance Facility, 1901 East 26th Street. Staff will present a draft policy to the Council Committee at its meeting on **February 26th** with a final recommendation set to be presented on **March 19th**, and considered by the Council on **March 29th**.
- 4) The deadline to apply for a STEP-UP internship is **March 4th**. All youth must apply online. If a youth requires assistance with their application, they can contact Tammy Dickinson at 612-673-5041 or they can visit the STEP-UP page for agencies that offer staff and/or computer assistance. All applicants must: live in Minneapolis; Be 14-21 years old by June 1, 2013 (no exceptions); Not be currently enrolled in college (PSEO is ok); Be eligible to work in the US by June 1, 2013 and have proper documentation; Meet guideline incomes or have a substantial barrier to getting a job (for example IEPs, English language learners, or pregnant and parenting teens).

If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at 612-673-2162 or email Ahmed.Muhumud@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may call 311 or 612-673-3000. TTY users may call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Attention: If you want help translating this information in language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, call 311

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

- 5) For the first time since 2006, the Fire Department is accepting applications for new firefighters. This is the first step in creating a new firefighter eligibility list that will be used to hire firefighters as positions open up in anticipation of expected retirements. Applications will only be accepted in person and only on Jan. 31, and Feb. 1-2, 2013 at the Northeast Armory, 1025 Broadway St. NE. More details can be found here <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/fire/jobs/WCMS1P-099477>. Applications will be available at any Minneapolis Fire Station or the Minneapolis Human Resources Office, 250 South 4th St. - Room 100, beginning Jan. 24, 2013.
- 6) The Council will soon be considering updates to the City's legislative agendas on guns. I am pushing for those updates to include undoing the state preemption of local action on guns, a ban on semi-automatic weapons, a ban on high-capacity magazines, more discretionary power to municipalities to grant or deny gun permits, better background checks, a gun violence commission, changing the age for purchasing guns from 18 to 21, mandatory reporting of gun theft or loss, and renewing the prohibition on people convicted of felony domestic abuse owning guns.
- 7) Janee Harteau was officially sworn in as Minneapolis' 52nd chief of police in December and has already made changes to her leadership team. Lucy Gerold, former 3rd precinct Inspector, has taken over the position of head of the new Leadership and Organizational Development Division. The new 3rd Precinct Inspector (Seward, Cooper and Longfellow) will be **Michael Sullivan**, who started with the Department in 1991, was previously assigned to the 3rd Precinct as a Sector Lieutenant, acting as a community liaison for several neighborhoods. I also worked with him closely on Youth Violence Prevention when he was the Juvenile Diversion program. I thank and congratulate Inspector Gerold and look forward to working with Inspector Sullivan in his new leadership role.
- 8) City Clerk Casey Carl presented a report on the 2012 general election to the Council in December. You can read it here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/meetings/elections/WCMS1P-100838>. The 2012 election had the highest voter turnout since the 1940s, along with the largest number of same-day voter registrations in Minneapolis history. Some polling locations were insufficient and the Council directed staff to work with key community stakeholders to review all polling place locations to identify and address challenges and identify potential new locations for the most problematic precincts. The committee also reviewed and supported several potential changes to state law including: Early Voting, Vote Centers, and Electronic Poll Books. The City Council also approved the 2013 Municipal Election calendar as follows: Candidate Filing - **July 30 – August 13**, 1st Campaign Finance filing - **September 3**, 2nd Campaign Finance filing - **October 29**. The General Election date will be **November 5**.
- 9) The Council has unanimously voted to accept a \$50,000 grant from the Partnership for a Healthier America to organize four Open Streets events in 2013, along with a resolution formally cosponsoring these events and committing the City to \$50,000 worth of in-kind services (not paid for by the grant). This is a great step forward for Open Streets in Minneapolis, and I'm happy my office played such a key role in applying for this grant. If you have a route on the east side or in south Minneapolis (east of I-35W) that you would like to have considered as one of the new Open Streets events in 2013, please let my office know.
- 10) I have reappointed Alex Tsatsoulis from Cooper and Ann Jaede from Prospect Park as the Second Ward representatives on the Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee. I thank them for their outstanding work and continued willingness to serve.
- 11) After receiving the recommendations from the Environmental Advisory Committee and Public Health Advisory Committee, I have given notice of intent to amend the City's ordinance regarding recreational fires. My intent is to prohibit recreational fires on air quality alert days, in keeping with those recommendations. Recreational fires are already prohibited on high-wind days and after 10pm, and can be discontinued if they become a nuisance. I hope to have formal language drafted for a public hearing early next year.
- 12) In 2013 I will be bringing forward a proposal that would allow the City to coordinate and participate in Trap Neuter Return programs to address the problem of Feral, or wild, cats in Minneapolis. I believe that this offers us For information about a program in New Jersey that might be a model for ours visit <http://www.aplnj.org/projectTNR.php>.
- 13) On December 14, 2012, the City Council unanimously passed a resolution I helped draft that will help us move one small step closer to addressing the grave injustices done to the Dakota people in Minneapolis and Minnesota over the years. It calls for a year of remembering, honoring and truth-telling to help us understand and rectify the wrongs that were perpetrated during, and since, 1862 on the Dakota People and designates "The Year of the Dakota: Remembering, Honoring, and Truth-Telling," from December 26, 2012 to December 26, 2013. My sincere thanks go to Chris Mato Nunpa for helping and inspiring us to get this done.
- 14) There are openings on the Arts Commission, Capital Long Range Improvement Committee, Police Conduct Oversight Commission, Police Conduct Review Panel, Senior Advisory Committee, Telecommunications Network, ThincGreen Advisory Committee, Youth Violence Prevention Committee and Zoning Board of Adjustment. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov