



September 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's Proposed 2011 Budget

Mayor R.T. Rybak gave his annual budget address to City Council members Aug. 16. City departments will now present the mayor's proposal to the City Council's Ways & Means Committee in a series of budget hearings in September and October.

The proposed 2011 City budget funds the basics of police, potholes and paychecks, and meets the challenges posed by rising pension obligations, especially two closed pension funds. The budget also invests in transit-oriented development, downtown planning and a new downtown park, and a new regional economic development entity as opportunities to grow the City's tax base.

Two closed pension funds will continue to be a financial challenge for the City. Of the \$17.7 million more that the City must pay in 2011 to meet pension obligations, nearly 90 percent must go to two closed pension funds: the Minneapolis Police Relief Association and the Minneapolis Fire Relief Association. Were it not for the \$17.7 million jump in pension obligations, the City would be able to lower property taxes by 0.1 percent next year. However, obligations to pensions — and in particular, the closed pensions — instead require a 6.5 percent pension levy for 2011. On Sept. 13, the Board of Estimate will meet to set the maximum property tax levies.

For more information visit the 2011 Recommended Budget site:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/city-budget/2011recc.

The RiverLake Greenway is Coming! Community Open House Sept 22 – Construction to Start Late Sept/Early October



The RiverLake Greenway is a bicycle boulevard/bicycle project from Lake Harriet to the Mississippi River, running primarily along 40th Street. The project was initiated in 1997 by residents, has involved

dozens of community meetings, and has been approved by all area neighborhood associations.

Construction will start in late September/early October. You can learn more about plan details and construction timelines at:

- Community Open House, Wed Sept 22, 6:30 pm, Bethel Church, 4120 17th Ave S.

You can view detailed project layout information at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/riverlake/.

What's the same? Traffic along 40th Street will remain 2-way and parking is allowed on both sides of the street. All local access to driveways, alleys, and streets is preserved.

What's new? Traffic calming measures like medians and bump-outs will help make 40th Street a preferred route for bicyclists and pedestrians – allowing local access but discouraging traffic from using 40th Street as a destination route or cut-through street. Share-the-road lane markings for bicycles and many newly planted trees are also featured on 40th Street.

Local changes include:

- **Portland and Park Bumpouts at 40th St:** Curb bump-outs reduce the distance for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross a street, also increasing visibility and safe crossing for these travelers. Bump-outs will also provide additional green space. Bump-outs will be constructed at all 4 corners of Portland/40th and Park/40th.

- **Chicago Median:** A median will be constructed at the intersection of Chicago and 40th Street, with space for bicycles and pedestrians to pass through. East and west-bound traffic on 40th Street will be required to turn right on Chicago Ave – traffic is prevented by the median from crossing Chicago at 40th St.
- **12th Ave Diverter:** The 12th Ave Diverter will prevent traffic from traveling straight on 40th Street, but allow bicycles and pedestrians to pass through. East and west-bound traffic on 40th St will be required to turn right on 12th Ave. The diverter will provide green space as well. Discussions are occurring now with neighbors to determine if the diverter will remain part of the RiverLake Greenway project.
- **Bumpouts at Bloomington and 40th St:** Bump-outs will be constructed at the NW and SW corners of Bloomington and 40th Street, to reduce the distance for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross the street and increase visibility and green space. Bus stops will be moved to the corners opposite the bump-outs and new concrete bus pads constructed.
- **Cedar Ave/40th Street:** Signage and the addition of medians on 40th Street will prevent Cedar Ave traffic from turning onto 40th Street. In addition, east and west-bound traffic on 40th Street will be able to make right turns only onto Cedar. Vehicle traffic will not be able to cross Cedar at 40th St and cannot make left turns onto Cedar from 40th St. These changes will enhance safety for bicycles and pedestrians at this difficult intersection – unlike cars, bicycles and pedestrians will be allowed to cross Cedar on 40th St.

Questions may be directed to:

Don Pflaum, Project Manager, (612) 673-2129 or donald.pflaum@ci.minneapolis.mn.us
Council Member Elizabeth Glidden, (612) 673-2208 or elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

38th Street & Chicago Avenue Open House: Sept 13, 4:30 – 7:30pm



Want to learn more about great opportunities at 38th Street and Chicago Avenue? Please attend this event for developers, small business owners, and community members! Swing by to tour the Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center, meet area business owners, and learn about available property for sale and for lease.

Monday, September 13, 4:30-7:30 pm, 3734 Chicago Avenue South. Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center tours begin at 5:30pm

For more information contact Jessica Thesing, 38th & Chicago Implementation Coordinator, at 612-867-7773 or 38thandchicago@planning.org.

Nice Ride Wants Your Ideas on Expansion: Join Us on Sept 15th



Nice Ride Minnesota launched the largest public bike sharing system in America on June 10, 2010. At its 3-month anniversary, Nice Ride seeks your input on how its doing and where to expand the bike share system.

Join Nice Ride on **Wednesday, September 15, at 7:00 pm** at the **UROC Center, 2001 Plymouth Ave N**, to share your input. Unable to attend? Send your thoughts to ideas@niceridemn.org before September 10. Want more information about Nice Ride? Go to www.niceridemn.org.

Learn How to Reduce Your Energy Use and Save Money



Reducing energy use can be easier than you think. Tools like a

programmable thermostat can help you use less natural gas and electricity, which means saving money!

Community Energy Services, www.mnces.org is a full service residential energy program that helps you save energy and save money. **How does it work?** You attend a free workshop on how to lower your home energy use and there can sign up for a home visit. At your home visit, energy experts will perform a “blower test” to see how well your home is insulated and install materials that fit your home like low flow showerheads and compact fluorescent light bulbs. Most important, you can gain access to financing, incentives, and rebates available for larger projects such as insulation or furnace replacement.

Want to participate? Contact Kyle Boehm at (612) 219-7334 or kboehm@mncee.org for workshops scheduled throughout the city or visit www.mnces.org. If you're interested in seeing this program come to your neighborhood, contact your neighborhood organization.

Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction Survey



Nicollet Avenue is slated for reconstruction beginning in 2012. To help with this process, all stakeholders for Nicollet Avenue-- residents, business owners, and property owners (either on the street or near-by)—are asked to complete a short survey that will be used to guide the design process of this important community corridor. You can find the survey at <http://kingfield.org/nicollet-avenue-news/>. Forward this link! The more information collected, the better the design and final construction schedule can fit the desires of our community.

Paper copies of the survey are available at the Kingfield Neighborhood Association office, 3754 Pleasant Avenue South #101. Questions? Contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson, KFNA Executive Director at sarah@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

38th and Chicago Rezoning Study: Sept 20, 6:30pm



Please join neighbors and property owners to talk about potential zoning changes at the 38th Street and Chicago Avenue business corner. Your input is important to this process.

- **Monday, September 20, 6:30 pm, Calvary Church, 3901 Chicago**
- Paul Mogush, City Planner, will describe proposed changes and their implications and seek public input
- **Who should attend?** Business and property owners at 38th & Chicago, neighbors surrounding this corner and residents who shop at this corner: all stakeholders are sought.

Why is this happening? In 2008, after a vote of approval from the four neighborhoods surrounding 38th and Chicago and many community meetings, the City Council approved the 38th and Chicago Corridor Framework Small Area Plan. You can review the entire plan here: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/chicago-38.asp.

One of the required steps after a Small Area Plan is approved is to perform a rezoning study of the affected area. While most zoning at 38th & Chicago will stay the same, there are some proposed changes. Come and participate!

Apply for Openings on Minneapolis Boards and Commissions

Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services.

There are 112 open positions on 14 City boards/commissions. Applications will be reviewed beginning October 4th, 2010, however the positions are open until filled. For a full list of appointment

opportunities and position descriptions as well as additional information visit the boards and commissions website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions.

Here are some great ways to learn about a particular open position or board/commission:

- Join an **online chat** on Tuesday, Sept 21, noon-1pm. Access the online chat at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/chat.
- **Open House**, Thursday, Sept 23, 5:30-6:30pm, City Hall Rotunda, 350 South 5th Street.

Ward 8 residents should look at **all** opportunities to serve on boards and commissions. Some examples of boards seeking participation include the Minneapolis Arts Commission, Minneapolis Commission on Civil Rights, and the Minneapolis Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Please contact Council Member Elizabeth Glidden for additional information at (612) 673-2208 or elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Share Your Thoughts on the Future of Bicycling in Minneapolis

The City of Minneapolis is seeking comments on its draft Bicycle Master Plan. The draft plan details policies and practices around bicycling in Minneapolis, and includes an update to the 2001 Bicycle Master Plan Map.

You can give your input and learn about the plan at one of the public meetings on the plan:

- **Wednesday, September 8**, 6:30-8:30pm, Washburn High School, 201 W 49th St
- **Monday, September 13**, 6:30-8:30pm, Minneapolis Central Library, Pohlad Hall Auditorium, 300 Nicollet Mall
- **Wednesday, September 15**, 6:00-8:00pm, UROC Center, 2001 Plymouth Ave N

The comment period for the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan will last for 45 days and be open until October 1, 2010. For more information and to comment on the draft plan online, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles.