



[July]

City and Park Board Resolve Dispute over Stormwater Fees

The Minneapolis City Council and the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) recently approved an agreement regarding the payment of stormwater utility fees, a subject of disagreement for the last five years. All Minneapolis property owners pay a fee to contribute to the cost of managing the stormwater that runs off of their property but the Park Board disagreed with how the fee was structured and had not paid since 2005. This represented more than a million dollars not being paid into the stormwater fund. The stormwater fund is used to improve water quality and to satisfy state and federal pollution control requirements. Last November, the City Council asked Council Member Colvin Roy to work on resolving the issue.

After several months of negotiation, a resolution was reached which was unanimously approved by both the Park Board and the City Council. Praising Park Board President John Erwin and Commissioner Carol Kummer at the City Council meeting, Colvin Roy shared with her colleagues that “it could not have been done without their work and the cooperation of MPRB and City Public Works staff.” Under the agreement, the stormwater fund will contribute more to MPRB’s water quality improvement projects and MPRB will pay the fees as other property owners do.

Council Member Goodman praised Colvin Roy for a “job extremely well done” saying, “I don’t think, when you run for the city council, you think stormwater management is something that you would be excited about,” said Goodman. “I’m excited about it because of the outcome, Council Member Colvin Roy is excited about it because she is interested in the issue and actually nationally known on environmental issues.”

Organics Recycling Pilot Expanded – Look for your Letter

Many participants in the initial pilot program to recycle household organics have been absolutely surprised at how easy it is to collect “organics” using the city service. Recycling organics is being seriously considered by Hennepin County as a way to reduce solid waste, the bonus being that it produces a useable product – compost.

The city is expanding the pilot into portions of other neighborhoods selected to help provide data needed for future decisions. Households in the selected areas have received a letter of invitation from the city’s Solid Waste & Recycling Director.

Volunteers for the pilot will receive a separate bin for organic materials. Food waste and non-recyclable paper products go into the bin and are collected on garbage day. They are then brought to another location for composting, a product that can be used by others including community gardens.



Art in the Park

Art in the Park offers free workshops for children K-6. Children create their own art, inspired by the collection at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA).

While learning about materials and techniques for creating art, students will also learn about the world around them.

Art in the parks is a collaboration between MIA and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Registration is required and classes fill up quickly. Currently there are still spots available at the Morris Park, Sibley and Lake Hiawatha Park locations.

For more information or to register visit www.artsmia.org and click on “calendar and events” or call 612-870-3000.

Free Outdoor Wireless Internet – Check out the Local Sites

There are 117 locations throughout Minneapolis where residents and visitors can now access the internet for free while outdoors - one of the many community benefits that resulted from the City of Minneapolis' contract with USI Wireless.

The [locations](#) for the “Wireless Minneapolis” hotspots were chosen either because people already gather there to use computers or free wireless access might encourage people to gather there. Hotspots will be clearly marked with signs that say, “Free Wireless Minneapolis Hotspot Courtesy: City of Minneapolis USI Wireless.”

In the 12th ward, Council Member Colvin Roy emphasized parks and local business nodes with at least some outdoor seating/activity, although not all could be accommodated for technical reasons. Hiawatha School Park, Lake Hiawatha Park in the area near 44th St (playground) and Morris Park as well as the garden on top of the Hiawatha Land Bridge are outdoor park locations. Longfellow and Sibley Parks also have hot spots. Other spots are: the corners of 50th Street at 34th Ave and at 28th Ave; 28th Avenue near Minnehaha Parkway; 42nd Street and 28th Ave; 42nd St and Cedar; 46th St and Minnehaha Avenue; 45th Street and 42nd Ave.

When connected to one of the hotspots, a user can access any websites on the Internet for up to one hour. After one hour, the session will end but the user can log-in again to continue accessing the Internet. A credit card number will be required to access the Internet from a “Wireless Minneapolis” hotspot for homeland security purposes but the credit card will not be charged.



Demolition of the Purina Mill at 38th Street & Hiawatha Avenue started in June and is expected to take 2-3 months. The site of the old Purina Mill is the future home to Longfellow Station a development with 197 housing units and 10,000 square feet of commercial space.

Do you know of an historic structure in your neighborhood?

Even buildings that are not old can be historically significant, especially if they provide a good example of an architectural style or have a story to tell.

The City is in the process of a survey to identify structures of significance in the Nokomis East and Standish Ericsson neighborhoods which will then be studied further (Longfellow has already been done.)

Attend the upcoming meeting on **July 20** to find out what properties have already been identified, to share your thoughts and to learn more about your neighborhood.

See the calendar (below in yellow) for additional details.



Citizens Academy

Get a taste of what is like to be a Minneapolis police officer with the citizen training academy- a once a week course lasting 10 weeks.

Classes start in the fall but places fill up fast so APPLY NOW. The deadline is August 27.

The academy seeks people with a wide variety of backgrounds, professions, ethnicities and ages in order to enrich class discussions and to connect with a broad array of Minneapolis residents.

contact Crime Prevention Specialist Carol Oosterhuis at (612) 673-2874 with any questions.

City Hires Internal Auditor

The City of Minneapolis Audit Committee has approved the appointment of Magdy Mossaad to the position of Internal Auditor. In this job, Mossaad will head the City's newly created Department of Internal Audit, which will plan, direct, and coordinate the internal audit strategy for the City of Minneapolis, including all City departments, boards, and commissions.

Mossaad is currently a Senior Auditor for the Mayo Clinic in Rochester and has worked at the clinic for 10 years. Prior to that time, he worked in accounting, finance, and auditing in Ohio and overseas in Saudi Arabia and Egypt. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), and Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). He completed his Master of Business Administration from the University of Minnesota – Duluth.

The City Council approved creating the Department of Internal Audit to triple the capacity of the City's internal audit function in 2009. Mossaad and two other auditors will report to the newly formed Audit Committee, composed of three City Council members and three residents with accounting backgrounds chosen by the Mayor, the City Council and the Park and Recreation Board.

Among its key functions, the new department will develop an annual audit plan and establish guidelines, policies, and procedures for conducting internal audits. It will also supervise audit activities and closely examine how City financial resources are being deployed to identify opportunities for improving how the City operates.

Minneapolis Sustainability Report 2010 – Success & Challenges

Asthma hospitalizations are down in Minneapolis – especially among children under 5, miles of bikeways are up, and Minneapolis is three sites away from its 2014 goal on cleaning up polluted land so that it can be redeveloped. These are some of the ways Minneapolis is making progress according to Living Well, the City's 2010 sustainability report, in its fifth year of publishing. The report also shows a number of challenges we still face to become more sustainable.

The City of Minneapolis continues to upgrade its business practices in ways that will systematically improve the city's ecological, economic and social systems. New indicators added this year will start tracking progress on community engagement, arts and the economy, and employment and poverty.

Minneapolis successes include:

- Meeting the teen pregnancy target
- Inspecting all homes of children with lead poisoning for the first time in Minneapolis history, and a decrease in the number of kids found to have lead poisoning
- Meeting the target for no combined sewer overflows for the third year in a row
- Expanding a pilot residential organics composting program to a second neighborhood
- Engaging more than 100 residents in Homegrown Minneapolis, a focused approach to grow, sell, distribute and consume more fresh, sustainably produced and locally grown foods
- Completing the downtown Marquette and Second Avenues transit project that provides side-by-side bus-only lanes for less idling of buses in downtown, decreased stormwater runoff, more efficient lighting and new trees.

Challenges that require more efforts include: only half the resident population is at a healthy weight, the number of families and individuals in shelters is increasing, and 10 % of employed residents live in poverty. This report allows Minneapolis leaders to track what is working and what isn't, in order to direct resources where they are most needed.

The report tracks targets, trends and recent activities related to sustainability indicators which allows Minneapolis to measure its progress and match actions with goals. The report is now available at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability.

Events & Special Meetings

National Night Out Registration Deadline Approaching!

Register your block's event by **July 14** and your street closure permit fee is waived! Call 311 to register.

2010 Movies in the Park

Movies are free to the public and start 15 minutes after sunset. Bring your blanket or lawn chair and pack a picnic basket. Snacks will be available for purchase. Visit www.mplsmusicandmovies.com for a full list of movies, dates and locations.

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| July 6 Minnehaha Park | Footloose |
| July 13 Minnehaha Park | Space Balls |
| July 20 Minnehaha Park | Tommy Boy |
| July 24 Keewaydin Park | 2012 |
| July 27 Minnehaha Park | The Sting |
| July 30 Sibley Park | Monsters vs. Aliens |
| July 31 Hiawatha Park | Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs |

4th Annual Minnehaha Creek Clean-Up – Help Collect 1000 Pounds of Trash!

July 11 9 am Minnehaha Creek & Lk Hiawatha. Pancake breakfast, Creek clean-up, garbage collection and bbq lunch provided by Leinenkugel's. Beer available to those 21 years and older. Sponsored by Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. **RSVP by July 5th** to 612-743-2727 or kellylcochrane@gmail.com

Longfellow Garden Club

July 14 7 p.m. Plantique, 5152 Hiawatha Ave. Presentation by Bruce Bale. Plantique is known for its offerings of unusual garden "accessories" and interesting perennials. Bruce will demonstrate ways to add to your individual yard or garden touch. To carpool, meet at Epworth Church, 3207 37th Ave S. at 6:45 pm. Club meetings are free and open to the public.

Free Seminar on Rain Gardens, Composting & Rain Barrel Installation

July 17 9-11 a.m. Klier's Nursery, 5901 Nicollet Ave. Twin Cities Landscape hosts this free event. Local experts speak about the benefits & implementation of rain gardens, composting & rain barrel installation. 20 minute presentation with Q&A after. To reserve a space call 612-339-0139 or e-mail info@tlandscape.net

Historical Resources Survey – Meeting #3

July 20 6:30-8 pm McRae Park Rec Ctr, 906 E. 47th St. Last of three community meetings to gather community identified historical structures or places in Standish, Ericsson, Minnehaha, Wenonah, Keewaydin, Morris Park, Hale, Page, Diamond Lake, Regina, Northrop, Field, Corcoran, Bryant, and Bancroft neighborhoods. Discussion with community about draft report and findings. For information about the survey, call Brian Schaffer, Senior City Planner, at 612-673-2670 or e-mail at brian.schaffer@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Nokomis Healthy Seniors Fundraiser

July 24 & 25, 10 am – 5 pm Bergan's SuperValu, 4715 Cedar Ave. Support Healthy Seniors Programs and enjoy a hot dog or brat, chips & pop!

Sibley Park Cornfeed

July 30 6:30-10:30 pm Sibley Park, 19th Ave S & E. 40th St. Enjoy hot, delicious roasted corn on the cob, family-friendly entertainment, face painting, concessions sold by SIBAC (Sibley Athletic Council) to benefit youth sports, live blues and rock & roll music, moon walk, games, free Art in the Park activities for kids and more. Bring your chair or blanket for the outdoor movie, Monsters vs. Aliens!

Open Appointments

Latino Advisory Cmte Open until filled

Senior Citizens Advisory Cmte open until filled – priority given to applications received by July 9th, 2010

For information on City openings: ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open