



# 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Report

## Council President Barbara Johnson

Cleveland · Folwell · Lind-Bohanon · Shingle Creek · Victory · Webber-Camden



September 2013

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### NEIGHBORHOOD WEBSITES

[Cleveland](#)

[Folwell](#)

[Lind-Bohanon](#)

[Shingle Creek](#)

[Victory](#)

[Webber-Camden](#)

## Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Director of City Regulatory Services Tours Ward 4 with Council Member Johnson

The City's new Director of Regulatory Services, Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde took a tour of the Fourth Ward with Council President Barbara Johnson to get a feel for the Northside and see our great neighborhoods firsthand on August 14. Along the way, various businesses and parks were featured, as were some of the opportunities for future development in the ward and some of the unique challenges Fourth Ward residents face. Next steps resulting from the tour will be a review of the rental license process. This has been a process improvement that residents have requested at community safety meetings. Council President Johnson looks forward to working with the city's new Director, Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde to review opportunities for improvement.



Regulatory Services Director Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde

## Webber Pool Groundbreaking



On Wednesday, August 14, there was a groundbreaking for improvements at Webber Pool as the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) begins construction of the first public natural filtration pool in the

United States. There will also be a new "bathhouse" pool building, connecting park trails, regeneration pond and expansion of the existing parking lot near the recreation center and athletic fields.

City Council President Johnson made comments at the groundbreaking event about the landmark renovations for Webber Park and the benefits to the community. She was joined by Minnesota Senator Bobby Jo Champion, Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins, MPRB President John Erwin, MPRB Vice-President and District 1 Commissioner Liz Wielinski, MPRB District 2 Commissioner Jon Olson, Webber-Camden, Vice-President of Landform construction Bob Schunicht, Chair of the Webber-Camden Neighborhood Association Board Pastor Linda Koelman, CEO of BioNova Global Rainer Grafinger and Folwell Neighborhood Director Roberta Englund, For more information visit [www.minneapolisparcs.org/currentprojects](http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/currentprojects) and select "Webber Park" to see the project webpage.

## Trees are thirsty all the way through fall

Minneapolis' boulevard trees still need an inch of water every week throughout the summer and fall. Extremely dry conditions followed the spring and early summer rainfall that drenched the city and caused significant damage, and the heat and lack of precipitation are causing stress on the City's urban forest. In any week that it rains less than one inch, yard and boulevard trees need to be watered. The Park Board plants and mulches boulevard trees but relies on residents or businesses nearby to water them.



An effective way to water a tree is to turn on a slow stream of water (just so the hose is weeping) for a few hours. Watering in the evening after dinner time is most effective since it minimizes evaporation, and trees tend to take most of their water during the night.

For information on tree care and the urban forest, call the Park Board's Forestry Department at 612-313-7710, email [forestry@minneapolisiparks.org](mailto:forestry@minneapolisiparks.org) or visit [this website](#).

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## Thank you to Emerge and StreetWerks



Thank you to StreetWerks/Emerge for help this summer with various projects to help beautify and clean up the fourth ward. Specifically, the Lowry Ave medians, Minneapolis gateway sign on County Rd 81 and the Camden sculpture garden. Your service to the community is much appreciated!

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## Bike Walk Twin Cities needs volunteers

The City of Minneapolis conducts bicyclist and pedestrian counts in order to understand the impact of non-motorized travel on streets, sidewalks, and paths. Accurate counts enable the City to plan and build for bicyclists and pedestrians, while tracking changes in traffic.

In mid-September [Bike Walk Twin Cities](#) will conduct counts & collect information at 47 locations in and around Minneapolis. Since 2007, these counts have documented a 51% increase in bicycling and 24% increase in walking in the Twin Cities! Volunteers are absolutely essential to the effort.

- Dates: September 10-12 & 17-19
- Times: 4-6 PM

If you are interested in volunteering, [register online](#) or contact Simon Blenski at [simon.blenski@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:simon.blenski@minneapolismn.gov) or 612-616-7345. Thank you!



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## McKinley Community Mini-Farmers Market - Saturdays until September 28th

The McKinley Community CSA and up to 4 other vendors will be selling fresh produce and other goods at 3300 Lyndale Avenue North in the back parking lot. Cash and SNAP/EBT are accepted, although each vendor has different allowed methods of payment. For more information visit their [website](#) or [Facebook group](#).

Market hours 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

# CELEBRATE THE STREETS!

## Lowry Ave Celebrates Open Streets

Saturday, September 21 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm

Explore your neighborhood with Open Streets! The celebration goes down Lowry Ave from Vincent Ave N to Emerson Ave N with various activities and fun along the way for the whole family to enjoy.

For almost 40 years, streets in Bogotá, Colombia have shut down so that residents could wander up and down the streets - by bike, by skateboard, however they pleased. They called the tradition Ciclovía, and it has since grown into a worldwide phenomenon.

We saw Ciclovía as the perfect chance to promote healthy living, local businesses, sustainable transportation and civic pride in Minneapolis. That's why, along with the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition, we created our own version, called Open Streets Minneapolis. On four different major Minneapolis streets, we shut down traffic for a day so that residents can gather, get some exercise, participate in spontaneous play activities, and get to know one another.

Please [click here](#) for a Map of Activities or visit [www.openstreetsmpls.com](http://www.openstreetsmpls.com).

## Osseo Road and 44<sup>th</sup> Ave N to receive pedestrian and bike improvements

Milling and paving work is scheduled to commence for Osseo Road and 44th Avenue North during the week of September 9th, and will require about 7-10 days to complete. The paving will extend from the CP Railroad Bridge on the north to Oliver Avenue, 2 blocks east of Penn Avenue North. Following the paving, the roadway will be restriped and reconfigured to a 3-lane (continuous left turn lane) with bike lanes. The existing traffic signal at Osseo Road and 44th Avenue will be removed, crosswalks added at 44th Avenue and Penn Avenue, and temporary median areas and curb bump-outs will be added using plastic delineators. Next spring in 2014, permanent concrete medians and curb bump-outs with additional crosswalk striping will be installed.

These improvements are part of a plan developed over the last year in coordination with Minneapolis staff and the Victory Neighborhood. Questions can be directed to Bob Byers (Hennepin County) at (612) 596-0354 or Nick VanGunst (Minneapolis) (612) 673-2172.

## Get ready for November 5 election



**MINNEAPOLIS**  
**YourCity.**  
**YourVote.**

The City of Minneapolis is gearing up for the Nov. 5 municipal election, which will be city's second election to use ranked-choice voting. Candidate filing for the election is now closed, so voters can see who will be on the ballot in November by visiting the elections website: [www.vote.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.vote.minneapolismn.gov).

As we get closer to the election, the City is working to remind folks how to use ranked-choice voting, as well as to make sure people know how to register to vote, how to find their polling place, and to answer any other questions folks have about voting.

### Absentee voting begins Sept. 20 - Request a ballot now

Voters who will not be able to vote at their polling place on Election Day are eligible to vote by absentee ballot. Voting absentee can be done in person at City Hall, or entirely by

mail. If a voter chooses to cast an absentee ballot in person, that can be done beginning September 20 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or on the final two Saturdays before Election Day, Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To vote absentee by mail, voters may request a ballot now. Ballots will be mailed out beginning Sept. 20, and will include everything a voter needs to send back a completed ballot. Visit [www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/absentee](http://www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/absentee) for absentee ballot applications in multiple languages that can be printed out and mailed in to request a ballot. Also online is a link to the Secretary of State's absentee ballot lookup tool to follow the status of an absentee ballot that has been submitted.

Voters who are not pre-registered can still vote absentee. If voting by mail, voter registration materials will be sent with the absentee ballot for voters who are not already registered.

**This election uses ranked-choice voting, and it's easy as 1, 2, 3**

Minneapolis voters will use ranked-choice voting this fall to elect a mayor and members of the City Council, Board of Estimate and Taxation, and Park and Recreation Board. Ranked-choice voting is used only for municipal elections in Minneapolis, but voters only need to remember a few things to ensure they are prepared for Election Day.

Voting on Nov. 5 is as easy as 1, 2, 3, especially with the help of the new elections website voters' section at [vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters](http://vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters). First, make sure you're registered to vote. You can check your registration status or download a voter registration application on the website. Second, find out where to vote. Use the polling place finder to find your assigned polling place for voting, or if you cannot get to your polling place on Election Day, fill out an application for an absentee ballot. The third and final step to voting is completing your ballot. Just remember 1, 2, 3 again. Each ballot will have three columns, and you have the opportunity to rank up to three candidates in order of your preference for each office.

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## Help shape our city - apply for openings on Minneapolis boards and commissions

Applications are now being accepted for a number of open boards and commissions positions that the City Council and Mayor will appoint this fall. 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. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City.

There are 71 open positions on the following 12 City boards and commissions:

- Arts Commission
- Civil Rights Commission
- Disabilities, Advisory Committee, On People With
- Ethical Practices Board
- Heritage Preservation Commission
- Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council
- Housing Board of Appeals
- Minneapolis Public Housing Authority
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Planning Commission
- Telecommunications Network (MTN), Minneapolis
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

Applications will be reviewed beginning October 18, 2013. However, the positions are open until filled. For a full list of appointment opportunities and position descriptions, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings).

The City of Minneapolis has more than 50 volunteer-based boards, commissions and advisory committees that advise the City on issues and help with policy development and administration of services. Boards and commissions fall into a handful of categories: appeal boards, development boards, general advisory boards, and special service districts, which are defined areas within the city where special services are rendered.