

# Fourth Ward Report

**Council President Barbara Johnson**  
**Minneapolis City Council**



August, 2013

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## Minneapolis 311

Dial 311 from any phone in the City limits. Outside of the City call: 612-673-3000

E-mail 311:

[minneapolis311@minneapolis.gov](mailto:minneapolis311@minneapolis.gov)

311 Online Services:

<http://www.minneapolis.gov/311/>

## 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhood Group Links

Cleveland

Folwell

Lind Bohanon

Jordan

Shingle Creek

## Free Trees Available

Free trees are available to North Minneapolis homes affected by the May 2011 tornado. Thanks to Wells Fargo and the Tree Trust Rob MacIntyre Fund, free trees are available to help reforest north Minneapolis. Here's how it works:

1. Consider if and why you would like to have a tree planted in your yard, and choose a tree from the choices listed below. Participants may order up to two trees per property.
2. Attend a workshop to learn how to care for your tree. Attendance at a workshop is required to receive a tree. Workshop locations and times listed below. Space is limited, and RSVPs are encouraged but not required. Please RSVP to Karen Zumach at [karenz@treetrust.org](mailto:karenz@treetrust.org) or (952) 767-3886.
3. Fill out a form with your name, address, and tree choice at the workshop.
4. Trees will be planted by Wells Fargo volunteers or Tree Trust youth crews in late September and early October. Trees and mulch will be delivered to each property and a utility locate will be conducted for each property just prior to planting. Participants will be notified well in advance of when their tree(s) will be planted.
5. Care for your tree as you learned in the meeting, and enjoy!

Tree species available:

**Whitespire Birch Clump**



**Ivory Silk Japanese Lilac**



Victory  
Webber Camden  
**Contact Us**

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[E-mail Contact Link](#)

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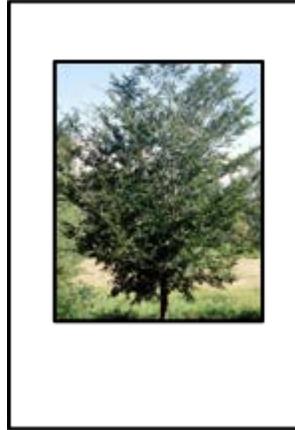
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**Skyline Honeylocust**



**Princeton Elm**



**Matador Maple**



Workshop dates:

**August 21, 6:00-7:00, Farview Rec Center, 621 29th Ave. N.**

**August 27, 6:00-7:00, Folwell Park Rec Center, 1615 Dowling Ave N.**

**August 29, 6:00-7:00, UROC, 2001 Plymouth Ave N.**

Assistance will be provided to participants on selecting the appropriate location for their tree, so if possible, participants may bring an approximate drawing of their property, showing: property lines, existing trees, house location, overhead power lines, and location of former trees, if known.



## Safe Routes to School Grant Award for Lucy Laney School

On July 19, the Minneapolis City Council passed a Resolution accepting a Safe Routes to School federal grant in the amount of \$296,610 for improvements at Lucy Laney School. The City had applied for the project grant from MnDOT back in 2012 and was selected earlier this year in May.

The proposed improvements include:

- A decorative traffic calming median along the block of Penn Ave adjacent to the school. (similar to the Public Works project adjacent to Bancroft school on 38<sup>th</sup> Street in south Minneapolis)
- An overhead pedestrian flasher at Lowry and Newton to aid the walking school bus program (a similar flasher is in place on Penn & 33<sup>rd</sup> at Lucy Laney and at various other schools in the city)
- ADA compliant curb ramps at 34<sup>th</sup> and Queen where none are currently present
- A secure bike storage facility on school grounds

The principal at Lucy Laney School and the Cleveland Neighborhood association were informed of the award. A more in-depth community meeting will take place prior to development of construction plans. Construction is expected to be completed in 2014.

## Penn Avenue Community Works Call for Committee Participation

Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, and Metro Transit are embarking on a long-term collaboration on Penn Avenue North to support connectivity/mobility, stimulate economic development, and enhance livability along the corridor. Work will begin this summer with the establishment of the Project Implementation Committee (PIC). The PIC's role is to guide project planning and implementation, provide technical review, and oversee community engagement efforts.

Do you want to help influence and implement the Penn Avenue Community Works project? Applications are being accepted through Monday, August 30 for community advisors to serve on the **Project Implementation Committee** (PIC). The PIC includes:

- Technical and professional staff from Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, Metro Transit and other participating agencies;
- Appointed representatives from Penn Avenue neighborhood organizations; and,
- Other community representatives with diverse knowledge of the Penn Avenue Corridor.

"We're looking for community members who are interested in working with others to guide the process of improving Penn Avenue," Commissioner Linda Higgins said. Contact your neighborhood organization to be an appointee, or apply to be an at-large representative from another community-based organization. For more information on the roles, responsibilities, and requirements of PIC members, visit [www.hennepin.us/penn](http://www.hennepin.us/penn) or contact Patricia Fitzgerald, Project Manager at 612-348-0864 or email [Penn\\_Avenue\\_Community\\_Works@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:Penn_Avenue_Community_Works@co.hennepin.mn.us).

## Webber Park Renovations Moving Forward

Residents will soon see renovations underway at [Webber Park](#) as the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) begins improvements to the parking lot near the recreation center and athletic fields this month. Construction of the new pool is slated to begin in August.



Plans for park renovations began in 2011, when the MPRB led a Master Planning process that engaged residents to create a new aquatic facility, boost opportunities for recreation, improve trail connections, enhance natural resources and address long-term tornado recovery at Webber Park. The first phase of construction includes a new pool with a natural water filtration system, pool building, re-aligned

parking lot near the recreation center and connecting paths. The connecting trails have always served park users from throughout the region, and the new natural filtration public pool - the first of its kind in the country - is expected to become a regional attraction.

The [Webber Park Master Plan](#) was deliberated and approved by the neighborhood and approved by the MPRB of Commissioners in February, 2012.

"It is without a doubt that Webber Park is a key gathering place for the surrounding neighborhoods," said Jon Olson, District 2 Park Board Commissioner representing north Minneapolis. "We at the MPRB saw many families and community members actively participating in the planning process – and it is evident that the Webber Park Master Plan includes a significant amount of public input about what facilities the community desires."

### **Project Timeline**

In June 2013 the community approved Master Plan was submitted to the Metropolitan Council for approval. The MPRB expects approval of the Master Plan by the Metropolitan Council in early August.

Construction for Webber Park's new, natural-filtration pond and public pool is now scheduled to begin in August 2013. And pending weather and construction schedules it is slated to open in 2014. At 28,000 square feet of swimming area, the pool will offer triple the recreation space of the park's aging concrete pool and wading pool — without any of the chlorine. The preliminary design includes lap lanes, a diving area, water slide, and a non-swimmers' area with a maximum depth of 39 inches.

### **Stay Connected**

For further information about the Webber Park Master Plan, please visit [www.minneapolisparcs.org/currentprojects](http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/currentprojects) and select "Webber Park" to see the [project webpage](#). For timely email updates about the project [subscribe](#) to the MPRB emails to stay informed - visit [www.minneapolisparcs.org](http://www.minneapolisparcs.org), click on the red envelope icon, enter your email address, then when the topic page appears, select Webber Park from the Planning topic options.



MINNEAPOLIS  
**YourCity.  
YourVote.**

## **Voter Ambassadors Sought for This Year's Election**

Minneapolis residents will be taking part in the municipal election this November, and you can help your neighbors cast their ballots by becoming a voter ambassador.

Voter ambassadors work in the community to raise awareness about the election and to engage voters so more people will come out to vote. Since this year's election will use ranked-choice voting, it's especially important that people like you get involved to help educate friends and neighbors on voting this fall.

The voter ambassadors program will create a network of community volunteers who will provide resources and information about this year's election directly to their neighborhoods and civic circles. Ambassadors will be trained in election law fundamentals, voting procedures, and how ranked-choice voting works. Each ambassador will be supplied with maps to polling places, pamphlets, sample

ranked-choice ballots, and guides to answer frequently asked questions about ranked-choice voting. In addition, ambassadors will have access to videos that show how to vote using a ranked-choice ballot. These materials will be made available in multiple languages.

Ambassadors will also receive regular updates about the election, such as:

- instructions on how to pre-register voters and confirm registration status
- how to vote by absentee ballot
- how to register on Election Day
- how to vouch for other voters

Each volunteer ambassador will be asked to make presentations within their community about the municipal election and ranked-choice voting. The concept behind this program is that connecting with volunteers will increase the City's capacity to engage all voters across all segments of the community—including those targeted populations that have historically been under-represented in elections.

For more information on becoming a voter ambassador, contact the program coordinator, Anissa Hollingshead at [anissa.hollingshead@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:anissa.hollingshead@minneapolismn.gov) or visit [www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/volunteer](http://www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/volunteer).

## Top 5 Fourth Ward Service Requests to Minneapolis 311



*Minneapolis 311 is a simple, three-digit number residents, businesses and visitors can call to reach the City to inquire about services, report problems, check the status of issues, or get information.*

July, 2013

Rank	Department Name	Service Request Type	Number of Service Requests
1	Regulatory Services	Exterior Nuisance Complaint	133
2	Regulatory Services	Residential Conditions Complaint	61
3	Regulatory Services	Abandoned Vehicle	60
4	Regulatory Services	Animal Complaint - Livability	42
5	Regulatory Services	Animal Complaint - Public Health	28