



Ward One Update

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Message from Council Member Kevin Reich

As this winter mounts to historic proportions in terms of snowfall, my office has received numerous calls and emails about snow plowing and removal. Since some of you have questioned why the City of Minneapolis doesn't follow a plowing schedule similar to the City of St. Paul's, I was prompted to investigate this issue myself.

In 2002 the City did an analysis of the pros and cons of both our current Snow Emergency plan, which occurs in three phases, and a two-phase Snow Emergency plan similar to St. Paul's. A number of interesting insights emerged:

- A 3-phase system allows more parking capacity. Only 1/3 of parking is prohibited at any one time, while 50% would be prohibited in each phase of a 2-phase system.
- A 2-phase system is somewhat less costly: in 2002 a 2-phase system cost \$17,000 less than a 3-phase system per snow emergency event.
- Start-up costs to switch from a 3-phase to 2-phase system were estimated at \$700,000 to \$1.7 million.
- A 3-phase system allows plows to do a more thorough job because more time is allowed for each phase.

Based on the study and the feedback from the community meetings held in conjunction with it, the City Council decided in 2002 to stay with a 3-phase system.

Another issue I field routinely is snow removal, in addition to plowing it from one place to another for the purposes of mobility and safety. While street maintenance is continuing to remove snow all over the City. It may not proceed with the speed we could wish for, given the volume of snow on the ground that needs to be moved first. I encourage you to continue to report trouble spots to 311 or directly to my office, as it helps us meet our objective and standard of mobility and safety.

First Ward

Neighborhood Associations

[Audubon Park Neighborhood Association](#)

[Columbia Park Neighborhood Association](#)

[Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association \(HNIA\)](#)

[Logan Park Neighborhood Association](#)

[Concerned Citizens of Marshall Terrace](#)

[Northeast Park Neighborhood Association](#)

[Southeast Como Improvement Association](#)

[Waite Park Community Council](#)

[Windom Park Citizens in Action](#)

Property Value Notices

The Minneapolis Assessor's Office has begun mailing out 2011 property value notices to Minneapolis property owners. Because the value listed on this statement will be used to determine your 2012 property taxes, it's very important that you look this form over carefully. If you disagree with the estimate of value as placed on the property, there are several options available to appeal the assessment:

- Call the phone number labeled "Valuation Questions" on your statement. You can discuss your concerns with a deputy assessor responsible for valuing your property. The deputy assessor can explain how the property value and classification were determined and you can explain why you believe the value is incorrect.
- If your questions or concerns are not resolved after contacting your assessor, you may bring your case before the Boards of Appeal and Equalization. **An application is required no later than Friday, March 4, 2011.** Call the City Clerk's Office at 612-673-3358 for application materials.
- If the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization didn't resolve your concerns, you may bring your case to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization. **An application is required no later than June 1, 2011.** Call 612-348-7050 for application materials. You must have already appealed to the Minneapolis Board of Appeal and Equalization to appear before the County Board.
- You also have the option of taking your appeal to either the Small Claims Division or the Regular Division of Tax Court. **You have until April 30, 2011 to file the appeal.** Contact the Minnesota Tax Court at 651-296-2806 for further information.

If you would like to get more information about the property tax system and meet one-on-one with an appraiser to discuss your concerns, you are invited to attend one of the following informational meetings:

Wednesday, February 23 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Pearl Park Neighborhood Center
414 East Diamond Lake Road

Thursday, February 24 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

North Regional Library
1315 Lowry Avenue North

Another important piece of information on your Valuation notice is the Property Classification. An incorrect classification can have significant property tax implications. If you have concerns about the classification or homestead status on the statement, call 612-673-3000.



Need to report a broken street light? Is there a stray dog roaming your neighborhood? Do you just want a question about the City of Minneapolis answered? Minneapolis 311 is the most efficient option for taking care of these and many other issues.

Beginning April 12, Minneapolis 311 hours will be reduced. Operators will be available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri. However, you will find many 311 services and information sources online at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311. Also, the Ward One office staff is 311-trained, so you may always call our office at 612-673-2201 for assistance.

Eastside School News



Marcy Rock Band in the Edison High School gym (PHOTO: Steve Kotvis (f/go photography))

Edison High School invited Eastside middle schoolers to be their guests at the **Middle School Girls' Basketball Night** at the end of January. This fun event included performances by the Marcy Rock Band, the Northeast Middle School Concert Band, the Edison High School Band and the Edison Alumni Band. The Northeast Middle School Girls Basketball team also made a special half-time appearance.

Coming up **Friday, February 18** is **Edison High School Basketball Elementary School Night**. Future Tommies are invited to see the Lady Tommies take on the Roosevelt Teddies at 7 p.m. The evening will include musical performances, a dance competition, Fan of the Game competition, prizes and more. Admission is free for elementary school students.

Come cheer on **Pillsbury School** cross-country ski students when they participate in the MinneLoppet in Uptown on **Saturday, February 5**. The Pillsbury Skis program was initiated by Pillsbury teacher Mark Trumper in 2007 and is sponsored by the City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation and UCare, who have provided the school with cross-country ski equipment and coaching staff.

Metro Paint-A-Thon

The Metro Paint-A-Thon program helps seniors and people with physical disabilities continue to live independently in their own homes. They assign volunteer teams to scrape, prime and paint home exteriors for their low-income clients, at no cost to the homeowner. They are currently accepting applications for painting projects this upcoming August. To be eligible, the homeowner must be over the age of 60 or have a permanent physical disability, own a single-family home in the seven-county metro area, and meet certain income guidelines. To receive an application, go to <http://paintathon.gmcc.org/index.php> or call the Paint-A-Thon office at 612-721-8687, ext. 321.



Many of us are trying to cut back on paper bag use by taking our own

bags to the grocery store. If you find that that practice leaves you short of paper bags for separating your recycling, the City of Minneapolis has an alternative for you. You may use wastebaskets, pails or corrugated boxes for separated paper, plastic or cans. *These alternative containers should be 10 gallons or less and there must be a city recycling sticker on at least one side of the container.*

The Ward One office has a supply of recycling stickers, so if you need some, just give us a call at 612-673-2201. We would be happy to mail or drop them off for you.

Meet with your Council Member

If you would like to discuss an issue or concern with Kevin, he'd be happy to meet with you at either City Hall or a convenient location in Ward One. Please call the Ward One office at 612-673-2201 or email lisa.brock@ci.minneapolis.mn.us to schedule a date.

SE Como Historic Resources Survey

2011 is the last year of a ten year survey of the City of Minneapolis' historic resources. The only Ward 1 neighborhood remaining to be surveyed is SE Como. The first public meeting to discuss this neighborhood, as well as St. Anthony West, Marcy Holmes, and others, will be on **Thursday, February 17, 6-8 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1 Lourdes Place**. More information about the survey project and the Heritage Preservation Commission can be found at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/hpc/

Save The Date:

NE Network

Thursday, February 10, 7:30-8:45 a.m. at Eastside Food Co-op, in the Granite Studio. This month's timely topic is Parks and the Riverfront. To RSVP, please click [HERE](#).

"We Love Our Presidents" Walk & Celebration

Saturday, February 19, 10 a.m. to Noon. This annual Presidents' Day celebration starts at the Firefighters Hall and Museum, 664 22nd Ave NE, wends its way along our aptly named streets to Windom Park for a warm-up stop and then continues on to Northeast Middle School for a chili lunch. A free shuttle will take you back to the Firefighters Museum after the program.

Yinghua Academy Lantern Festival Gala

Saturday, February 19, 7 – 11 p.m., at Shelter Studios, 2112 Broadway Street NE. This gala and silent auction to benefit Yinghua Academy, located in the Northeast Park neighborhood, will feature music from The New Standards and DJ Jake Rudh. To purchase tickets, go to <http://yinghuaacademy.org/gala>.

Northeast Middle School Musical - "Alice in Wonderland"

March 10 & 11, 7 p.m.

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