



News Release

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Minneapolis City Goals: A Safe Place to Call Home ▫ One Minneapolis ▫ Lifelong Learning
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It's the furniture we all share... Give us your thoughts on how it should look

May 2, 2008 (MINNEAPOLIS) If you take a trip down many Minneapolis streets, you'll see bus shelters, benches, trash receptacles, and other "street furniture" that has an impact on how our neighborhoods look, feel, and function. As part of Minneapolis' plan to begin replacing that furniture in 2009, residents and businesses are invited to share their input on what the new furniture should look like at a public open house this May.

In November 2007, the City released a request for proposals (RFP) from qualified companies for the design, fabrication, installation, operation, and maintenance of new street furniture in the public right of way. The City received three proposals, which City staff is currently evaluating.

Community members can have a look at the furniture designs submitted by in the three proposals at an open house, and they can share their feedback on the designs.

Coordinated Street Furniture Program Open House

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

5 to 8 p.m.

Minneapolis Convention Center, Mezzanine Room M101C
1301 Second Ave. S.

Minneapolis' Coordinated Street Furniture Program calls for improvements in the design, quality, configuration, and upkeep of street furniture elements on Minneapolis sidewalks. Better-organized furniture placement will also create safer sidewalks for pedestrians.

Current street furniture contracts with US Bench and CBS Outdoor expire in 2009. The RFP process will result in a long-term contract between a vendor and the City, in which the vendor will provide street furniture, maintenance, and revenue in exchange for advertising space on the street furniture. No new costs are expected to be incurred by the City or private property owners as a result of the street furniture program. Similar programs in cities across the United States and Canada have resulted in high quality street furniture design, reduced sidewalk clutter, and increased City revenues.

To learn more about the Coordinated Street Furniture Program, or to see pictures of the proposed furniture designs, visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/street-furniture/. You can also share your feedback through the Web site.