



## Cedar Riverside Business Association

### Newsletter For April, 2007

#### **Abbreviated Meeting Minutes 03/15/07**

#### **Approval of the February**

#### **Safety Committee**

WBCC meetings are the 1st Tuesday at 7:00 in the evening to encourage more neighborhood participation at the Brian Coyle Center. Currently, there is a virtual block club run through the Minneapolis Police department. Community Impact Statements are still a priority and be filed through the City's web site. No trespassing ordinance postings can be a deterrent and allow the police to take action for repeat offenders. When there is a problem in the area call the first precinct.

#### **NRP Update**

A block club and block patrols are being created. A new NRP coordinator has been hired.

#### **Election Committee**

The election Committee is now being formed for the yearly elections at the May CRBA meeting. A slate is being developed. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting. This is an opportunity to create a group with more delegate involvement. There is a unique opportunity to get involvement in the City's small area plan, the LRT, NRP, and area redevelopment.

#### **LRT**

The Metropolitan Council will be responsible for design and construction of the LRT line, working closely with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Ramsey County, Hennepin County, St. Paul, Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota. Appointed by the Met council was the Central Corridor Management Committee which oversees the process. The Central Corridor Partnership ([www.centralcorridorpartnership.org](http://www.centralcorridorpartnership.org)), is a business-led advisory coalition that was founded to promote the funding and development of an improved transit system in the Central Corridor. CRBA's own Sharon Johnson is part of this group. For LRT Central Corridor Update- for information go to [www.metrocouncil.org](http://www.metrocouncil.org).

Cedar-Riverside Businesses, Don't Let the LRT Pass Us By! The planned Central Corridor of the LRT is a huge

regional project that will connect the downtowns of Minneapolis and St. Paul and pass directly through our Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. The final choice for the location of the West Bank station could have a tremendous positive impact for all of us!

Currently the design plans show the station sited on the U of M campus in front of Blegin Hall, but this proposed location will not serve the neighborhood. This station belongs at Cedar Avenue! A West Bank station at Cedar Avenue would maximize the LRT investment and serve all the interests of the residents and businesses of our neighborhood as well as the University campus.

As part of the preliminary engineering study, project officials and planners have agreed to study the Cedar Avenue option. Let your voice be heard and help influence this final decision FOR the neighborhood!

#### **Earth Day Celebration and Mississippi River Bank Clean up!**

Saturday morning April 21st from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Help clean Bluff Street Park and Bohemia Flats. Check in at Bohemia Flats or behind Riverview Condo Towers 1920 South 1st Street, across from the ball field at the 10th Street bridge. Sponsored by the West Bank Community Coalition, the Minneapolis Park Board and the City of Minneapolis.

#### **CRBA Newsletter**

The CRBA newsletter has now become available only in electronic format. If a member does not have access to the internet they may request to receive a condensed version via standard mail. Please send your e-mail address to: [veti@veti.com](mailto:veti@veti.com) to be added to the list. Or for a hard copy version sent to you write: CRBA, P.O. Box 141552, Minneapolis, MN 55414

#### **Councilman Cam Gordon's Office**

For more Council information see: <http://secondward.blogspot.com>. This is the public policy forum of Minneapolis Second Ward (Green) City Council Member Cam Gordon and his staff. The space is used to talk about some of what Cam's working on, explain his positions, and share a little of what life in City Hall is like. Here are a few area related announcements from the Councilman's newsletter: **Building Blocks Awards.** Congratulations

to the Cedars Project Lookout Group in Cedar Riverside and the 1000 Blocks of 23rd and 24th Aves SE in Southeast Como on winning 2006 Building Blocks Awards for their outstanding efforts to build community and increase public safety in their neighborhoods.

**Block Leader Training.** If you don't have a block club on your block and would like to form one, the 3rd Precinct SAFE Office is holding a free Block Leader Training workshop on Wednesday, April 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the 3rd Precinct Community Room, 3000 Minnehaha Ave. You must RSVP to attend – call 673-2856.

**Franklin LRT Station Rezoning.** The Franklin LRT Station rezoning plan was unanimously passed by the Planning Commission this week, as recommended by staff. It will come before the Zoning and Planning committee and through the full Council.

**Future of NRP.** I am generally supportive of HF822, a bill in the Legislature introduced by Reps Clark, Kahn and Mullery, to require the NRP Policy Board to evaluate the need for continued NRP funding and prepare recommendations to continue funding the program. While I was not able to convince my Council colleagues to approve supporting the ideas behind this bill in our Legislative Agenda, it has provided an occasion for me to start a fuller discussion about the future of NRP in the weeks ahead.

**Spray Paint Ordinance.** I supported Council Member Schiff's Spray Paint ordinance changes, which respond to the needs of hardware stores while better regulating the sale of spray paint, paint sticks and broad-tip markers to minors in our ongoing effort to fight graffiti. Under the new ordinance, these materials must either be under continuous supervision or inaccessible to the public. In addition, a \$42,000 grant from the National Council on Prevention of Delinquency (a hardware retail industry group) will be used to conduct one-time checks on establishments selling spray paint, similar to our tobacco compliance program. It is my hope that these tightened regulations will help decrease vandalism by reducing young people's access to graffiti materials.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**CRBA Announcements:**

Join in a celebration of the People's Center remodeling and clinic expansion project!

Sunday, April 22, 2007 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Grand Opening! People's Center Medical Clinic at 425 20th Avenue South, Minneapolis, just across from the Trinity Lutheran congregation office/St. Martin's Table. Korean Dance by Mu Gung Hwa Dancers Somali Electric Jazz by Ilays Health Fair Tours, Popcorn, Refreshments. Celebrating 37 years of Growth On the West Bank.

**CRBA Annual Membership - \$120.00**

It's time to send in your membership dues to the Cedar Riverside Business Association! Membership dues are annual and provide a valuable return to you and your community. We recommend an annual contribution of \$120.00 but would appreciate and recognize whatever amount you can afford. Send your check made out to the Cedar-Riverside Business Association to our office at 1505 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55454.

**Thanks for your generous contributions to CRBA in 2006...**

Associated Bank, Durable Images, Inc., Cedar Riverside Properties, Barbara Lyke, Hansel Hall / Crimiel Communications, Nomad World Pub, Love Power Ministries, Victoria Heller, Triple Rock, Peter Dodge/Global Village, KFAI, West Bank CDC, University of Minnesota, Imperial Parking, Dudley Riggs/Inter Urban, Inc., LOTTSA Tax and Accounting Services, Inc., Theatre In The Round, Freewheel Bikes, Trinity Lutheran Congregation, Kilimanjaro Cafe, The Hub Bike Co-op and The Red Sea.

**CRBA Meetings:**

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. at Augsburg College in the Century room of the Christensen building.