



bottineau
neighborhood association

BOTTINEAU GAZETTE

A Publication of the Bottineau Neighborhood Association
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Bottineau Neighborhood Association

- Board of Directors:
- Mariam Slayhi
 - Amanda Winterer
 - Matt Ruby
 - Liz Reiser
 - Bob Marget
 - John Olson
 - Koral Purdy



Please Recycle

FEBRUARY
2017

NRP Funds to be Returned to the Neighborhoods

As if by magic, funds from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) will be restored to the neighborhoods of Minneapolis. This is money that should have already been funding NRP neighborhood plans but was instead impounded by the City of Minneapolis in 2011.

This decision was announced on January 30 at the Health and Environmental Services Committee with a promise of full passage at the next full City Council meeting.

NRP funds come from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district funds, money that must first be used to pay off Target Center bonds before the remainder is distributed among City neighborhoods. These funds expire in 2020 along with the TIF district which largely encompasses the narrow industrial corridor in North Minneapolis between the River on the East and I-94 on the West, plus a small one block area at Lake and Hennepin in Uptown.

Due to an increase in property values since the recession, the total projected revenue from this TIF district has risen from \$147.7 million to \$180 million, resulting in restored NRP funds for each of the City's neighborhoods. For Northeast as a whole, a total of \$1,164,639.33 will be returned to its thirteen neighborhoods. About 70% of the funds must be spent on neighborhood

Homework Helper

Tuesdays & Thursdays
3:30pm – 6:30pm

Grades 5 - 12

Bottineau Park
2000 NE 2nd Street

housing programs. From this, Bottineau will be receiving a total of \$67,220.81 in two increments: \$33,610.41 in 2017 and the same amount in 2018.

Apparently this surprise has been in the works for the past 4 months with Council Member Kevin Reich taking the lead.

Northern Metals

Recycling Lawsuit

Settlement Imminent

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is currently negotiating a settlement with Northern Metals Recycling (NMR). By the time you read this, a deal might already have been struck.

Recent history: In 2014, neighborhood residents in Marshall Terrace and Bottineau joined forces to successfully convince the MPCA to increase the frequency of air sampling dates to once every 6 days

NORTHERN METALS next page >

Phone

Police, Fire and Medical
Emergency:
911

Minneapolis City Info:
311

Bottineau Neighborhood
Association
367-7262

3rd Ward Councilmember
Frey
673-2203

Hennepin County
Commissioner Higgins
348-7882

Parks Commissioner
Wielinski
230-6443

Bottineau Park
370-4958

Family Violence,
Domestic Abuse, Child
Abuse
673-3072

Housing Inspections
673-5858

East Side Neighborhood
Services (ESNS)
781-6011

Community Crime
Prevention
673-2797

Pierre Bottineau Library
630-6890

Minneapolis Park Board
230-6400

Minneapolis Solid Waste
and Recycling
673-2917

Traffic Enforcement
673-3443

> **NORTHERN METALS** *cont.*

and to lengthen air sampling time frames to 24 hours on those dates at the 909 MPCA air sampling site located at 2nd ST N and the Lowry Bridge. (The 909 site equipment was scheduled to be moved to outstate Minnesota to monitor hog farm methane pollution on 12-31-14.) Prior to October 1, 2014, the 909 monitor was being activated only once every 12 days for periods of 12 hours. Soon after the 6 day 24 hour schedule was implemented, NMR was found to be in violation of their air emissions permit. That is when the MPCA decided to keep the 909 site at the Lowry Bridge. The MPCA also agreed to test for 58 VOCs (volatile organic compounds) in late 2014 and continues to do so today as VOCs and PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) are of grave community concern regarding another major polluter on the river, GAF Building Materials and Shingle Plant.

Here is what the settlement will do:

- The shredder in Minneapolis will be closed and its operations moved to a new, non-metro location. (On 1-11-17 residents were told the closure would occur by summer of 2019.)
- NMR will pay a civil penalty and reimburse MPCA for costs.
- Money will be directed to those communities which are directly affected by the company's emissions for the purpose of mitigating potential health impacts. (Community listening meetings were held by MPCA on 1-11-17 and 1-18-17.)
- Community members and the City of Minneapolis will provide input about how best to leverage settlement money for immediate community benefit near the facility. (As of 1-25-18, residents have been informed that all funding will

go to the City of Minneapolis.)

On January 10, 2017, the BNA board voted for three funding requests from the settlement that would greatly benefit affected communities:

- 1) \$38,000 should be allocated to fund the second phase of BNA's cancer and asthma study. Phase 1 compared death rates from air pollution-related cancers and asthma in the Lowry bridge area (on both sides of the River) to non-polluted areas of Hennepin County. Phase 2, will show how often people get air pollution-related cancers and asthma in the Lowry Bridge area as compared to non-polluted areas of Hennepin County.
- 2) \$113,000 should be allocated for testing both the river bottom and soil borings on land where NMR is located to determine how much pollution damage has occurred. BNA believes an independent study, unimpeded by large government interests, is needed for the community to have faith in the results. NMR should then be held accountable for subsequent River and land clean-up.
- 3) \$400,000 should fund a study of lead levels in the blood of children who live in the NMR fallout zone on both sides of the River. The study should also determine whether elevated lead levels arise from home exposure or if NMR's air pollution was the major contributing factor. The City of Minneapolis has a unique history in lead abatement studies and solutions going back 25 years. With the City's expertise, assisted by soil and water testing companies and community health clinics, this study could be used to get compensation from NMR for families adversely affected by the pollution.

Bottineau Housing Update

At the Jan. 24 community meeting, Amanda Winterer –Bottineau homeowner, BNA treasurer, and real estate agent with Keller Williams Realty– gave an in depth presentation about buying, renting and remodeling in Bottineau neighborhood. For the full presentation, go here: j.tinyurl.com/2016-NE-Housing-Update.

Here are a few highlights:

- Rental vacancy rate in Mpls: 3.7%
- Avg. monthly rent in Minneapolis: \$1284
- Avg. monthly rent in Northeast: \$901
- In Bottineau, 45.8% of homes are owner-occupied, 54.2% rental

To buy a home in Minneapolis, this is what, on average, you might see for monthly payments, depending on down payment, at 4.25% interest:

- 3.5% Down = \$1628.23
- 5% Down = \$1618.93
- 10% Down = \$1548.61
- 20% Down = \$1325.24

Here are the average sale prices of homes in Bottineau, by year:

- 2014: \$153,063
- 2015: \$200,717
- 2016: \$249,541

In 2016, sellers were receiving 100% of their asking price. In 2014, they were getting 96.6% of their asking price.

Property owners in Bottineau are eligible for a \$2000 matching home improvement grant, administered by GMHC. A 2% loan for up to \$20,000 is also available to Bottineau homeowners. Call 612-588-3033 to get an application.

Legislators Listen to Community Concerns



Minnesota House Representative **Diane Loeffler** and State Senator **Kari Dziedzic** held a community forum on January 28 at Bottineau Park. Over 50 Northeast residents attended, about a third of whom identified as being affiliated with *Protestville*, a local direct action group.

Primary topics of discussion included issues of Real ID, school vouchers and air pollution. In addition, Dziedzic explained that Minnesota's \$1.4 billion budget surplus amounts to just 3% of the \$45 billion bi-annual state budget. Republicans in the legislature want to use this surplus to give estate tax breaks that affect only the 1100 wealthiest Minnesotans. Loeffler explained that Governor Dayton's MNCARE expansion plan, if passed, would provide a public option health insurance choice for all Minnesotans. MNCARE is a well-established 20 year success story for working people.

I-94 Construction Project

This Spring, MnDOT will begin a major 9-mile long construction project on Interstate 94 from Nicollet Ave to Shingle Creek Parkway. This will include closing one side of 94 for four weekends in August while crews lay asphalt; extensive work on the Lowry Tunnel; lane closures; and 50 bridge repairs. Be prepared for traffic delays.

Websites

Bottineau Neighborhood Association
bottineauneighborhood.org

Minneapolis
www.minneapolismn.gov

3rd Ward
www.minneapolismn.gov/ward3

Inspections
www.minneapolismn.gov/inspections

Hennepin County
www.hennepin.us

Park Board
minneapolisparcs.org

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
www.pca.state.mn.us

Public Education NE
publicedne.blogspot.com

Friends of the Mississippi
fmr.org

NE Minneapolis Arts Association
nema.org

Northeast Investment Cooperative
neic.coop

MN State Legislature
www.leg.state.mn.us

Minneapolis Crime Alerts
www.minneapolismn.gov/police/crimealert

Eureka Recycling
twincitiesfreemarket.org

Dislocated Worker Program
tinyurl.com/mn-gov-deed

Neighborhood & Community Relations
www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr

Mark Your Calendars



- 2/14 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
2205 California St NE, Suite 107
(Call 612-801-7834 if door is locked)
- 2/17 Edison Soup War Fundraiser, 5:30 pm
Moose on Monroe (356 Monroe St NE)
- 2/23 MnDot Open house, 4-7 pm
2117 W. River Road, Nokomis Rm.
More info about I-94 project

Tai Ji Quan at ESNS:

Moving For Better Balance

Mondays and Wednesdays, February 27 - May 17,
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

This Tai Chi class reduces risk of falls by improving balance, muscle strength, flexibility, and mobility through mindful movements in a slow, flowing motion. All classes held at East Side Neighborhood Services (1700 NE 2nd St). Cost is based on ability to pay. No one will be turned away due to financial constraints. To register, email eva@esns.org or call (612) 787-4102.

NOTE: The public is welcome at all BNA meetings. All meetings are accessible and requests for special accommodations at BNA meetings may be made by contacting us no less than one week prior to the event. This publication can be made available in an alternative format. Please contact BNA with specific requests.