



## Ward Six News

November 2014

# Minneapolis Becomes First US City to Establish a Sister City Connection in Somalia

The City of Minneapolis now has a sister city relationship with Bosaso, Somalia, becoming the nation's first city to have established such a connection within Somalia.

Bosaso is the third largest city in Somalia and a thriving commercial center, located on the southern coast of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

### **Relationship benefits both cities**

The Minneapolis/Bosaso sister city relationship will offer benefits to both cities while working to promote cultural understanding and stimulate economic development in both cities. The relationship will also be designed to establish mutual exchanges of information around city governance, public infrastructure, and environmentally sustainable practices, which is a growing concern in the Bosaso area. The City of Minneapolis recognizes "sister city" friendships with 11 cities abroad. These relationships are supported and implemented by community groups here in Minneapolis whose members organize exchanges and other activities. They have also been accredited by Sister Cities, International, in Washington D.C.

# Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin will deliver Energy Assistance Program in Minneapolis

Following the State of Minnesota's termination of its contracts with Community Action of Minneapolis, the City of Minneapolis is committed to ensuring that those who need the services that Community Action provided will still receive them. Effective immediately Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin (CAPSH) will deliver the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) in Minneapolis.

Energy assistance applications that were previously submitted to Community Action of Minneapolis (CAM) will be delivered to CAPSH and processed in the order in which they were received. Clients do not need to submit new applications unless notified by CAPSH.

Minneapolis residents who have received energy assistance applications should mail them to CAPSH rather than the address printed on their applications (see address below).

CAPSH has a long history of receiving good audit reports from the Minnesota Department of Human Services, the Minnesota Department of Commerce and independent auditors. CAPSH is committed to maintaining the highest level of integrity, transparency and ethical conduct in all of its program delivery and business operations.

Residents who are interested in weatherization services for their home should contact Sustainable

Resources Center at 612-870-4255.

The City is working closely with the State on designating a new permanent "community action" agency for the City of Minneapolis. Until that work is completed, however, residents should contact the above agencies.

The energy assistance application can be downloaded online at [www.capsh.org](http://www.capsh.org) or by calling 952-930-3541.

**Mail new applications to:**  
Energy Assistance Program  
8800 Highway 7, #403  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

## Indigenous Peoples Day event drums up a crowd

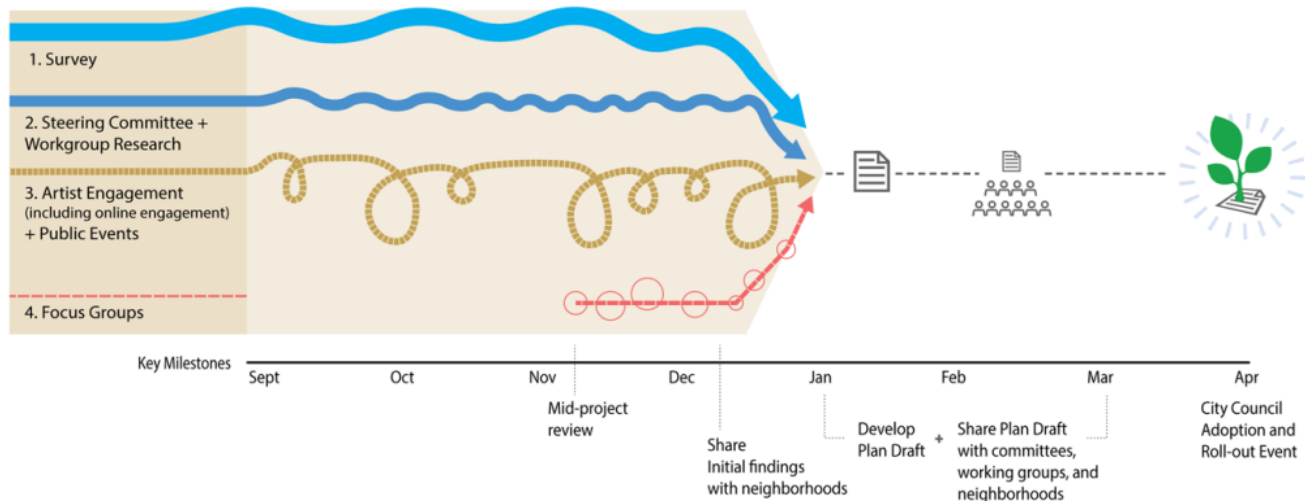


More than 500 people attended a celebration of the city's first-ever Indigenous Peoples Day at the Minneapolis American Indian Center on Monday, October 13th. The event included a community meal with indigenous foods from throughout North and South America provided by Native chefs Sean Sherman and Cheo Smith, a film screening, community speakers and cultural performance.

Indigenous People's Day — celebrating the heritage and contributions of Native Americans in Minneapolis — won unanimous support of the City Council on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at a meeting that overflowed the council chambers.

# Tell Minneapolis how it can be a better arts and creative city

Minneapolis is leading a planning process to think more strategically about how its arts and creative assets can best contribute to the local and regional economy and improve Minneapolis' quality of life. The city would like to hear from residents about their participation in Minneapolis arts and culture. An online survey is collecting responses through November 21. Results from this survey will greatly inform the Creative City Road Map, a plan for Minneapolis arts and culture for the next 10 years. Watch [www.creativeminneapolis.org](http://www.creativeminneapolis.org) for updates and more information about the process and events, a survey, and what Minneapolitans are saying and thinking about how the arts and creative activities connect to their lives.



## Help Shape our city: Apply for openings on boards and commissions

Applications are now being accepted for a number of open boards and commissions positions that the City Council and Mayor will appoint this fall. Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City.

- [Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities](#)
- [Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee \(CLIC\)](#)
- [Community Environmental Advisory Commission \(CEAC\)](#)
- [Family Housing Fund \(McKnight\)](#)
- [Heritage Preservation Commission \(HPC\)](#)
- [Minneapolis Commission on Civil Rights](#)
- [Minneapolis Public Housing Authority Board](#)
- [Minneapolis Telecommunications Network \(MTN\)](#)
- [Minneapolis Zoning Board of Adjustment](#)
- [Public Health Advisory Committee \(PHAC\)](#)
- [Senior Citizen Advisory Committee](#)
- [Youth Violence Prevention Executive Committee](#)

Applications will be reviewed beginning **October 10, 2014**. However, the positions are open until filled. Visit the City's website for a [list of appointment opportunities, position descriptions and to apply](#).

# 2015 Budget Process Underway

Mayor Betsy Hodges presented her 2015 recommended budget to the City Council Aug. 14, 2014. Council members will now consider the budget from now through early December with final approval of the 2015 budget scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014.

The mayor's proposed budget includes:

- An additional \$1 million in City funds for affordable housing, focusing on family housing.
- \$3.5 million to ensure the investment in the redesign of Nicollet Mall is fully funded.
- Planning dollars for the redevelopment of the Upper Harbor Terminal, to ensure North Minneapolis has its own valuable riverfront amenities.
- Two new positions in the City Coordinator's office to focus exclusively on the city's equity work, ensuring the best possible equity outcomes in every department and every division.
- Funding to support 10 more police officers, for an authorized strength of 860 sworn officers.
- \$1.14 million in capital dollars to implement a program of body cameras for the police department.

Additional key dates in the 2014 budget process include:

- Sept. 16 – Nov. 7 – Ways and Means presentations and consideration of City departmental budgets hearings (tentative dates can be found at [www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget))
- Dec. 2 and 4, 1 – 4 p.m. – Ways and Means Budget Subcommittee budget mark-up
- Dec. 10, 6:05 p.m. – City Council final vote on budget after the public hearing
- Dec. 10, 6:05 p.m. – City Council final vote on budget after the public hearing

**Watch the 2015 budget process live on TV or the City website**

You can watch the mayor's budget address and upcoming budget hearings on Minneapolis 79 (Comcast Cable channel 79) or on a smartphone, tablet or computer by visiting the City of Minneapolis website at [www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79). Video recordings are available to watch any time on [the City website](http://www.minneapolismn.gov). The rebroadcasts on Minneapolis 79 will be Mondays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at noon from now until early December.



## PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS

The City of Minneapolis has tentatively scheduled two public comment hearings on the proposed 2015 property tax levy and budget:

**Nov. 18 at 6:05 p.m.**  
Room 317 of City Hall

**Dec. 10 at 6:05 p.m.**

## FROM COVER (photo)

Bergo Hersi, front left, and Omar Musi, front right, both of Minneapolis before the Minneapolis City Council voted to add Bosaso as a sister city Thursday, October 6th, 2014 at the Minneapolis City Hall.

Photo credit: David Joles  
Star Tribune