



CM Warsame speaking at the reopening celebration of ICSA/Hijra Cedar Riverside Mosque that burned down on January 1st 2014.

## Ward Six News

June 2015

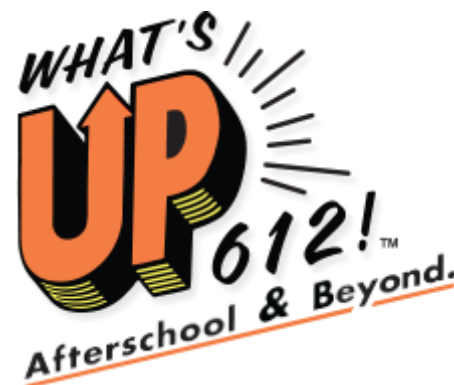
## Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board New after-school activity finder

The Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board's Minneapolis Afterschool Network has launched its citywide program finder. [What's Up 612!](#) is an online resource of things to do outside of the classroom in Minneapolis. The program finder is a citywide resource where youth, parents, educators, youth workers and persons who know young people can find after-school and summer activities for children and youth ages 5-21.

What's Up 612! brings together after-school opportunities offered by the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minneapolis Public Schools, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board and community organizations.

The website is one component of the Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board's Minneapolis Afterschool Network, the citywide out-of-school time system created to ensure all of Minneapolis young people have access to the kinds of comprehensive, high-quality afterschool programs that support positive youth development, educational achievement, and career and community readiness. The board developed this tool not only for connecting parents, youth, educators and youth workers with out-of-school time activities, but also for addressing and shrinking the opportunity gap.

Users will have the opportunity to offer suggestions, connect with fellow users via social media as well as participate in community activities and events. Community program providers are encouraged to submit program content to keep the program finder up-to-date with new and exciting opportunities.



## Get ready to walk & ride!

### Open Streets 2015



Open Streets - where a significant length of a busy street is closed to automobile traffic for an afternoon or day - are so popular in Minneapolis, we keep adding more. Get ready for eight events this year, that are more fun than ever.

Open Streets on Franklin Ave **Sunday, August 16th, 11am-5pm**. Street closed from Portland Ave. to 28<sup>th</sup> Ave along Franklin Ave.

The first Open Streets Minneapolis event was held on Lyndale Avenue South in 2011 and drew more than 5,000 participants. Since then, it's expanded to many regions throughout town and each event draws thousands of people.

Sign up for updates, volunteer, get a spot on the street or become a Sponsor. For this and more information on this year's events, visit [www.openstreetsmpls.com](http://www.openstreetsmpls.com).

#### **Ride to Open Streets for free on Metro Transit.**

To learn more about bicycling in Minneapolis, visit the City's bicycling website at [www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles).

## Great Finds at Police Auctions

Need a bike? Shop this year's police auctions to find bicycles, jewelry and more. A list of items being auctioned and some photos will be posted to the [Minnesota Auction Advantage website](#) 2-5 days before the auction. While auctions begin promptly at 6 p.m., you may inspect items in person beginning at 4 p.m. Bring your photo ID to register. All auctions are held at the Minneapolis Police Warehouse, 6024 Harriet Ave. S.

Schedule of 2015 police auctions:

- June 11, Aug. 6 & Oct. 1 : [Bicycle auction](#)
- Aug. 13: [Jewelry auction](#)
- Oct. 8: [General auction](#)

If you have questions, please call the auction hotline at 612-673-2932.

# City successful in obtaining new criminal law to help fight against juvenile sex trafficking

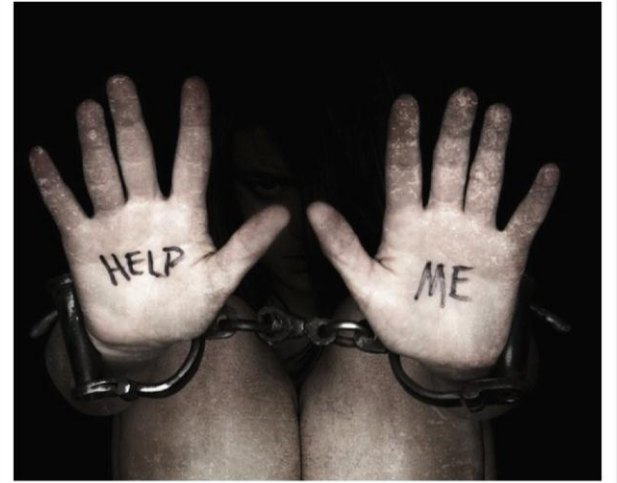
The City of Minneapolis successfully lobbied for a new criminal law making it a felony to solicit any person who the defendant “reasonably believes” to be under the age of 18 for prostitution.

This law came about as a result of a question City Attorney Susan Segal asked to Sgt. Grant Snyder, the City’s lead investigator for juvenile sex trafficking cases, about additional tools needed by law enforcement to help combat the fight against sex trafficking. Underscoring the importance of deterring demand as a key component of preventing trafficking of juveniles, Snyder pointed to the need to have a felony-level crime for soliciting kids under the age of 18 for prostitution. While it’s already a felony to solicit kids 15 and under for sex with a three-year maximum sentence, it was only a misdemeanor-level crime to solicit a 16- or 17-year old. In response, Segal drafted the new provision and the City brought it to the Minnesota Legislature. The proposal was included in the Omnibus Public Safety and Judiciary Finance and Policy Bill signed by Gov. Dayton on May 22. The new law goes into effect Aug. 1, 2015.

The new law makes it a felony crime to solicit anyone who the defendant “reasonably believes” to be under the age of 18 for prostitution, punishable by up to five years in prison. Under previous law, soliciting 16- or 17-year olds to engage in prostitution was only a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor crime carrying a maximum sentence of 90 days or one year, respectively.

The new law also allows law enforcement to conduct sting operations using adult police investigators to pose as underage victims through on-line ads, text messages and the like. Prior law did not include this type of provision, making it very difficult to prosecute police sting cases, at least in those cases where the offender thought the victim was older than 15.

Law enforcement will use the law to build cases against those who use Backpage and similar websites to solicit kids under the age of 18. It is important to spread the word that an offender responding to an online ad may in fact be texting a police officer – not an underage kid – and that the offender will be arrested and charged with committing a felony.



## Hennepin County Household hazardous waste collection events

Hennepin County residents can safely dispose of unwanted garden and household hazardous wastes during a series of community collection events. All sites will be open to the public 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday through Saturday.

**July 9-11**  
340 27th Ave. NE

**Aug. 20-22**  
Public Works Garage  
(Off Snelling Avenue)  
3607 44th St. E.

For more information, including directions and a complete list of acceptable and non-acceptable items, call Hennepin County Environmental Services at 612-348-3777 or visit [www.hennepin.us/collectionevents](http://www.hennepin.us/collectionevents).

## Pet Licensing

Minneapolis Animal Care & Control is reminding our residents of the requirement to license all dogs and cats over four (4) months of age. When a pet is lost and is brought to the animal shelter, 98 percent of pets go home alive because of identification through the license tag. More information is on our website - [www.minneapolismn.gov/animals](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/animals).

Please consider helping Minneapolis' lost animals by requesting a handsome lawn sign. It's free and easy. Simply email your name and address to [pet.licensing@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:pet.licensing@minneapolismn.gov) and we will get a sign for you to display in your yard.



## Door-to-Door Solicitation

Several people have been found doing door-to-door solicitation claiming that they are selling magazines to try to help people turn their lives around. The solicitors are telling potential customers that the proceeds of the sales are used to give the solicitor a second chance in life or to overcome youthful hardships. The magazines are never delivered. Further investigation by the responding officers and the Police Licensing division showed that the solicitors were tied to three different companies: Urban Development Solutions, Graceful Hands and Moving Forward. All three companies have multiple complaints from customers alleging that the magazine sales were fraudulent; that they had been charged money and never received any magazines, and that the cost of the subscriptions was unusually high. The Better Business Bureau gave the company an F grade based on multiple complaints, failures to respond, and unauthorized use of the BBB name or trademark.

### What You Can Do:

- Door-to-door sales require a license and/or registration in Minneapolis. Ask to see the official Minneapolis ID of any solicitors. To see images of the ID and find more information, check the following two links which detail what is required or allowed:
- Solicitors, peddlers, and transient merchants license: <http://go.usa.gov/35aFG> (information from Business Licensing which includes details on registration/licensing)
- What you need to know about door-to-door sales in Minneapolis: <http://go.usa.gov/35amW>
- Research any company/organization, whether charitable or not, that tries to sell you items or solicit money from you. Simply doing a computer search of the company name and checking with the Better Business Bureau (bbb.org) can give you an idea of any potential issues or complaints that other customers have previously filed.
- Call 911 on suspicious activity at the time it occurs.
- If you are a company that wishes to solicit or peddle door-to-door, make sure you are properly registered or licensed with the City. Find the application at <http://go.usa.gov/35CpQ>.

For further information, you can research Minneapolis City Ordinance Chapter 332 for requirements for solicitors, peddlers, and transient merchants.