



Presentation of Resolution in Honor of Milwaukee Ave

11.06.2015

Ward Six News

February-March 2016

Message from the Ward Office

By Council Member Abdi Warsame

Minneapolis is a global, cosmopolitan city that views all its communities as assets to be nurtured and celebrated. One of the things that speak loudest to this notion is the passage of the 2016 budget. We heard from the community and we responded with real dollars.

- \$20,000 for culturally specific autism awareness
- \$25,000 for marketing through various cultural media platforms
- \$100,000 for an Opportunity Hub in Cedar–Riverside that will combine a variety of needed job- and workforce-related services and training under one roof designed for building the capacity of East African Youth.
- \$50,000 to support creation of a 4H program for the East African community.
- \$10 million for the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund: 8.5 proposed by the mayor plus support addition of 1.5M by the council.
- \$1.0 million for other Affordable Housing Programs to meet the needs of large families
- \$100,000 for Home line Services & Interpreters for non-English speaking tenants
- \$250,000 for Techhire
- \$50,000 for the Community Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) program
- \$100,000 for the EMT Pathways Program
- \$50,000 for the Community Outreach Explorer Program
- \$50,000 for the Emergency Medical Services Academy
- \$20,000 for cultural community educational programs for elders at public housing
- \$100,000 for interpreters to help meet the needs of non-English-speaking renters

These new investments join other new investments in the 2016 City budget workforce and employment programs that will create new career paths for immigrant communities and people of color, including in the fields of public safety and technology.

These investments are part of ongoing efforts that Mayor Hodges and I have actively supported to bring down barriers to employment and bring job-related services directly to people in the community. For example, mobile job fairs — where employers and job navigators come to the community have been held twice in the East African community this year. This work will continue in 2016.

At a time when immigrants, especially those of the Muslim faith, are under vicious attack by some in America — particularly by some candidates for president — I am proud to live in and represent a City that not only has a vibrant Muslim community but one that values its Muslim community.

Thank you,



Abdi Warsame
Minneapolis City Council Member for Sixth Ward

Opportunity Hub



Over the last several years, my conversations with different agencies, institutions and various stakeholders have revolved around the same topic: the need for jobs. I worked with Mayor Hodges and my Council colleagues to appropriate \$100,000 for the Opportunity Hub, while Hennepin County has funded \$250,000, in order for young people to find job resources.

The Vision

Overall, the Opportunity Hub would be a center that provides and promotes comprehensive workforce development services

that meet the needs of West Bank youth. This includes workforce initiatives, a youth service collaborative, a job opportunity fair, greater access to the trades and higher education, and much more. The Opportunity Hub can be seen as a 'one stop shop' we people can access services and be pointed in the direction of additional services not housed within the building. It is a creative hybrid of workforce and community resources, delivered through cooperative model and managed by trusted connections navigators.

Institutions and Organizations Involved

The Opportunity Hub has found champions and advocates from collaboration of key institutions, large businesses and employers, and community stakeholders that serve the West Bank neighborhood.

Including:

African Development Center
 Pillsbury United Communities
 Augsburg College
 Sherman Associates
 City of Minneapolis
 State of Minnesota

Fairview Health Services
 University of Minnesota
 Hennepin County
 West Bank Business Association
 Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
 West Bank Community Coalition

Bridging the Disparity Gap

2016 priorities: Employment and youth development

What's happening?

People of color are growing the fastest in our population, they will continue to increase and become a large part of the workforce. It has been proven that people of color in our communities are:

- Are more likely to live in poverty
- Less likely to graduate from high school
- Less likely to own their own home
- More likely to suffer from chronic illness

I want to help our young people acquire skills that are necessary for job that are important to our economy. By reducing the racial and income disparities, we can have a stronger workforce.

Youth development

- Culturally sensitive and appropriate programming in schools, parks and community programs
- Biculturalism quantified as an asset for applications and hiring practices

Employment

- Collaboration and partnership with non-profit and private sector
- Youth Worker Collaborative (Youth Coordinating Board and Youth Congress)
- Mentorship Programs partnering with Downtown Council , corporations and local businesses
- Apprenticeship Programs with the Trades (i.e. Pipefitters Joint Training Committee). I moved an amendment on the budget, which appropriated \$42K for supporting a welding program at Roosevelt High School.

Jobs and positive opportunities are essential to improving our communities. By increasing employment we are helping the people in the community lift themselves out of poverty and give new opportunities to the next generation. This is what I will be working on. Extended skill sets ; workforce development, mentorship, and job training with placement programs intended to significantly increase the number of jobs available.

The Takeoff 4-H STEAM Club:

The Takeoff 4-H STEAM Club is a high quality, and culturally appropriate educational after school and summer programming that supports youth education and leadership development through a model of social inclusion. This unique model also involves the parents, helping to bridge the gap between the older and younger generations while expanding networks and increasing knowledge of opportunities. Youth develop a plan to further their education. Past participating seniors have graduated on time and enrolled in post-secondary education. The city of Minneapolis is partnering with the University of Minnesota's Urban 4-H Youth Development to integrate and implement Design It, an engineering curriculum designed for after school programs. The Takeoff program has two tracks which includes the following:

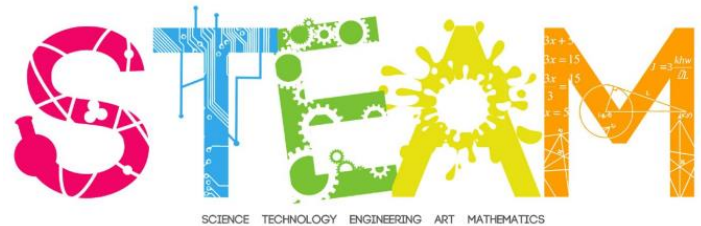
The first track, The Takeoff, provides tutoring and peer mentoring in a safe, supportive environment that focus on skill building, cooperative learning, and leadership development around STEAM education.

The second track, The Takeoff 4-H STEAM Club, is done in collaboration with the University of Minnesota's Urban 4-H Youth Development department.. This track utilizes the Design It Curriculum. Additionally, the city of Minneapolis pairs this curriculum with an arts program in which local artist come to the program and lead activities with the youth. Participating students attend year-round programming including week-long immersive summer camps that are held at the University of Minnesota. This summer camp experience expands on STEAM learning and helps the participants connect that learning to potential higher education and career opportunities.

Timeline:

January - February: program registration

March: program kick-off



Organics recycling goes citywide this spring – sign up by Feb. 1

The City of Minneapolis' organics recycling program is about to go citywide. Right now, the City collects food scraps, coffee grounds, meat trimmings, eggshells and many other items from about 12,000 residences for composting. Starting this spring, the rest of the city will be able to recycle organics too. Residents living in the second phase areas of this program will need to sign up by Feb. 1 to get their recycling carts during the spring rollout.

Those who sign up after that date will get their carts in the summer. (Residents in the first phase rollout area who aren't already in the organics recycling program can sign up now to receive a cart within a couple weeks.)

To be part of the program, use the online form, call 612-673-2917 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, or email SWRcustomer@minneapolismn.gov. There is no additional cost to participate. About 34,000 households have already signed up to participate in the organics recycling program.

The City is now putting together a delivery list for new organics recycling carts. Those who sign up by Feb. 1 will get on that list. Find more information at www.minneapolismn.gov/organics.

Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance

What problems are we looking to solve?

- In 2002, 50 to 80 million bags ended up as litter in the US
- In a recent river cleanup, 1 mile of the Mississippi River over 2.5 hours generated 5 tons of trash
- Minnesotans throw away 87,000 tons of plastic bags every year

Lifecycle Impacts

- Single-use plastic bags create 9 pounds of solid waste, 18 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions and 2 pounds of water pollution per 10,000 uses



Proposed Solution

Paper Bag Fee

- Proposed minimum fee amount: \$.05 per bag kept by retailer

Community Engagement

- Proposal based on recommendations from the Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission
- Preliminary presentation to Licensing Department's Business Advisory Group

Next Step

- Continued community engagement
- Public hearing at the Health, Environment and Community Engagement committee in the first half of 2016
- Adoption by Council
- Phased-in implementation to start in 2017

The Council will be setting the Public Hearing for the Bring Your Own Bag ordinance for March 21 at 1:30 pm. In the meantime Council Gordon and I are reaching out to interested businesses and organizations. Please contact my office if you would like more information or if your group would like a presentation about why we are proposing this and what it would mean for Minneapolis.



Urban Scholars is a leadership development summer internship program for college students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. The program provides undergraduate and graduate students distinctive professional experiences focused on gaining essential leadership skills and creating career pathways to positions of influence.

The 12-week internship program begins on May 23, 2016 and ends on August 12, 2016. The program includes:

- Professional development training
- A high-quality resume building work experience
- Opportunities to create valuable professional networks

Urban Scholars will be placed in one of these participating organizations: City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Public Schools, Metropolitan Council, or Greater Twin Cities United Way.

ELIGIBILITY

All college students interested in learning more about careers in the public sector are encouraged to apply regardless of academic major. Urban Scholars:

- Must be enrolled and in good standing at an accredited two- or four- year college, university, graduate program, or law school. Any public sector experience is highly desired.
- Must have completed first year of post-secondary education.
- Must be authorized to work in the United States.
- Must be able to participate on a full-time basis for 12 weeks (40 hours per week).

For more information visit www.minneapolismn.gov/urbanscholars or contact urban.scholars@minneapolismn.gov.



Please tell us:

- What are the most pressing needs of the community?
- What are the top priorities?
- What areas can we collaborate on?
- What policies do you want to see Ward 6 pass?