LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

By Jessica Paloalto and Mahamed Cali, part-time Coalition outreach workers

In 2010, The Midtown Greenway Coalition held a number of listening circles with organizations in the Somali and Latino Communities. Each group received a presentation about the Greenway and then we asked a series of questions about how the Greenway could better benefit their communities. This winter we will work with the participating organizations to identify shared goals and plans for implementation.

The Latino community identified the need for bike accessibility, training on how to ride a bike and how to ride safely. There seems to be a high level of enthusiasm among the Latino Community to make the Midtown Greenway a part of their daily life through recreation and physical activity.

Similarly, The Somali community would like to see more access to the Greenway, especially to Karmal Mall. Currently, the closest access

(Continued on page 5)

MARKKAAN DHAGEYSANEY BULSHADII

By Jessica Paloalto and Mahamed Cali, part-time Coalition outreach workers


(Kala si sooc jeeda 5 xaad)
Recently the Midtown Greenway Board of Directors undertook strategic planning to sharpen the organization’s focus and effectiveness. The Coalition worked with the Institute for Conservation Leadership (ICL) thanks to funding from the Surdna and McKnight Foundations. This work allowed the Coalition board and stakeholders to review where we have been, where we are, and where we want to go and should be going.

A board subcommittee and staff helped ICL identify stakeholders and develop a set of questions to ask them. Each board member was assigned two stakeholders to talk to about the Coalition. What we do best, what things were we missing, and asking who else we should be talking to were among the questions asked of past and current funders, colleagues, trail users, city and county staff and elected officials and other non-profit organizations.

Items that emerged as being important to address include the implementation of way-finding in and around the Midtown Greenway, expansion across the Mississippi River into St. Paul, possible expansion of the Midtown Greenway north and south, rail transit advocacy, and just telling as many people as possible about the Midtown Greenway Coalition and all that we do. The board hopes to adopt a new strategic plan in late January 2011 and values constituent input that may inform deliberations. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact our Executive Director at tim@midtowngreenway.org or 612 879-0105.
THANK YOU so much for all who participated in and contributed to The 2010 Greenway Challenge. We are proud and pleased to report that the event successfully achieved our $25,000 fund raising goal. 53 bicyclists signed up to ride and raise pledges, and 39 completed the ride. 504 people made donations totaling $25,953 including employer matches.

Our success with the first annual Greenway Challenge is a tribute to the love people have for the Midtown Greenway, Minnesota’s busiest bikeway, and the work of our Coalition. We hope to double our pledge totals during the 2011 Greenway Challenge and raise $50,000. So stay tuned in 2011.

THANK YOU TO GREENWAY CHALLENGE SPONSORS

Lead Sponsors:
Freewheel Bike, KFAI Radio, Penn Cycle, Quality Bicycle Products, Target

Additional Sponsors:

Grand prize donors:
Bob Corrick and Beth Parkhill (www.loirechateau.wordpress.com)

TRAIL USER SPOTLIGHT

Meet July Mendoza, a woman from the Phillips West neighborhood, a hair stylist, and a regular user of the Midtown Greenway. July uses the Greenway 5 days a week to get to work and to exercise. She discovered the Greenway one day three years ago during a walk in her neighborhood: “Que Bonito,” she thought and she has been using the Greenway ever since. July likes using the Greenway because it is “quiet and calm.” She enjoys the exercise she gets walking to work, but would like to see more people from the Latino Community using the Greenway and enjoying the health benefits that she has enjoyed.

Name: July Mendoza
Work: Hair Stylist at Jenny’s Beauty Salon
Neighborhood: Phillips West
MISSION

We empower communities to develop, improve, and protect the Midtown Greenway as a green urban pathway to improve people’s lives.

Nosotros habilitamos a las comunidades a desarrollar, mejorar, proteger y disfrutar del sendero urbano Midtown Greenway para mejorar la vida de la gente.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

(For a list of board members’ roles and responsibilities, visit www.midtowngreenway.org)
LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

point is Nicollet Avenue which is not connected well to the south. They too would like more opportunities to learn how to ride a bike and more education for their community on the health benefits of bicycling. Many participants were interested in higher density housing along the Greenway so more people can live near the Greenway and use bikes for transportation.

Over 100 people have participated so far and we look forward to working with even more. Thank you to all the participants. We really appreciate the thoughtful responses and time you gave the project.

MARKAAAN DHAGEYSANEY BULSHADII

Bulshada latino waxaan ogaanay baahidooda baaskilada. 1) Barashada baaskiilada iyo amniga ayaan rabnaa. 2) Sidoo kale way ubaahan yiihin in ay helaan fursado badan oo ay ku bartaan Baaskiilada oo uroon caafimaadka bulshada. 3) Dad badan ayaa aad usoo dhaweeyey dhismaha guryaha greenway si ay ugu noolaadaan meel ku dhow greenway baaskiil na ugu socdaan.

In kabadan 100 ruux ayaa kaqeyb qaatey sidaa darteed waxaan rajeynaynaa intaa kabadan in aan la shaqeyno. Waad mahadsan tihiin dadkii dhamaan nagala qeyb qaatey waqtigima qalii ah aad na siseen. Mahad sanidiin.

EL ESCUCHAR LA COMUNIDAD

Verde y poder usar bicicletas para el transporte. Más de 100 personas han participado hasta ahora y esperamos con interés trabajar con aún más. ¡Gracias a todos los participantes. Realmente apreciamos la respuesta y el tiempo que le dieron al proyecto.

THANK YOU TO OUR TRAIL WATCH VOLUNTEERS! (continued)

Thank you to our Trail Watch Volunteers for September – November 2010

Trail Watch rides are fun. Join us for winter rides or get on the list to start in spring.

Email: trailwatch@midtowngreenway.org to learn more.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers:
Maria Macari
Jo Ann Musumeci
Paul Nelson
Michael Nelson
Julie O’Boaighill
Ryan Patchin
George Puzak
Todd Sampel
Jenny Saplis
Gary Schiffr
Richard Stadtmiller
Karl Steezer
Matt Swanson
Michael TKach
Dawn Wargen and Stacia Kelly
Wilder
Margaret Wunderlich

In-Kind Donors:
Children’s of Minnesota
Dero Bike Rack
First Unitarian Society
Food 4 Thought
Lake Country School
Midwest West Lock
Miller Hansen Partners
Mrs. Meyers Clean Day
North Prairie Tileworks
Northstar Rollergirls
Old Arizona
Peace Coffee
Penn Cycle and Fitness
Philips Garden
Rotary Clubs of Minneapolis and
Uptown
Salen and Lyndale Churches

Volunteered for 12-20 Rides:
Mark Ambroe
Amy Cusick
Andrew Paule

Volunteered for 6-11 Rides:
Brendan Abrams
Annie Dressen
Becky Monnens
Margarita
Varghese-Mac
Scott Campbell
Chad Wilkins

Volunteered for 6-11 Rides:
Andres Altamirano
Lauren Fulner
Tom Holm
Kathleen Sullivan
Susan Priem
Satya Varghese–Mac
Paul Caspersen
Benjamin Erickson
Ted Duepner
Gabriel Hoffman
Hokin
Kathy Koch

Volunteered for 6-11 Rides:
Ike Newman
Jill Olmsted
LeRoy Peterson
Hank Kim
Tom Carlisle
Stacy Smith

Trail Watch Sponsors:
Bikes and Pieces, Bryant-Lake Bowl, Common Roots Café, Freewheel Bike, New Belgium Brewing, Old Chicago Pizza, Pizza Luce, Bedlam Theatre, Peacock Groove, Wells Fargo.
A NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDTOWN GREENWAY COALITION

Board of Directors
Fourth Thursdays, January 27, February 24 and March 24, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Executive Committee
Third Thursdays, January 20, February 17 and March 17, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Land Use and Transportation Committee
Tuesday, January 11 and Thursday, February 10 and March 10, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Safety Committee
Third Tuesday, January 18, February 15 and March 15, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Unless indicated, all meetings are held at the Midtown Greenway Coalition’s office (2834 10th Avenue South, Greenway Level, Suite 2, Minneapolis, MN 55407).

MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM

Name ____________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip __________________________________________________
Phone, E-mail ___________________________________________________

☐ $250 – Greenway Angel
☐ $100 – Greenway Patron
☐ $50 – Greenway Advocate
☐ $25 – Greenway Sponsor
☐ Business $___________
☐ Any amount comfortable for you $___________
☐ Yes, I want to volunteer

My main interest is: ________________________________

Please make your check payable to: “Midtown Greenway Coalition” and mail to: Midtown Greenway Coalition 2834 10th Avenue South, Greenway Level, Suite 2 Minneapolis, MN 55407 or donate at www.midtowngreenway.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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