GREENWAY TO “GLOW AND SPARK” ON JUNE 14TH

GREENWAY GLOW BIKE RIDE AND NORTHERN SPARK ALL-NIGHT ART FESTIVAL RETURN

The Midtown Greenway will be transformed into a glowing, linear art gallery on the evening of June 14th, as the Northern Spark all-night art festival and Greenway Glow bike ride return to the corridor.

The Greenway Glow night bike ride raises money to support the Greenway. Close to 200 cyclists are expected to ride in the event and compete for prizes, including best lights/bike decorations; best costumes; largest team; and most funds raised for the Greenway. Participants receive free food and beverages, continued on page 4

Ride the giant Polar Bear Bike at the Greenway Glow and Northern Spark on the Greenway. Photo courtesy of Crank Art Collective.

“TAKE THE FIELD” TO TRANSFORM KIX FIELD INTO GIANT ART EVENT

Kix Field on the Greenway will be transformed into a giant art event, as part of Northern Spark and the Greenway Glow on June 14th. Expanding on the participatory nature of sporting events, visitors will be invited to the field to experience art on a large scale. Lights, reflectors, audio, and human interactions will transform the field into an art event.

On the evening of June 14th, Kix Field will be transformed into a giant work of art with projections and more. Photo by Bruce Silcox.

The Coalition Would Like To Thank . . .

© Ride the giant Polar Bear Bike at the Greenway Glow and Northern Spark on the Greenway. Photo courtesy of Crank Art Collective.

Message from the Executive Director
Midtown Corridor Transit Analysis Concludes Bike Crossing Light
Greenway User Profile

WWW.MIDTOWNGREENWAY.ORG
Dear Friends of the Greenway,

The Greenway has cyclists and walkers on it all year long, but let’s face it: with the more-brutal-than-usual winter we had, on some extreme cold days the trail only had a few intrepid users. So, it didn’t take much for the trail to fill up with happy bikers, walkers, runners, and others as soon as the temps headed north of 40 degrees. On one 51 degree day in early March, the Greenway suddenly saw a huge increase in users: a large group of children out for a stroll; runners in short sleeves; dozens of cyclists; and a lunchtime walking crowd from Allina Health and other businesses along the corridor. Welcome, spring!

Even before the spring warm-up, we started planning for the Greenway Glow and Northern Spark on the Greenway, our annual dual-events on June 14. The Glow helps raise money for our Greenway programs, while Northern Spark helps transform the Greenway into an illuminated art gallery for an evening. We hope you will join us for one or both events.

This spring also saw the culmination of the Midtown Corridor Transit Alternatives Analysis. We were pleased to have played a large role in the process. Many of our board members served on the public committees, and we met often with Metro Transit to review the proposed streetcar line for the Greenway. While we were not happy with their initial designs for the line, we were pleased they took our concerns seriously. The resulting designs included our vision for a turf-embedded rail line, more single-track rail segments, and fewer new retaining walls. While we have long supported a streetcar in the Greenway, it must be done in a way that respects the “green” in the Greenway, as well as what the Greenway means to Minneapolis and the thousands of people who use it every day.

Here’s to a great summer of biking, walking, running, and other healthy activities on the Greenway. Thanks to your support, we’ll keep working to protect and enhance it.

See you on the Greenway!

Soren R. Jensen
Executive Director

WHO WE ARE

The Midtown Greenway Coalition is a coalition of neighborhoods and individuals who love the Midtown Greenway. We’re the organization that got the Greenway built by public agencies, and now we work to protect and enhance it.

We grow stronger with each new member. Join us to help protect YOUR Greenway and make it even better!

MIDTOWN GREENWAY COALITION BOARD MEMBERS

The Coalition board of directors consists of one seat for each of the 17 neighborhoods along the Lake Street-Midtown Corridor, and four at-large seats.

Matt Beckman
Longfellow Community Council
Cameron Conway
CARAG
Janet Court
Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association
Amanda Dlouhy
Phillips West Neighborhood Organization
Gabriel Hoffman
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East Isles Residents Association
Margaret Kirkpatrick
East Phillips Improvement Coalition
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Lyndale Neighborhood Association
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Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization
George Puzak
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West Calhoun Neighborhood Council
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Corcoran Neighborhood Organization
Kelly Wilder
Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
Michael Wilson
Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association
Margaret Wunderlich
At Large
Morgan Zehner
Lake Street Council

“We are currently seeking a representative for Lowry Hill East Neighborhood (LHENA) for our board — please contact us for more information.”

FOR A LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS’ ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, VISIT WWW.MIDTOWNGREENWAY.ORG. CLICK ON “THE COALITION,” THEN “BOARD OF DIRECTORS,” OR CALL 612-879-0105.
Rebecca Harnik, Program Coordinator

The 18-month long Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis study was completed in February, with a recommendation for both rail in the Midtown Greenway and an enhanced bus on Lake Street.

Led by Metro Transit, the study evaluated over 20 criteria, including ridership data, costs and travel times. In addition to the goal of increasing transit ridership in the corridor, the evaluation focused on supporting equity in the corridor, saving costs, strengthening economic development, and building on the vibrancy and diversity of the corridor.

Ridership data for both lines proved very strong: a streetcar on the Greenway and an enhanced bus on Lake would add an estimated 17,400 transit riders to the corridor each day. Currently the travel time from West Lake to Hiawatha on a bus is about 42 minutes for the 4.4 miles; a streetcar in the Greenway could make the trip in an impressive 13 minutes, dramatically improving trip time for local riders. The enhanced bus would travel that stretch in 30 minutes, and continue beyond Hiawatha to the Green Line in St. Paul.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition worked to engage the community throughout the duration of the study. When Metro Transit’s initial drafts of the rail line were infrastructure-intensive, requiring miles of concrete retaining walls and mostly double-track rail, we worked with their designers to develop an alternate plan. The resulting proposal is significantly more “Greenway-friendly,” including turf-embedded (grass) tracks, fewer retaining walls, and more single-track rail sections. The Coalition will be supporting this “green” version going forward.

Additionally, we conducted nearly 400 surveys in English and Spanish, listened to transit feedback from riders at the Chicago Avenue transit hub, and presented to neighborhood associations along the corridor. We then shared our results with the project advisory committees.

The February approval of both rail and enhanced bus was passed unanimously by the Policy Advisory Committee, and will be advanced to the Metropolitan Council for further consideration.

We were pleased with the results of the transit analysis and support both the enhanced bus on Lake Street and a streetcar in the Greenway. However, this is only the first step in a years-long effort to improve transit in the Midtown corridor. In future years, further analyses for the Greenway will address rail vehicle type; single/double track segments; use of turf track; station area design; and bicycle and pedestrian path synergy with the line. As we sustain our advocacy for a Greenway-friendly line, we encourage you to stay engaged in the planning process through our newsletter, e-news, and social media updates. Our Greenway Improvements Committee will also stay focused on the project and is always accepting new volunteers. For information about the committee or the Coalition’s vision for the streetcar in the Greenway, contact Soren at soren@midtowngreenway.org.

To learn more and view project materials about the Alternatives Analysis visit: http://www.metrotransit.org/midtown-corridor
GLOW AND SPARK — continued from page 1

donated from local restaurants and food vendors. They can also earn glow-in-the-dark t-shirts, and win prizes for visiting specific Northern Spark art installations in the Greenway.

The Greenway Glow bike ride will start at the Midtown Bike Center at 9:01 p.m., and conclude at Midnight with a post-ride party. Sponsors of the event include The Ackerberg Group; MoZaic Art Park; Peace Coffee; Freewheel Bike; Penn Cycle & Fitness; and WildEarth Woodfired Mobile Pizza Bakery. To register, visit http://greenwayglow2014.kintera.org or www.midtowngreenway.org.

Northern Spark on the Greenway will feature more than a dozen interactive art installations, plus videos, live music, and more. Participants can pedal the Giant Polar Bear Bike; see Kix Field transformed into a giant work of art; watch performers on stilts with shadow puppets; and much more!

Northern Spark is free to everyone, and will take place in locations throughout Minneapolis, including the Midtown Greenway. The festival starts at 9:01 p.m. and concludes the next morning at 5:26 a.m.

Key locations for Northern Spark on the Greenway include MoZaic Art Park in Uptown; Kix Field near 4th and 5th Avenues in Midtown; the Freewheel Midtown Bike Center; the Northern Spark Coffee Garden on the Greenway, hosted by Peace Coffee at their HQ/Roastery (21st Ave. & 28th Street); and Vine Arts Center in Seward.

For more information about the Greenway Glow and Northern Spark on the Greenway, visit www.midtowngreenway.org.

TAKE THE FIELD — continued from page 1

artistic boundary between present and past.

Located near 5th Avenue on the Greenway, Kix Field will be open all night starting at 9:01 p.m. and ending at 5:26 a.m. the next morning. For more information, visit www.midtowngreenway.org.

Take the Field will be one of the largest projects at the Northern Spark all-night art-festival. Collaborating public space artists Janaki Ranpura and Meena Mangalvedhekar will oversee the project, in partnership with the Midtown Greenway Coalition and Forecast Public Art. Special thanks to Urban Ventures and their Urban Stars Soccer program for their support and the use of Kix Field.

(This project is made possible by the voters of Minnesota, through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation through the arts and cultural heritage fund.)

MIDTOWN GREENWAY COALITION STAFF

Soren Jensen, Executive Director
612-879-0105 • Soren@midtowngreenway.org
Rebecca Harnik, Program Coordinator
612-879-0106 • Rebecca@midtowngreenway.org

SPECIAL THANKS to Midtown Greenway Coalition Winter/Spring Interns:
LINDA INGALDSON and SONIA RANI

See the stilt performance with shadow puppetry and light projections, part of the Greenway Glow and Northern Spark on June 14th. Photo by Munir Kahar.
BIKE CROSSING LIGHT CREATES SAFER GREENWAY CONNECTION

The Midtown Greenway Coalition is always working to create safe trail connections and crossings to the Greenway. Have you seen the new bike crossing light on Park Ave., linking to the Greenway ramp? (The light is very responsive!) We partnered with the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition to address safety issues on Park and Portland, including striped bike lanes and better crossings. We suggested better facilities to help cyclists and pedestrians cross Park Avenue to get to the Greenway. We were pleased to see that the City of Minneapolis concluded that a bike crossing light was the safest alternative. Thanks to the City for their support, and to Hennepin County for the overall improvements for cyclists on Park and Portland.

Your support helps us continue to improve your favorite pathway and the neighborhoods that connect with it. Thank you.

GREENWAY USER PROFILE: WILL W. OF MINNEAPOLIS

What do you use the Greenway for?
I use it to get to Uptown Minneapolis quickly and without a worry. After dealing with a hectic workweek, I love going for nice Saturday afternoon adventures.

What is special about the Greenway?
There is a nice community of riders that enjoy the trail and make it fun to go out and see Minneapolis in a different light. The Greenway separates you from the busy streets and allows for relaxation while still being in the city.

What do you love most about the Greenway?
The easy-to-access trails and smooth pavement create for a calming ride, I also enjoy not having to worry about crazy drivers – weaving your way around traffic is stressful!

Why should people care about protecting the Greenway?
I think it's great that people enjoy bike riding more and more and use it as an alternative to get to the places they're going to. The Greenway provides people with a safe environment in which they can enjoy their hobby or use it as a means of transportation. You can stay healthy too! That's important – not a lot of people get enough exercise, it's a win-win all around!

Will uses the Greenway to get to Uptown safely and quickly.
Thank you
To Our Members, Donors and Volunteers!
(Covering new donations and sustainers for the period from October 15th 2013 to March 6th, 2014; please contact us if we have missed you!) Special thanks to our sustaining members – denoted with a (*)

Grants
Allina Health
The Jay and Rose Phillips Foundation
McKnight Foundation
SUPERVALU Foundation

Business and Organization Members
Greenway Champions ($2,500+)
The Ackerberg Group
Allina Health
Dero Bike Racks
Elan Uptown
Apartments
MoZaic Art Park
New Belgium Brewing
Process Type Foundry
Greenway Leaders ($1,000 - $2,499)
89.3 The Current
Hiawatha Bicycling Organization
Penn Cycle & Fitness
QBP (Quality Bicycle Products) / CIVIA Cycles
Greenway Supporters ($500 - $999)
Albert’s Organics
East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO)
HDR
Seward Co-op
Smyth Companies
SRF Consulting Group
The UPS Store – Uptown
Greenway Donors ($250 - $499)
Bryant Lake Bowl
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group (CARAG)

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Mary Arnesson and Dale Hammerschmidt
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Royce Pavelka
Nic Puzak
Greenway Guardian ($500 - $1000)
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Jeffrey Hillgoss
Karen Margolis and Robert Simonds
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Richard and Florence Vogt
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Chip Wellington and Bar Thomann
Mark and Cathy Weina
Amy and James Woodworth
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Dale and Judith Simonson
Sandy Spieler
Tim Springer
Ted and Nancy Springer
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Liz Sweeney
William Turek
Greenway Friend
($25 - $49)
Anne Ackerman and Kris Miller
Paul and Whitney Andre
Cindy Angerhofer
Matt Beckman
Piotr and Laura Bednariski
Ann Bernstein
Carl Besser
Michael & Susan Blehert
Pat Ciernia and Beth Hynes-Ciernia
Ann Cohen and John Glasenapp
Anne Crampton and Henry Sinkler
Ann Delgehausen
Howard Epstein
Ilana & Mike Favero
Paula Fox
Liz and Robert Genovese
Betty Grant
Kim Havey
Matthew and Shelly Hendricks
Paul Hogrefe & James Sauder
Marjorie Huebner
Jane Johnston
Curtis Klitz
Dave and Carmela Kranz
Paula Kyllo
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DeWayne Townsend
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Kathleen Sullivan and Mark Ambro
Jonathan Vick
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ADOPT-A-GREENWAY
Albert's Organics
American Swedish Institute
The Bakken Museum
Birchwood Cafe
Breck School
Bryant Lake Bowl
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group (CARAG)
Chicago Lofts Homeowners Association
Children's Hospitals and Clinics of MN
Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA)
Commuter Connection
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Dero Bike Rack Co
Elan Uptown
Apartments
Erik's Bike Shop
First Unitarian Society Green Team
HCMC - Whittier Clinic
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Angry Catfish
The Art Shoppe
Balance Fitness Studio
Barbette
Bikram's Yoga
Birdsong Soups
Birchwood Cafe
Bread and Pickle
Bryant Lake Bowl
Common Roots Cafe
CorAzON
Dero
Do It Green! MN
Freewheel Bike Shop
Galactic Pizza
Gigi's Cafe
Harmony Cycles
Holy Land Restaurant and Deli
Kitchen in the Market
Krav Maga
Minneapolis Midtown Hotel
Midtown Hotel
Pizza Luce
The Sheraton Midtown Hotel

Top Three Riders of 2013:
Dave Evans: 65 Rides
Kathy Koch: 60 Rides
Julian Ward: 43 Rides

A sincere THANK YOU to all Trail Watch leaders, co-leaders, and riders! If you are interested, please contact Rebecca@midtowngreenway.org.

TRAIL WATCH SPONSORS
Bryant Lake Bowl
Freewheel Bike
Galactic Pizza
Green Mill Uptown
Pizza Luce
The Sheraton Midtown Hotel

Thank you:

Dave Evans
Kathy Koch
Andrew Paule
Rick Stafford
Neal Axton
Eric Golder
Jim Holm
Paul Holt
Gabriel Hoffman

TRAIL WATCH LEADERS
(OCTOBER 15 – MARCH 6)

Julian Ward: 43 Rides
Kathy Koch: 60 Rides
Dave Evans: 65 Rides

THANK YOU!
MINNESAPOLIS BIKE WEEK
May 4th–11th in locations around Minneapolis. Visit mplsbike.org for more details.

GREENWAY GLOW AND NORTHERN SPARK
June 14th 2014, 9:01PM–5:29AM
Northern Spark is FREE
GREENWAY GLOW RIDE (registration required)
Starts at Midtown Bike Center at 10th Ave

TWIN CITIES TOUR DE FAT
July 26th 2014, Loring Park

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Fourth Thursdays* 6 PM–8 PM
May 22nd, June 26th, July 24th, August 28th

GREENWAY IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
Second Thursdays, 6 PM - 8 PM
May 8th, June 12th, July 10th, August 14th

ARTSPACE COMMITTEE
Third Wednesdays, 5 PM
May 21st, June 18th, July 16th, August 20th

CRIME PREVENTION TASK FORCE
Second Mondays, 6 PM – 8 PM
May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, August 11th

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