GREENWAY COALITION PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

By Michael Nelson, Board President

For the past few months, the Midtown Greenway Coalition has been completing our strategic planning to chart out where the group would like to go in the next few years. Our primary focus will be the development of a plan for the corridor.

We realized we are best suited to study how transit will fit into the Midtown Greenway, while maintaining the natural environment, the green of the Greenway, and keeping the trails fully intact and open from the lakes to the river. We will be reaching out to our Greenway neighborhoods so that when rail transit finally comes to the corridor, we will all be able to speak with a clear voice. We envision a web-based 3D model which will help all communities better understand what an even greater Greenway could be.

While we develop the plan, we will be engaging communities to advocate for and implement parts of the new plan such as access ramps at Pillsbury and Bloomington Avenues, and the creation of green fingers which would connect neighborhood parks to the Greenway. Everyone is welcome to help us continue to plan for an even greater Greenway.

As we move in this new and expanding direction, we will be hiring a new Executive Director in the next couple months. Make plans to attend our annual meeting on May 26 at 6:00 p.m. at Balance Fitness Studios (2902 Garfield Avenue) when everyone can thank Tim Springer for his 18 years of excellent work and welcome the new director. Thank you to everyone who is helping create a great Greenway!

Translation by Acentos, Inc.
UPCOMING EVENTS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Spring is on its way, and with it comes some great opportunities to help out your Midtown Greenway and have a good time!

Celebrate Arbor Day
Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. to noon

The Midtown Community Works 11th Annual Arbor Day Event will bring volunteers together to celebrate by planting trees and shrubs under the Sabo Bridge over Hiawatha, completing a multi-year planting effort in this area. Snacks, coffee, water and shovels will be provided. Don’t forget your gloves!

Please ride your bike if you can! Automobile parking will be available at Allweather Roof at 2101 East 26th Street.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Theresa Nelson, 612-879-0103, Theresa@midtowngreenway.org.

THANKS TO OUR 2011 ARBOR DAY FUNDERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:
Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority, Hennepin County, MnDOT, Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Phillips Eye Institute, Allina Hospitals and Clinics, Target Corporation, Wells Fargo, Tree Trust, City of Minneapolis, Allweather Roof and Peace Coffee.

TRAIL WATCH cruised steadily through the winter with after-dark patrols of the Greenway and the Hiawatha LRT Trail. The summer ride hours begin April 1st. These are fun rides with great people. Email trailwatch@midtowngreenway.org for more information.

THANK YOU TO OUR TRAIL WATCH VOLUNTEERS (12/2010 – 3/2011)

VOLUNTEERED FOR 1-3 RIDES:
Andres Altamirano
Mark Evans
Ted Fabel
Lauren Fulner
Laura Silver
Satya Varghese Mac
Mary Alivia Bryan
Paul Casperson
Gabriel Hoffman
Kathy Holm

Aimee Jefferson
Laura Kling
Kathleen Sullivan
Patrick Williamson
Brendan Abrams
Mark Ambroe
Benjamin Cherland
Hakan
Kathy Koch

VOLUNTEERED FOR 4-7 RIDES:
Ted Duepner
Benjamin Erickson
Becky Monnens
Chad Wilkins

Scott Campbell
Amy Cusick
Jim Holm
Rick Stafford

TRAIL WATCH SPONSORS:
Bikes and Pieces, Bryant–Lake Bowl, Common Roots Café, Freewheel Bike, Gallactic Pizza, New Belgium Brewing, Old Chicago Pizza, Pizza Luce, Bedlam Theatre, Peacock Groove, Wells Fargo.

See more upcoming events on p.3
Everyone loves the Midtown Greenway! In a few short years the Greenway has become the backbone of self-propelled transport in Minneapolis. You walk it, run it, blade it, bike it. Now, help support it!

The Greenway Challenge is a bike-a-thon designed for cyclists of all abilities. Raise a minimum of $250 in pledges from friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. All funds raised go directly to keeping your Greenway safe and beautiful.

Fantastic prizes await the top individual and team fundraisers, including a biking weekend in scenic Lanesboro, Minnesota (including 2 nights at a B&B or vacation home, dinner and Commonweal Theater tickets).

You can ride individually or register as a team of 4. Teams will ride together as a group and get special recognition for their team logo/name on the Midtown Greenway Coalition’s website. All riders, whether riding individually or on a team, will need to register in advance and raise at least $250 in pledges to participate.

REGISTER by going to midtowngreenway.org or to volunteer, contact Theresa at theresa@midtowngreenway.org. Early bird registration by August 15 is $20/rider; $25 after.

SHOP THE SEWARD CO-OP IN MAY AND “ROUND UP” FOR THE GREENWAY

During the month of May when you shop at the Seward Co-op, you’ll be asked if you want to round up and contribute to the Midtown Greenway Coalition. For example, when paying $23.00 for a $22.50 purchase, the 50 cent difference will go to the Midtown Greenway Coalition. We are one of the first recipients of the co-op’s new ongoing donation program, SEED. You can also specify an amount that cashier's will add to your purchase total. Thanks Seward Co-op, and thanks to all the Greenway lovers who will shop and round up.
LA COALICIÓN GREENWAY HACE PLANES PARA EL FUTURO

de acceso en las avenidas Pillsbury y Bloomington, y la creación
de “rayos verdes” que conectará a los parques de los vecindarios con el Greenway. Invitamos a todos a ayudarnos a continuar el plan para lograr un mejor Greenway.

A medida que nos orientamos en esta dirección nueva y expansiva, contrataremos a un nuevo Director Ejecutivo en los próximos dos meses. Hagan planes ya para asistir a la Reunión anual a realizarse el 26 de mayo a las 6:00 de la tarde en Balance Fitness Studios (2902 Garfield Avenue) en la cual podremos agradecer a Tim Springer por su 18 años de excelente trabajo, y dar la bienvenida al nuevo director. ¡Gracias a todos los que están ayudando a crear un excelente Greenway!

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

MISIÓN
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!
( Please call if we have missed you!)

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS
(Begun or continuing 12/31/10 - 3/31/11)
McKnight Foundation
The Minneapolis Foundation
Surdna Foundation
Welch Foundation

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Doorn
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Augsburg College
Freewheel, Bike
Futon Beer
Harriet Brewing
New Belgium Brewing
For additional in-kind donors specific to Trail Watch, see article on p. 5.
and for The Greenway Challenge, see p. 3)

ADOPT A GREENWAY
Albert’s Organics
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Anderson Elementary

biota - A Landscape Design
and Build Firm
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Bryant Lake Bowl
CARAG
Carbon Creative
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Bike Rack
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Lake Country School
Midwest Lock and Safe
Miller Hanson Partners
Mrs. Meyers Clean Day
North Prairie Tileworks
Northstar Rollergirls
Old Arizona
Peace Coffee
Penny Cycle and Fitness
Philips Garden
Rotary Clubs of
Minneapolis and
Uptown
Salen and Lyndale
Churches
Seward Co-op Grocery
& Deli
Sheraton Midtown Hotel
Smiley’s Clinic
Smith Foundry
Spirit of the Lakes
St Mary’s University
Suryi Brewing Company
The Murals of LynLake
The New Congregation
The Wedge Coop
Touchstone
Transition Plus
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Neighborhood
Council
Whitter Alliance
Whole Foods Market

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 Greenway Corridor, and four at-large seats. (Contact us to learn more about available seats.)

Holly Buchanan
Glen Christianson
John DeWitt
Amanda Doulo
Seth Doorn

CARAG
EAST CALHOUN
PROSPECT PARK
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AT LARGE

(VICE-PRESIDENTinel)
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TREASURER AT-LARGE

For a list of board members’ roles and responsibilities, visit www.midtowngreenway.org. Click on “the Coalition,” then “Board of Directors,” or call 612-879-0103

Tim Springer, Executive Director
612-879-0105 • tim@midtowngreenway.org

Theresa Nelson, Programs Manager
612-879-0103 • theresa@midtowngreenway.org

Ben Cherland, Lutheran Vol. Corps Comm. Organizer
612-879-0106 • ben@midtowngreenway.org

2834 10TH AVENUE SOUTH, GREENWAY LEVEL, SUITE 2, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55407 • WWW.MIDTOWNGREENWAY.ORG • FAX: 612-879-0104
The Midtown Greenway rocks. I love to be on the Greenway when it’s full of commuters, joggers, and joy-riders of all stripes. I feel very fortunate to have been on the team that made it happen. Thank you to the collective Midtown Greenway Coalition community for giving me that opportunity.

This job has been extremely rewarding, but also extremely demanding. I decided to move on so that I could slow my pace, smell more roses, and try my hand at some new things. Many people have asked me what’s next. Two possibilities that excite me are rehabbing old buildings and bicycle transportation consulting.

This change will be great for me as well as the Midtown Greenway Coalition. By me stepping aside, the Coalition can more easily empower a broader set of leaders with more ideas in ways that provide greater organizational depth and sustainability. This is timely as the Coalition launches a new board-defined initiative. Chapter One of the Coalition’s history was about getting the trails built and well-used by all. Chapter Two will be about engaging communities to guide the way rail transit fits alongside the trails, the way Minneapolis grows up along the Greenway’s edges, and the pursuit of vibrant outdoor spaces within and connecting to the Greenway. A successful Chapter Two is essential concerning the Greenway’s long-term safety, functionality, and aesthetics.

Speaking of shared responsibility, to the thousands of people who have helped the Coalition over the years, thank you! The continuing success of the Midtown Greenway depends to a large extent on the continuing success of the Midtown Greenway Coalition, and this success depends on you maintaining your support and working relationships with the Coalition. Based on past behavior, I know you are all up for it. See you out on the Greenway.

WHAT’S HAPPENING at the Freewheel Midtown Bike Center

By Mario Macaruso

It has been a great 2011 here at Freewheel Midtown Bike Center. Trail traffic has been steadily increasing even with the big snowstorms this season. We would like to give a large thank you to the city of Minneapolis who has done a great job clearing the trail and making sure graffiti is taken care of even in sub-zero weather. The increasing angle of the sun, has fueled our excitement for the warm weather.

We have added new faces to our line-up at Midtown Bike Center. We are a dedicated and passionate staff. We have added Fresh Baked Cookies and a Gourmet Soup menu in the Café, stop by and try some delicious goodness, you should reward your self-propelled identity.

PARTICIPATE IN HISTORIC TRANSITION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AT ANNUAL MEETING

- Thursday, May 26th, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- At Balance Fitness Studio, 2902 Garfield Ave. S.

Join us for this annual celebration that is open to the public. There will be board elections, delicious food, time to mingle, and a program to formally say farewell to Tim Springer and welcome our new executive director.

About our event sponsors:

**Fabulous Catering** will donate a very tasty buffet. Fabulous Catering specializes in offering the most beautiful and stunning food experience possible for its clients, with emphasis on custom menus; quality, professional service; and the freshest available ingredients.

**Balance Fitness Studio**, the donor of our meeting location, provides personal fitness training in a beautifully-designed facility by trainers with advanced degrees, diverse specialties, and established careers.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS
See events on pages 2-3.

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

CALENDR OF EVENTS
ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, May 26, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., see page 5
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Fourth Thursdays, April 28, and June 23, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Third Thursdays, April 21, May 19 and June 16, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
GREENWAY IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
Second Thursdays, April 14, May 12 and June 9, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
GREENWAY CHALLENGE PLANNING MEETING
First Thursdays, April 7, May 5 and June 2, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
ARBOR DAY
Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. to noon, see page 2

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