



## Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins

Issue Four

## In Touch With District 2

### Target Field Station to open May 17



#### Grand Opening

Saturday, May 17, 435 5th St N  
Come at 1 pm and stay through a Twins win!

*Overview of festivities*

1 to 5:30 p.m. Music and activities

3 p.m. Ribbon cutting and program

6:10 p.m. Twins vs. Mariners game

Food and beverages available for purchase.



**What to see:** In addition to light rail transit, there will be a public plaza connecting to the ballpark promenade, a “Great Lawn” amphitheater, a 289-stall parking ramp, retail space and a landscaped area suitable for additional development.

Eventually, Target Field Station will connect approximately 500 trains arriving and departing daily via the METRO Blue Line (Hiawatha), the METRO Green Line (Central Corridor) and the Northstar Commuter Rail. The METRO

Green Line (Southwest) and Blue Line (Bottineau) extensions will bring additional rail service and connections to the region.

Tens of thousands of rail and bus commuters passing through the area each day will have access to existing amenities such as the ballpark, the Minneapolis Farmers’ Market, abundant entertainment, and other amenities that will be realized as the area is redeveloped. Find details on [www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us).



**Save the dates:** The Hennepin County Sheriff’s office will be hosting two events, both open to the public. The Hennepin County Law Enforcement Memorial is Thursday, May 15 at noon, Hennepin County Government Center (300 S. 6th St., Minneapolis). Then visit the Sheriff’s Open House, Friday, May 16, 10 am to 3 pm (rain or shine) at 9401 83rd Ave N, Brooklyn Park. You can also bring your unwanted medicine to this event for proper disposal. Free gun locks provided while supplies last.

#### To Contact Our Office

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Minneapolis, MN 55487

[Map It!](#)

#### Did You Know?

You can subscribe to many online services on the county website: Click [here](#) and see what information is interesting or useful to you.

Enter your email or cell phone number and then select which items interest you, such as tax-forfeited real estate auctions, public health updates, even property tax due date reminders.

Reminder: First half property taxes are due on May 15, 2014. For more information visit: [hennepin.us/PropertyTaxPayments](http://hennepin.us/PropertyTaxPayments). You can also subscribe to a reminder [here](#).

## Joint Public Hearing on the Green Line Extension

**What:** A joint public hearing between the Metropolitan Council and the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority on the physical design component of the preliminary design plans of the Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (Green Line Extension) as part of the municipal consent process set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 473.3994.

**When:** 6 p.m., Thursday, May 29, 2014. An open house will be held at 5 p.m. on the Public Service Level of the Hennepin County Government Center before the public hearing at 6 p.m.

**Where:** Board Room, 24th floor of the Government Center - 300 S. 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN  
Written comments may be submitted to Southwest LRT Project Office 6465 Wayzata Boulevard, Suite 500 St. Louis Park, MN 55426 Attn: Daren Nyquist  
TTY: 651-291-0904

E-mail comments to [swlrt@metrotransit.org](mailto:swlrt@metrotransit.org)

Fax comments to 612-373-3899



## Green Line Municipal Consent Hearings

The cities of Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minneapolis, Minnetonka and St. Louis Park will hold separate public hearings in May and June 2014, before the city councils vote on the plans.

Additional information on these hearings will be posted at [metrotransit.org](http://metrotransit.org) as they are scheduled. The hearings will be preceded by open houses, when members of the Southwest LRT Project staff will be available to answer questions.

These hearings will deal only with the content of the municipal consent plans. Future decisions regarding issues such as station design and streetscape will be the focus of later meetings.

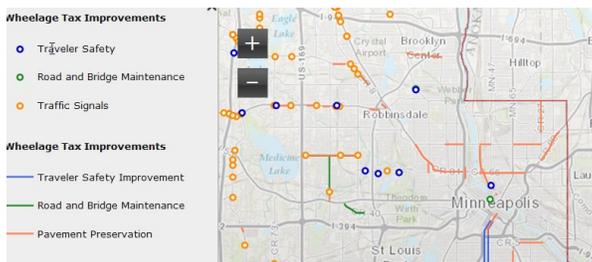
## Reminder: Bottineau DEIS Public hearings in May

### Wednesday, May 7

Golden Valley City Hall  
7800 Golden Valley Road  
Golden Valley, MN 55427  
6 to 7 p.m. public open house  
7 p.m. formal public hearing

### Thursday, May 8

Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC)  
2001 Plymouth Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55411  
4:30 to 5:30 p.m. public open house  
5:30 p.m. formal public hearing  
Other dates and full information is at [bottineautransitway.org](http://bottineautransitway.org)



## Interactive tool shows where wheelage tax is being used

Road improvement projects including pavement preservation, traveler safety, traffic signals, and road and bridge maintenance are projects are funded by the county wheelage tax. For an interactive map, visit [hennepin.us/residents/transportation/road-improvements-wheelage-tax](http://hennepin.us/residents/transportation/road-improvements-wheelage-tax) or call 612-596-0299. All schedules are estimates and are subject to change because of unanticipated delays like weather or utility conflicts.

## GIS data sets now available



Hennepin County has made GIS (geographic information systems) data sets openly accessible to the public.

The first nine data sets are available at [hennepin.us/gisopendata](http://hennepin.us/gisopendata).

They include:

- taxable parcels
- address points
- the county boundary
- street centerlines
- street aliases
- aerial imagery
- municipal boundaries
- commissioner district boundaries
- topographic contours

## Celebrating foster families during National Foster Care Awareness Month

On any given night, more than 600 children and teens will sleep in a warm, clean bed provided by a Hennepin County-licensed foster family.

To mark National Foster Care Awareness Month, Hennepin County recognizes and thanks the 350 families who have opened their homes and hearts to children who need them.

“Foster families help create a foundation for families in crisis to rebuild on,” said Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins. “heir love and commitment makes Hennepin County a better place for families and for children.”

And the need continues.

Foster care is a temporary solution, a safe, caring environment for kids while their parents work on the issues that have gotten in the way of parenting their children, including mental and chemical health problems and domestic abuse. Most children in foster care go home, once their families have learned new skills and have connected with a spectrum of community resources to support them.

Foster parents face a big challenge. Kids they have never met arrive at their doors in pain. They need healing, affection, stability and healthy boundaries. But just like any kids, they also need help with their homework. They need regular meals, a safe place to play, a listening ear, someone who cares about them. Above all, they need a chance to just be kids. Foster families love and nurture the children, and then they send them home.



Foster families say that watching children thrive makes the emotional investment worthwhile. They are touching families in a positive way, and making a big difference in their communities.

For information about becoming a licensed foster parent in Hennepin County, attend a monthly information meeting. The next one is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, at 6 p.m., at Hosmer Library, 347 E. 36th St., Minneapolis. For future sessions, visit [hennepin.us/fostercare](http://hennepin.us/fostercare).

## Bike plan open houses hosted by Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District

Hennepin County and Three Rivers Park District are working together to update a county-wide bicycle plan that reflects current and growing use of cycling in the region. The organizations have been working since June 2013 to gather input from the community, cities and other stakeholders to add to the draft plan.



The public is welcome to attend two open houses during bike week to learn more about the status of the current plan, help set the priorities for project implementation and the location of the enhanced network, and find out what trends were identified from the last fall's community input. Join county and park district staff from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 7 at Minnetonka Community Center** (at City Hall) or county and City of Minneapolis staff on **Thursday, May 8 at Minneapolis Central Library** (Doty Board Room). For more information visit [hennepin.us/bikeplan](http://hennepin.us/bikeplan).

## Work for Hennepin County

Our website shows 26 positions currently available at Hennepin County. Positions include contract services analyst, land acquisition assistant, service center representative, vocational counselor, IT positions and more! If you're looking for a job or know someone who is looking, please check out this resource. Click [here](#) to see the list. The Library also has help at [www.hclib.org/pub/search/SubjectGuides.cfm?Topic=Jobs/Careers](http://www.hclib.org/pub/search/SubjectGuides.cfm?Topic=Jobs/Careers) Hennepin County is a great place to work!

## Job assistance is as close as your computer

Job seeking assistance is available as close as your computer from the Hennepin County Library.

Many tools are available at [hclib.org/pub/search/subjectguides.cfm?topic=jobs/careers](http://hclib.org/pub/search/subjectguides.cfm?topic=jobs/careers).

For online resume and interview coaching and career advice from job help professionals, visit [hclib.org/pub/search/RefDetails.cfm?DBAbbrev=JobNow&Topic=databases&Display=&SubTopics\\_Display=](http://hclib.org/pub/search/RefDetails.cfm?DBAbbrev=JobNow&Topic=databases&Display=&SubTopics_Display=).

A tool to create and save resumes and cover letters (including tools to help you prepare for a job search) is available at [http://www.hclib.org/pub/search/RefDetails.cfm?DBAbbrev=OptimalResume&Topic=databases&Display=&SubTopics\\_Display=](http://www.hclib.org/pub/search/RefDetails.cfm?DBAbbrev=OptimalResume&Topic=databases&Display=&SubTopics_Display=) (note: Subscription purchased with funding from Hennepin).

## Fill Up Your Calendar With These Upcoming Events in District 2

**St. Anthony:** *Saturday, May 10, 10am-2pm.* Friends of the St. Anthony Village Library will hold a book sale. St. Anthony Library, 2941 Pentagon Dr. NE, in the St. Anthony Village Shops. [hclib.org](http://hclib.org).

**Northeast:** *Saturday, May 17, 9am-4pm.* Friends of the Library will hold a sale of hundreds of adult and children's fiction and nonfiction books in hardcover and paperback. NE Library, 2200 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis. [hclib.org](http://hclib.org).

*May 16-18.* Art-A-Whirl. The largest open studio tour in the country. It's a great opportunity to tour private artist studios and galleries, connect with the artists, and purchase original artwork. Visit [nema.org](http://nema.org) for more information.

*May 30-31, noon to 4 pm.* Johnstock 2014. A fun day of artists, crafters, family events, music and more with the merchants and neighbors at 28th and Johnson St. NE. Visit [audubonneighborhood.org](http://audubonneighborhood.org) for more information.

*Saturday, May 10, 1-3pm.* Open House at Northeast Library. Join Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins and staff for a celebration and open house at the Northeast Library, 2200 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis.

**North:** *Saturday, May 10, 9:30-11am.* New Webber Park Library meeting. Help plan the new library. Folwell Recreation Center, 1615 Dowling Ave N, Minneapolis.

*Wednesday, May 14, 9am.* Arbor Day at Webber Park. Help plant, water and mulch more than 100 trees at Minneapolis Park Board's Arbor Day Celebration. Webber Park, 4400 Dupont Ave. N. For event information, email [ppotyondy@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:ppotyondy@minneapolisparcs.org). For volunteer information, email Sherry Brooks at [sbrooks@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:sbrooks@minneapolisparcs.org).

*Thursday, May 22, 7pm.* Honor veterans and celebrate the historic nature of Victory Memorial Drive with a concert at Victory Memorial Flag Pole, Victory Memorial Drive and Xerxes Ave. N., Minneapolis.

*Saturday, May 10, 8am.* Run Camden 5K. The Run Camden 5K is an event to support Webber-Camden Neighborhood Organization programming. Visit [site.folwell.org](http://site.folwell.org) for registration information.

*Saturday, May 31, 10am-4pm.* Open Streets, West Broadway to 42nd Ave. N along Girard/Humboldt. Bike, walk, push the stroller. Enjoy a street without cars! It will also be a chance for residents to give input on the proposed North Minneapolis Greenway. Those interested in joining the planning process or volunteering for the event should email

[OpenStreets@mplsbike.org](mailto:OpenStreets@mplsbike.org). Visit [openstreetsmpls.com](http://openstreetsmpls.com) for more information.

*Saturday, May 31, 9am-4pm.* The long-anticipated Victory Garage Sales! Flea Market at Loring School too!

**Bryn Mawr:** *Wednesday, May 14, 6-7:30pm.* Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting, Bryn Mawr Elementary School, 252 Upton Ave. S.

*Sunday, May 18, 10am-noon.* Bryn Mawr Garden Group. The Bryn Mawr Garden Group orchestrates ongoing greening efforts in the neighborhood. Visit <http://www.bmna.org> for more information.

**North Loop:** *Monday, May 12, 11am-1pm.* MPD 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Open House. Inspector Rondo and the entire MPD First Precinct staff cordially invite you to the 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Open House, 19 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Minneapolis.

**Golden Valley:** *Wednesday, May 7, 6-8 am.* 2014 Bike Rodeo. Bring your bicycle for a free safety check and take a riding skills test. Golden Valley City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Road.

**Medicine Lake:** *Thursday, May 8, 6:30pm.* Plymouth Lions Dinner Meeting, Medicine Lake City Hall. Speaker to be announced. Visit [plymouthlions.org](http://plymouthlions.org) for more information.

**Plymouth:** *Tuesday, May 20, 6:30-7:30pm* "Home Alone" workshop for children ages 8-10, teaching how to respond in the event of an emergency while they're home alone, hosted by the Plymouth Fire Department. Plymouth Public Safety Building, second-floor training room, 3400 Plymouth Blvd. \$5 per child. Early registration is encouraged at 763-509-5200.

### Multiple Communities:

You're invited to celebrate a new community connection at the Target Field Grand Opening. This event takes place on Saturday, May 17 at 1pm. Visit [static.squarespace.com/static/](http://static.squarespace.com/static/)

The Minneapolis Farmers Market is now open. Visit [mplsfarmersmarket.com/FreshNews/](http://mplsfarmersmarket.com/FreshNews/) for more information.

The West Broadway Farmers Market is accepting applications from all types of vendors: fruit, and vegetables, prepared foods, arts and crafts, meat, dairy and more. Stop by the WBC office at 1011 West Broadway for a paper copy or download from [westbroadway.org](http://westbroadway.org). Contact [DeVon@westbroadway.org](mailto:DeVon@westbroadway.org) or 612-353-5178 with questions.

*If you have events you would like to promote in our newsletter, drop an email to [tina.sanz@hennepin.us](mailto:tina.sanz@hennepin.us).*