

# 1<sup>st</sup> Ward News

Council Member **Kevin Reich**

Audubon Park ~ Columbia Park ~ Como ~ Holland ~ Logan Park  
Marshall Terrace ~ Mid-City Industrial ~ Northeast Park ~ Waite Park ~ Windom Park



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## NEIGHBORHOODS

- [Audubon Park](#)
- [Columbia Park](#)
- [Como](#)
- [Holland](#)
- [Logan Park](#)
- [Marshall Terrace](#)
- [Mid-City Industrial](#)
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## Ward One 2015 Highlights



### Highlight Center Opens

The former Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) headquarters building at 807 Broadway Street NE re-opened as the Highlight Center in 2015. When MPS decided to move their headquarters to a new location, they and the City of Minneapolis undertook a careful selection process with significant input from the Logan Park community's 807 Broadway Task Force.

After being selected to develop the property, Hillcrest Development purchased the former MPS headquarters in 2014 and began the process of rehabilitating the 100-year-old building into a multitenant office space. The building's new name references its origins as a lightbulb factory in the early 20th century. The Highlight Center has attracted a number of unique and creative occupants, including the newly opened Able Seedhouse Brewery.

## Council Member's Message

2015 was an eventful year for the City of Minneapolis on a number of fronts and I am pleased that some of the initiatives and improvements launched over the course of the past year will have positive impacts on our community and our environment far into the the future:

- **Organics recycling** was launched in August of 2015 and will be expanded citywide in 2016. This initiative, combined with the one sort recycling that was rolled out 2012/13, represents a significant step in moving closer to the City's Zero Waste goals.
- The [Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership Board](#), of which I am a member, completed its first year of work toward helping Minneapolis achieve its clean energy goals.
- In September the Council approved the **Percent-for-Art Ordinance** that I authored with CM Glidden to dedicate 1.5% of City-issued net debt bonds annually to public art funding. This ordinance will ensure



stable and predictable funding for public art and reinforces our commitment to the creative vitality artists generate in the First Ward and our City as a whole. Click [HERE](#) to read more about the ordinance.

- The City's Regulatory Services department rolled out a tiered rental license system that is designed to align costs and inspections to bring more resources to bear on problem rental properties.

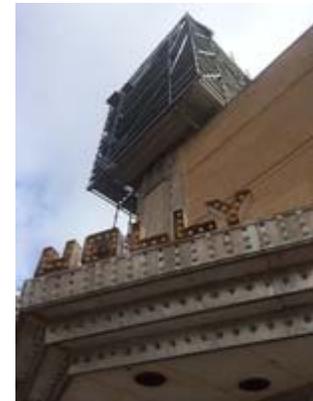
2015 was an especially productive year for the First Ward. Many items that have been top priorities for me and for our community came to fruition in a big way, including the sale of the Hollywood Theater and the return of a ladder truck to Station 15. Read about some of the highlights below; we have much to celebrate!

### Rail Safety Resolution

CM Reich brought forward a City of Minneapolis resolution urging legislation at the State and Federal level to enhance rail safety. This resolution was preceded by a First Ward Rail Safety Forum in June that featured panelists from BNFS and Canadian Pacific, as well as Rep. Ellison, Sen. Dziedzic, Rep. Hornstein and Fire Chief Fruetel. The concerns expressed at that forum by Ward One residents and the research and input of the Minnesota chapter of Citizens Acting for Rail Safety (CARS) were key elements in developing the Rail Safety Resolution. Click [HERE](#) for the full text of the resolution.

### Hollywood Theater Renovation

Local developer Andrew Volna closed on the purchase of the long-vacant theater from the City of Minneapolis and is continuing the work of restoring the building's historic elements and converting it into creative office space. Click [HERE](#) to read more about the Hollywood's ongoing revitalization.



### Northeast Minneapolis Arts District #1 in the Nation

USA Today named the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District #1 in the Nation in 2015. We've always known it was true but it's nice to have it called out! Click [HERE](#) to read more about the Arts Districts that were competing against us.



### Station 15 Ladder & Engine Trucks

For the first time in Station 15's history, it now has two brand-new trucks: a Ladder truck and an Engine truck. The new Ladder truck, which arrived last January, was especially welcome because Northeast Minneapolis had't had a ladder truck since 2003. The acquisition of this new equipment, which has been one of CM Reich's top priorities, represents a significant investment in public safety in the First Ward and Chief Fruetel commented that having a ladder truck in Northeast would positively impact response times. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Station 15's resources and the

community event to celebrate the arrival of the Engine Truck.

### New Development on Central Avenue



Central Avenue continued to display a flurry of development and revitalization in 2015. [Neighborhood HealthSource's](#) new clinic opened at 22nd and Central, while a new Walgreens store rose on the vacated corner of 26th and Central. Meanwhile, across the street [Eastside Food Co-op](#) launched a multi-million dollar expansion of their store that will significantly increase their offerings and amenities. The City of Minneapolis contributed \$450,000 to the project in a Great Streets Gap Financing Loan. Click [HERE](#) to read more about the expansion timeline.

### MWMO's Stormwater Park & Learning Center

The [Mississippi Watershed Management Organization's](#) headquarters on the banks of the river opened Stormwater Park last fall. This unique green space welcomes the public to view state-of-the-art stormwater recapture and reuse infrastructure in action. MWMO remediated significant amounts of industrial contamination to create a sustainable landscape and an accessible pathway to the river. They have also transformed the first floor of their headquarters into a public Learning Center that features a variety of educational and interpretive elements, including a Magic Planet digital globe, interactive touch-screens and water-themed art.

### Edison Athletic Field

Thanks to an innovative partnership between Minneapolis Public Schools, the City of Minneapolis, Edison Community & Sports Foundation, the Minnesota Vikings, the NFL/LISC Grassroots Program and the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, Edison High School's Pete Guzy Field received a sustainable redesign in 2015. The renovation incorporated cutting-edge infrastructure to manage stormwater onsite, as part of the larger Green Campus initiative launched in 2010. Read more about the field's sustainable technology [HERE](#).



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## Organics Recycling Goes Citywide



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.

The City already has more than 19,000 organics carts to deliver for the next phase of organics recycling and will put together a residential delivery list this winter. To get on that list, residents must sign up by Feb. 1. 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.)



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

Organics recycling includes:

- All food scraps including fruits, vegetables, bones, meat, breads, pasta, nut shells, eggshells and dairy products.
- Non-recyclable and food-soiled paper products including paper towels, napkins, facial tissues, waxed paper, egg cartons and pizza boxes.
- Certified compostable paper cups, plates, bowls, utensils, bags and takeout containers.
- Other compostable items including coffee grounds; tea bags; wood chopsticks, Popsicle sticks and toothpicks; hair; and houseplant trimmings.

Do not include: yard waste, pet waste litter or bedding, milk cartons, ice cream tubs, Chinese food containers, dryer lint, dryer sheets, diapers and sanitary products, cleaning and baby wipes, grease, oil, Styrofoam, foil-lined products, non-certified compostable bags and food service items, or products labeled "biodegradable."

Find more information at [www.minneapolismn.gov/organics](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/organics).