GREENWAY GLOW WILL SPARKLE, TOUR DE FAT TO SHINE

Two of the Midtown Greenway Coalition’s largest special events will return this summer. The Greenway Glow will be held on Saturday, July 29th, while the Tour de Fat will be on Saturday, August 19th, at The Cabooze.

The Greenway Glow is the Coalition’s largest fundraising event. It consists of three events in one night, all on the Midtown Greenway between 7 p.m. and Midnight:

GREENWAY GLOW COMMUNITY ARTS FESTIVAL
Walk or bike to more than two-dozen art installations and live performances by local artists. Plus, don’t miss the Slow Roll bike ride at 8 p.m., led by Slow Roll Minneapolis and sponsored by KMOJ 89.9 FM Radio. KMOJ will be broadcasting live at the event.

The arts festival is free, though donations are appreciated. Everyone is welcome. Dress yourself and your bike up with lights and join the glowing fun!

5K RUN AND 10-MILE BIKE RIDE
Raise funds for the Greenway and get the VIP treatment at the Greenway Glow. Registered Glow-Run and Glow-Ride participants get free Taco Cat tacos; beer or kombucha from Eastlake Brewery; ice cream from the Cafe at Freewheel Bike; protein & electrolyte snacks from Juiced Nutrition; plus glow lights and more!

If you register by July 13th, the fee is just $35 ($45 after). Participants also agree to raise at least $15 more in donations for the Greenway. (Or just donate the additional $15 themselves.) Midtown Greenway Coalition members get an additional $10 off the registration fee.

Special thanks to major Glow sponsors, including Allina Health, The Ackerberg Group, MoZaic Art Park, Faegre Baker Daniels, Elan Uptown Apartments, and Surly Bikes.

For a link to the Greenway Glow registration website and more information, visit www.midtowngreenway.org.

TOUR DE FAT RETURNS
The Tour de Fat makes its triumphant return to Minneapolis this summer at The Cabooze on August 19th. We’re bringing the party with Grammy-nominated recording artists The Record Company, and the Tour de Fat ensemble cast of performers. A “battle of the bands” will also choose a local band to play a set at the festival.

As always, the Tour de Fat will feature a mix of musicians, circus performers, and more. More than two-dozen local artists are expected to showcase their talents at the Greenway Glow Arts Festival on July 29th, which also includes a 5K Run and 10-Mile Bike Ride. Photo by Charles Lyon.
After a rather rainy month of May, we’re looking forward to biking, sunshine, and special events this summer on the Greenway and beyond.

First up is our annual Greenway Glow – the largest event on the Midtown Greenway. Thousands of people will dress up their bikes with lights and visit the free night-time arts festival, and close to 150 people are expected for the fundraising 5K run or 10-Mile bike ride. Proceeds benefit programs that help support and protect the Midtown Greenway. I hope you can join us!

We are also pleased to announce the return of the Tour de Fat, sponsored by New Belgium Brewing, producers of Fat Tire Beer. The tour didn’t make it to Minneapolis last year, so we’re excited it’s coming back and better than ever! After many years in Loring Park, the event is moving to The Cabooze this summer. It’s been energized and upgraded with top-notch bands, including national recording artists The Record Company. I love this band! They are a perfect blend of blues and garage rock that will knock your socks off.

In addition to our special events, we have a huge number of Greenway programs and projects happening this summer. One of our biggest projects involves the installation of a temporary “woonerf” (shared street) along E. 29th Street near Bloomington Avenue. The goal is to better connect the Greenway to the 17th Avenue bicycle boulevard, while testing out strategies that will make the street more walkable, bikeable, safe, and more pleasant for everyone. If the demonstration project proves popular, we plan to advocate for creating a much longer woonerf, running from the Midtown Global Market to Cedar Avenue.

We’re also working on a plan to install some new wayfinding banners and signs in the Greenway, and we’ll be hosting a bicycle-friendly business seminar for Lake Street businesses. The seminar includes free Bicycle Benefits kits and window decals for businesses, which they can use to help attract new customers by offering discounts to people arriving via bike. Those customers include our members, who receive a Bicycle Benefits helmet sticker as part of their membership packet.

Thanks to our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and partners, we’ll keep working to protect and enhance the nation’s best urban bike trail. Thank you for your support.

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!

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.
vaudeville acts, magicians, and comedians. Costumes are highly encouraged.

Tour de Fat Minneapolis is sponsored by New Belgium Brewing and benefits the Midtown Greenway Coalition, so be sure to grab your tickets today. Tickets are $25 and available online at www.newbelgium.com/events/tour-de-fat/city/minneapolis. But wait! Friends of the Midtown Greenway Coalition get a 20% discount for online ticket orders. Use discount code: FatTireTDFMinneapolis

Tickets can also be purchased at The Joint Bar, Electric Fetus, Discland, Know Name Records, Down In The Valley, and Mill City Sound.

See you on August 19th at The Cabooze for the best party of the summer!

**A WOONERF FOR EAST 29TH STREET**

The Midtown Greenway Coalition is pleased to have received a grant to install a temporary demonstration woonerf on East 29th Street, between Bloomington Avenue and 18th Avenue. A woonerf is a type of “complete street,” where pedestrians and bicyclists share the street with cars (which are asked to slow down). While pedestrians will not actually walk or be in the middle of street (except for during block parties), there will be temporary improvements such as painted crosswalks with bump-outs and seating areas (parklets) where people can rest. Better wayfinding, pavement markings that improve safety for cyclists, and Public art will be also incorporated into the project. All interventions are temporary and expected to up for just a month or two later this summer.

A steering committee including residents from Midtown Phillips and East Phillips and others with an interest in the project has been formed. They will work on designing the test woonerf, then notify the community to check it out and provide comments. If the demonstration proves to be popular, the Midtown Greenway Coalition will work to promote a woonerf for the 10-block section of the street, running from the Midtown Global Market to Cedar Avenue.

▲ A temporary demonstration woonerf or “shared street” will be installed along E 29th Street this summer. This open space along the Greenway near 17th Avenue could be a good location for a small park — one of many possible improvements that may be tested as part of the demonstration.

▲ The Tour de Fat returns to Minneapolis on August 19th at The Cabooze, featuring Grammy-nominated recording artists The Record Company. Photo courtesy New Belgium Brewing.
ARBOR DAY VOLUNTEERS PLANT THEIR 5,000TH TREE ON THE GREENWAY

By Janey Gengel, program coordinator

At this year's annual Arbor Day event, Greenway volunteers reached an amazing milestone: over 5,000 trees and shrubs have now been planted in the Greenway during the event, which celebrated its 17th consecutive year.

On May 6th, over 60 volunteers from Ryan Companies, Wells Fargo, The North Face — Edina, Hiawatha Academies, and the Seward/Longfellow community helped plant 50 new trees, 80 new shrubs, and 500 new grasses. Volunteers also helped to create a serene pathway.

You can visit the new plantings and walk the path between 34th and 36th Avenues in the Seward/Longfellow area. We encourage you to take a look at all the great work our volunteers have put in to help beautify and green the Greenway.

The annual Arbor Day planting is organized in partnership with the Midtown Community Works Partnership, Hennepin County, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority, Tree Trust, and the Midtown Greenway Coalition.
NEW MURAL GOING UP 
IN THE GREENWAY

By Janey Gengel, program coordinator

The retaining wall under the 11th Avenue bridge will soon be home to a brand new mural in the Greenway. Local artist Jordan Hamilton, assisted by Donald Thomas, will use insights provided by several community engagement sessions to create a mural representative of the Phillips community and the African-American/East African diaspora.

Jordan Hamilton is a Minneapolis resident raised in the Phillips neighborhood. He’s an interdisciplinary artist and educator, whose work is rooted in public art and community engagement. His work ranges from large-scale murals, live performance, sculpting, puppetry and design.

Since 2007, Jordan has led and participated in a number of community mural projects in the Phillips and West Bank neighborhoods of Minneapolis and the greater metro, as well as internationally in the U.A.E and Cuba. He was a 2015 and 2016 artist for Mayday Parade Festival organized by the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater.

Jordan is currently a facilitator of the mural program at Hope Community, an instructor at Juxtaposition arts Contemporary Arts lab, and a John Biggers Seed Project artist.

“I’m excited for this opportunity to deepen my relationships within Phillips neighborhood, continue creating spaces for conversation, building relationships, making art, and telling stories,” he said.

Jordan has experience with community engagement in the mural process and has already begun reaching out the Phillips community. “The first conversations with community members through a listening session were rich and reflective and have me excited to begin this work.”

He looks forward to creating a mural that will make the community feel welcome in the Greenway. “I hope this mural will increase representation of the black communities within the Phillips neighborhood. I look forward to creating something that will honor and inspire people.”

Donald Thomas, who will be assisting Jordan with the mural, is a graphic designer, a member of the Million Artist Movement, and creates installations of mixed media art with fabrics. He has a studio space at Studio Thalo in South Minneapolis.

“I’m excited to be a part of the Greenway mural project with Jordan because of the opportunity to visually represent thoughts, feelings, and ideas of the community that surrounds the Greenway,” he said. “Jordan has an art style that I think will blend well with my style and give me a chance to learn a lot from his mural experience. Exploring how lives and realities intersect, sharing the voices of the community, and collaborating with a powerful artist will be everything I wanted in doing a mural this summer.”

The new mural will be unveiled in the late summer/fall. Visit the Midtown Greenway Coalition’s Facebook page and sign up for the e-newsletter for updates.

An additional Greenway mural, located under the 13th Avenue bridge, is also being installed later this year by youth from Little Earth and artists from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. For more information about the murals, or to get involved in getting more art into the Greenway, contact Janey@midtowngreenway.org.
THANK YOU
TO OUR MEMBERS, DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS!
(Covering new donations and sustainers for the period from January 13, 2017 to May 22, 2017; please contact us if we have missed you!) Special thanks to our sustaining members—denoted with a (*)

GRANTS
Allina Health
The City of Minneapolis – Great Streets Program
Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota
Metropolitan Regional Arts Council
McKnight Foundation
New Belgium Brewing

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Bryant Lake Bowl
Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA)
Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of MN
Collegeville Track Club
Commuter Connection
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Dero Bike Racks
East Isles Residence Association
Elan Uptown Apartments
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Smiley’s Clinic
Smith Foundry Company
Smyth Companies
Spare Key
Surly Brewing Company
Timberland Calhoun Square
Trader Joe’s St’ Louis Park
Two Betty’s Green Cleaning
Young Professionals of Minneapolis

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

A sincere THANK YOU to all Trail Watch riders for keeping riders safe on the trail!

TRAIL WATCH TOP RIDERS (JANUARY - MARCH)

John Farrell
Ray Hastings
Peter Scholtz
Manny

We are looking for new Trail Watch Leaders, co-leaders, and riders! If you are interested, please contact Janey@midtowngreenway.org.

In addition to planting the 5,000th tree and shrub as part of the 17th Annual Arbor Day event (page 4), volunteers also installed a serene walking path between 34th and 36th Avenues in the Seward/Longfellow area.
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

Greenway Improvements Committee
Second Thursdays, 6–7pm
June 8th, July 13th, August 10th

ArtSpace Committee
Fourth Tuesdays 5:30pm
June 26th, July 25th, August 22nd

Safety Task Force
First Thursdays, 5:30–7pm
July 6th, August 3rd

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