



Representative Diane Loeffler addressing SE Como residents at the 2019 SECIA Annual Meeting at Van Cleve Park on Nov 5.

## Remembering Representative Diane Loeffler

**R**epresentative Diane Loeffler (1953 – 2019) served since 2004 as Minnesota House Representative for District 60A (Northeast Minneapolis and the Northern part of SE Como).

Diane passed away Saturday, November 16th from cancer.

She was responsive to neighborhood concerns, listened to our suggestions, and was a tireless champion for many causes.

SECIA extends our sympathies to Rep. Loeffler's family, friends, and community members who were so greatly impacted by her dedication to helping people.

We are deeply saddened by this tremendous loss.

We thank Rep. Loeffler for being an active advocate for not only the Southeast Como community, but all of Northeast Minneapolis.

Her constant involvement with community organizations and care for immigrants, elderly, homeless and those with disabilities made Rep. Loeffler a pivotal member of the Minnesota House.

On Tuesday, November 5th we were fortunate to hear her thoughtful, inspiring, and provocative remarks at SECIA's



2019 Annual Meeting. Her impact on the community will leave a significant mark.

Her celebration of Life was held on Saturday, November 23rd.

*\*A primary election will be held on January 21, 2020. A special election to fill seat 60A will be held on February 4, 2020.*

# MPD Second Precinct Advisory Council Update

MPD Second Precinct Advisory Council (2-PAC) offers information about services available to all Minneapolis residents. We meet the 2nd Monday of the month, 1900 Central Ave NE in the Monroe Village Apartments Community Room. The doors open at 6PM, call to order at 6:15 We try to be heading home by 7:30

Our monthly meetings are where you can meet with MPD and UMPD officers, city and county attorneys and other professionals to find out how to deal with your safety and policy concerns and questions. If you have a question you'd like answered about a service, let us know and we'll find a speaker who knows what he or she is talking about.

Often we have a depart-

ment leader show up to explain his programs.

Our September speaker was Sgt. Gomez from the MPD Community Engagement Team. He and his team are out there delivering warm gloves to kids at the morning bus stops, ice cream and icees on hot summer days, bikes, bike helmets and basketballs where ever they seem to be needed.

They also mentor young men in Red Wing -- a program that started when the CET learned that most of those people are from Minneapolis, and, when they get out, they have no supporting adults in their lives. Thanks to the outreach program, those young men now have a source of healthy support. The program is working.

In October, Jason Matlock the Director of Emergency Management, Safety and Security for the Mpls Public Schools, came to 2-PAC to outline his programs, explain protocols, answer the questions we had, and more.

The November program was all about "Aging in Place". Home is where most people want to live out their lives, and far too many "just can't".

Thanks to our own SE Seniors and to the East Side Neighborhood Services, more seniors can live safely in the homes they built, for as long as they want. Linnea Tweed from ESNS is the director of the Vital Living Program which she outlined. Jim Drake, President of SE Services offered information

about that program, which is one of only 3 block-nurse programs in the city. (And Ms Tweed applauded SESeniors.)

Our December speakers from MPD Traffic Control will be Ethan Fawley, Coordinator of the Vision Zero Action Plan, which has the goal of reducing traffic death and injuries to zero. He will be joined by MPD Deputy Chief Erick Fors, who helped shape the draft plan. Officer Fors will also be speaking about other traffic safety efforts.

You are needed at 2-PAC! Have you wondered how some security plans seem to work and others need to be worked on? This is the place to ask about them. Join us, get involved, meet some nice people, get some answers.

## Damages of salting to deice

Minnesotans are well aware of the struggles that come along with traversing through the ice and snow during the winter months. Walking along snowy paths that pack down to condense into dangerous sheets of slick ice, these masses grow for weeks and weeks during the fluctuating temperatures and snowfall.

The "cheap and effective" fix for this icy problem is salt, which was first utilized in the 1930's and has been heavily relied upon since, commercially and in private homes. Without general knowl-

edge around the lasting effects salt has on our local environment and waterways, many of us have been unknowingly polluting.

Today, around 20 million tons of salt are dumped on US roads annually. Once that salt is introduced into the soil or water, there can be very little done to remove it, and its effects can be seen for years.

The increasing concentrations of salt in our environment now is the result of road salt spreads decades ago, which reached groundwater, and is only now slowly reaching surface waters.



Solutions to this problem will take innovative new strategies to find alternatives for ice control, and to heal our polluted soils and water sources.

You can do your part by shoveling your sidewalks immediately after snowfall.

If you find yourself with icy patches and packed down snow, use sand as an alternative to salt.



## Want to be a 'Snow Angel' this winter?

Southeast Seniors is looking for folks who would be willing to 'adopt' an older adult neighbor for the winter. This includes helping out with their snow removal each time it is needed.

If you're interested, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Ann Carter at (612) 331-2303 to see if there's a senior near you in need of this service.

Thank you!

# United States Census 2020

## Frequently asked questions:

### What's the Census for?

The U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 2) mandates a headcount every 10 years, of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas.

This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens, and noncitizens. The first census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

The population totals from the 2020 census will determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. States also use the totals to redraw their legislative districts.

The U.S. Census Bureau must submit state population totals to the President of the United States by December 31, 2020. The totals also affect funding in your community, and data collected in

the census help inform decision makers how your community is changing.

### Will there be a question about citizenship on the 2020 Census form?

“NO, there will not be a citizenship question on the 2020 census! See [wecountminneapolis.org/](http://wecountminneapolis.org/) for additional information.

### Why does the Census Bureau ask the questions they do?

The Census Bureau asks the questions they do on the surveys because of federal needs and for community benefits. The information the Census Bureau collects helps determine how more than \$400 billion dollars of federal funding annually is spent on infrastructure and services.

Your answers help federal, state and local leaders make

decisions about: schools, hospitals, emergency services, roads, bridges, job training centers, and many other projects that affect your community.

### Are my answers confidential?

The law requires the Census Bureau to keep your information confidential and only use it for statistical research.

The Bureau will never share your information with immigration enforcement agencies like ICE, law enforcement agencies like the FBI or police, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.

### What's new this year?

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.

**Find more information at [census.gov](http://census.gov)**

## SECIA Home Improvement Loan Programs

SECIA is reviewing the remaining funds allocated by our Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Phase II Action Plan as it is being phased out by the City of Minneapolis.

There will be no more funding added to this plan, however, there are still some legacy funds available and a percentage of those funds must be used for housing related programming.

We have updated our housing program guide-

lines to make them current and has added a new option designed to help seniors stay in their homes.

Please take a look at our updated options and see if there is a program that fits your needs. Our housing programs are all managed by Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) and if one of our

The SE Como neighborhood has made funds available for property owners to make improvements to their properties.

### LOW INTEREST LOAN

- 3-4% APR (based on household AMI)
- Loan amounts from \$1,500-\$15,000
- No maximum income limit
- Terms up to 10 years
- Closing costs apply
- Eligible improvements include most interior and exterior maintenance or remodeling

### PURCHASE ASSISTANCE LOAN

- 0% APR
- Loan amounts up to \$5,000
- No income limits
- 100% forgiven if borrower remains in the home for 15 years
- To ensure funding, application must be received at least 4 weeks prior to closing

### EMERGENCY DEFERRED LOAN

- 0% APR
- Loan amounts from \$1,000-\$7,500
- Income limit of 80% area median income (AMI)
- The deferred loan is 100% due if the property ownership changes or a time period of 15 years whichever comes first

### SENIOR EMERGENCY GRANT

- 0% APR
- Loan amounts from \$1,000-\$7,500
- Income limit of 80% area median income (AMI)
- At least one of the recipients must be 62 years of age

For more information on this or other programs:

Call 612-335-5884 • [email\\_loaninfo@mncee.org](mailto:email_loaninfo@mncee.org) • [visit\\_mncee.org/secomo](http://visit_mncee.org/secomo)

options does not work for you, CEE may be able to meet your needs by

connecting you to other available programs.



NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
TWIN CITIES MN  
PERMIT NO 30308

**Southeast  
Como  
Improvement  
Association  
(SECIA)**



PO Box 18460  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
Tel: 612-685-0371  
E-mail: [secomo@secomo.org](mailto:secomo@secomo.org)

Neighborhood-based advocacy benefiting Southeast Como, the University District, and the entire Twin Cities.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January

- 7** SECIA Board Social @ Van Cleve Park  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- 8** Discover Square Dancing! @ Van Cleve Park  
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm  
*Come join us for a fun, beginner-friendly hour of good, old-time square dancing! Professional caller Ann Carter, will lead fun, simple dances. No experience or partner needed! Ann's motto is: "Hand over hand, heel over heel, the more you dance the better you feel."*
- 13** 2-PAC Monthly Meeting @ Monroe Village  
Apartments Community Room  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
- 21** SECIA Community Project Night @ Van  
Cleve Park, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

### February

- 10** 2-PAC Monthly Meeting @ Monroe Village  
Apartments Community Room  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
- 11** SECIA Board Meeting @ Van Cleve Park  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- 12** Estate Planning @ Van Cleve Park  
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm  
*This class is an ideal way to learn more about estate planning. Liz Pierce, a local attorney with 35 years experience, will walk you through the process and explain the merits of having a will, power of attorney and a health care directive.*
- 18** SECIA Community Project Night @ Van Cleve Park  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- 19** Southeast Lunch Bunch: Caucuses, Primaries, and  
Elections 2020 @ Prospect Park United Methodist  
Church, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Stay updated with our biweekly newsletter, E-Comotion.  
Sign up at our website, [secomo.org](http://secomo.org).

*The Comotion is a quarterly newsletter for the Southeast Como neighborhood from the Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA).*

### Follow us on social media

Facebook      @SoutheastComo  
Instagram      @secomompls