

Mayor Coleman surprises city worker with award

19th Karl Neid Award winner announced today

Mayor Coleman surprised longtime city employee Larry Zangs this morning with news that he had been chosen at the 19th recipient of the annual Karl Neid Community Involvement Award.

“I’m happy to present this award to Larry, a man who has done so much good for his community in and out of his office,” Mayor Coleman said. “Both through his work for the city and his volunteer service, he has helped to build and strengthen our city. There is no better reflection of that than through this award, given to him by his peers.”

Larry was chosen by a team of past Karl Neid award winners, labor union representatives and Council staff chaired by Council President Kathy Lantry.

The Karl Neid Community Involvement Award, established in 1992, honors the late Karl Neid, a City employee and a City Council Member who died from a heart attack after devoting his entire life to serving the citizens of Saint Paul. Shortly after his death in 1992, this annual award was established to recognize a city employee who has a record of outstanding public service both at work and in his or her personal life.

Larry, who spent part of his childhood delivering DFL pamphlets door to door with Karl Neid, is a project facilitator for the Department of Safety and Inspection. As the first Project Facilitator II for the Department, Larry molded the responsibility of the position above and beyond what was originally intended. Larry brings people together from inside and out of the city to resolve problems and develop new projects for Saint Paul.

Beyond his time at the desk Larry is an asset to the community. He spends his free time coaching and volunteering for youth sports, volunteering in his son’s Boy Scout troop and as a member of the Parent Teacher Organization for his local school.

Larry has been a Saint Paul resident nearly his entire life, growing up on the East Side and graduating from Johnson High School. Larry not only takes his job seriously, he takes his involvement in the community seriously, dedicating himself to improving the City of Saint Paul.