

Request for City Council Committee Action

Date: April 4, 2006

To: Community Development Committee
Referral to: Ways & Means / Budget Committee

Prepared by: Carsten Slostad (Phone 673-5150)

Approved by: Robert D. Miller, Director _____

Subject: Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Summary of the Request: The Northeast Park Neighborhood has completed their NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. It has been reviewed by NRP's legal counsel and City staff, staff of participating jurisdictions and adopted by the NRP Policy Board. The plan requests a total NRP appropriation of \$252,685. City Council action is now being requested for final approval of the Neighborhood Action Plan.

Recommendation:

- (1) Approve the Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan ("Plan") attached to this report, specifically those parts of the Plan which fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$252,685;
- (2) Amend the City of Minneapolis 2006 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund CNR—NRP Program Fund (CNR0-890-3550) appropriation by \$252,685;
- (3) Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

April 4, 2006

The Honorable Lisa Goodman, Chair
Community Development Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

The Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Re: Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Dear Chairpersons Goodman and Johnson:

At its meeting on February 27, 2006 the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved and authorized funding for the Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. The plan requests a total NRP appropriation of \$252,685.

The Northeast Park NRP Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan was approved in May of 1996. Northeast Park used its Phase I funds to improve the neighborhood's housing stock through home improvement programs and a few targeted demolitions, enhance the safety of the neighborhood through traffic calming measures, and augment Park Board resources to add an arbor area for older adults and playground equipment for kids.

The Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan devotes 74% of its allocation to housing. In addition to funding home improvement efforts, the neighborhood hopes to enhance livability through clean-up projects, installation of residential buffers and gateways, and support of the 18th Street Bikeway. Northeast Park residents and the NEPNA Board approved this plan on November 15, 2005.

On February 27, 2006 the Policy Board passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS: On April 19, 2004 the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board ("Board") approved a Phase II allocation for the Northeast Park neighborhood of \$252,685, based on the Phase II revenues projected for NRP;

WHEREAS: The neighborhood conducted a Phase II neighborhood planning process that began in 2004 and has submitted a Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan that requests a Phase II allocation of \$252,685;

WHEREAS: The Northeast Park neighborhood has allocated at least 70% of their Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan to housing programs, projects, services and activities;

RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board (Board) hereby accepts and adopts the Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Board hereby authorizes the Director to request the City Council and Mayor [a] amend the 2006 General Appropriation resolution by

increasing the Community Planning and Economic Development Department agency Fund CNR – NRP Program Fund (CNR0-890-3550) by \$252,685 and [b] authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement the activities above;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That up to 70 percent of the amount approved for this plan (\$176,880) shall be available for obligation in the first three (3) years after approval of the appropriation for this plan.

Pursuant to this resolution, I make the following recommendations for consideration by your committees:

RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) Approve the Northeast Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan (“Plan”) attached to this report, specifically those parts of the Plan which fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$252,685;
- (2) Amend the City of Minneapolis 2006 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund CNR—NRP Program Fund (CNR0-890-3550) appropriation by \$252,685;
- (3) Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller
Director



Northeast Park



NRP Phase II Plan

Total NRP Funds: \$252,685

Proposed : 2/27/2006

The Neighborhood

Located in the Northeast area of Minneapolis, the neighborhood is bounded by Broadway Street and 35W on the south, Central Avenue to the west, 18th Avenue and New Brighton Blvd. to the north and the City limits to the east.

Our neighborhood residential area consists mostly of single-family homes. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Northeast Park has a population of 882, with 363 households. The population is comprised of 74% White, 10% Black, 10% Hispanic, 4% Asian/Pacific Islander, and less than 2% American Indian. The total neighborhood population increased by 22% from 1990 to 2000, with most of that increase attributable to increases in the Black and Hispanic populations. The Median household income in the neighborhood increased from \$32,557 in 1990 to \$35,862 in 2000.

Businesses are scattered throughout the neighborhood, with concentrations at the Quarry Shopping Center and along Central Avenue. In addition, a major postal facility servicing the East Side is located on 18th and Johnson. MTC has major bus routes on both Johnson and Central.

Planning Process

In the Summer of 2004, the Northeast Park Neighborhood Association (NEPNA) began preliminary discussions about NRP Phase II planning. During the Fall of 2004, NEPNA held a community meeting to carry out some initial brainstorming about the NRP plan, and volunteers began work on a survey for neighborhood residents, businesses and property owners.

The survey was mailed to every household and business in the neighborhood during the spring of 2005. In order to encourage participation by Hispanic residents, the front page of the survey included instructions in Spanish on how to obtain a Spanish version of the survey. Overall the survey had a return rate of 15% of all households and businesses. The survey results are included as an appendix to this plan.

The neighborhood reviewed an initial draft of the plan at its meeting on September 20, 2005, and reviewed a revised plan on October 11, 2005. NEPNA circulated this final draft for review and approval by the neighborhood at its November 15, 2005, annual meeting.

Neighborhood volunteers used the survey results and ongoing neighborhood input as the primary sources for the plan strategies that follow.



Section 1

Housing

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Goal: Improve the housing stock of the neighborhood

Strategy 1: **Home Improvement Projects**

Strategy Description:

Provide financial assistance for home improvement projects in Northeast Park.

In Phase I of NRP, Northeast Park invested nearly 70% of its funds in home improvement activity. The neighborhood plans to continue this level of investment in Phase II. Eighty percent (80%) of the neighborhood's housing units are either single-family homes or duplexes. Sixty-six percent (66%) of the units were built prior to 1940, and a significant number date to the turn of the century or earlier.

The neighborhood will look first to the housing pools set up for NRP Phase II as a mechanism to implement home improvement projects. Pools of primary interest will be:

- 1) NRP/MHFA Home Improvement Program
- 2) Rental Property Improvement Loan Fund
- 3) Emergency Repair Fund
- 4) Purchase and Major Rehab Loan Fund
- 5) First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Fund

Strategy Implementer: to be determined

Contract Administrator: DFD

NRP Phase II funds: \$180,000

Strategy 2: **Housing Development Projects**

Strategy Description:

Provide financial assistance to support housing development projects in Northeast Park.

If opportunities arise for neighborhood-friendly housing development, the neighborhood may consider redirecting some of its home improvement funds to help a non-profit or for-profit developer fill in a financing gap or to add value to a proposed project. If such an opportunity arises, Northeast Park Neighborhood Association (NEPNA) will coordinate a neighborhood review and approval process to assure the development meets the standards established by residents.

Strategy Implementer: to be determined

Contract Administrator: CPED Housing Policy and Development Division

NRP Phase II funds: to be determined



Goal 1: Reduce neighborhood crime

Strategy 1: **COPSIRF**

Strategy Description:

Partner with the 2nd PCT Sector Lieutenant and three nearby neighborhood groups to prevent crime through directed patrols and commercial area beat patrols.

In 2004, Northeast Park partnered with the Police Department and the neighborhoods of Audubon Park, Bottineau, Holland, Nicollet Island East Bank, Saint Anthony East, Waite Park and Windom Park to initiate directed patrols in high crime spots in the Lowry/Central Ave. area and to focus police resources on reducing property crimes in the area.

Strategy Implementer: 2nd Precinct of Police Department

Contract Administrator: Police Department

NRP Phase II funds: \$7,321.87 (Community Oriented Public Safety Initiative Reserve Funds)



Section 3

Livability

Goal 1: Improve the physical and social character of the neighborhood

Strategy 1: **Neighborhood Livability**

Strategy Description:

Support efforts designed to enhance the cleanliness, character and livability of the neighborhood.

Northeast Park residents live in the neighborhood because of its central location, variety of commercial businesses, school and park facilities, and the "small town" friendliness of their neighbors. But they are concerned about the general upkeep of streets and alleyways, the blighting influence of some of the residential properties and problem behaviors that create a nuisance.

In a May 2005 neighborhood survey, when asked "*Which of the following things are the 5 highest priorities for you when you consider whether you want to continue to live in Northeast Park?*" the two choices receiving the highest number of neighborhood responses were "*better kept properties*" and "*less trash and junk*".

Supported activities may include but are not limited to: neighborhood clean-up projects, citizen inspection and other code enforcement efforts, coordination with law enforcement officials on problem behaviors, and efforts to target home improvement resources to substandard properties.

Strategy Implementer: to be determined

Contract Administrator: DFD or NRP

NRP Phase II funds: \$25,000

Strategy 2: **Buffers**

Strategy Description:

Protect neighborhood residences and businesses from the negative impact of some commercial, industrial and institutional uses by installing appropriate buffers or working with businesses to redirect undesirable traffic patterns.

Much of the current land use in Northeast Park is made up of non-residential properties. The mix includes: the Quarry Shopping Center with big box stores such as Home Depot, Rainbow and Target; Northeast Park with a recreation center, gymnasium, ball fields, picnic areas and a large water park; a variety of commercial and industrial properties; and a railroad corridor. These uses bring a significant volume of auto and truck traffic, and they attract many customers and visitors from outside the neighborhood.

As a result, the neighborhood must continually work to protect Northeast Park residences and businesses from undesirable impacts. NRP funds may be used to construct physical barriers such as

fences, plantings and berms, or to entice businesses and institutions to redesign and redirect the flow of traffic into and out of their properties.

Strategy Implementer: to be determined

Contract Administrator: CPED or Public Works Department

NRP Phase II funds: \$12,500

Strategy 3: Gateways

Strategy Description:

Join with other Northeast neighborhoods to develop or improve major community gateways and streetscapes that border Northeast Park - especially along Broadway, Central, Johnson and 18th.

In NRP Phase I, Northeast Park joined with other nearby neighborhoods to support improvements to the Broadway/Central bridge – a major gateway into Northeast Minneapolis. Neighborhood leadership has also entered into discussions with public officials and representatives from Windom Park regarding a gateway treatment for the intersection of Johnson and 18th.

During NRP Phase II, the neighborhood hopes to continue the work begun on improving the appearance of these gateways – making them as attractive and welcoming as possible to residents, businesses and visitors.

Implementer: to be determined

Contract Administrator: DFD or Public Works

NRP Phase II funds: **\$12,500**

Strategy 3: **Bikeways**

Strategy Description:

Join with other Northeast neighborhoods to develop or improve bikeways in Northeast Minneapolis.

Northeast Park will work with the Public Works Department and nearby neighborhoods to assure that bikeways in the area effectively connect to the City's bikeway network, are safe for both bicyclists and neighborhood residents, and are designed in a manner that enhances the overall character and livability of the neighborhood. NRP funds will be used to supplement other City funds, including those from the federal or state levels.

Strategy Implementer: *Public Works Department*

Contract Administrator: *Public Works Department*

NRP Phase II funds: **\$12,500**



Section 4

Administrative Support

Goal 1: Oversee implementation of the plan

Strategy 1: **Implementation Support**

Strategy Description:

Provide neighborhood oversight and monitoring of the implementation of the neighborhood's Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, and keep neighborhood residents informed of those efforts through a variety of communications.

Strategy Implementer: Northeast Park Neighborhood Association

Contract Administrator: NRP

NRP Phase II funds: \$10,185

NORTHEAST PARK NRP PHASE 1 PLAN REVIEW



SECTION 1 - ENVIRONMENT

Northeast Park Arbor Area

During their Phase I planning in 1994 and 1995, neighborhood residents wanted to assure that a broader spectrum of people had an area they could enjoy in the Northeast Park.

Therefore, in conjunction with the Minneapolis Park Board's planned improvements to the play area of Northeast Park, neighborhood residents provided some of their NRP funds to create an arbor area where adults would have a quiet green space to enjoy while young adults and children played in the various improved recreational areas.

The completed arbor area includes several picnic tables, park benches, pedestrian lighting, paved paths, and a concrete pergola. Total investment in the park improvements (including \$100,000 from Northeast Park NRP) was \$325,000.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS:	\$100,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS:	\$325,000

START - END DATES	04/08/95 - 12/31/96
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IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION	Park Board
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Northeast Community Center/Fitness Facility

Recently, Northeast Park residents joined with Logan Park to support a feasibility analysis for a new YMCA facility in Northeast Minneapolis – the primary site under consideration being Northeast Park.

Northeast Park and Logan Park have provided \$7,000 of NRP funds (\$2,500 from Northeast Park, \$4,500 from Logan Park) to the YMCA to conduct two market studies – one of residents, one of employers – to determine the need for and financial feasibility of a Community Center/YMCA. The study is scheduled for completion at the end of October 2005.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS:	\$2,500
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS:	\$39,000

START - END DATES	05/01/05 - 10/31/05
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IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION	YMCA
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Commercial/Residential Buffers

DESCRIPTION

Much of the current land use in Northeast Park is made up of non-residential properties. The mix includes: the Quarry Shopping Center with big box stores such as Home Depot, Rainbow and Target; Northeast Park with a recreation center, gymnasium, ball fields, picnic areas and a large water park; a variety of commercial and industrial properties; and a railroad corridor. These uses bring a significant volume of auto and truck traffic, and they attract many customers and visitors from outside the neighborhood.

As a result, neighborhood efforts to protect Northeast Park residences and businesses from undesirable impacts are an ongoing battle. The neighborhood has set aside NRP funds to construct physical barriers such as fences, plantings and berms, or to entice businesses and institutions to redesign and redirect the flow of traffic into and out of their properties. As of October 2005, the funds have not been spent, but discussions about these issues occur on a regular basis between residents and businesses.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS:	\$11,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS:	to be determined

START - END DATES	ongoing
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IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION	to be determined
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Northeast Gateway/Streetscapes

DESCRIPTION

Northeast Park also has joined with other Northeast neighborhoods in 2005 to set aside some of its NRP Phase I funds to improve major community gateways and streetscapes, especially at Broadway and Central.

The revitalization of the Broadway/Central Avenue Bridge is underway in 2005, after years of frustration by Northeast residents about its austere, chain link fence railings and overall unwelcoming appearance to all who enter the community from the south along Central Avenue. A few years back, neighborhoods received a modest amount of funding from the Arts Commission for a gateway treatment that incorporates motifs from 25 ethnic groups who call the area home. With help from neighborhood NRP investments, the current bridge revitalization will incorporate these motifs into a more permanent and aesthetically pleasing railing.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS: \$15,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS: to be determined

START - END DATES 01/01/05 - 12/31/06

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION Minnesota Department of Transportation
Minneapolis Public Works Department

Traffic Calming Improvements

DESCRIPTION

To protect the residential areas from excessive traffic, to promote a safer environment for those using the local park, and to mitigate the potential traffic impacts from the newly-constructed Quarry Shopping Center a few blocks away, the neighborhood invested some of its NRP funds to calm traffic on residential streets.

With an infusion of Northeast Park NRP funds, the neighborhood association worked with the Public Works department to carry out improvements along the sections of 14th Street and Fillmore Street adjacent to the park. Street throating and asphalt speed humps were installed on 14th Street along the south side of the park. And, Asphalt humps were also installed on Fillmore Street along the west side. And, signage was placed in both locations.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS: \$37,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS: \$37,000

START - END DATES 07/01/97 - 12/31/98

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION Minneapolis Public Works Department

SECTION 2 - HOUSING

Home Improvement Program

DESCRIPTION

Because there are a significant number of older homes in Northeast Park, many need some exterior or interior improvements. In order to spur such improvements, residents earmarked most of the NRP Phase I dollars as matching funds for homeowners – creating a quick, visible impact on the general appearance of the residential areas of the neighborhood.

The home improvement program consisted of full grants for households that fell below 50% of metro median income, and dollar for dollar matching funds for all others. Forty-three full grants were made from 1995 to 1997 for a total of 120,441.85. Seventy-eight matching grants were made from 1995 to 1997 for a total of \$145,231.22.

Homeowners used the funds to make a wide range of home improvements - including new driveways, sidewalks, roofs, furnaces, painting, siding, doors, windows, detached garages, garage doors, and, in one case, replacement of a main water pipe.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS:	\$309,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS:	\$459,000

START - END DATES 04/10/95 - 12/31/98

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION Northeast Park Neighborhood Association

Demolition of "249 List" Buildings

DESCRIPTION

For a few residential structures that had deteriorated beyond a point of reasonable repair, residents earmarked NRP funds to quickly address these blighting influences.

In the mid-1990s, the neighborhood association determined that two properties on the City's "249 List" of substandard buildings were beyond repair. Therefore, had them demolished using Northeast Park NRP funds as a one-for-one match with City funds. The first property, an apartment building located on Central Avenue, is now a vacant lot owned by the City. The second property, a house located on Lincoln Street, was demolished and acquired as a side lot by the neighboring property owner.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS:	\$12,978
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS:	\$25,956

START - END DATES 07/01/95 - 12/31/98

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION Minneapolis Inspections Department

SECTION 3 – ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Support

DESCRIPTION

In order to assure adequate neighborhood-level coordination, oversight and monitoring of the NRP plan activities listed above, residents set aside a modest amount of administrative funds for use by the Northeast Park Neighborhood Association to coordinate with public agencies and communicate with neighborhood residents.

In the ten years, since the plan was approved, the neighborhood association has made frugal use of these dollars (roughly \$1,500 out of \$5,000) in order to assure that most of the funds would be used to carry out the projects above. Most of these dollars have been used for periodic communication with neighborhood residents – including, most recently, communication about NRP Phase II planning.

FUNDING

NORTHEAST PARK NRP FUNDS:	\$5,000
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS:	\$5,000

START - END DATES 07/01/95 - ongoing

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION Northeast Park Neighborhood Association

Northeast Park Neighborhood Survey

Spring 2005

RESULTS

Question 1 - *How long have you lived in Northeast Park neighborhood?*

0-5 years	22
5-10 years	4
10-20 years	15
20+ years	13
total	54

Question 2 - *Have you ever attended a Northeast Park Neighborhood Association (NEPNA) Meeting?*

yes	22
no	32
total	54

Question 3 - *What do you like most about Northeast Park neighborhood?*

- I love the kids, the Park, the diversity and the softball!*
- The friendly people*
- It's a beautiful place to live in and quiet*
- Convenience to "U", downtown and highways*
- Nothing*
- Not sure*
- Diverse ethnic neighborhood*
- The peacefulness*
- Diversity in houses, close access to everything*
- Good neighbors, great city*
- Safe*
- All the parks, city living with small town feel*
- Friendly*
- It's reasonably quiet and safe*
- Central location, low taxes, arts community*
- Winter - not a lot of people at the Park, summer- continuous sports activities support our communities*
- Close to downtown, freeway, shopping centers*
- Community, quietness, less crime*
- Everybody takes interest in neighborhood*
- Small - shopping - housing*
- The people are GREAT, never felt so welcomed anywhere else*
- Location, location*
- Great neighbors, mostly quiet*
- The location and people - diversity*
- Location*

Activities, post office

Very friendly and diversified, safe as can be expected, good shopping area

Diversity

Diversity, proximity to Central Ave. restaurants, great neighbors (for the most part)

My dad lives here, familiar neighborhood, the Park

*Close and easy to get to everything
I grew up in NE Mpls and feel comfortable
Home town neighborly people
I feel like it is pretty safe
Large parks, low crime rates, close to shopping, restaurants
Affordable housing
Parks and pathways close proximity to city
The people. The wonderful peaceful mix of people.
The Park
Diverse, location
Close to downtown and safety of area
Easy access to freeways, downtown, shopping, parks, etc.
Quiet, friendly, multi-cultural, clean, socio-economic area in which I am comfortable
Proximity to the mall and downtown - artists - ethnicity
Diversity - accessibility to 35W, businesses, downtown - convenience - growing community
The park SE of my house
My neighbors who have been here for several years
Ethnic background, old homes, not rich but has lots of character
Closeness to shopping, bussing, and entertainment
Closeness to downtown and all major highways*

Question 4 - What do you like least about Northeast Park neighborhood?

*I can't think of a thing. I wish curfew was enforced a little better
All the foreign people moving in.
Many properties are not kept up. Nobody wants to stay in an area where their property value will plummet.
Nothing
The Burger King on 18th and Central, the litter and noise and graffiti
Notice an increase in trash on streets
Some rental properties look like the dump
Unsupervised children - destruction of property - garbage
Vandalism, out-of-control kids
Becoming transit
Summer parking can be frustrating
Some homeowners/renters are careless homeowners/renters
Speed bumps
High traffic, poorly-maintained properties
The parks could be better utilized in the winter
Useless speed bumps on Fillmore
No help with home improvement/gov't funding
Thru traffic
Chemical smell in the Park on some days
Crime -- yard mess
Can't get the Pioneer Press and higher car insurance
Young people are bored and running the streets
Crime/vandalism increase in rental property
LITTER! And people not taking care of property
Run down houses
Too much traffic with new Quarry Shopping Ctr.
Too much garbage, lack of inspections have caused some back yards to accumulate junk
Petty crime (bike stolen, etc.)*

Unisightly properties, some less desirable people

Trash

Crime and immigrants moving in, too high taxes and City fees

Increase in vandalism

Too many dead ends. I would love to have a small block to walk around.

Groups of unsupervised kids, foul language of kids at the Park, graffiti, taggers, unkept properties/yards, etc.

Ugly, random industrial buildings that should be torn down

Central Ave. and surrounding houses look really bad

The trains

Rental property tenants, litter, politicians

People who own multiple cars, park them on the street even though they have garages

Sirens

The noise from traffic and sirens, garbage on 18th St., grocery carts left around, vandalism

Noise and smells from paint factory

Run down homes, renters trashing neighborhood

Disrespectful people - littering, grocery carts, and that don't keep up with property

The poor maintenance of my neighbors across the alley facing 35W

Question 5 - Do you feel Northeast Park neighborhood is ...?

improving	17
staying same	15
deteriorating	12
(no answer)	10
total	54

Remarks by those who said, "improving":

There have been more softball leagues and the Park itself looks beautiful

We have the Quarry Mall - good shopping close

Seen homes make improvements and people working on some abandoned homes

Improvement in housing stock, Central Ave. is slowly improving

People have pride in their homes and neighborhood and neighbors work together cause they care

Slightly, slowly

Some run-down houses not improving

New pool - however, too expensive

Hardworking families who actually care about their community

Central Ave. is more alive

The growth of businesses down Johnson and 18th is encouraging - people of various backgrounds moving in

Homes and common areas look like they are improving

More diversity, more businesses - I.e. NE Co-op, Quarry Shopping Center

Remarks by those who said, "staying same":

Have not seen "vast" improvement

Same issues for past 3 years

It's hard to tell - it could be improving. I think someone who's lived here longer than I would know better.

Have only been here a few years - difficult to tell

Poor City management, no accountability, wasted taxpayers monies

Has not changed much over last 2 years

Natural order of things in general

Remarks by those who said, "deteriorating":

All the foreign people moving in
Less homeowners, more rental units and low income housing for people who couldn't care less about NE
Some rental properties look like the dump
Houses and yards aren't being kept up as well as they used to be
The increase in ownership/property and support for property improvement
Messy yards, more crime
Crime/vandalism increase in rental property
Look around - people either don't have funds to keep up property or don't care
More graffiti than in the past few years; noticeably more vehicle vandalism
Drugs and crime
Because a family who rents moved in - they play their music from the car, turn radio on full blast

Remarks by those who couldn't say for sure:

Can't say
I don't know yet
I haven't lived here long enough to know
I think there are efforts on both sides
I've only lived here since July '04, so I'm not sure I can answer
I have not lived here long enough

Question 6 - Which of the following things are the 5 highest priorities for you when you consider whether you want to continue to live in Northeast Park?

housing assistance	7
better housing	18
less noise	22
better job opportunities	5
better city services	6
less pollution	17
better schools	12
less trash and junk	40
less traffic	17
better kept properties	40
better park facilities	6
less crime	31
other	
<i>better parenting</i>	
<i>less fast food/big box stores</i>	
<i>no speed bumps</i>	
<i>more beautification</i>	
<i>arts community/cultural growth</i>	
<i>proximity to good local businesses</i>	
<i>not naming parks after car dealers</i>	
<i>more owner-occupied housing</i>	

Question 7 - What is your main form of transportation?

bus	2
bus,walk	1

car	43
car,bike	1

Question 7 - *What is your main form of transportation?*
(cont.)

car,bus	3
car,bus,bike	1
car,walk	2
walk	1
total	54

Which would you use more often if you could?

bike	23
bus	18
walk	18
carpool	4
car	2
cab	1

Question 8 - *How would you rate the following?*

	excellent	good	fair	poor	no answer	total
fire services	18	18	3	0	15	54
housing inspections	3	11	18	8	14	54
street lighting	3	25	16	5	5	54
snow removal	7	25	14	3	5	54
garbage collection	17	26	5	1	5	54
public transportation	6	21	16	4	7	54
blvd. landscaping	0	12	22	9	11	54
police services	6	28	9	3	8	54
schools	1	12	14	3	24	54
housing assistance	1	8	14	3	28	54
alley lighting	1	16	14	10	13	54

Question 9 - *Do you feel safe in the neighborhood?*

yes	29
no	2
not always	20
(no answer)	3
total	54

Remarks by those who don't always feel safe:

I feel a little unsafe outside at night, but any other time I feel fine!

*Daylight hours, yes - however, car and deck have been broken into
Vandalism is getting to be too much
Young kids (teens) "hanging" around
Street lights are out a lot, and lots of unsupervised teenagers roaming about
There needs to be better curfew control*

Sex offender 2 doors down, hear gunshots at night
 Police don't respond properly and make you feel like the criminal when crime reported
 I know that Northeast is on a borderline between safe and unsafe.
 My home was once robbed in the middle of the day. I don't think I'll ever feel completely safe.
 In Northeast, as elsewhere, one must avoid certain areas, situations.
 Riff raff hanging around park/school sometimes. Fast traffic. Nearby Level 3 sex offender.
 Don't know all of the men that walk by
 Too many immigrants, poor City politics don't deal with crime
 I live near Broadway
 Vandalism and disrespect for property
 We have a level 3 sex offender on our block - no one told us, we found out on our own
 I live near some slummy houses on 18th and surrounding area - doesn't attract quality residents
 I think it's hard to feel safe always - I see a lot of traffic in the alley that makes me suspicious

Question 10 - How would you rate the importance of these services to your household?

	very important	important	unimportant	not sure	no answer	total
child care	7	8	28	2	9	54
senior services	9	12	24	3	6	54
community organizations	9	27	6	6	6	54
youth programs	12	15	17	4	6	54
city inspections	19	18	5	6	6	54

Question 11 - If the following things were available in Northeast Park, which would you use?

	use	not use	not sure	no answer	total
home repair loans	26	8	12	8	54
home repair grants	41	4	4	5	54

Remarks:

I rent, but if I owned it may be different
 renter: hope landlord would
 Home improvements grants
 support in zoning, variances, etc.

Question 12 - In the past year, which of the following have you participated in?

programs at Northeast Park	6
NEPNA	6
block club	7
other community ed	1
senior activities	1
national night out	2
would love a block party	1

<i>independent neigh.</i>	
<i>Group</i>	1
<i>none</i>	6
<i>(no answer)</i>	26

Question 13 - Check one of the following that applies to you.

African American	2
European American	34
Hispanic American	0
Native American	1
Asian American	1
Other	
<i>African & European</i>	
<i>American</i>	1
<i>Arabic</i>	1
<i>Caucasian</i>	2
<i>White</i>	5
<i>American</i>	1
(no answer)	6
total	54

Question 14 - How often do you use the following (please check the closest one to your answer)?

	daily	1/week	1/month	1/year	never	soon	no answer	total
public library		6	14	18	11		5	54
Northeast Park	4	19	16	5	4		6	54
community ed programs		1	2	14	28	1	8	54
youth programs		2	1	1	42		8	54
911		1		29	19		5	54

Question 15 - What block do you live on?

	# of Responders		# of Responders		# of Responders
1300 Buchanan	2	1200 Lincoln	2	1700 Taylor	4
1600 Buchanan	3	1300 Lincoln	2	1600 Tyler	3
1700 Buchanan	2	1600 Lincoln	3	1700 Tyler	6
1100 Fillmore	1	1700 Lincoln	3	by the Park	1
1600 Fillmore	1	1300 Pierce	3	12th Ave.	2
1700 Fillmore	1	1700 Pierce	3	18th Ave.	3
1600 Johnson	2	1600 Polk	1	(no answer)	3
1700 Johnson	2	1700 Polk	1	total	54

Question 16 - Check all of the following that describe who you are (in Northeast Park only)

business owner	8
homeowner	43
work in neighborhood	1
renter	9
social service rep.	0

other

live in mother's house

1

concerned citizen

1

Question 17 - What do you think are the major challenges facing Northeast Park neighborhood?

I'm afraid of what will happen if Putnam School closes. Will it be boarded up?...rented? I just love how it is now

"Safety" for seniors

Crime prevention and home upkeep/improvements

None

The influx of disrespectful renters and lousing business owners

Crime, trash on streets

Providing adequate services for Spanish influx

The youth - I know quite a few people who moved out of the area because of it

Vandalism is a problem, kids playing in the street instead of the Park that is 100 feet away

Clean up and youth

Old homes need replacing if beyond repair

refurbishing deteriorated housing and properties

Not sure

Keeping out sex offenders and other bad people. Bums hanging out on Central Ave.

Home ownership

Crime/kids causing trouble

Crime - Keeping value up for houses - keeping businesses clean on Central Ave.

Developing and improving the neighborhood while still keeping housing/cost of living affordable

Keeping property clean/youth busy

Crime

It appears that there are some slumlords not taking care of their property. And litter control

Traffic and crime

Helping people to improve homes; have alert inspections, if we have inspectors

Property upkeep, litter

Make landlords screen renters

Increased vandalism, poor lighting, trash and dumping on public & private property

It feels disjointed and industrial, so coming together, a sense of community

Neighborhood kids, vandalism, increased rental properties that lack property management

Property cleanup, public transportation

Finding balance between neighborhoods and industrial zones. Fixing up ailing properties, etc.

Traffic lights, traffic to Quarry, bad kids

Quality of housing, home repair, age of homes

Noise and pollution and crime

Graffiti, litter, rental run-downs, crime

Remaining a quiet, pleasant small town in a big town - traffic: ignoring stop signs, speeding, noise

To improve and grow the neighborhood - maintaining diversity & an autonomous identity (not corporate identity)

Safety and crime, maintaining and improving the quality of the neighborhoods

Petty theft, graffiti, kids running through yard - So I have befriended the kids - It works to be forthcoming

Holding all property owners, especially landlords, to above average maintenance standards

We could have a neighborhood as strong and beautiful as Bryn Mawr if we all demonstrated pride in ownership

More police presence in the neighborhood - I enjoy meeting bike cops who actually socialize with residents

Question 18 - Please share any ideas you have on how to meet these challenges.

Stronger curfew

Stronger punishment and uphold laws to keep waste out of yards and home exteriors up to par
None

Start by shutting down businesses that fail to appease nearby homeowners, shut down rental buildings
More police presence
Police should enforce loud car stereo/muffler ordinance
Youth programs in the Park - more supervision
I cannot because I've been here only three months
Better enforcement of laws
regarding upkeep of
buildings and yards. Grants
to lower income people to
improve their properties
Not sure
Don't let [sex offenders] feel free to be here
Offer more grants for home improvement
Police in neighborhood driving and watching kids more
Inspections!!
Use schools for youth dances and activities
Neighborhood watch
Corner garbage cans may help. Hold landlords accountable.
It seems that renters maybe don't know their rights or responsibilities. (Trash in yards, dead cars, junk!)
Better signage in Quarry Shopping Ctr to make pedestrians safer
Inspections; Maybe putting up no littering signs and more trash cans in the athletic fields
Sell/renovate abandoned homes. Enforce rental property upkeep
Better street and alley light,
police patrols of alleys as
well as streets, rewards if
you witness and report any
type of vandalism
I would love to participate in meetings. How about child care during the meeting?
Block clubs, encouraging neighbors to go to neighborhood meetings, more awareness of our
neighborhood
I like the idea for home repair loans/grants
Change the traffic to the Quarry
Enforcement and awareness = education
Paint over, pick up, call inspections, call 911
Grassroots participation - know our neighbors - maintain rapport with the police - pick up, clean up, paint
Encourage local business improve property upkeep, strengthen intra-community, face-to-face
relationships
I'd like to see 18th turned into a more boulevard-like road - slow traffic -enforce stop signs - improve
properties
More aggressive housing inspections and ticketing - more frequent communications on beautifying our
homes
I think police officers should slow down and try to meet residents

Question 19 - *If the following things were available in Northeast Park, which would you use?*

	use	not use	not sure	no answer	total
home repair loans	22	5	17	10	54
home repair grants	38	2	6	8	54
park improvements	37	3	5	9	54
bike trails	35	4	6	9	54

safety (cops on bikes)	40	3	5	6	54
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Question 19 - *If the following things were available in Northeast Park, which would you use? (cont.)*

other	
<i>cops on bikes</i>	1
<i>more animal control</i>	
<i>presence</i>	1
<i>parks are nice already</i>	1
<i>street sweeping, graffiti</i>	
<i>removal</i>	1
<i>trash containers, ice cream</i>	
<i>parlor</i>	1
<i>light rail/train</i>	1
<i>grills at park for picnics</i>	1
<i>watch groups</i>	1

