

Kenwood Isles NRP
Phase II
NEIGHBORHOOD
Action Plan

Kenwood Isles Area Association
(KIAA)

Adopted May 7, 2007

Kenwood Isles Demographics

When the original KIAA Neighborhood Action Plan was adopted by the Policy Board in January 1996 and by the City Council in February 1996, Census data (1990) described the neighborhood as 99% Caucasian, and affluent, with a median household income of \$80,000, and with no households in poverty. There were 600 housing units, 581 of which were occupied, 492 (85%) by owners and 89 (15%) by renters. The median house value was \$289,500.

Census data (2000) for the current neighborhood show more diversity (94% Caucasian, 3% Asian, 2% Latino, and 1% African-American), continued affluence (with a median household income of \$103,000), but with slight signs of change (4 families indicating poverty). The number of young children under the age of 14 had increased by 27% since 1990, and the number of singles households had increased by 11%. In 2000, there were 620 housing units, 606 of which were occupied, 508 (84%) by owners and 98 (16%) by renters. The 2000 median house value had increased to \$459,500.

PHASE II PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The KIAA NRP Steering Committee began planning for Phase II in late fall 2005, and quickly realized that the \$85,600 total Phase II funds allotted by the NRP Policy Board to KIAA posed significant challenges. This figure, the smallest neighborhood allocation in the city, is less than 1/3 of the allocations to other nearby neighborhoods.

Further limiting the planning process, NRP Phase II policy requires that 70% (\$60,000 in the case of KIAA) must be spent on programs that either provide housing or are housing-related. The funding realities, therefore, left only \$25,600 in “discretionary funds” to be directed toward KIAA’s local neighborhood priorities and potential strategies.

The NRP Committee concluded that any attempt to devise a KIAA neighborhood-focused housing program would not be productive, cost-effective or a good use of KIAA’s Phase II funds. Instead, the Committee explored investing KIAA’s housing dollars with several worthy non-profit organizations.

Also, the idea of conducting an NRP-focused neighborhood survey was briefly considered and quickly discarded as a poor use of the neighborhood’s very limited Phase II NRP resources.

The NRP Committee used the same process for community input that had worked effectively in the 2003-2005 NRP Phase I Plan Modification and Funds Reallocation endeavor. A well advertised, Community Input/Open House session held in February 2006 at the Kenwood Park Center presented the results of the Committee's work, with which the attendees overwhelmingly concurred.

In addition, since 2004, KIAA Board members (all volunteers) have produced and mailed at least two well-designed, informative neighborhood newsletters each year to update all KIAA households on neighborhood information. The KIAA Communications Committee has also recently developed a very attractive KIAA web site that is used to convey information to and about the neighborhood, as well as to provide links to additional sources of information. NRP information and updates are included in these communications vehicles.

In late March 2006, the NRP Committee presented its recommended strategies for the KIAA Phase II NRP Action Plan to the KIAA Board and also to all Kenwood Isles residents via the KIAA Spring Newsletter mailed that month to all households. The neighborhood then approved the Phase II Strategies at the May 1, 2006 KIAA Annual Meeting.

PHASE II ACTION PLAN

A. HOUSING (\$60,000 Total)

Goal 1: To invest KIAA Phase II NRP Funds in established, effective non-profit housing projects in other Minneapolis neighborhoods.

Objective 1: Invest in transitional housing for youth.

Strategy 1: Allocate **\$45,000** of KIAA's housing allocation to the Capital Fund of the *Bridge for Runaway Youth* to assist construction of its new Transitional Housing building at Emerson Ave S and W 22nd St, in the East Isles neighborhood.

Rationale: This project is under construction and KIAA's support will be included in the financing package for the project.

Partners: Kenwood Isles Area Association (KIAA)
Bridge for Runaway Youth
City of Minneapolis CPED

Schedule: 2007 - \$45,000

Resources: Multiple sources for the construction project
NRP \$45,000

Contract Administration: CPED

Objective 2: Invest in supportive housing for people with special needs.

Strategy 1: Allocate **\$15,000** to the *Clare Housing* organization for its *Clare Apartments* project in NE Minneapolis to provide supporting housing for residents living with HIV/AIDS, in the St Anthony East neighborhood.

Rationale: Although construction of this project is completed, additional funding is needed to support additional furnishings and construction costs.

Partners: Kenwood Isles Area Association (KIAA)
Clare Housing
City of Minneapolis CPED

Schedule: 2007 - \$15,000

Contract Administrator: CPED

B NEIGHBORHOOD LIVABILITY (\$25,600 total)

Goal 1: Provide funding for projects that improve and enhance the livability of the Kenwood Isles neighborhood.

Objective 1: Engage and encourage neighborhood residents to be involved in projects that improve and enhance the livability of the Kenwood Isles neighborhood.

Strategy 1: Projects may be directed toward, but are not limited to, environmental improvements; increased neighborhood safety; increased pedestrian activity; strengthened neighborhood cohesiveness; improved neighborhood communications.

Rationale: Because of the required “hold back” of these funds, these dollars will not be available to the neighborhood for three years. The small amount of dollars available will be used as incentive dollars to encourage other funding to support projects that will be of importance to the neighborhood in the future.

Partners: To be determined

Schedule: 2010 - \$25,600

Contract Administrator: To be determined.

C: IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT (NO Phase II Funds)

Goal 1: Encourage effective communication and outreach efforts to the Kenwood Isles neighborhood.

Objective 1: Provide funding to support effective communication and outreach efforts to the community.

Strategy 1: Encourage participation on KIAA’s NRP committee using dollars from KIAA’s Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan for funding current implementation, community organizing and communication needs.

Rationale: KIAA has no paid staff and has used the resources from its independent fund-raising and remaining dollars in the Phase I NRP Neighborhood Action Plan to do a plan review, participation agreement and to develop a phase II plan. KIAA has been able to do this using the countless hours of volunteer time donated to the neighborhood.

Schedule: Ongoing

Funds: Phase I dollars rolled over to this plan.

Contract Administrator: NRP Staff.