

Appendix III: Community Input

Strategic Direction of Private Investment Neighborhood Feedback Summary

Ideas of what the Northside Could Use

- Dry cleaners
- Children's clothing store
- Children's toy or book store
- Used Bookstore
- Restaurants (restaurant hub, ice cream parlor, fine and casual dining)
- Small grocery store or Co-op
- Asian Market
- Identity for West Broadway/North Minneapolis
- Destination Place

Issues at the City level

- Business starting process is too cumbersome
- Little to no instruction for filing neighborhood master plans
- Policy working against us (one department or individual saying one thing, and another saying something different)
- Business along 44th is different than business along West Broadway; clear understanding needed

Ways City Can Help

- City work with neighborhoods to locate (find and place) businesses
- Preserve existing housing and guard against displacement of residents while doing development
- Visibly cleaner streets
- More attention toward acknowledging and praising business owners investment/sacrifices

Private Investment Ideas

- Rehab of old buildings
- Technical assistance for businesses, especially immigrants
- Cooperative buying programs to help mitigate bad credit
- Marketing
- Adopt-a-street programs
- Façade improvement program
- Predevelopment funding



June 27, 2005

Scott Summers
Salem Center Neighborhood Association
1407 Graymalkin Lane
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Dear Scott:

As you are aware the Minneapolis EZ (EZ) is developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Northside development. We have set aside \$1 Million to spur private investment in the EZ on the Northside. To better understand its investment options, the EZ is partnering with the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank to analyze Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) data and other information that will indicate how private sector investment on the Northside compares to other neighborhoods in the city and elsewhere. The Reserve Bank will also assist with a review of strategies and tactics have been successful elsewhere in stimulating private sector investment that generates net returns to the local community.

While your neighborhood(s) are/are not in the EZ, not only would they be affected by whatever efforts we initiate, but the EZ believes that we may be able to attract other partners and resources to this RFP effort through making it a more comprehensive vision for all of the Northside. For that reason I have met with you to discuss the strategic or master plans you have for your neighborhoods and to gather your input as to where resources can best be targeted and your perspective on what is needed for the development of the Northside.

To continue this process, the EZ is looking to forge a meaningful and strategic partnership with NorthWay Community Trust. To that end we have identified 13 tactics that transform a community and would like to ask you to consider them and respond with your thoughts regarding them. They are attached and your insight will be used to help shape the plan we develop going forward.

I look forward to discussing these with you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Palmer
Director, Minneapolis EZ

CC: Dick Todd, Minneapolis Federal Reserve
Wesley Walker, Northway Community Trust