

**MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM**

**NORTHEAST PARK**

**NRP PHASE II**

**NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN**

**Legal Opinion Reference Date: March 8, 2006**

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# **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

Goal I: ***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*



## Section 2

# **Safety**

### 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup>.

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**