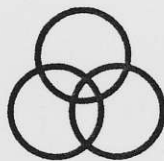


BANCROFT

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN

(January 2001 Update)



MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Date Adopted by the Policy Board: June 27, 1994

Date Adopted by the City Council: July 15, 1994

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FORWARD: Mini-NRP Planning Process

In June 2000, the Bancroft Neighborhood Association began conducting a Mini-NRP planning process. The purpose of this Mini-NRP process was to evaluate the success of its Phase One programs, reallocate Phase I funds to better address current neighborhood issues and ultimately prepare the organization to enter Phase II NRP.

In July 2000, staff and volunteers at the BNA began the process (in earnest) of working with NRP staff to plan all of the necessary steps that had to occur in order to complete the Mini-NRP plan. A number of necessary activities were identified as part of this process, including a Business Climate Survey, neighborhood Town Meeting, Preferences Survey and a neighborhood vote on any proposed reallocations.

During the month of August, BNA staff worked to complete a Business Climate Survey, visiting with as many business owners as possible. Approximately one-third of all neighborhood businesses participated in the survey, which showed that business owners felt that the Bancroft neighborhood was a relatively good place in which to conduct their business. Most business owners reported feeling that the neighborhood was primarily a very safe place to live and work. However, several individuals mentioned problems with non-violent crime (particularly graffiti).

After completing the Business Climate Survey, the BNA turned its attention to preparing for a neighborhood-wide Town Meeting. At the meeting, area residents and business owners could give their opinions regarding the success of the Phase I implementation programs, and their ideas for spending remaining Phase I (and impending Phase Two) funds. This town meeting, held on September 21, 2000, had approximately 35 attendees. Feedback received was generally very positive, and approximately thirty ideas for spending present/future NRP funds were submitted. These ideas were then used as the foundation for creating a neighborhood-wide preferences survey.

The neighborhood Preferences Survey, held on October 10, 2000, presented area residents and business owners with approximately thirty ideas for spending remaining Phase I dollars, as well as future Phase II NRP dollars. Each individual was given a total of eight stickers. Three stickers could be used to indicate priorities that should be funded through the remainder of Phase I. Two stickers were used to indicate priorities that did not necessarily require NRP funds. Two stickers were used to indicate priorities which should be funded after receiving Phase II funds. One sticker was used to indicate an individual's opposition to a particular funding idea.

After tabulating the results of the Preferences Survey, the following priorities were established:

Priorities to Fund through the Remainder of Phase One

1. Expand programs for both interior and exterior housing improvements.
2. Continue financial support for the Bancroft Banner.
3. Continue to staff the organization and provide office space.
4. Focus commercial improvement funds at the 38th and Chicago commercial node.
5. Provide assistance to seniors that helps them to maintain and remain in their homes.

Priorities to Fund in Phase Two

1. Strip mall improvements at 41st and Bloomington.
2. Expanded programs for both interior and exterior housing improvements.
3. Provide assistance to seniors that helps them to maintain and remain in their homes.
4. Establish a Crime Prevention Matching Grant Program.
5. Contribute new funds and support to Hosmer Library for youth programs, tutoring and technology.

On November 2, 2000, the BNA Community Council approved modifications to its Phase I NRP allocations which were consistent with these priorities, pending approval of area residents and business owners at the November 15 Annual Meeting. They received near-unanimous support (97.7%) for these modifications at that meeting, and submitted the necessary plan modifications to NRP staff for NRP Policy Board approval.