

NRP Projects by Neighborhood Phase I Highlights

ARMATAGE

• **Armatage Park/School Complex** – Armatage residents invested \$717,000 of NRP funds in the \$2.8 million Armatage Park and School expansion and enhancement that opened in January 2000. *The Armatage Neighborhood Association (ANA) partnered with the School District and Park Board to build a new gymnasium and playground joining Armatage Community School and Armatage Park Neighborhood Center. NRP investments were made in: the feasibility study (1996-97); park and school construction (1998-2000); and a new playground design and installation (1998-2000).*

AUDUBON

• **Central Avenue Improvements**– Audubon, Holland and Windom Park invested NRP funds in pedestrian safety lights for Central Avenue, a Business Watch Program to keep crime down, and Central Avenue identification banners with a new Central Avenue logo. *Perhaps the most visible of the new Central Avenue improvements are the 95 low-level pedestrian scale street lights that span from 18th to 27th avenues NE. The lights create a safe, pedestrian friendly environment and link Central Avenue to rear parking areas.*

• **Home Improvement Programs** – The Audubon Neighborhood Association (ANA) invested 60% of its Phase I NRP funds in its housing programs. *Over \$1.2 million of its NRP funds have been invested in home improvements.*

BANCROFT

• **Housing Programs** – Bancroft invested more than 64% of its \$2 million NRP allocation in a home improvement loan and grant program, a first-time homebuyer program, and a troublesome vacancies housing program. *Together, these three programs directly benefited 13 percent of Bancroft's 1,415 households.*

• **Phelps Park Community Center** – Residents in the Bancroft, Powderhorn Park and Bryant neighborhoods worked together to create and invest in a joint-use facility shared by the Boys and Girls Club of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. *The neighborhoods funded construction of the new gymnasium and computer center with the Boys and Girls Club. Both the Boys and Girls Club and the Park Board provide staff and programming at the facility. Bancroft's NRP investment in the park renovation and crosswalk improvements for safe crossing on Chicago and Park Avenues (1995-96) was \$220,000.*

• **Bancroft School Improvements** – Bancroft neighborhood residents invested NRP funds in improvements to the property surrounding Bancroft School including the construction of a new playground, new benches, the planting of shade trees and the creation of an environmental learning area. *The Bancroft NRP investment in these public infrastructure improvements was \$133,000.*

- **Meridian Gardens** - Residents invested a small amount of their NRP funds in the creation of an important community garden and gathering site. *Meridian Gardens is a former polluted and blighted property that was acquired with an NRP investment of \$31,000. Neighborhood volunteers spent hundreds of hours clearing, cleaning, planning and developing a beautiful garden that is now a neighborhood landmark.*

BELTRAMI

- **Beltrami Park Improvements** – NRP funds paid for major improvements to Beltrami Park. *Improvements included new playground equipment, a soccer field, and a ventilation system for the Beltrami Park building.*

BOTTINEAU

- **Mississippi Eastside Neighborhood Development Corporation** – Residents from the St. Anthony West, Sheridan, and Bottineau neighborhoods created the Mississippi Eastside Neighborhood Development Corporation (MEND) to ensure that future development benefits new and existing residents alike.

- **Eastside Neighborhood Services** – Eastside Neighborhood Services (ESNS) has been an important part of Northeast Minneapolis since 1915. Bottineau residents invested \$200,000 of NRP funds to support the construction of a new \$7.8 million Eastside Neighborhood House two blocks from its original home. *The new facility, which opened for business in August 2001, allowed ESNS to: increase its childcare capacity from 70 to 105 children, provide much needed space for ESNS's Menlo Park Alternative High School, provide better physical support for the multitude of senior services that ESNS offers, and house a food shelf for families in crisis, employment services, family intervention programs and a Minnesota Care program.*

BRYANT

- **Hosmer Library** – Residents living in five Minneapolis neighborhoods (*Bryant, Central, Kingfield, Lyndale, and Powderhorn Park*) invested \$440,000 of their NRP funds in the renovation and restoration of the Hosmer library. *The major facility improvements at the rejuvenated 90-year old library included a computer lab and tech center, and community meeting room. Library patronage at Hosmer increased 100 percent over each of the first four years after the renovation was completed in 1997.*

BRYN MAWR

- **Anwatin Computer Facility** – Bryn Mawr was one of the first NRP groups to fund a computer center for their area school. *Over 20 new computers were funded for school children and community access.*

- **Business Improvement Grants** – 15 NRP matching grants were provided to “downtown Bryn Mawr” businesses for facade and site improvements. *The result has been the revitalization of a formerly tired-looking neighborhood commercial node.*

- **Community Landscapes, Greening and Park Projects** – With projects ranging from the “BRYN MAWR” hedge to the Blooming Bryn Mawr Garden Tour (which drew 300 visitors in its first year) to the long awaited Luce Line Trail, Bryn Mawr residents have worked tirelessly to leverage funds, advocate for their “neighborhood within a park”, and plan, establish and tend community gardens. *Bryn Mawr’s NRP investment makes up just a small percentage of the overall contributions to these projects. The neighborhood’s Phase I review noted that “the highlight of these gardening projects was the community building.”*

CENTRAL

- **Artists on Chicago** – Residents living in the Powderhorn Park and Central neighborhoods invested \$450,000 of their NRP funds in this 10-unit scattered site home-ownership housing project designed for artists. *All of the studio spaces, which are on the street side of the complexes, have patio doors that open to the street, thus creating a storefront appearance. By design, artists living and working in the units help promote community safety by acting as extra eyes on the street. Three of the housing units were sold to homeowners at or below 50 percent of the area’s median income, three units to buyers below 60 percent of median income and two units to buyers below 80 percent of median income. The last two adjoining units are a rental/owner-occupied duplex.*

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CLEVELAND

- **Cleveland Park Improvements** - NRP funds were used to improve Cleveland Park. *Completed projects included walkways, lighting, site furniture and tot lots.*

- **Home Improvement Programs** – The Cleveland Neighborhood Association invested over 60 percent of its NRP funds on housing. *More than \$400,000 was made available for home improvements.*

COLUMBIA PARK

- **Home Improvement Program** – Columbia Park invested \$200,000 of their NRP funds in a home improvement program that leveraged an additional \$125,000 of private investment. *Eighty-six homes were improved through the program, with improvements ranging from new roofs and siding to sidewalk and foundation repairs.*

- **Columbia Park Improvements** – Columbia Park residents invested \$142,000 of their NRP funds in improvements to the Columbia Park playground and nearby ball fields. With \$100,000 from the Park Board, and a \$70,000 Youth Initiative Grant, the total investment exceeded \$300,000. *Improvements included new playground equipment, a half basketball court, a junior softball field, a rugby/soccer field and a big red slide.*

CORCORAN

- **Midtown YWCA** – Residents in five Minneapolis neighborhoods invested more than \$1 million of NRP funds in the new \$21 million Midtown YWCA Community and Urban Sports Center that provides youth, childcare and fitness programs to thousands of residents. *The Midtown YWCA opened on August 1, 2000 and has helped fuel development of a previously neglected stretch of Lake Street.*

- **Corcoran Roof Replacement Education Program** – The Corcoran Neighborhood Organization conducted a major public education and outreach campaign to inform residents in the neighborhood that their roofs may have been damaged in a May 15, 1998 hailstorm. *Because the entire area was declared a Catastrophic Area by the insurance industry, 70 percent of the roofs – including all owner-occupied, rental properties and churches – have been replaced. In addition, many homeowners also received new siding, painting and windows.*

ECCO

- **East Calhoun Tot Lot** – The East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO) invested in a new tot lot on the eastern shore of Lake Calhoun. *The tot lot features all new equipment, a curved seat wall and wider park benches to make supervising children a more pleasant experience for adults.*

EAST HARRIET

- **Lyndale Farmstead Park** – Lyndale Farmstead Park became a true park with programming for all ages. *Located on a scenic hillside at 39th and Bryant Ave S., the Farmstead of Col. King was acquired by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board in 1899 and became the home for Theodore Wirth, the superintendent responsible for planning the current park system. For many years, before NRP, neighborhood residents had questioned the usage of Lyndale Farmstead Park by a private day care operation. The NRP enabled the neighborhood to deal with the conflict and resolve the problem.*

- **"News From the Farm" Newsletter** – "News from the Farm." Doesn't sound like a newsletter from a Minneapolis neighborhood, does it? "News from the Farm" is distributed to every household in the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood and covers neighborhood news and the variety of programs available to residents through NRP and other organizations. *The "Farm" refers to the history of the neighborhood, which included the farmstead of Colonel William King. The "Farm" has contributed to the success of almost every NRP initiative that has changed the neighborhood, including a flourishing park program, traffic calming, housing grant and loan programs, and much more. It has become the voice of the neighborhood.*

EAST ISLES

- **Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path** – Residents in six Minneapolis neighborhoods invested nearly \$90,000 in NRP funds to convert an unused sunken rail corridor into the 2.8-mile Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. *When complete, the Midtown Greenway will extend all the way from Minneapolis' western border to the Mississippi River along 29th Street.*

- **Lake of the Isles Improvements** – East Isles helped fund rehabilitation of flood damaged areas around Lake of the Isles and supported improvements to the lake and surrounding park grounds. *East Isles was one of the major partners in the multi faceted program to improve the walking and biking paths, stabilize the shoreline and plant appropriate trees,*
- **Traffic Calming** – East Isles residents have used NRP funds to address one of their major livability issues: traffic. *NRP funds paid for a traffic study, the installation of speed humps, and the redesign of several intersections.*

ELLIOT PARK

- **East Village Apartments** – NRP funds totaling \$500,000 helped jump start a new \$30 million mixed-income, mixed-use housing development project in the Elliot Park neighborhood. *East Village consists of 179 units, a Dunn Brothers Coffee Shop, an underground parking garage, a Dairy Queen, and a Mini-Market. Forty of the housing units are affordable to households with incomes at or below 50 percent of the Metro Median Income. East Village is the first market-rate housing built in Elliot Park in decades.*

FIELD, REGINA, NORTHROP

- **Housing Programs-** The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group invested 60 percent of its NRP funds in housing. *The neighborhood has made over \$1 million of its NRP funds available to residents for home improvements.*
- **Town Oakes Water Reconstruction Project** – The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group helped residents of this major housing complex address a structural problem that threatened their homes. *Using NRP funds, residents worked with the Public Works Department and the Town Oaks Association to reconstruct the water system for this housing project.*

FOLWELL

- **Fun Factory** – The Folwell Fun Factory is a small, closed trailer packed with active game and sports equipment that is delivered by staff and a Special Projects Team to block parties within the Folwell neighborhood. *The Fun Factory was designed as an icebreaker to facilitate resident communication and community building. It provides a significant opportunity for multi-generational and diverse resident interaction. Residents in the Folwell neighborhood invested NRP funds in the Folwell Fun Factory.*
- **Linking for Success** – Linking for Success is a tutoring and mentoring program designed to provide positive interactions between high school and middle school students, to encourage regular school attendance and improve academic performance. *The program pairs 9th, 10th and 11th graders with 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Linking For Success is a long-term program with the objective of increasing high school graduation among the most at risk populations.*

FULLER TANGLETOWN

- **Washburn High School Computer Lab** – A new computer lab was installed in the Washburn High School with a neighborhood NRP contribution of \$125,000.

- **Ramsey School Playground Improvements** – Neighborhood residents worked with school parents and other volunteers to install a new playground using \$75,000 in NRP funds and \$40,000 in private contributions to purchase the new equipment. *When the Ramsey Fine Arts School was converted from a middle school to a K-8 school, there were only two swings for over 900 students.*
- **Housing and Business Improvement Programs** – Tangletown residents invested NRP funds in both housing and business improvement matching grant programs.
- **Washburn Water Tower** -- The Tangletown Neighborhood Association (TNA) invested \$35,000 of their NRP funds in the renovation of the water tower grounds with landscaping, decorative iron fencing, gardens, and benches. *The Washburn Water Tower is a prominent historical feature in the Tangletown neighborhood. It has also, however, been the target of graffiti and late night problems. Neighborhood volunteers invested thousands of volunteer hours over a three year period to make this site a beautiful neighborhood destination.*
- **Nicollet Avenue Bridge** -- The neighborhood invested more than \$1.3 million to slow traffic on the bridge and to increase pedestrian safety. *The Nicollet Avenue bridge over Minnehaha Creek had the reputation of being the fastest bridge in the City, with recorded vehicle speeds reaching 60 mph. This project reduced the bridge driving lanes from 4 lanes to 2, widened the sidewalks, installed new bridge lighting and added 4 pediments with the Tangletown "T" logo. Pedestrian scale street lights were added in 2003-2004 to Nicollet Avenue with an NRP investment of \$53,000 to complete the streetscape.*

FULTON

- **Neighbors for Safe Driving Campaign** – NRP funds were invested in a highly successful and visible traffic calming campaign launched by residents in the Fulton and Lynnhurst neighborhoods along 50th Street South. *Traffic calming measures aimed at reducing traffic speeds and volume are a priority in 36 NRP Neighborhood Action Plans. One of the most innovative and visible of these traffic calming projects was the Fulton/Lynnhurst "Neighbors for Safe Driving" campaign. Developed in collaboration with the Minneapolis Police Department, this education and enforcement campaign used lawn signs, billboards, bumper stickers, newsletters, and a radar gun to encourage drivers to slow down. The campaign changed driver behavior along 50th Street South and helped build a greater sense of community.*
- **Lake Harriet Community School Upper Campus Playground** – A master plan was developed to renovate the outdoor space at the Lake Harriet Community School adjacent to 50th and Xerxes. Residents in the Fulton and Linden Hills neighborhoods invested NRP funds to assure that children at the school would have a playground. *The playground renovation was part of a \$4.7 million Minneapolis Public Schools project that included the building of a new addition to Lake Harriet Community School that now joins the original school to an annex that was built in 1965. The addition includes a new gymnasium, a new cafeteria and food service area, a new media center, a new computer lab, two new classrooms and a new art room. The playground was built through a community-build process utilizing volunteer labor for installation.*

- **Building a Sense of Community** – A major effort was initiated to increase residents' awareness of the neighborhood and connect residents to each other and their community. *The effort included the expansion of the Fulton Neighborhood Newsletter, installation of neighborhood signs, distribution of information and welcome packets, an annual Fulton Festival, an annual volunteer recognition program called "Friends of Fulton", formation of the Fulton Safety Committee, and development of a network of block contacts.*

HALE, PAGE, DIAMOND LAKE

- **Picnic in the Park** – Picnic in the Park is a summer celebration of the Hale, Page, and Diamond Lake (HPDL) Neighborhoods that draws roughly 3,000 residents (one-third of neighborhood total) annually. *HPDL Businesses, Non-Profits, Churches, and Committees sponsor booths at the Park to disseminate information.*

- **Teen Job and Opportunity Fair** – The Teen Job and Opportunity Fair (TJOF) is a free event that offers Minneapolis youth ages 14-18 employment, volunteer, and workshop opportunities in one convenient location. *For seven years, employers and service agencies have used this opportunity to connect with over 700 prospective youth employees and volunteers at South High school. Almost 60 organizations are involved with planning, financing, publicizing and conducting the Teen Job and Opportunity Fair.*

HARRISON

- **Harrison Community Center** – Residents of Harrison, through the neighborhood association, collaborated with the Minneapolis Public Schools and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to raise public and private funds for construction of a replacement Level 5 school and a single building to house the programs of all three partners. *The school/park/neighborhood facility is three-times the size of the original facilities used by the partners and the joint use allowed unification of the park and more green and play space for residents. The new building will be the home for the Harrison Neighborhood Association for the next 20 years. The Harrison Neighborhood Association allocated \$300,000 of its NRP dollars for the project and conducted a capital campaign that raised \$400,000 from private sources-- bringing the total monetary contribution from the neighborhood to \$700,000.*

- **Tool Lending Program** - Many Harrison residents have wanted to improve their homes, but have lacked the necessary tools and equipment. NRP funds provided the needed support for a tool lending program which lets Harrison residents borrow tools at no cost from Broadway Rental. *More than 150 tool vouchers were provided in 2004.*

- **Glenwood Lyndale Clinic** - NRP provided funds to renovate the site that houses the clinic and for outreach efforts that encourage and support the participation of immigrants. *Initiated by the Sumner Olson Residents Council, this clinic provides culturally sensitive health services to residents in surrounding neighborhoods – especially to mothers and children of immigrant families. The clinic receives more than 10,000 patient visits per year from 1,646 users.*

HAWTHORNE

- **Hawthorne Homestead Program** –Under this NRP supported initiative, 25 new homes were built for owner occupants in a neighborhood in which little new construction had previously occurred.
- **Farview Park Improvements**– Farview is one of Minneapolis’ busiest parks. NRP funds have been used for sports programs, computers, lighting, air conditioning and added staffing at this popular gathering spot for kids.
- **Grants for Youth, Family and Elder Services** –Hawthorne invested \$300,000 of its NRP funds in more than two dozen grants to community organizations. *Hawthorne residents recognized the richness of their community – and realized that they couldn’t improve the neighborhood on their own. The grants range from \$300 to \$30,000 and fund initiatives sponsored by the Southeast Asian Community Council, the Northside Family Resource Center, the Minnesota Council on Crime and Justice and many others.*

JORDAN

- **Home Improvement Programs** - Nearly \$8 million in NRP funds (including program income) has been invested in Jordan’s housing stock through revolving loans, purchase / rehab loans and subsidies and major housing redevelopment efforts. *Even though home improvement programs have become commonplace in NRP, the programs in Jordan are among the best. Jordan’s NRP funds have been used to improve over 400 properties. The program is structured so that it helps those who need it most; the annual income for recipient’s has averaged under \$30,000.*
- **Community Garden** – When crime rates recently began climbing, residents invested a small portion of their NRP crime and safety funds in improving a vacant lot bordering a troubled corridor. *The garden they established has become a neighborhood gathering spot and a symbol of hope.*

KENNY

- **Kenny Park and School Playground renovation** – Residents in the Kenny neighborhood invested \$185,297 of their NRP funds with \$117,500 in Park Board funds to do a complete renovation of the Kenny Park and School playground. *NRP funds were used to purchase and install new playground equipment as well as to do landscaping so that the playground area would be accessible to children with special needs. The improvements included site grading and improving the drainage and installation of new playground equipment, lighting, play surfaces, and seating.*
- **Environmental Programs** – The neighborhood invested \$12,240 in NRP funds and raised another \$60,000 from DNR, MN OEA, CURA and the Minneapolis Foundation to develop a wetland management plan for Grass Lake. *Grass Lake, a Public Works asset, is an important hydrological and environmental amenity in Kenny. Many volunteer hours were spent removing buckthorn and other non-native trees and vegetation as part of the wetland*

management plan. The neighborhood made an additional investment of \$10,000 in NRP funds for new plantings in 2003-2004.

- **Senior Chore Corps** – Neighborhood seniors often need additional help to keep their yards raked and mowed and sidewalks shoveled. A Senior Chore Corps was formed in partnership with TRUST, Inc. and \$11,000 in NRP funds were used to help pay for outside work performed by neighborhood youth.

- **Lyndale Ave. South Renewal (LASR-CC)** – The Kenny neighborhood formed a partnership with the Windom, Tangletown, and Lynnhurst neighborhoods (under the project name of LASR-CC Lyndale Avenue South Renewal – Creek to Crosstown) to develop a shared vision for this important boundary area and a future streetscape plan. Kenny's NRP investment of \$15,000 was the seed money for this collaboration. *The City has been a valued partner and provided a CLIC grant of \$200,000 for the master planning process.*

KENWOOD

- **Kenilworth Lagoon** – Kenwood residents invested NRP funds to improve the shoreline and adjacent area along the north side of Kenilworth lagoon near Lake of the Isles.

- **Park/School Improvements** – Kenwood residents invested NRP funds to make physical improvements to the Kenwood School park area.

KINGFIELD

- **Nicollet Avenue Streetscape (40th to 46th Street South)** –The neighborhood provided \$222,796 in NRP funds to the Nicollet Avenue repaving project to add pedestrian scale lighting along Nicollet and wrap the lighting around the corners at intersections. NRP funds covered approximately 78% of the lighting costs. *Neighborhood investment in the repaving project also covered new trees and sidewalk improvements.*

- **40th Street Greenway** – The neighborhood invested \$290,000 of its NRP funds to plan and begin construction of a bike and pedestrian friendly greenway along 40th Street that would connect Lake Harriet and the Mississippi River. *The project is a collaboration between Kingfield and the neighborhoods along the rest of the greenway route.*

- **Business Façade Improvement Program** – KFNA designated \$331,053 in NRP funds for business façade improvements and provided additional NRP funds (\$30,132) for large, building exterior murals. *Kingfield has several business nodes and unique businesses, which the neighborhood wanted to promote as a destination for shopping, coffee and dining. The façade improvement matching grant program was established to revitalize neighborhood businesses. The murals discourage graffiti, promote the Kingfield business nodes as unique destinations, celebrate the City's diversity, and create a visual sense of place for the neighborhood.*

- **MLK Park** – Kingfield invested \$152,016 in NRP funds (2002) to rehabilitate the park building and to make the multi-purpose room suitable for meeting space with improved acoustics and ventilation. *When the Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA) began holding its board meetings at the Martin Luther King Park Community Center, they discovered that the multi-purpose room was not designed for meetings. The cement block walls made for poor acoustics and the room became much too warm when larger groups were meeting.*

- **Hosmer Library** – Residents living in five Minneapolis neighborhoods (*Bryant, Central, Kingfield, Lyndale, and Powderhorn Park*) invested \$440,000 of their NRP funds in the renovation and restoration of the Hosmer library. *The major facility improvements at the rejuvenated 90-year old library included a computer lab and tech center, and community meeting room. Library patronage at Hosmer increased 100 percent over each of the first four years after the renovation was completed in 1997.*

LIND-BOHANON

- **Home Improvement Programs** – Lind-Bohanon neighborhood residents invested nearly \$400,000 in home improvement programs and senior housing construction. These programs helped stabilize the neighborhood's supply of affordable housing.

- **Swimming Pool Improvements** – NRP funds were used to completely renovate the wading pool at Lind-Bohanon Park to assure safe water for children's play and to bring the pool up to current health standards.

- **GHAR Square** – The Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association (LBNA) used \$112,162 of their NRP funds to clean up and plant a blighted and polluted site located at 6th Street North between North 51st and 52nd Avenues. Numerous trees were planted to make this former eye sore a green and shady urban forest.

- **North Lyndale Business Improvements** – \$60,000 has been set aside for business façade improvements as a matching grant for existing businesses to improve their exteriors. A land use and streetscape plan was also developed for North Lyndale Avenue with \$28,800 in NRP Funds.

- **Partnerships** – LBNA formed partnerships with other Camden Community neighborhoods to accomplish two other major projects: the relocation of the Camden Physicians Clinic (\$12,268 in LBNA NRP funds) to the old Camden Theater site and the construction of 75 units of senior housing at Shingle Creek Commons (\$50,000 in NRP funds) on the Humboldt Greenway.

LINDEN HILLS

- **43rd and Upton/Sheridan Improvements** – NRP funds were used to make “downtown Linden Hills” greener and safer for both drivers and pedestrians.

- **Linden Hills Library** - NRP provided \$138,000 for a restoration and renovation of the Linden Hills Library that included a new elevator and an accessible front entrance. *NRP funds were also used for an enhanced children's room, an increase in audiovisual materials, and a new neighborhood history collection.*

- **Milfoil Harvester** – Linden Hills invested in a milfoil harvester to address the quality of Lake Harriet. The Milfoil harvester was purchased by the Park Board using \$67,000 in Linden Hills and Fulton NRP funds and has helped keep this important and frequently used lake from being overrun with invasive vegetation.

LOGAN PARK

- **Housing Programs** – Logan Park invested \$855,800 of NRP funds in its home improvement programs. *This investment has leveraged \$667,200 of private funds for a total investment of \$1,523,000. As a result, 206 homes have been rehabilitated through the programs, including some of the worst properties in the neighborhood.*

- **Problem Properties Program** - An additional 25 properties (not included in the home improvement program covered above) were improved through the Logan Park Problem Properties Program., *61 of the 94 "problem" properties originally identified have been improved. The Problem Properties Program received a "Best Housing Program" award at NRP's 10-year celebration.*

- **Logan Park** – Logan Park NRP funds have been used for programming and physical improvements at Logan Park Recreation Center. *\$60,000 of NRP funds were invested in the extensive renovation of the Logan Park playground and equipment and \$22,000 has been used to fund a summer youth coordinator position.*

LONGFELLOW

- **Midtown YWCA** – Residents in five Minneapolis neighborhoods invested more than \$1 million of NRP funds in the construction of a new \$21 million Midtown YWCA Community and Urban Sports Center that provides youth, childcare and fitness programs to thousands of residents. *Construction of the Midtown YWCA helped fuel development on a previously neglected stretch of Lake Street.*

- **Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path** – Residents in six Minneapolis neighborhoods invested nearly \$90,000 in NRP funds to convert an unused sunken rail corridor into the 2.8-mile Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. *When complete, the Midtown Greenway will extend all the way from Minneapolis' western border to the Mississippi River along 29th Street.*

- **Brackett Park Recreation Center and Park Renovations** – Longfellow residents invested \$677,000 of NRP funds to help bring a new \$1.2 million recreation center to Brackett Park. *The 5,300 square-foot recreation center replaced a 70-year old park structure that was in need of major renovation. In addition, the neighborhood used NRP funds to create and support community programs for children, families, and seniors at Brackett Park.*

- **Mississippi River Gorge Stewardship Initiative** – Using the River Gorge Master Plan as its guide, the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) created the Mississippi River Gorge Stewardship Initiative. The initiative consists of projects that have made and will continue to make aesthetic, accessibility, and environmental improvements to the Mississippi River Gorge area. *The improvements include bluff stabilization and erosion prevention, blight and debris removal, trail restoration and access, savannah and prairie restoration, bridge repair, and river access. The 35th Street Overlook (a beautiful new overlook with benches) and the 27th Street Stairway (a stairway that gives residents access to a mid bluff area above the river) are two visible results of the initiative.*

LORING PARK

- **Nicollet Avenue Streetscape: EAT STREET** – The Loring Park, Stevens Square, Loring Heights and Whittier neighborhoods invested more than \$100,000 in NRP funds in planning for the renovation of Nicollet Avenue from 15th Street to 28th Street. The planning investment and implementation funds from the three neighborhoods resulted in the leveraging of additional public and private funds that brought new trees, new sidewalks, decorative iron and brick railings, and pedestrian level street lighting to a 1.2 mile stretch of Nicollet Avenue. *The former “no man’s land” was transformed into “Eat Street”. When EAT STREET officially opened in 1997, it completely changed the once barren Nicollet Avenue into one of the hottest restaurant and food-oriented corridors in all of Minneapolis.*

- **Loring Park Renovation** – Residents in the Loring Park neighborhood invested more than \$1.1 million of NRP funds to renovate Loring Park. The improvements included: revitalizing the pond to stop it from losing water; adding safer bike and pedestrian paths; new lights, benches and landscaping; relocation and renovation of the historic office of the park board's first superintendent; and the creation of a formal “Garden of the Seasons” at the park’s center. *When first developed in 1883 Loring Park was known as Central Park. Today the park still serves as the Central Park of the City of Minneapolis. Both residents and non-residents use the park every day as a place to have a lunch break, take a stroll among the flowers or attend an event. The hundreds of people who were empowered through NRP to create a vision for a renovated Park and then see that vision become reality did so for the benefit and enjoyment of all the residents of Minneapolis who use and visit the park.*

- **Leveraged Improvement Program** – The Loring Park invested \$600,000 in its Leveraged Improvement Program (LIP) to renovate residential properties and encourage private investment. *More than 100 separate projects were completed throughout the neighborhood in over 40 buildings with a combined total of over 2,000 units. The program was developed and managed by a volunteer committee of neighborhood residents and property owners.*

- **DB Lyon House** –The neighborhood committed \$130,000 in NRP funds for the purchase and renovation of the D.B. Lyon house. *Built in 1892 by Episcopal minister D.B. Lyon, this home at 419 Oak Grove Street is a symbol of what makes neighborhood participation and City living great. Just days from demolition, the Lyon house was saved by board members of Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC) and other volunteer activists. The 7,000 square foot mansion has been renovated and is now home to owners who relish in its unique character.*

LOWRY HILL

- **Hennepin Ave. Revitalization** – The Lowry Hill neighborhood organized a 7-neighborhood planning process that produced the Hennepin Avenue Strategic Plan and over \$550,000 of NRP investments along Hennepin Avenue, from Douglas Avenue to 28th Street. *Sustaining and enhancing the spirit of Hennepin Avenue is a major priority for several neighborhoods participating in the NRP. Improvements included new street infrastructure such as pedestrian-level lighting, tree grates, benches, sidewalk improvements, and reconfigured entry points to the Avenue. The Hennepin Ave Strategic Plan also provides a detailed vision for the corridor to guide future development.*
- **Thomas Lowry Park Improvements** – Lowry Hill NRP invested \$265,000 in improvements to Thomas Lowry Park that included: major repairs to the “7 Pools” fountain, repaving of pathways, installation of new lighting and benches, and refurbishing of the perennial beds.

LOWRY HILL EAST

- **Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path** – Residents in six Minneapolis neighborhoods invested nearly \$90,000 in NRP funds to convert an unused sunken rail corridor into the 2.8-mile Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. *When complete, the Midtown Greenway will extend all the way from Minneapolis’ western border to the Mississippi River along 29th Street.*
- **Jefferson School Playground** – Residents in the Lowry Hill East neighborhood invested NRP funds and volunteer hours and energy in designing and installing (with over 200 neighborhood volunteers) a new playground.
- **Jefferson School Community Computer Lab** – Lowry Hill East NRP and the Minneapolis School District funded the Community Computer Lab. The lab has 30 iMac computers and offers free community use every Thursday evening, as well as several computer education classes to the community, with waived fees for Lowry Hill East residents. *Jefferson Community School became more true to its (middle) name when the school-community computer lab in Room 201 opened its doors. The lab offers an opportunity for people to have free computer access and become more technologically skilled in the friendly company of neighbors.*

LYNDALE

- **Lyndale Program Fund** – Early in Lyndale’s revitalization efforts the Youth & Family Committee expressed concern that all children in the community should have access to the highest quality programs and services. Residents developed the Lyndale Program Fund to use the community’s resources to build the capacity of neighborhood human service organizations to deliver more effective programs that meet the real needs of residents. *The innovative market-based system has successfully built a critical sense of accountability between local service providers, parents and their children and has fostered the development of long-term relationships that have strengthened the entire community.*

- **Block Clubs Deluxe** – Lyndale’s Block Clubs Deluxe (BCD) is an innovative collaborative program developed between the Lyndale Neighborhood Association and the Fifth Precinct to expand traditional block club organizing. *BCD recruits a broad-based leadership team on each block comprised of up to eight leaders who encourage neighborhood participation and serve as resources. Since 1996, the program has recruited and maintained 140 block contracts with leaders coming from all facets of the neighborhood*
- **Mujeres Latinas en Accion** – The 79 Latino women and their families who are involved with *Mujeres Latinas en Accion* have created a powerful support network within Lyndale’s Latino community. *Mujeres Latinas en Accion* focuses on building community by: creating learning opportunities on immediately relevant topics such as domestic violence, fire prevention and safety, tenants rights etc.; celebrating and sharing Latino culture with non-Latino neighbors; and supporting Latino women in their efforts to achieve economic independence. *By taking this holistic approach, the isolation and alienation that was felt by Latino women five years ago has disappeared. Relationships have been established that never existed before and Latino women have become more invested in the community.*
- **Youth Leadership Initiative** – Lyndale’s Youth Leadership Initiative annually supports over 100 teens working to implement dozens of projects that have a tangible impact on the Lyndale neighborhood including: graffiti removal and neighborhood beautification projects; three weekend-long leadership retreats; and weekly summer service and enrichment projects. *Youth are active and respected community builders in Lyndale. About three years ago Lyndale residents realized that involving teens as leaders and empowering them to play a key role in shaping their community was critical to revitalization efforts in the Lyndale neighborhood. Youth are now more than recipients of services and participants in programs.*
- **Youth Farm and Market Project** – The Youth Farm and Market Project was established in 1995 to provide meaningful work experiences for low-income urban youth, ages 9-14. *The Youth Farm and Market Project (YFMP) helps economically disadvantaged young people develop the skills and support they will need to make the difficult transitions from adolescence to adulthood. YFMP’s goals are to create entrepreneurial work experiences for urban youth, build community by strengthening relationships among youth and other neighborhood residents, create more “youth friendly” space in urban neighborhoods, teach youth skills to achieve economic independence, and produce high quality food for low-income people.*
- **Hosmer Library** – Residents living in five Minneapolis neighborhoods (*Bryant, Central, Kingfield, Lyndale, and Powderhorn Park*) invested \$440,000 of their NRP funds in the renovation and restoration of the Hosmer library. *The major facility improvements at the rejuvenated 90-year old library included a computer lab and tech center, and community meeting room. Library patronage at Hosmer increased 100 percent over each of the first four years after the renovation was completed in 1997.*

LYNNHURST

- **Burroughs School Improvements** – The Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association (LYNAS) discovered during their NRP plan development process that a significant number of neighborhood children were attending private schools. To encourage neighborhood residents to send their children to the Burroughs Community School, LYNAS invested over \$330,000 in NRP funds to: provide new computers and software; purchase multi-cultural library materials; add expanded arts curriculum; add a garden and environmental curriculum; purchase moveable furniture to create tutoring areas; and expand gym and basketball facilities. *LYNAS also provided \$9,822 (2004) in NRP funds for computers and multi-cultural materials for the Washburn Public Library.*
- **Shoreline Stabilization, Removal of Non-Native Species, and Alum treatment of Lake Harriet Project** – Volunteers from several adjoining neighborhoods worked together to help with the removal of non-native species and the planting of new trees to improve the water quality and shore line of Lake Harriet.
- **Tree Planting** – Lynnhurst invested over \$52,000 of their NRP funds for tree plantings on park land in the neighborhood. *The prospects for survival were enhanced by neighborhood volunteers who participated in the “Adopt a Tree” program and watered the new trees.*
- **Neighbors for Safe Driving Campaign** – NRP funds were invested in a highly successful and visible traffic calming campaign launched by residents in the Fulton and Lynnhurst neighborhoods along 50th Street South. *Traffic calming measures aimed at reducing traffic speeds and volume are a priority in 36 NRP Neighborhood Action Plans. One of the most innovative and visible of these traffic calming projects was the Fulton/Lynnhurst “Neighbors for Safe Driving” campaign. Developed in collaboration with the Minneapolis Police Department, this education and enforcement campaign used lawn signs, billboards, bumper stickers, newsletters, and a radar gun to encourage drivers to slow down. The campaign changed driver behavior along 50th Street South and helped build a greater sense of community.*
- **50th Street** – A traffic study was conducted utilizing \$20,000 in LYNAS NRP funds, which was matched with Fulton NRP funds. Pedestrian scale lighting was added to LYNAS business nodes using \$39,375 from neighborhood NRP funds.

MARCY-HOLMES

- **Southeast Seniors Program** – Residents in the Marcy-Holmes, Southeast Como and Prospect Park neighborhoods invested \$128,140 from Phase I and Phase II of NRP in the Southeast Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program. *The program enables seniors in the three neighborhoods to continue living in their own homes rather than face moving into assisted-care facilities. Seniors participating in the program can access in-home nursing services, certified home health aides, homemaker assistance, and companionship from visiting volunteers. In addition, the program helps seniors with transportation, meals, and other chores.*

- **Marcy Holmes Historic Restoration Program** – The Marcy-Holmes Historic Homes Restoration Program provided forgivable loans for exterior improvements to owners of residential properties in the Fifth Street Historic District. *Fourteen properties benefited from this program and generated significant positive impact in the neighborhood. Improvements ranged from the removal of aluminum and asphalt siding, to front porch restorations, to the replacement of architectural details. Single-family homes, apartments, condominiums and rooming houses were assisted.*
- **Elwell Park** –Elwell Park is tucked into a pocket of land that once was the site for a single family home at 7th Avenue and 6th Street SE. *The neighborhood helped develop the concept for the rehabilitated park (i.e. an imaginary house). The new “house” features public art elements including “front and back porch” gathering spaces, a mosaic tiled “sofa bench” and a bridge whose railings resemble the head and foot boards of a bed. The public artwork also includes a whimsical metal fence at the entrance and a new mosaic tile shell for the park’s beloved concrete turtle.*
- **Student Liaison** –The Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association used NRP funds to hire it’s first-ever student liaison in 2004. *In a neighborhood dominated by rental properties and university students, there’s bound to be some tension between students and long-term residents. The liaison reviewed police reports on noisy parties, met with students to hear concerns and provide information on responsible neighborhood living and made referrals to the Restorative Justice Program.*

MCKINLEY

- **Cityview School** – Residents of the McKinley Community were involved in every level of the school’s development, including site selection, orientation, building specifications, design, and programming. *The Cityview school project has had a positive impact on the neighborhood and created a solid sense of community and collective ownership. Perkins Hill Park was preserved and connected to the school grounds and Cityview has become an anchor for the neighborhood, fostering redevelopment of the entire area.*

NICOLLET ISLAND

- **Storefront Matching Grant Program** – The Nicollet Island East Bank neighborhood established the St. Anthony Heritage Storefront Improvement Fund using \$155,748 in NRP funds. Improvements were made to more than twenty businesses. *The funds acted as seed money and the resulting improvements encouraged other development. The commercial area has improved dramatically.*
- **Street Pavers on Nicollet Island** – The Nicollet Island East Bank neighborhood invested \$62,000 of their NRP funds for the installation of street pavers on the island. The neighborhood investment supplemented Park Board funds used to reconstruct the streets of the island.

NOKOMIS EAST

• **Lake Nokomis Improvement Project** – Residents in the Nokomis East area invested \$350,000 of NRP funds to carry out several initiatives designed to address environmental concerns in the neighborhoods. *Residents established the Blue Water Commission in partnership with two other neighborhood groups, the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and Hennepin County to oversee these efforts. The Commission issued a report that has served as the blueprint for addressing Lake Nokomis water quality concerns. Three wetland ponds were constructed as part of the plan near the southwest part of Lake Nokomis to help capture contaminated runoff before it enters the lake.*

• **Native Gardens/Savanna Restoration Project** – Nokomis area residents concerned about the water quality of Lakes Nokomis and Hiawatha completed several environmental projects to address the negative impact of phosphorous runoff from fertilizer use. The neighborhood invested NRP funds to reintroduce native plants, grasses, and wildflowers in three gardens near Lake Nokomis. *Volunteers planted wetland and other native vegetation in three gardens and on the shoreline around Lake Nokomis to improve water quality by controlling erosion. The gardens have been a major source of pride and community building for residents who have been responsible for their maintenance.*

NORTHEAST PARK

• **Northeast Park Arbor Area** – Northeast Park residents provided \$100,000 of NRP funds to create an arbor area at Northeast Park. *Adults now have a quiet green space to enjoy while young adults and children play in the various improved recreational areas in the park. The arbor area includes picnic tables, park benches, pedestrian lighting, paved paths, and a concrete pergola.*

• **Home Improvement Program** – The neighborhood allocated \$265,000 of NRP funds for exterior and interior improvements to older homes in Northeast Park. 43 grants totaling \$120,000 were made to lower income households, and 77 matching grants totaling \$145,000 were made to other households in the neighborhood. Improvements included: new driveways, sidewalks, roofs, furnaces, painting, siding, doors, and windows.

NEAR NORTH, WILLARD HAY

• **West of Penn Development Project** – Residents in the Near North and Willard Hay neighborhoods invested \$175,000 in NRP funds to convert two formerly blighted buildings into 11 artist studio spaces and two community galleries.

• **Minneapolis Urban League's Glover-Sudduth Center for Urban Affairs and Economic Development** – This \$6 million facility brought a treasured community institution home to the formerly vacant corner of Plymouth and Penn Avenues. *The Glover-Sudduth Center contains a new employment and training center that provides unemployed and underemployed community residents with marketable and upgraded job skills and serves as a business incubator for six small businesses.*

- **Single Family Housing Rehab Program** - The Near North/Willard Hay NRP housing committee invested nearly \$1.5 million of NRP funds to acquire approximately 35 vacant properties throughout the neighborhood, renovate them, and resell them to new homeowners. *When residents from the Near North and Willard-Hay neighborhoods developed their housing plan, one of their primary goals was to return vacant properties to homeownership. Besides costing the city thousands of dollars in lost tax revenue, vacant properties depress the value of neighboring properties and discourage private investment and economic development.*

- **New Housing Construction** –Near North/Willard-Hay invested \$39,104 in the construction of four new houses to help keep them affordable to low income buyers.

- **Home Improvement Loans** –Northside Neighborhood Housing Services has used \$1.2 million dollars of Near North Willard Hay NRP funds to make \$5 million in home improvement loans to neighborhood residents. *The 325 loans, which average about \$15,000 per home, have generated approximately \$3.3 million in exterior improvements to single family homes, \$1.5 million in interior improvements to single family homes, and \$200,000 in improvements to multi-family properties.*

PHILLIPS

- **Franklin Avenue Streetscape** - Residents in the Phillips neighborhood invested \$300,000 in NRP funds in a \$3.8 million Franklin Avenue Streetscape renewal project for the blocks from Chicago to 16th Avenues. *The project includes new pedestrian lighting, 80 new trees, benches, perennial flowerbeds, bike racks and widened sidewalks inlaid with colorful graphic designs depicting the many cultures represented in the Phillips neighborhood. The streetscape improvements have already spurred additional development in the area.*

- **Green Institute** – Residents in the Phillips neighborhood were able to turn a proposed site for a garbage transfer station into a center for environmental and community renewal. *The Green Institute and its programs are now turning waste into useful products, creating jobs, and producing a cleaner environment.*

- **Ancient Traders Market** – NRP funds were used to help acquire and renovate a building at 1113 E. Franklin Avenue. *The building, now known as Ancient Trader's Market, serves as a retail mall/small business incubator housing American Indian and other multi-cultural businesses.*

- **Stewart Park Renovation** – Because of the NRP, the neighborhood was able to address parking problems at the adjoining Anderson School, put speed bumps on 12th Avenue to slow traffic, add trees to the park, install higher quality playing fields, and increase lighting in the area. *As a result, safety was improved and the park is now a source of neighborhood pride. The NRP process ensured that project design and implementation reflected the needs and wants of neighborhood residents.*

- **Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path** – Residents in six Minneapolis neighborhoods invested nearly \$90,000 in NRP funds to convert an unused sunken rail corridor into the 2.8-mile Midtown Greenway Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. *When complete, the Midtown Greenway will extend all the way from Minneapolis' western border to the Mississippi River along 29th Street.*

POWDERHORN PARK

- **Artists on Chicago** – Residents living in the Powderhorn Park and Central neighborhoods invested \$450,000 of their NRP funds in this 10-unit scattered site home-ownership housing project designed for artists. *All of the studio spaces, which are on the street side of the complexes, have patio doors that open to the street, thus creating a storefront appearance. By design, artists living and working in the units help promote community safety by acting as extra eyes on the street. Three of the housing units were sold to homeowners at or below 50 percent of the area's median income, three units to buyers below 60 percent of median income and two units to buyers below 80 percent of median income. The last two adjoining units are a rental/owner-occupied duplex.*
- **Midtown YWCA** – Residents in five Minneapolis neighborhoods invested more than \$1 million of NRP funds in the new \$21 million Midtown YWCA Community and Urban Sports Center that provides youth, childcare and fitness programs to thousands of residents. *The Midtown YWCA opened on August 1, 2000 and has helped fuel development of a previously neglected stretch of Lake Street.*
- **HOMS Initiative** – The HOMS Initiative is a collaboration of neighborhood groups, foundations and non-profit developers that created affordable home ownership opportunities in South Minneapolis. The project leveraged over \$2.6 million and produced 150 affordable housing units.
- **Mercado Central** –The Powderhorn Park and Phillips neighborhoods invested \$327,000 of their NRP funds in Mercado Central -- a cooperative marketplace owned and operated by 47 Latino merchants. *One of the best ways to stimulate economic development in a neighborhood or city is to create places where businesses can survive and grow. The Mercado, with its wide variety of Latin American foods and wares, is designed to simulate the outdoor markets found in many Latin American cities. By grouping many businesses together under one roof, the Mercado creates an exciting marketplace atmosphere and attract larger crowds than any single business could on its own. Vendors make a small payment each month for use of a 10-foot by 12-foot shop. Mercado merchants also have access to a number of in-house business and technical support services that help reduce the risk of failing. Vendors must complete small business training classes, submit business plans, and buy \$1,000 of stock in the Mercado before they can join the cooperative.*
- **Hosmer Library** – Residents living in five Minneapolis neighborhoods (*Bryant, Central, Kingfield, Lyndale, and Powderhorn Park*) invested \$440,000 of their NRP funds in the renovation and restoration of the Hosmer library. *The major facility improvements at the rejuvenated 90-year old library included a computer lab and tech center, and community meeting room. Library patronage at Hosmer increased 100 percent over each of the first four years after the renovation was completed in 1997.*

PROSPECT PARK

- **Mississippi River Gorge Regional Park** – The neighborhood invested some of its NRP funds in improving pedestrian access to the Mississippi River by adding stairs from the parkway to the riverbank and constructing a connecting path to existing access ways downriver. The improvement project was coordinated with existing MNDot work on the I-94 bridge and resulted in a unique elevated walkway along the riverbank to the U of M.
- **Pratt School Renovation and Reopening** – Neighborhood efforts to foster community-based learning led to the reopening of Pratt School in 2000 after it had been closed for 18 years. The neighborhood invested \$437,000 of their NRP funds in major improvements including the addition of an elevator to increase accessibility, a playground, a “village green,” a performance amphitheater, and an update to the facility’s mechanical systems and grounds.
- **Southeast Seniors Program** – Residents in the Prospect Park, Marcy-Holmes, and Southeast Como neighborhoods invested \$128,140 from Phase I and Phase II of NRP in the Southeast Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program. *The program enables seniors in the three neighborhoods to continue living in their own homes rather than face moving into assisted-care facilities. Seniors participating in the program can access in-home nursing services, certified home health aides, homemaker assistance, and companionship from visiting volunteers. In addition, the program helps seniors with transportation, meals, and other chores.*

SEWARD

- **26th and 26th Redevelopment** –The neighborhood invested \$625,000 of their NRP funds to acquire and redevelop commercial/industrial properties at 26th and 26th, a key intersection at the southwest corner of the neighborhood. *With assistance from Seward Redesign, NRP and MCDA, Koeschel Peterson Advertising and Design and The New French Bakery relocated and expanded their business operations at the intersection -- replacing blighted and incompatible uses with growing businesses that generate increased taxes and jobs. Funds were used to help with a variety of costs associated with site assembly and landscaping enhancements.*
- **Franklin Avenue Redevelopment** –The neighborhood invested over \$550,000 of Seward NRP action plan funds and \$260,000 of NRP Transition Funds to help existing neighborhood businesses grow and new businesses come in and enhance the overall character of this important neighborhood corridor. *The critical theme of this investment has been helping existing businesses expand and become more profitable. NRP funds have been used for redevelopment planning, streetscape enhancements, parking improvements, gap financing and building improvements to help the following businesses: Blue Nile Restaurant, Seward Coop Grocery, Welna Ace Hardware, West Bank Karate School, Northern Clay Center, the Playwrights Center, Zipp's Liquor, Smiley Point Clinic, and Crown Video.*
- **Matthews Park/Seward Montessori School** – The neighborhood invested \$370,000 to enhance the facilities and equipment available at the Matthews Park/Seward Montessori School complex. *The complex is a hub of community activity in the Seward neighborhood and NRP dollars were used to: improve lighting, drainage and circulation in the parking lot; enhance the storage facilities, circulation, and accessibility at the recreation center; install a*

new floor in the gymnasium; acquire new volleyball and other equipment for the park; and, purchase video and computer equipment for the media center.

- **Home Improvement Programs** – The Seward neighborhood has invested nearly \$2 million of their NRP funds in a wide variety of housing improvement programs. *This investment has leveraged an additional \$7 million worth of improvements to the housing stock.*

SHERIDAN

- **Northeast Housing Resource Center** - The Northeast Housing Resource Center, located just south of Sheridan at Catholic Eldercare, helps Sheridan residents with their home improvement needs. The neighborhood is providing more than \$750,000 to help owners improve their Sheridan properties.

- **Community Building Initiatives** –The Sheridan Neighborhood Organization hosts community building events such as the SNO Ball (a winter evening of entertainment and social connections) and the SNO Big Deal (an annual picnic). *Information on community events and programs is provided in the neighborhood newsletter, aptly named “SNO News is Good News”.*

SHINGLE CREEK

- **Housing Programs** – The Shingle Creek neighborhood invested more than 85 percent of its NRP plan allocation in home improvement programs and for construction of new senior housing.

- **Shingle Creek Commons** –The Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association (SCNA) partnered with other Camden Community neighborhoods and provided \$150,000 in SCNA NRP funds for the Shingle Creek Commons senior housing apartments on the Humboldt Greenway.

- **Olson Middle School Gym Floor** – SCNA provided \$10,000 in NRP funds to the school district for the Olson Middle School gymnasium floor repair/replacement.

- **Summer Youth Programs** – Summer youth programs at the park were designed and implemented using \$16,400 in NRP funds to help divert youth from gang activity.

- **Industrial Park Landscaping Plan** – SCNA used \$3,000 in NRP funds and a matching amount from the City Planning Department to develop a landscape plan for the industrial park.

SOUTHEAST COMO

- **Van Cleve Park Improvements** - NRP funds made possible a variety of improvements to Van Cleve Park, the park building and the pool. New playground equipment was installed, along with benches, a sign, a computer lab, and increased programming.

- **Southeast Seniors Program** – Residents in the Marcy-Holmes, Southeast Como and Prospect Park neighborhoods invested \$128,140 from Phase I and Phase II of NRP in the Southeast Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program. *The program enables seniors in the three neighborhoods to continue living in their own homes rather than face moving into assisted-care facilities. Seniors participating in the program can access in-home nursing services, certified home health aides, homemaker assistance, and companionship from visiting volunteers. In addition, the program helps seniors with transportation, meals, and other chores.*

ST. ANTHONY EAST

- **Community Health Program** – The neighborhood contracted with Hennepin County Community Health Department to administer a Community Health Program through the Northeast Senior Citizen Resource Center. *The focus is on providing preventive services to seniors, lower income residents and young people.*

- **Home Improvement Program** – Residents in the St. Anthony East neighborhood invested NRP funds in a home improvement program that improved the exterior and interior quality of the housing stock. *The focus is on addressing code compliance issues, improving handicap accessibility, reducing maintenance needs and minimizing energy costs.*

ST. ANTHONY WEST

- **STAWNO Housing Programs** – The neighborhood's NRP housing programs have touched nearly 25% of all housing units in St. Anthony West. *Substandard structures have been rehabilitated and sold to new residents and residents have used NRP low-interest loans to improve their current homes. The Housing Resource Center administers the program for St. Anthony West.*

- **Cops on Bikes** – The Northeast Cops on Bikes program was started by St. Anthony West. *Residents identify neighborhood "hot spots," and police on bicycles get to know residents while working to address neighborhood-identified problems.*

STEVENS SQUARE

- **Nicollet Avenue Streetscape: EAT STREET** – The Stevens Square, Loring Park and Whittier neighborhoods invested more than \$100,000 in NRP funds in planning for the renovation of Nicollet Avenue from 15th Street to 28th Street. The planning investment and implementation funds from the three neighborhoods resulted in the leveraging of additional public and private funds that brought new trees, new sidewalks, decorative iron and brick railings, and pedestrian level street lighting to a 1.2 mile stretch of Nicollet Avenue. *The former "no man's land" was transformed into "Eat Street". When EAT STREET officially opened in 1997, it completely changed the once barren Nicollet Avenue into one of the hottest restaurant and food-oriented corridors in all of Minneapolis.*

- **Stevens Community Apartments** –The Stevens Square and Loring Heights neighborhoods invested \$500,000 of NRP funds and teamed with private property owners to renovate and rehabilitate 618 units in 23 low-income apartment buildings. *The neighborhood leveraged nearly \$15 million in additional private and public monies to assure that quality affordable housing would remain in one of the most densely populated neighborhoods in the city.*
- **Central Cities Neighborhood Partnership Community Conferencing Program** – Stevens Square initiated a multi-neighborhood collaboration with Loring Park and Elliot Park that resulted in the creation of a restorative justice program called Community Conferencing. *Restorative justice programs are founded on the belief that the community is one of the victims when a crime occurs. Justice can be served when the community and the victim hold offenders accountable for their actions. The NRP-supported neighborhood organizations and boards have given the program visibility and credibility in the neighborhoods.*
- **Van Dusen Mansion Renovation** – The Stevens Square Community Organization (SSCO) saved the Van Dusen mansion from demolition and contributed to its restoration. The neighborhood invested \$300,000 of its NRP funds in the renovation of this historic neighborhood landmark. Turning around this single property began the revitalization of the neighborhood. *Built in 1894 by grain industry mogul George Van Dusen, the mansion has been home to a host of private owners, a school house and Aveda's Horst Institute. Nearly a century after its construction, however, the grand landmark was scheduled for demolition. Deemed too costly to renovate, the site sat vacant for over a decade while a small homeless population took up unofficial residence. Vandals stripped the abandoned property and the Van Dusen fell quietly into ruin. The project received a 1997 Heritage Preservation Award and a record-breaking 5,000 visitors toured the mansion during the Tenth Annual Minneapolis-St. Paul Home Tour. Once slated for the wrecking ball, the Van Dusen now sits proudly on the National Registry of Historic Places.*

STANDISH ERICSSON

- **Midtown YWCA** – Residents in five Minneapolis neighborhoods invested more than \$1 million of NRP funds in the new \$21 million Midtown YWCA Community and Urban Sports Center that provides youth, childcare and fitness programs to thousands of residents. *The Midtown YWCA opened on August 1, 2000 and has helped fuel development of a previously neglected stretch of Lake Street.*

SUMNER GLENWOOD

- **Glenwood Lyndale Community Clinic** – NRP provided funds to renovate the site that houses the clinic and for outreach efforts that encourage and support the participation of immigrants. *Initiated by the Sumner Olson Residents Council, this clinic provides culturally sensitive health services to residents in surrounding neighborhoods – especially to mothers and children of immigrant families. The clinic receives more than 10,000 patient visits per year from 1,646 users. The Clinic's impact on the provision of health services to the new immigrant communities has been recognized with national awards from the American Hospital Association and SmithKline Beecham.*

VICTORY

- **Victory Park Improvements** – Residents in the Victory neighborhood proved just how committed they are to the City by investing their time, energy, and \$195,000 of NRP funds in a project to renovate their neighborhood park. *The Victory neighborhood partnered with the Park Board and the Minneapolis Schools to: purchase new playground equipment, make major field improvements and design and implement a major landscape redesign.*
- **Loring School Improvements** – The neighborhood secured new wiring for technology at the Loring School with \$45,768 of its NRP funds and provided \$9,995 for new band equipment to help the students at the school. *The residents of the neighborhood have access to both the computers and the musical instruments.*
- **Seniors/Youth Program** – A program was created to partner neighborhood seniors and youth in the Youth Corps job program using \$10,000 in NRP funds. *Neighborhood seniors often need help with yard work and snow shoveling in order to remain in their own homes. Seniors and youth have reported new friendships between youth and seniors and greater tolerance and understanding as a result of this program.*
- **Camden Physicians' Clinic** – ViNA used \$6,691 of its NRP funds to partner with other Camden Community neighborhoods in relocating the Camden Physicians Clinic to the old Camden Theater site on Lyndale Avenue North. *This action kept the only private clinic practice clinic serving north Minneapolis from going to the suburbs.*

WAITE PARK

- **Cavell Park Improvements** – The neighborhood purchased new playground equipment and renovated the playground area at Cavell Park.

WEBBER-CAMDEN

- **Camden Physicians** – The Webber-Camden neighborhood partnered with the Victory and Lind-Bohanon neighborhoods in relocating the Camden Physicians Clinic to the old Camden Theater site on Lyndale Avenue North. *This action kept the only private clinic practice clinic serving north Minneapolis from going to the suburbs.*

WEST CALHOUN

- **Excelsior Boulevard Master Plan and West Calhoun Village Center Public Improvements** – West Calhoun used its NRP funds to develop a plan for the important intersection of Excelsior Boulevard and West Calhoun Parkway. They also set aside fund for implementing complementary improvements. *NRP funds were used for landscaping, brick detailing, burying overhead power lines, and other streetscape improvements. The result is a shopping area that's pedestrian and bicyclist friendly as well as useful to area shoppers.*

WHITTIER

• **Whittier Community School of the Arts** – Residents in the Whittier neighborhood invested more than \$2 million in NRP funds to acquire and clear land adjacent to Whittier Park, fund a renovation of the park, and construct a new gymnasium that is now shared by the school, park and community. *The Whittier Alliance designated \$400,000 of their NRP funds to facilitate the construction of a new school building to be built adjacent to the Whittier Park Center. The park center was in need of renovation and a new gymnasium was built to link the school and park buildings using \$1,900,000 in NRP funds. The neighborhood's NRP investment leveraged \$15,000,000 from the Minneapolis Schools when the new elementary school was constructed. This state-of-the-art complex, which opened in 1997, has become a vital asset to the community and brought a new school to a neighborhood with 3,300 children. NRP also helped assure that a Neighborhood Early Learning Center (NELC) would be part of the school/park complex.*

• **Whittier Housing Programs** – During Phase I of the NRP, the Whittier neighborhood invested \$4.5 million, or 58% of the neighborhood's overall NRP allocation, on rental and homeownership housing initiatives. *The results of this investment are significant and home ownership in the Whittier neighborhood has increased nearly 15 percent since the launch of the NRP. Property values have also increased, and single and multi-family dwellings are selling quicker and at higher prices than ever before.*

• **Nicollet Avenue Streetscape: EAT STREET** – The Whittier, Loring Park, and Stevens Square neighborhoods invested more than \$100,000 in NRP funds in planning for the renovation of Nicollet Avenue from 15th Street to 28th Street. The planning investment and implementation funds from the three neighborhoods resulted in the leveraging of additional public and private funds that brought new trees, new sidewalks, decorative iron and brick railings, and pedestrian level street lighting to a 1.2 mile stretch of Nicollet Avenue. *The former “no man’s land” was transformed into “Eat Street”. When EAT STREET officially opened in 1997, it completely changed the once barren Nicollet Avenue into one of the hottest restaurant and food-oriented corridors in all of Minneapolis.*

• **Bookmobile** – The neighborhood invested \$120,000 of its NRP funds in partnership with the Minneapolis Library Board to acquire a new Bookmobile to serve Whittier and other neighborhoods of the City. Prospect Park helped pay for the books.

• **Bethlehem Stewart Community Center** – Additional space was needed for older neighborhood youth. Whittier invested \$250,000 in NRP funds to expand and renovate the Bethlehem Stewart Community Center.

• **Jungle Theater** – The Jungle Theater moved to new location in Whittier with a \$50,000 grant and \$150,000 loan from Whittier's NRP Funds.

• **Business Loan Fund** – A commercial and industrial revolving loan fund was established using \$292,000 (1993-01) in NRP funds.

WINDOM

- **Windom Community Center** – Residents in the Windom neighborhood invested \$1.7 million of NRP funds in a \$3 million Windom Community Center. The project provided new classrooms, meeting rooms, media center, gymnasium, and park multi purpose rooms. *The Windom Community Center is a bricks and mortar, dream come true for the residents of the Windom neighborhood. The project was a partnership between the Windom Community Council and Task Force, the Minneapolis Public School Board, the Windom Open School Site Based Management Team, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and the Volunteers of America. The design and final construction produced a beautiful addition to the Windom Open School, which is architecturally compatible with the historic school and functionally efficient for use by the School, the Park Board, and the Windom Community Council.*
- **Windom History Book** – The Windom neighborhood had several life long residents. The WCC secured a CURA grant to fund a journalism graduate student who interviewed the neighborhood elders and compiled a history book with photos and stories about the early settlers in the area. The history was printed using \$1,341 in NRP funds and distributed to local residents, realtors and businesses.
- **Commercial Grant Program** – \$100,000 in NRP funds was set aside by the neighborhood as a match at a ratio of 1:1 for neighborhood businesses interested in making commercial exterior improvements. *More than 20 neighborhood businesses participated and made improvements to their business locations..*

WINDOM PARK

- **Home Improvement Programs** – Windom Park neighborhood residents have invested \$183,000 in home improvement grants and more than \$725,000 in home improvement loans. These programs have enabled the neighborhood to nearly eliminate houses in substandard condition.
- **Stinson Marketplace/Rose Court Townhomes Project** –The “Stinson Marketplace” and 32 “Rose Court” town homes are now located on the former site of the Rosacker’s greenhouse in Northeast Minneapolis as the result of a \$25,000 grant for land acquisition/demolition, \$100,000 in low interest business loans, and a \$500,000 loan guarantee from Windom Park’s NRP Action Plan. *The land formerly carried a zoning designation that would have allowed uses anywhere from the originally proposed three-story apartment building to an adult entertainment establishment. Neighborhood input on both planning and financing created a development that benefited both the neighborhood and the city.*
- **Central Avenue Improvements** – Windom Park residents invested \$100,000 of their neighborhood NRP funds in pedestrian street lighting for Central Avenue in partnership with the City.