

**MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM**

**CEDAR ISLES DEAN**

**NRP PHASE II**

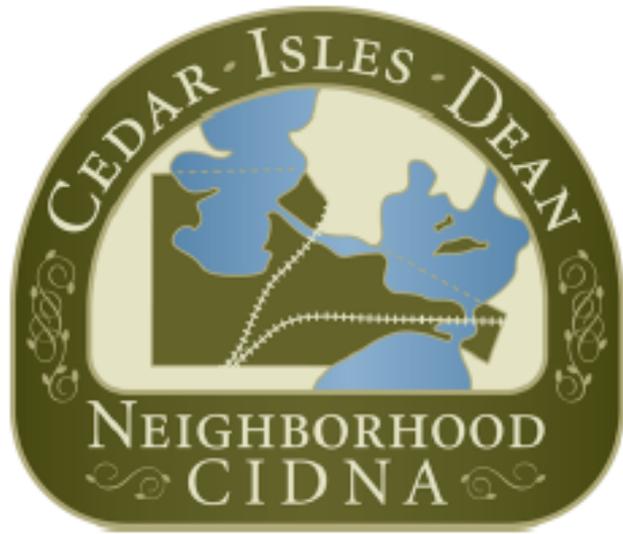
**NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN**

**Legal Opinion Reference Date:           October 22, 2010**

**Date Adopted by the Policy Board:       January 24, 2011**

**Date Adopted by the City Council:       February 25, 2011**

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## Phase II Action Plan

Approved by:  
CIDNA Board on 10/5/2010  
CIDNA Membership on 12/7/2010

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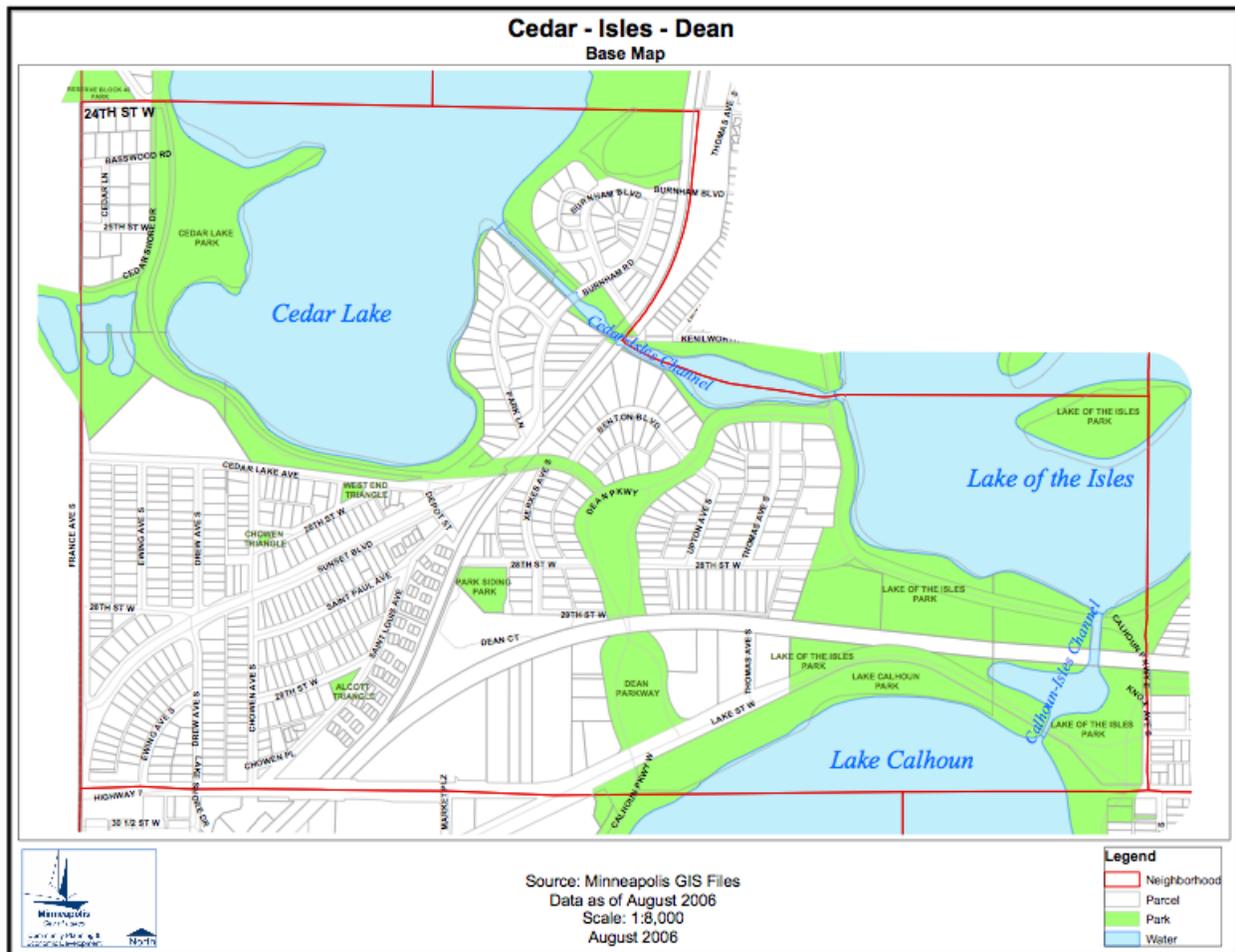
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## Neighborhood Profile

The Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood is the area of the City of Minneapolis that has Lake Street as its southern boundary; France Avenue between Lake Street and West 24<sup>th</sup> Street as its western boundary (the border of Minneapolis and St. Louis Park); a northern border that runs down West 24<sup>th</sup> Street east across Cedar Lake to the Burnham Bridge (that crosses the railroad tracks) south along the tracks to the Kenilworth Lagoon; east along the southern shore of the Lagoon into Lake of The Isles and, finishes by going east to the channel between Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles; an eastern border that goes from Lake of the Isles and south to Lake Street. The area covered by these borders and Cedar-Isles-Dean is shown in the following map:



The CIDNA neighborhood is fortunate because it borders or includes parts of the City’s Chain of Lakes: Cedar Lake, Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles. Retail services are located in south and west areas in the neighborhood. CIDNA is adjacent to The West Calhoun Neighborhood Association and the City of Saint Louis Park.

The CIDNA neighborhood will be going through some dramatic changes with the selection of the Kenilworth Trail corridor as the site for the future Southwest Light Rail Transit line. This rail line location will likely produce additional traffic along Lake Street and continued use of the neighborhood as a bypass to downtown and access into the Kenwood and Lowry Hill neighborhoods.

Data from the 2000 U.S. Census shows Cedar-Isles-Dean as a neighborhood in which:

- There were 2,698 persons living in CIDNA in 2000. Of this population, 93.88% were White, 2.19% Asian, 1.89% Black, 1.15% Hispanic, and 0.89% listed as American Indian or other. Of the 2,698 residents, the largest age group is that from 25 to 44 years old at approximately 38%. The remaining age groups are as follows: 26% age 45-64, 19% age 65 and over, 17% age 0-24.
- The population of CIDNA increased much faster than the population of the City of Minneapolis (by 32.6% from 1980 to 2000 compared to 3.1% for Minneapolis during that same time period.
- There were 1,422 occupied housing units in CIDNA and 75 vacant housing units in 2000. Of the occupied housing units, 779 were owner occupied and 643 were renter occupied.
- The median household income was \$86,892 (in 1999 dollars) for CIDNA versus \$37,974 for the city of Minneapolis.
- The median housing value was \$314,900 (in 2000 dollars) for CIDNA versus \$113,467 for the city of Minneapolis.
- The unemployment rate for CIDNA was 1.8% versus 5.8% for the city of Minneapolis.

## CIDNA's NRP Plan Development Results

October 1994	Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan (NAP) approved by neighborhood membership
November 1994	Phase I NAP approved by NRP Policy Board
November 2008	Phase I NAP Plan Review
March 2010	CIDNA Membership Surveyed on Neighborhood Needs and Priorities (September 2009 – February 2010)
September 28, 2010	Phase II NAP submitted by NRP Committee to CIDNA Board
October 5, 2010	Phase II NAP approved by CIDNA Board
November 1, 2010	CIDNA Membership notification of special meeting to approve Phase II NAP
Future Date	Phase II NAP approved by CIDNA Membership (projected date – December 7, 2010)
Future Date	Phase II NAP approved by NRP Policy Board

# CIDNA Phase II NRP Neighborhood Action Plan

TOTAL NRP FUNDS \$261,420

Housing	\$183,000
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**GOAL:** Assist in increasing affordable housing within the city of Minneapolis and improve and maintain the housing stock in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood.

*City of Minneapolis Goal: Livable Communities “High-quality, affordable housing for all ages and stages in every neighborhood”.*

**Objective 1:** Use Phase II funds to support affordable housing within Minneapolis by providing loans for housing development and construction.

**Strategy:** Provide development and construction loans to a proven organization that is actively developing affordable housing in Minneapolis.

**Strategy Description:**

- Invest CIDNA housing dollars in the development of affordable housing in Minneapolis.
- Use revenue generated from this strategy for reinvestment in this strategy or for any other strategy in this plan.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and Board, The Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation, Non-profit Assistance Fund

**Budget:** \$175,000

**Objective 2:** Increase energy efficiency awareness and encourage CIDNA property owners to reduce energy consumption.

**Strategy:** Promote local energy workshops and offer grants to reimburse CIDNA residents for completed energy audits.

**Strategy Description:** Promote energy workshops and provide reimbursement of up to \$30 per property for completed energy audits.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and Board, Center for Energy and Environment

**Budget:** \$8,000 (workshop marketing material and up to \$30 per household for completed energy audit).

**Objective 3:** Use Phase II funds to provide loans to CIDNA property owners to assist with home improvement projects that improve energy efficiency.

**Strategy:** Improve housing stock by establishing a loan program designed for housing insulation projects and partner with Center for Energy and Environment to raise awareness of and access to third party funds available to support home energy improvements.

**Strategy Description:**

- Provide loans that range from \$2,500 to \$7,500
- Offer below market interest rate loans administered by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party.
- Create loan guidelines that include an income cap to provide the funds to those with greater financial need.
- Use revenues generated from these loans for reinvestment in this strategy or for any other strategy in this plan.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and Board; Center for Energy and Environment, Non-Profit Assistance Fund, Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation, CIDNA members.

**Budget:** Limited to \$7,500 per household; total to be determined (*Phase I funds would be used for this strategy*)

**Objective 4:** Maintain stability of the neighborhood housing stock by minimizing any negative impact on Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood housing from the Southwest Light Rail Transit line in the Kenilworth corridor.

**Strategy:** Use neighborhood NRP funds to mitigate adverse impacts of the location of the Southwest Light Rail Transit line through Cedar-Isles-Dean. The specific actions to be determined.

**Strategy Description:** Minimize the negative impacts from the Southwest LRT line on the Cedar-Isles-Dean housing stock.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and Transit Committee

**Budget:** *(Funds would be allocated as needed and available)*

**GOAL: Encourage collaborative community activities by increasing the identification of CIDNA residents with the neighborhood and relevant issues.**

***City of Minneapolis Goal: Many People, One Minneapolis “Family-friendly opportunities and amenities abound”***

**Objective 1:** Provide information about Cedar-Isles-Dean to CIDNA residents.

**Strategy 1:** Communicate, in a timely manner, with CIDNA residents through electronic communications such as: Web site, newsletter and email.

**Strategy Description:**

- Maintain a Web site for CIDNA neighborhood
- Develop monthly e-communication with neighborhood by using an online marketing service (i.e., Constant Contact)
- Maintain email list of residents; pursue new avenues of name and email address collection
- Send emails as relevant to communicate urgent or time sensitive matters (i.e., crime alerts, detour notices, etc.).

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP coordinator and Board

**Budget:** \$2,000 (For 3 years of expenses)

- \$40 per month for Web ISP = \$480 per year
- Approximately \$12 per month for Constant Contact newsletter service = \$144 per year

**Strategy 2:** Communicate with CIDNA residents through the local newspapers

**Strategy Description:**

- Support the *Hill & Lake News* (H&LP) by submitting CIDNA Board minutes and advertising upcoming events in both the H&LP and the *Southwest Journal* (SWJ)
- Encourage Board members / residents to submit articles of interest to the H&LP and SWJ

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA Board Secretary, CIDNA NRP coordinator, CIDNA Committee Chairpersons, CIDNA Board

**Budget:** \$2,250 (For 3 years of expenses)

- \$750 per year to Hill & Lake Press (H&LP)

**Strategy 3:** Utilize postcard mailings to communicate community events.

**Strategy Description:**

- Mail postcards to alert residents to community events such as: Fall Festival, Annual Meetings and other events
- Manage mailing list by referencing neighborhood boundaries and adding multi-unit buildings
- Manage postage costs by purchasing a CIDNA bulk mail permit or using a ghost permit
- Manage printing and mail service costs

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP coordinator, Committee Chairpersons, CIDNA Board

**Budget:** \$3,600 (for 3 years of expenses)

- \$400 per mailing – includes printing, postage and mail services based on current mailing list of 1,707 households and ghost permit for not-for-profit postage; 3 mailings per year = \$1,200

**Objective 2:** Promote community-building activities by encouraging social events in the neighborhood

**Strategy 1:** Sponsor an annual CIDNA gathering such as the Fall Festival in Park Siding Park.

**Strategy Description:** The CIDNA Fall Festival is a cornerstone event of the neighborhood. Attendance has been steadily growing over the years. This event is not only a social gathering event, but also an opportunity for:

- Community building
- Local business participation
- Conversation with elected officials
- Support for local charities and food shelves
- Dissemination and communication of:
  - Crime prevention and safety information
  - NRP program updates
  - Government programs which effect the community

**Suggested Participants:** Festival committee, CIDNA Board, neighborhood businesses, Minneapolis Fire Department, Minneapolis Police Department, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation, elected representatives/officials, and neighborhood volunteers

**Budget:** \$6,000 (for 3 years of expenses)

**Strategy 2:** Provide additional event opportunities that promote interest in the neighborhood and encourage residents to build relationships with CIDNA neighbors.

**Strategy Description:** Organize, promote and support new community-building events and activities such as:

- Garden plant exchanges
- Labor exchanges (hour of your time for hour of my time)
- Developing a preferred vendor list
- Reduce/reuse/recycle events
- Neighborhood garage sales

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA residents

**Budget:** *(Included in other community building strategies)*

**GOAL: Maintain and enhance a safe environment within the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood.**

**City of Minneapolis Goal: *A Safe Place to Call Home: “People and businesses thrive in a safe and secure city.”***

**Objective 1:** Reduce the number of interloper vehicles using neighborhood roads and encourage observance of speed limits and pedestrian crossings in an aesthetically pleasing manner.

**Strategy:** Promote pedestrian safety

**Strategy Description:** Use community coordinated yard signs such as “*We Live Here, SLOW DOWN*” and temporary speed monitoring equipment to slow down drivers.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, CIDNA Residents on affected routes, CIDNA NRP Coordinator

**Budget:** \$1,000

**Objective 2:** Provide safer pedestrian access on Sunset Boulevard east of Chowen Ave to Cedar South Beach

**Strategy:** Partner with municipal authorities to install sidewalk at relevant location(s) during resurfacing phase of the sewer expansion project.

**Strategy Description:** Provide support for installation of sidewalks where they are needed as part of disruptions created by City street and sewer projects.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, Metropolitan Council, Minneapolis Public Works, CIDNA Residents east of Chowen and west of South Cedar Beach.

**Budget:** Up to \$15,000 provided as a match for other funds

**Objective 3:** Participate in Lakes Area Crime & Safety Initiatives

**Strategy:** Organize CIDNA residents to participate in 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct meetings

**Strategy Description:** Use CIDNA communication tools to keep CIDNA residents informed about crime activity in the neighborhood. Provide information to residents with crime prevention and safety tips.

**Budget:** *(Included in other community building strategies)*

**GOAL: Protect the natural quality of the environment and enhance public spaces in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood.**

**City of Minneapolis Goal: *Eco-Focused “Trees, a solid green investment”***

**Objective 1:** Maintain and promote healthy trees in Cedar-Isles-Dean.

**Strategy:** Seek partnership opportunities with organizations for a tree disease prevention plan, strategic planting of new trees and removal of diseased/dead trees.

**Strategy Description:** Provide grants to reimburse CIDNA residents for up to 25% of the cost to remove dead, diseased or hazardous trees; maximum of \$500 per property.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and Board, CIDNA residents, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, Tree Trust, local arborists, local greenhouse/nurseries, local architects and planners

**Budget:** \$10,000

**Objective 2:** Remove/eradicate invasive plant and tree species.

**Strategy:** Seek partnerships with organizations, recruit volunteer labor and provide grants to assist with reimbursement of expense associated with the removal of buckthorn and other non-native, invasive plants.

**Strategy Description:** Provide grants to reimburse CIDNA residents for up to 25% of the cost to remove invasive trees and shrubs; maximum of \$250 per property.

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and CIDNA Board, CIDNA residents, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, Tree Trust, local arborists, local greenhouse/nurseries, local architects and planners.

**Budget:** \$2,500

**Objective 3:** Protect and improve the South Cedar Lake Beach areas as a prime recreational area for the neighborhood and the City of Minneapolis.

**Strategy:** Improve the functionality and flow at and around Cedar Lake South Beach in a natural and aesthetically pleasing manner.

**Strategy Description:** Seek partnership with relevant organizations to improve the recreational use and flow of the trails/paths/sidewalks, roadways, crosswalks, green space, shoreline and beach.

**Suggested Participants:** Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, Tree Trust, Minneapolis City Council, Hennepin County Railroad Authority, Federal Transit Authority

**Budget:** \$10,070 *(Additional funds would be allocated as needed and available)*

**Objective 4:** Maintain stability of the neighborhood environment by minimizing the impact of the Southwest Light Rail Transit line on Cedar-Isles-Dean.

**Strategy:** Participate in and with corridor planning efforts to use environmental enhancements as one method of improving the Kenilworth corridor.

**Strategy Description:** To be determined

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, NRP Coordinator and Transit Committee, Hennepin County Railroad Authority, Federal Transit Authority

**Budget:** *(Funds would be allocated as needed and available)*

**GOAL: Implement the CIDNA Phase II Action Plan in a timely and efficient manner.**

***City of Minneapolis Goal: A City that works “Shared democracy empowers residents as valued partners”***

**Objective:** Provide the necessary support to implement the CIDNA Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

**Strategy:** Employ staff to provide administratively support implementation of all components of CIDNA Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan with a special focus on neighborhood communication and community outreach.

**Strategy Description:** Hire best suited candidate(s) based CIDNA NRP/Communications Coordinator - Summary of Duties

- Act as liaison between agencies and other community groups
- Disseminate information and respond to inquiries received through [info@cidna.org](mailto:info@cidna.org)
- Coordinate with Committee Chairpersons and Secretary to monitor Committee and Board activities and provide pertinent background information
- Look for opportunities to further promote the general sense of community in the neighborhood
- Assist with organizing and implementation of Phase I and Phase II NAP strategies
- Carry out administrative tasks necessary for implementation
- Publicize NRP programs to the neighborhood and conduct as targeted outreach efforts
- Assist residents with home improvement loan or grant applications
- Act as primary contact for residents regarding neighborhood home improvement, environmental and safety programs

**Suggested Participants:** CIDNA NRP Committee, CIDNA Board

**Budget:** \$26,000

NRP/Communications Coordinator: (For 3 years of expenses)

Initial implementation: (20 hrs/ month) \$ 6,000

Full implementation: (32 hrs/ month) \$17,000

Operating Expenses (supplies / printing etc.) \$ 3,000

**Funds Allocation Summary – Total Phase II Funds** **\$261,420**

Housing **\$183,000**

- Affordable housing development & construction loans
- Energy workshops and audits
- Home energy efficiency and exterior enhancement
- SWLRT housing impact mitigation

Community Building **13,850**

- Website
- Newspaper
- Postcard mailings
- Community building events

Neighborhood Safety **16,000**

- Coordinated yard signs
- Sidewalk project

Environment **22,570**

- Healthy greenscape
- Invasive species reduction
- Improve Cedar South Beach
- SWLRT mitigation

Implementation **26,000**

- CIDNA NRP Coordinator
- Operating expense

## **CIDNA Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan Review**

*To begin planning for Phase II, members of the CIDNA Board met in the fall of 2008 to review the neighborhood's Phase I plan. Listed below are short summaries of the results of strategies from the CIDNA Phase I Plan:*

### **Wetland Soccer Field**

CIDNA used a total of \$100,000 (\$50,000 over original cost) to leverage additional funds from the Park Board to complete improvements to the recreational field at the SW corner of Lake of the Isles. Drainage and field surface are greatly improved, and there is increased usage of the field. Great project exceeding expectations.

### **Early Childhood NELC**

With no NELC building or rented space; only one family used the funds offered to subsidize NELC program involvement. Unspent funds were transferred to other strategies.

### **Early Childhood NELC / Kenwood School**

Although the Neighborhood Early Learning Center (NELC) anticipated in the action plan was not built or obtained; CIDNA promoted use of the existing Kenwood School programs. A kiosk was erected for program information and advertising. Remaining funds in this strategy were transferred to other strategies in the plan.

### **Kenilworth Bike Trail**

CIDNA used \$75,000 of its funds to leverage federal ISTEA and City funds to help complete this great project. City/County worked with CIDNA to install split rail fencing, a significant improvement over the initial plans for chain-link fence. Fees and work were reasonable and of high quality.

### **Park Siding Project**

CIDNA's most visible project was the Park Siding Park renovation. Although the Park Board pulled back from some of the matching funds, CIDNA still finished the project. CIDNA holds its annual fall festival in the park each year, attended by hundreds of residents. This project is the crown jewel of CIDNA's phase I action plan.

### **Cedar Lake South Beach Improvements**

Benches, gardens and a water pump at the Cedar South Beach were installed. Good project, which led to increased community planting efforts, along with outreach. Work quality and fees charged were reasonable.

### **Alcott, Chowen, West End Triangle Improvements**

Benches were installed on the Alcott and West End Triangle parks, although neighbors stopped any installation of a bench on the Chowen Triangle. The benches have been used by many pedestrians.

### **Police Bicycles**

Donated bicycles to the Minneapolis Police Department to help with initiative to increase bike patrols and participation in community outreach. Fall festivals included bike repair and safety booth event by a local store. CIDNA has increased bike patrols and the police were grateful for the equipment.

### **Tree Project**

Trees were planted in two phases; with some of the trees that failed being replaced in the second phase. Most of the trees were planted along the Cedar Lake Parkway section of CIDNA south of 24<sup>th</sup> street to the Cedar South beach. Work was performed as expected with good follow-up. Fees were in-line with the contract.

### **Sidewalk Project**

Completed the sidewalk from Thomas Ave to Lake of the Isles Parkway along the north side of Lake Street. The sidewalk replaced a well-worn dirt trail and has been well received by residents and others. The sidewalk cost more than the original estimate, however, it has held up to wear and tear and is a good success story.

### **Sunset Blvd Bike Lane**

The City developed this lane and the neighborhood did not have to invest any money in the project. Proposed funds were reallocated to other strategies.

### **Cedar Meadows Wetland**

Project is finished with viewing piers, boardwalk/paths and plantings. Park Board provides ongoing plantings and upkeep. This is a nice amenity for CIDNA and improves lake water quality and the general environment around the lakes. Good value and quality work was done. A small balance remains in this strategy

### **Traffic Calming**

Traffic calming projects included test traffic circles followed by installation of speed humps on 28<sup>th</sup> street, Ewing Avenue and Burnham Road. Raised intersections were also installed on Dean Parkway to improve pedestrian safety. Balance of \$22,734.64 remains in this action plan strategy.

### **Bridge Railing Project (strategy 19b)**

This project did not happen, as it was to be a joint project with West Calhoun. Balance of \$38,500 remains in this action plan strategy.

### **Bike Lane Improvements/ Path Improvements**

This project was completed by the City at no additional cost to CIDNA. (Sunset Blvd. Bike lanes were striped) Balance of \$10,000 remains in this action plan strategy.

### **Kenwood School Environmental Project**

Designate contribution against planting, landscaping, benches and outdoor learning environment portions of project. Two rounds of support were given to the project - \$10,000 in June, '09 and \$5,000 in June, '10.