

MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

SOUTHEAST COMO

NRP PHASE II

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN

Legal Opinion Reference Date: October 19, 2006

Date Adopted by the Policy Board: October 23, 2006

Date Adopted by the City Council: November 17, 2006

Published in Finance & Commerce: November 25,2006

Southeast Como

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program



Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECOMO)

837 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

612-676-1731 (phone/fax)

www.secomo.org

SECOMO's NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Table of Contents

Vision Statement	3
Neighborhood Introduction	3
Demographics	3
Neighborhood Organization	4
NRP Phase I	4
NRP Phase II Planning Process	6
Environment	8
Housing	10
Safety and Livability	14
Parks and Schools	17
Building Community	19
Business Development	22
Transportation	24
Support Community Services	28
Appendix A	31
Appendix B	34
Appendix C	36

Vision Statement

Como is a place of cozy homes, tree-canopied streets and delightful gardens, where people come and decide to stay for generations. The people of Como - families, owners, tenants, landlords, and businesses - are committed to cooperatively working together to continue to improve the quality of Como as a secure, comfortable, and vibrant place to live, work, invest, play and study. Como is conveniently located and pedestrian friendly, where residents and businesses are good neighbors in a healthy environment. Our school and park are great and the opportunities for the people of Como are getting better every day.

Neighborhood Introduction

Location & Boundaries

The Como Neighborhood (also called Southeast Como) is in southeast Minneapolis about one mile north of the Dinkytown commercial area and the east bank campus of the University of the Minnesota. Como is transected by its namesake, Como Avenue, and by East Hennepin Avenue. Its boundaries are the city limit to the east (near Highway 280), the Southeast Industrial Area to the south of Elm Street, Interstate 35W and the Burlington Northern mainline to the west, and the Mid-City Industrial Area to the north.

Demographics

According to 1990 US Census figures, 5,407 people made their homes in the Como neighborhood, in 2,257 housing units. The 2000 US Census showed Como with a total population of 5,691 residents (an increase of 5%) living in 2,342 housing units (an increase of 3.7%).

The ethnic/racial makeup of the neighborhood was 83% white, 10% Asian, 4% African American and 2% Native American in 1990. In 2000, the diversity in the neighborhood had increased as the ethnic/racial makeup of the neighborhood shifted to 80% white, 10% Asian, 6% African American, 3% Hispanic/Latino and 1% Native American.

According to the 1990 US Census, 69% of Como was under 35 years old (36% at 25-34 years old) and 8% was 65 or over. In 2000, the percentage of residents under the age of 35 had risen to 76% while the elderly population, those over the age of 65, had fallen to 5%. The average age of a Como resident in 2000 was 24.7 years of age. This reflects a fundamental shift in the neighborhood from a balanced residential neighborhood to a rental based, student housing-dominated neighborhood. The 6 years since the last census have produced an even larger shift towards rental property and a younger population in SE Como. Most of this

is anecdotal evidence, but SECIA is confident that the 2010 census will corroborate the continuing ownership shift in the neighborhood.

Housing conditions in Southeast Como are a large concern to SECIA and the entire neighborhood. Under the Community Development Block Grants program, Southeast Como's classification has been downgraded from Protection Status to Targeted Status - recognition of the worsening property conditions in the neighborhood. In 1990, the SE Como housing stock was 38% owner occupied and 59% rental units (4% of the housing units were vacant). According to the 2000 US Census, the owner occupied units had fallen to 36%, while rental units made up the remaining 64% (by 2000 the vacant units of 1990 had been filled).

The median Southeast Como mortgage in 1990 was \$67,750, nearly tripling to \$175,000 in 2002. This is a partial reflection of the speculative nature of the current housing climate in the neighborhood: landlords are buying properties at inflated values and in turn charging higher rents to tenants. Rental prices have skyrocketed, with a 267% increase from 1990 to 2000 in the number of tenants paying more than \$1,000 in rent (68 cases in 1990 to 250 in 2000). Tenants are forced into over-occupancy to make their rent for each month, placing more strain on the properties (originally designed for single-family use). This in-turn decreases the safety of the tenants living in cramped conditions (often without modifications in safety measures and egress points), and exacerbates the livability issues for both the tenants and their neighbors (including parking issues, noise complaints and refuse removal).

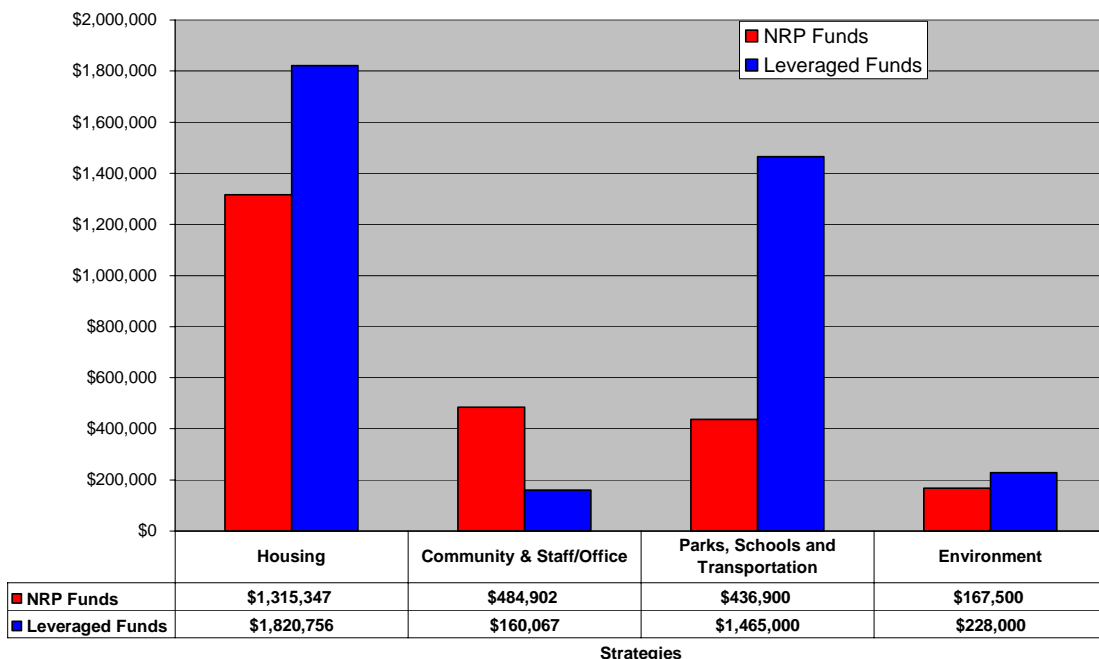
Neighborhood Organization

The Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA) has actively advocated for neighborhood issues for more than 25 years. SECIA is open to anyone who lives in the neighborhood or who represents a business, church, civic organization, or other entity located within its borders. Over the years, membership and board representation have come primarily from homeowners and businesses. People of color have been represented on SECIA's board in rough proportion to their numbers in the neighborhood. Recently two board positions have been created for the University of Minnesota's Student Association Representative and the University of Minnesota's Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Representative to provide a tangible presence on the board for the students of the neighborhood.

NRP Phase I

The SE Como neighborhood has benefited greatly from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Van Cleve Park is stronger than it has been in years, due in part to the NRP money dedicated to improving the park's grounds and providing additional funding to support the highly successful Youthline position. Tuttle Community School was able to transition from an elementary school to a K-8 Program with the aide of NRP dollars in constructing a new science lab. SECIA's Community Garden Organizer and dedicated volunteers have earned numerous awards for the ten community gardens in SE Como. The Environment Coordinator of SECIA has leveraged limited NRP dollars into millions of dollars of improvements at local industries. The program has been so successful that these "Good Neighbor" industries have become some of SECIA and SE Como's strongest supporters. SECIA's Housing Committee, in conjunction with the Center for Energy and the Environment, has awarded over 270 home improvement loans totaling over \$1,800,000 in leveraged funds. Communications and public input have been enhanced through SECIA's website and monthly newsletter. SE Como's citizens are more involved, better informed and taking a more active role in their City than ever before. These achievements would not have been possible without a fully funded NRP Phase I, or without the dedicated and resourceful staff that SECIA has employed to implement the Phase I Plan.

Leveraged vs. NRP Funds





Phase II Planning Process

SECIA began the NRP Phase II Planning Process in the spring of 2005. Surveys (*Appendices B*) completed at events beginning in April (The Bagel Give Away) and continuing through the Como Cookout in September were collected and tabulated. SECIA also finished its NRP Phase I Review in September of 2005 and began writing its NRP Phase II Participation Agreement, approved in November of 2005. The collection of surveys continued through 2005 and early 2006. One of the goals of the Phase II Planning Committee was to incorporate more feedback from the University of Minnesota students that make Como their home. This was accomplished by administering the SECIA Phase II Survey at the Annual meeting of the Como Student Community Co-operative, the largest concentration of Graduate students living in the neighborhood.

At the November 1st 2005 SECIA Annual Town Hall Meeting, the SECIA Phase II Planning committee was established. The nine members of the committee were elected from those individuals in the community interested in guiding the Phase II process. All members of the community were eligible to be elected to the Phase II Planning Committee, and the opportunity was advertised in the local newsletter, *The Comotion*, on the SECIA website, and in SECIA's electronic newsletter, *The Tidbits*.

The SECIA Phase II Planning Committee held their first meeting on February 22nd, 2006. The Committee began its work by tabulating and distilling the information provided from the surveys collected over the past year. Based on the information in these surveys, as well as information supplied by the standing SECIA committees (Housing, Safety & Livability, Environment, History, Party Task Force and the SECIA Board) the Phase II Planning Committee created a list of the primary concerns and projects that the Como neighborhood felt were of the highest priority. These eight categories (*Appendices C*), and potential strategies associated with each, were then presented to the community at large as a starting point for discussion.

A Town Meeting to review the potential strategies and solicit more input from the community was held at Van Cleve Park on May 4th, 2006. This meeting enabled the community to comment on the eight categories presented by the Phase II Planning Committee and to offer new ideas. Community members voted for the four strategies that were the most important to them.

This information was used to begin writing the actual language of the Phase II Plan. The Phase II Planning Committee drew on relationships established during Phase I – especially with the Center for Energy and the Environment, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, The Minneapolis and University of Minnesota Police Departments and the Minneapolis Library Board – to lay a framework for the writing of the Phase II Plan. SECIA staff and members of the Phase II Planning Committee immediately began working on the first draft of the plan. The first plan outline and budget (*Appendices A*) were presented to the Phase II Planning Committee on June 21, 2006. Through continual feedback from the community at large, the SECIA Board, and the standing SECIA committees, the plan was refined.

At the August 8th SECIA Board meeting, a draft of the Phase II Plan was approved for presentation to the community. That version of the Phase II Plan was then made available to the public through the SECIA website and the SECIA office. At the scheduled October 10th Community and Annual Meeting, the neighborhood approved the Phase II Plan. The SECIA Board then approved this final version of the Phase II Plan in a separate vote also held on October 10, 2006.

NOTE: The following yearly allocations for each strategy are not intended to be a rigid budget. Instead, they are a guideline to follow during implementation.

Environment Goal I: Enhance the overall environmental quality of the SE Como Neighborhood by supporting community members in their efforts and providing leadership, expertise and resources to enact needed changes that will improve air and water quality.

Strategy E1. Good Neighbor Agreements & Pollution Reduction

Continue fostering relationships with the local business community and work towards air emission reductions along with principals of sustainability. This includes involving and educating residents about air pollution issues related to businesses in and around SE Como. The funds will primarily go towards the position of the environmental coordinator to continue this work – which also leverages considerable outside funding.

Collaborative Partners: Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA), Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association (PPERRIA), Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association (MHNA), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MNTAP), Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program (RETAP) and all other City, State and Federal Departments and Agencies

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$15,522 for partial funding of an environmental coordinator position, supplies, etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$10,000
2008	\$1,381
2009	\$1,381
2010	\$1,380
2011	\$1,380

Contract Administrator: Development Finance Division (DFD)

Strategy E2. Community Gardens, Volunteer Outreach and Recruitment

Continue to recruit and manage volunteers and coordinate neighborhood support of the 10 community gardens within the neighborhood such as the Cutting Garden at Van Cleve Park, OWLS, the Gateway Garden, Como Corner and others. The funds will primarily go towards continuing the community garden organizer position needed to secure donated resources for the gardens and to coordinate and support neighborhood volunteer involvement.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Van Cleve Park, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF), Southeast Seniors, local businesses

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$7,000 for partial funding of a part-time community garden organizer, supplies, etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$6,000
2008	\$250
2009	\$250
2010	\$250
2011	\$250

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy E3. Rain-gardens and other Low Impact Development

Reduce storm-water runoff from commercial and residential properties that is contributing to pollution of the Mississippi River and help property owners minimize their City utility fees. Initiate community demonstration projects to encourage residents to undertake activities on their properties that will reduce runoff and pollution, including rain-gardens, storm-water collection sites, native plantings, and other Low Impact Design elements. This NRP funding is to be used to leverage Mississippi Watershed Management Organization and other outside funding

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; MWMO, City of Minneapolis, MHNA
 Timeline: 2007
 Resources: NRP: \$2,000 to leverage outside funds and create a pilot project
 NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
------	---------

Contract Administrator: DFD

Strategy E4. Grant Writing for additional environmental funding

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$1,000 of Strategy BCD1.

Strategy E5. Administration Costs for Environmental Goals

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff
\$2,836 of Strategy BCA1.

Housing Goal I: Improve the quality of the housing and property in the Como neighborhood

Objective A: Continue programs that encourage and assist home/property owners to improve and maintain their properties and that attract prospective homebuyers to the neighborhood.

Strategy HA1 Revolving Loan Program

Continue the Phase I revolving loan program with a graduated interest scale based upon income. Non-attached and recreational structures such as gazebos and hot tubs, new fences, etc. and any improvements that are only cosmetic would still be excluded. Low-income households may qualify for deferred loan status for health and safety items provided the homeowners continue to live in their house for seven years. Improvement items will be grouped and prioritized as follows:

First Priority:

- Health and safety items for owner occupied dwellings as based on a need identified by a licensed inspector (e.g. wiring, plumbing, heating, home security issues, chimney repairs, etc.)
- Exterior improvements (repairs) to the main dwelling structure for owner occupied (e.g. painting, stucco, roofs, windows, doors, etc.)

Second Priority:

- Health and safety items for non-owner occupied dwellings as based on a need identified by a licensed inspector (e.g. wiring, plumbing, heating, home security issues, chimney repairs, etc.)
- Other non-cosmetic exterior improvements not included in above and interior improvements for owner occupied
- Exterior non-cosmetic improvements for non-owner occupied.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing Committee), a non-profit housing administrator, Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), DFD

Timeline: 2007-2011 (annual program)

Resources: NRP: \$188,924 for loans, marketing, administration and servicing, etc.;

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$75,000
2008	repaid dollars/program income
2009	repaid dollars/program income
2010	\$56,962
2011	\$56,962

Contract Administrator: DFD

Strategy HA2: Emergency Loan Program

Continue the emergency loan program under the guidelines established under NRP Phase I: final details and requirements to be established during implementation. A household qualifies if they have a sudden emergency with a basic structural/safety function. No income limit, but household

must use another program instead if they qualify. Credit report must show that mortgage and property tax payments are current.

Eligible properties are owner occupied dwellings with 1-3 units. The loan will be up to a maximum of \$5,000 and will be at 0% interest. Repayment deferred but due on sale.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, DFD
Timeline: 2007-2011
Resources: NRP: \$75,000 for loans, marketing, administration and servicing,
etc.:

NRP \$/year:	
2007	\$50,000
2008	\$5,000
2009	\$5,000
2010	\$10,000
2011	\$5,000

Contract Administrator: DFD

Strategy HA3: First Time Homebuyer Incentive Program

Develop strategies to promote first time, owner-occupied, homebuyers to invest in the SE Como neighborhood. Possible partners include CEE and The Community Land Trust. Final details will be established during the implementation of the strategy.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, DFD, CEE, The Community Land Trust
Timeline: 2007-2011
Resources: NRP: staff time, loans, marketing, administration and servicing,
etc.:

NRP \$/year:	
2007	\$0
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: DFD

Strategy HA4: Installation of Motion Sensing Lights

Promote and encourage the installation of motion sensing lights to improve safety and help discourage property damage, including graffiti. Funds may also be used to “buy down” the price of installation to make the project affordable to all income levels in the neighborhood. This program is targeting owner-occupied homes.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Minneapolis Police Department Second Precinct (MPD), University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD), City of Minneapolis

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$15,000 for promotions, programs and leveraging of outside funds

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$9,000
2008	\$1,500
2009	\$1,500
2010	\$1,500
2011	\$1,500

Contract Administrator: DFD

Objective B: Serve as a clearinghouse of information and workshops for the community.

Strategy HB1. Resource Center

Collect resources and provide workshop/programs needed to keep Como property owners, tenants, business owners and other stakeholders informed about current opportunities and programs on issues such as residents', tenant and landlords' rights and responsibilities; current or proposed housing related issues; safety and security issues; youth opportunities; services for seniors; volunteer opportunities and other related information items. A neighborhood resource center will collect and provide information.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing and other Committees), Minneapolis Licensing and Inspections and the University of Minnesota.

Timeline: 2007-2011 (annual program)

Resources: NRP: \$45,000 for space rental, coordinator, computer, supplies, resources, publications, mailings, workshops and programs, researcher stipend, etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$35,000
2008	\$2,500
2009	\$2,500
2010	\$2,500
2011	\$2,500

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective C. Continue to pursue innovations on a community level in regards to alternative energy consumption, building practices and maintenance.

Strategy HC1: Solar projects

Build upon the success of the initial solar pilot project and make solar energy more readily available to the average homeowner or resident in the neighborhood. The funds would go towards loan subsidies or direct incentives to buy down the cost of systems purchased in bulk to receive the highest discount, and/or to continue or establish new solar pilot projects.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; City of Minneapolis, Innovative Power Systems
Timeline: 2007-2011
Resources: NRP: \$25,000 for advertising, loans, administration, supplies etc.:
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$15,000
2008	\$2,500
2009	\$2,500
2010	\$2,500
2011	\$2,500

Contract Administrator: DFD

Strategy HC2. Grant Writing for additional housing funding

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$1,384 of Strategy BCD1.

Strategy HC3. Administration Costs for Housing Goals

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff
\$38,923 of Strategy BCA1.

Safety & Livability Goal I. Improve the physical quality of the neighborhood to promote safety, reduce crime, and enhance livability.

Objective A. Promote Safety and reduce crime through the collaborative production and dissemination of information.

Strategy SLA1. Block Club Formation

Provide additional incentives to get block clubs organized, such as free security audits, subsidized motion detectors, printing, advertising etc.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Community Crime Prevention (CCP/SAFE), Minneapolis Police Department (MPD), University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD), local businesses, SE Como business association, University of Minnesota Student Relations and University of Minnesota Community Relations

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$5,500 for supplies, printing, advertising and services
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
2008	\$500
2009	\$500
2010	\$500
2011	\$2,000

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy SLA2. Block Clubs

Provide ongoing support to existing block clubs, and keep residents well informed of crime and safety issues.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety Task Force), Community Crime Prevention (CCP/SAFE), MPD, UMPD, local businesses, SE Como business association

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$5,000 for continuing printing, publications, advertising and supplies
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$1,000
2008	\$1,000
2009	\$1,000
2010	\$1,000
2011	\$1,000

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective B. Promote Safety and reduce crime through additional police presence and through targeted and increased police patrols.

Strategy SLB1. Increased Police Presence / COPSIRF

Hire Minneapolis, University of Minnesota or other police agencies to patrol the Como Neighborhood, in addition to normal patrols paid by the City of Minneapolis, University of Minnesota or other policy agency.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Minneapolis Police Department Second Precinct (MPD), University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD)

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$7,025 for additional hours, programs or projects
Community Oriented Public Safety Reserve Fund (COPSIRF):
\$12,180

NRP \$/year:

COPSIRF	\$12,180
2007	\$ 1,405
2008	\$ 1,405
2009	\$ 1,405
2010	\$ 1,405
2011	\$ 1,405

Contract Administrator: MPD & DFD

Objective C. Create a unified, safe and appealing “theme” to the neighborhood through an improved streetscape and physical environment. Promote safety and aesthetic appeal through improved and additional lighting.

Strategy SLC1. Aesthetic Improvements/Streetscape

Develop a unified theme through the neighborhood to increase appeal, encourage potential investors and increase pride in community.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; City of Minneapolis Public Works Department, SE Como business association, University of Minnesota, CPED

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$8,000 for supplies, labor, fees, printing and advertising
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
2008	\$2,000
2009	\$0
2010	\$2,000
2011	\$2,000

Contract Administrator: DFD and/or Public Works

Strategy SLC2. Improved Street & Parking Lot Lighting

Invest in additional lighting to promote safety and aesthetic appeal in targeted areas, such as Como Student Married Housing.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; City of Minneapolis Public Works Department, SE Como business association, University of Minnesota, CPED

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$2,000 for supplies, labor, and fees

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$1,500
2008	\$500
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: NRP and/or Public Works, DFD

Strategy SLC3. Housing Code Enforcement

Work with the City to implement and enforce city housing codes and the rental licensing ordinances.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing & Community Service Committees), City Inspections Department, City Licensing Department

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: staff, volunteer time, advertising, supplies

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$0
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: Inspections

Strategy SLC4. Grant Writing for additional/special Safety & Livability Projects

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$1,000 of Strategy BCD1.

Strategy SLC5. Administration Costs for Safety & Livability Goals

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff
\$3,169 of Strategy BCA1.

Park Goal I. Maintain the central role that Van Cleve Park has to the neighborhood.

Objective A. Ensure the continuation of the Youthline worker at Van Cleve Park.

Strategy PSA1. Park Programming

Support Van Cleve Park and the Van Cleve Park Council in organizing culturally diverse youth and adult activities and community programs. Actively promote activities at the park through the *Comotion* newsletter and the Tidbits, SECIA's electronic newsletter. Support the reinstatement of a MPRB youth program specialist (Youthline program) at the Park.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Van Cleve Park; Van Cleve Park Council; Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$8,000 to bring back the Youthline position
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
2008	\$2,000
2009	\$2,000
2010	\$1,000
2011	\$1,000

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Objective B. Strengthen Southeast Como neighborhood as a good place for young families to live.

PSB1. Support SEMCOL (Southeast Minneapolis Council on Learning)

Provide resources and support to enable SEMCOL to continue expanding their programs dealing with children's education and the community's dedication to promoting reading on a family-by-family, person-by-person basis.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Executive Committee), MHNA, PPERRIA, SEMCOL

Timeline: 2007 - 2011

Resources: NRP: \$4,345 to expand the programming of SEMCOL
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$869
2008	\$869
2009	\$869
2010	\$869
2011	\$869

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Objective C. Ensure the continued health of the Tuttle Community School.

Strategy PSC1. Support Tuttle Community School:

Support the Tuttle Community School and ensure its continued physical and programmatic health through structural improvements, continuing staffing, increased programming, a high enrollment and general outreach.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Tuttle Parent Staff Organization (TPSO), Minneapolis Public Schools, Tree Trust, Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization and the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA)

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: staff and volunteer time, remaining funds for Schools from NRP Phase I

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$0
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: MPLS Public Schools

Strategy PSC2. Grant Writing for additional Park & School funding

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$1,000 of Strategy BCD1.

Goal I: Increase the identity of Como as a neighborhood and its capacity to function as a neighborhood.

Objective A. Provide a place within the neighborhood that functions as a neighborhood resource center and a base of operation for neighborhood groups. Assure that sufficient time and expertise is dedicated to NRP planning and implementation, community organizing, and coordination to carryout Como NRP process and to strengthen services provided by the neighborhood organization.

Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff

Continue to operate a visible and convenient location as a neighborhood office and resource center. Employ a neighborhood coordinator, program specialists and assistants necessary to implement the Phase II Plan and to increase effectiveness of SECIA as the organization advocating for and serving neighborhood interests.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA
 Timeline: 2007-2011
 Resources: NRP: \$76,958 (for staff, professional services, office rent, advertising, phones, insurance, postage, printing, supplies, etc.) – this includes the administration costs associated with each of the specific Goals and Objectives in the Phase II NAP.

NRP \$/year:		
	2007	\$40,958
	2008	\$9,000
	2009	\$9,000
	2010	\$9,000
	2011	\$9,000

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective B. Increase communications between neighborhood groups and the people of Como (residents, businesses, etc). Increase awareness of neighborhood issues and empower the community to participate in opportunities, decision-making and services. Educate and inform the community about the implementation of NRP programs as well as other city services and programs.

Strategy BCB1. Comotion

Design, write, reproduce & distribute neighborhood newsletter, *The Comotion*.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA
 Timeline: 2007-2011
 Resources: NRP: \$5,000 for printing and postage

NRP \$/year:		
	2007	\$3,000
	2008	\$500
	2009	\$500
	2010	\$500
	2011	\$500

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy BCB2. Communications

Serve as a clearinghouse of information and involve the neighborhood in issues relating to Como and the City of Minneapolis through The Bridges newsletter, the Como Tidbits electronic newsletter, brochures and other communication channels. Provide on-going training and recognition of volunteers and active residents in the Como neighborhood.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Van Cleve Park, Tuttle School, Como Neighborhood Business Association, University of Minnesota

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP \$5,000 (for newsletter production, printing, mailings, brochure, welcome packets, web site development and maintenance, meeting expenses, letterhead, business card, etc.)
NRP \$/year:

	2007	\$3,000
	2008	\$500
	2009	\$500
	2010	\$500
	2011	\$500

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective C. Strengthen the Southeast Como neighborhood as a diverse and open community through special events and promotions.

Strategy BCC1. Community Outreach and Events

Continue the SE Como Cookout, the Como Garage Sales, the Como Ping Pong Tournament, the Como Clean-Up, as well as introduce new functions and inclusive events to the Como neighborhood.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, MPRB, University of Minnesota, Project for Pride in Living, Cabrini House and neighborhood interest groups

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$13,354 for information dissemination, outreach, supplies etc.

NRP \$/year:	2007	\$3,000
	2008	\$2,589
	2009	\$2,588
	2010	\$2,589
	2011	\$2,588

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective D. Increase the funding available to SECIA programming and operations by seeking grant opportunities and foundation support.

Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing

Seek additional funding to implement SECIA NRP programs and help cover administration expenses through grant writing. Expand current programming through foundation support.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Minnesota Council for Non-Profits, City of Minneapolis – Grant Office, University of Minnesota, local businesses

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$8,384 for grant writing workshops, trainings, consultants and/or to contract with an established grant writer.

NRP \$/year:	2007	\$2,500
	2008	\$1,471
	2009	\$1,471
	2010	\$1,471
	2011	\$1,471

Contract Administrator: NRP

Business Goal I. Support existing businesses, especially along the Como Ave and Hennepin Ave commercial nodes, and encourage future economic growth.

Objective A. Build relationships between businesses in Como neighborhood, as well as between businesses and other parts of the community.

Strategy BDA1. Establish and Support Business Association

Develop and support a Como Neighborhood Business Association and encourage the association to become visible in the community.

Collaborative Partners: Southeast Como Improvement Association, Southeast Minneapolis Business Association, Dinky Town Business Association and CPED Business Development

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$500 for newsletter, mailings, printing, meetings, etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$350
2008	\$100
2009	\$50
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy BDA2. Commercial Fix-up Programs

Influence the quality of the neighborhood’s business districts by continuing our grant/loan fix-up program. The program encourages business nodes to collaborate on projects that would enhance the overall quality of that specific area in the Como neighborhood (15th Ave SE & Como Ave SE; 22nd Ave SE & Como Ave SE; 1500 East Hennepin Ave; 24th Ave SE and East Hennepin Ave), provide assistance for businesses to hire a consultant/architect to create a uniform image for business districts, or enhance the exterior of single businesses in Como. Funding would be used for improvements that have more than just cosmetic results.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, area businesses and CPED Business Development

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$3,504 for loans, grants, consultant fees, etc. as well as remaining funds from the Phase I Business Improvement Grant Program

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
2008	\$376
2009	\$376

2010	\$376
2011	\$376

Contract Administrator: CPED Business Finance

Strategy BDA3. Commercial Property Compliance Assistance

Work with local businesses to implement site plan reviews and meet all city requirements when applying for variances and permits.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, area businesses, CPED Business Development, City of Minneapolis Licensing and Inspections Department, City of Minneapolis Zoning

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: staff and volunteer time

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$0
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: CPED Business Development

Strategy BDA4. Grant Writing for additional Business funding

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$500 of Strategy BCD1.

Strategy BDA5. Administration Costs for Business Goals

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff
\$500 of Strategy BCA1.

Transportation Goal I. Increase the quality of Como Avenue as a neighborhood space with balanced use by all modes of travel.

Objective A. Promote the bicycle as a viable transportation mode in a balanced transportation system.

Strategy TA1. Grand Round/UM Connection

Explore the possible bike route connections with the Minneapolis Parkway System Grand Rounds and provide a bikeway connection to the University of Minnesota's proposed pedestrian/bicycle bridge over the railroad tracks on 26th Avenue SE (as outlined in the U of M Master Plan), or an alternative route established by the East Side Bicycle Task Force.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), SEED, PWD, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), U of M, East Side Bicycle Task Force

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$1,000 for printing, publications and matching funds etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$1,000
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: Public Works

Strategy TA2. Bike Racks and Benches

Install bike racks and benches in business areas to enhance both the pedestrian experience and the success of the local businesses.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, PWD, local businesses, CPED, East Side Bicycle Task Force

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$1,509 for design, construction and installation of bike racks

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$500
2008	\$500
2009	\$200
2010	\$200
2011	\$109

Contract Administrator: Public Works

Objective B. Promote the use of mass transit and ensure that SE Como has continued access to the metro bus service, the University Transit options and construction of the new light rail line.

Strategy TB1. Metro Transit Buses

Ensure the continuation of the Metro Transit options through the SE Como neighborhood and encourage increased mass transit patronage.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Metro Transit (MTCO), PWD, other neighborhoods (e.g. Dist. 12 in St. Paul)

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$500 for publications, printing, meetings etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$200
2008	\$150
2009	\$150
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy TB2. University Transit Services

Seek commitments of the University's transit services to accommodate the neighborhood transit commuter with:

- a) Reinstating the Park and Ride Lot on 29th Avenue SE as a user-friendly, comfortable and highly visible transit station,
- b) Develop a high frequency inter-campus route service for Como neighborhood,
- c) Shuttle service between parking lots, and
- d) Limiting suspension of bus service only on official University holidays to encourage staff and faculty ridership.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), PWD, MCTO, U of M

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP: \$500 for supplies and advertising expenses

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$200
2008	\$150
2009	\$150
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective C. Address the issues of parking and traffic congestion in the SE Como neighborhood, especially as it pertains to public safety.

Strategy TC1. Como & Hennepin Avenue Improvements

Increase the visibility of crosswalks at busy intersections, stripe edge lines on Como Avenue and Hennepin Ave. in an effort to increase safety for pedestrians, bikers and motorists.

Collaborative Partners: Minneapolis Public Works, SECIA, Hennepin County, U of M.

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP Funds \$3,000 for striping, crosswalk light, etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
2008	\$250
2009	\$250
2010	\$250
2011	\$250

Contract Administrator: Public Works

Strategy TC2. Parking in SE Como

Reduce the strain of over parking and explore permit parking on residential avenues.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Minneapolis Public Works Department (MPWD), Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), U of M, Stadium Area Advisory Committee (SAAG)

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: NRP \$3,000 for permits, advertising etc.

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$2,000
2008	\$250
2009	\$250
2010	\$250
2011	\$250

Contract Administrator: DFD

Objective D. Address and mitigate issues that arise with the construction, maintenance and operation of the University of Minnesota Gopher Stadium.

Strategy TD1. The Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG) and Gopher Stadium

Maintain a presence on the SAAG to ensure that SE Como has a voice in the construction, maintenance and operation of the U of M Gopher Stadium. Address any and all issues associated

with the planned stadium to minimize its negative impacts. Fully capitalize on the benefits of a new stadium, the mitigation fund and the SAAG.

Collaborative Partners: Minneapolis Public Works, SECIA, Hennepin County, U of M, State Legislature, Mayor's office, SAAG, MHNA, PPERRIA, UMPD, MPD etc.

Timeline: 2007-2011

Resources: Currently an unfunded strategy

NRP \$/year:

2007	\$0
2008	\$0
2009	\$0
2010	\$0
2011	\$0

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy TD2. Grant Writing for additional Transportation funding

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$1,000 of Strategy BCD1.

Strategy TD3. Administration Costs for Transportation Goals

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff
\$1,168 of Strategy BCA1.

Support Community Services Goal I. Ensure the continued operation of existing and new community services that contribute to the welfare of the SE Como population.

Objective A: Support improvement of existing key community services.

Strategy SCSA1. Southeast Library

Assist the Southeast Library in improving the services they offer to the Southeast community by providing them with the resources necessary to remain a viable resource for the community.

Collaborative Partners:	SECIA, Southeast Library	
Timeline:	2007-2011	
Resources:	NRP: \$3,000 for special programs, advertising, supplies, materials etc.	
	NRP \$/year:	
	2007	\$2,600
	2008	\$100
	2009	\$100
	2010	\$100
	2011	\$100

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Public Library

Strategy SCSA2. Southeast Seniors

Support the services provided by Southeast Seniors: A Living at Home / Block Nurse Program, including subsidized and home health aide care, volunteer transportation, volunteer chore service, chore provider list, volunteer (phone & home) visiting.

Collaborative Partners:	SE Seniors, SECIA, PPERRIA, MHNA,	
Timeline:	2007-2011	
Resources:	NRP: \$3,000 for increased services, advertising, supplies, materials etc.	
	NRP \$/year:	
	2007	\$600
	2008	\$600
	2009	\$600
	2010	\$600
	2011	\$600

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Strategy SCSA3. Restorative Justice Community Action (RJCA)

Support the services provided by RJCA and expand the current programs and opportunities available to the community through RJCA. The Restorative Justice model seeks to increase offender accountability to the community for offenses such as underage drinking and public urination. The program enables those harmed by these actions the opportunity to work with the offenders to educate them, repair the harm done to the community by the offenders and encourage more responsible behavior in the future. RJCA has been a successful program in SE Como.

Collaborative Partners: RJCA, SECIA, PPERRIA, MHNA, University of MN
Timeline: 2007-2011
Resources: NRP: \$11,339 for additional staff hours, programs or projects
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$3,339
2008	\$2,000
2009	\$2,000
2010	\$2,000
2011	\$2,000

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Objective B: Support the creation of new community based services in SE Como and SE Minneapolis.

Strategy SCSB1. Support New Community Services

Support new services that benefit the SE Como neighborhood and that fill a unique and previously vacant role in the community.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Minneapolis Police Department Second Precinct (MPD), University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD), MHNA, PPERRIA, City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, etc.
Timeline: 2007-2011
Resources: NRP: \$3,179 for advertising, publications, printing, supplies, etc.
NRP \$/year:

2007	\$639
2008	\$635
2009	\$635
2010	\$635
2011	\$635

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy SCSB2. Grant Writing for additional Community Service Funding

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCD1. Grant Writing
\$500 of Strategy BCD1.

Strategy SCSB3. Administration Costs for Community Service Goals

Funded through Building Community: Strategy BCA1. Neighborhood Office & Staff
\$2,335 of Strategy BCA1.

Appendix A

NRP Phase II Budget

Total Budget for Eight Core Themes

Environment

	Good Neighbor & Pollution Prevention	\$15,522
	Community Greening & Organizing	\$7,000
	Raingardens	\$2,000
	* Grant Writing	\$1,000
	* Administration Costs	\$2,836
	Total	\$28,358

Housing

	Revolving Loan Program	\$188,924
	Emergency Loan Program	\$75,000
	Motion Sensing lights	\$15,000
	Resource Center	\$45,000
	Solar Projects	\$25,000
	* Grant Writing	\$1,384
	* Administration Costs	\$38,923
	Total	\$389,231

Safety & Livability

	Block Club Formation	\$5,500
	Block Club Support	\$5,000
	Buy-Back Police Patrols	\$7,025
	Aesthetic Improvements Streetscape	\$8,000
	Improved Street & Parking Lot Lighting	\$2,000
	* Grant Writing	\$1,000
	* Administration Costs	\$3,169
	Total	\$31,694

Parks & Schools

	Park Programming (Youthline)	\$8,000
	Support SEMCOL	\$4,345
	Support Tuttle	\$0
	* Grant Writing	\$1,000
	Total	\$13,345

Building Community

	Neighborhood Staff	\$28,026
	Comotion	\$5,000
	General Communications	\$5,000
	Community Outreach & Events	\$13,354
	Grant Writing	\$2,000
	Total	\$53,380

Business
Development

	Business Association Support	\$500
	Small Business Grants	\$3,504
*	Grant Writing	\$500
*	Administration Costs	\$500
Total		\$5,004

Transportation

	Grand Rounds Completion	\$1,000
	Bike Racks & Benches	\$1,509
	Metro Transit Buses	\$500
	University Transit Services	\$500
	Como & Hennepin Ave	\$3,000
	Parking	\$3,000
*	Grant Writing	\$1,000
*	Administration Costs	\$1,168
Total		\$11,677

Community Services

	Support Southeast Library	\$3,000
	Support Southeast Seniors	\$3,000
	Support Restorative Justice	\$11,339
	Create and maintain new services	\$3,179
*	Grant Writing	\$500
*	Administration Costs	\$2,335
Total		\$23,353

TOTAL

\$556,043

* Grant Writing and Administration Costs were moved to strategies within Building Community in the actual Plan language. This explains the difference between the budget totals given for the 8 core themes in Appendix A contrasted to the totals given within the Plan language.

Appendix B

**Help the SE Como Improvement Association (SECIA)
decide how to spend \$556,043 in
Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) phase 2 funds**

SECIA received \$2,961,471 in NRP phase 1 funds (1999 – 2005); our phase 2 allocation represents an 81% reduction compared to Phase 1. Phase 2 funds should be available to SECIA in 2006.

There are two requirements we must incorporate into our plans:

- 1) At least 70% of our phase 2 funds - \$389,230 - need to be spent on housing
- 2) We can't spend more than 70% of our funds - \$389,230 - in the first 3 years (2006 – 2009)

Please mark your calendars for the **first town meeting** on SECIA's NRP phase 2 planning - it will be held in conjunction with our annual meeting on **Tuesday, November 1st, 2005** at Van Cleve Park (901 SE 15th Ave.). Come help us decide how to spend the money!

Please include your demographic info:

Age: under 20 21-30 31-40 41-50 51-60
 61+

Circle at least one: homeowner renter property owner business owner

How long you've lived in Como: < 1 yr 1 – 3 yrs 4 – 6 yrs > 7 yrs

Please describe your race / ethnicity: _____

Here are the 13 general categories that SECIA has spent the majority of its time and money on over the last 7 years:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. air quality & environmental programs | 8. office & resource center |
| 2. business improvement | 9. safety & livability |
| 3. communications | 10. staff |
| 4. community gardening & greening | 11. transportation |
| 5. events | 12. Tuttle School (K-8) |
| 6. history of the neighborhood | 13. Van Cleve Park |
| 7. housing | |

Please choose up to 4 of the above categories that you'd like to see us continue in phase 2 with the 30% of our funds that are unrestricted - **\$166,813** - (*note – only select housing if you'd like SECIA to spend more than the required 70% on it*).

You can also write-in up to 4 new projects you'd like SECIA to consider for phase 2 funds.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Our NRP phase 1 review is available online at <http://www.secomo.org/phase1review.htm> or at our office, 837 SE 15th Ave.

Appendix C

Phase II Planning Categories

Below is a list of the various categories that can be voted on here at the Phase II Community Planning Meeting. These categories were derived from neighborhood input via surveys and interviews. The standing SECIA Committees also contributed to the formation of this list. You can also add other categories or themes that you think SECIA should focus on at the "New Ideas" table or tell us what you think we shouldn't do at the "Dislikes" table.

Arts, Culture, Parks, and Recreation

- Van Cleve Park
- History/Preservation

Building Community

- Communications/Dialogues
- Events
- Resource center
- Youth, Families, Seniors

Education

- Children's programming
- SE Library
- Tuttle School

Environment

- Air quality
- Community gardens/greening
- Solar project

Housing

- Beautification
- Development/Land Use
- Emergency Loan Program
- Energy Efficiency
- Home Improvement Loans

Safety and Livability

- Appearance/Appeal
- Crime Prevention
- Code Enforcement
- Gateways/Signage

Transportation

- Pedestrian & Bike Planning
- Traffic/Noise
- Public Transport

Business Improvement

- Business Association
- Business Grants