

# NRP Link

July 2003  
Volume 10, Issue 7

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program News



## Community opinion survey results show overwhelming support for continuing NRP

The NRP has released the results of a community opinion survey that coincided with a series of five community meetings aimed at obtaining public input regarding future funding, governance and staff support for the NRP in the face of mounting city budget constraints.

One of the most striking results revealed by the survey was that 88 percent of the respondents said they strongly agreed or agreed that the NRP should be continued. Nearly 91 percent of the respondents also strongly agreed or agreed that neighborhoods should receive NRP funds to support implementation of projects and programs identified by neighborhoods as priorities in their action plans.

A total of 461 surveys were completed either at the meetings or through alternative methods made available to people who were unable to attend them. Nearly half of the surveys (210) were completed by the more than 330 people that attended the meetings while 153 ballots were submitted online and an additional 98 ballots were submitted by mail. The community opinion survey results are now available on the NRP Web site at [www.nrp.org](http://www.nrp.org). For more information, or to have the results mailed to you, please call the NRP office at 612-673-5140.

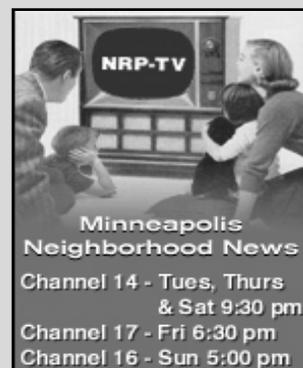
## Bottineau Community Library now open



NRP Policy Board Chair and Minneapolis Public Library Board Trustee Diane Hofstede (center) dedicated the new Pierre Bottineau Community Library on May 31, 2003. The library, located on the historic Grain Belt Brewery campus in northeast Minneapolis, was created by renovating the brewery's 1893 wagon shed and 1913 millwright shop and merging them with a new structure to create a striking 12,355-square-foot library. The architecturally green building, designed for environmental excellence, replaces a storefront library on nearby Second Street that served the community since 1957. The new library features books and other media for people of all ages, up-to-date technology and a neighborhood history collection. The Sheridan and St. Anthony West neighborhood organizations invested \$110,000 of NRP funds in the new library.

## NRP-TV to feature Bottineau Library, Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour

Throughout the month of July, the Minneapolis Neighborhood News (MNN) cable television program will showcase the new Pierre Bottineau Community Library project and the 2003 Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour. Tune in and find out what improvements Todd and Debra Cota made to their 130-year-old Gothic Revival home in Seward with the help of an NRP housing program. The two take viewers on a tour of their remodeled home during the 2003 Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour. An additional segment on the 30-minute show features the NRP's "Good Neighbors Building Better Neighborhoods Conference," which was held in May.



Minneapolis  
Neighborhood News  
Channel 14 - Tues, Thurs  
& Sat 9:30 pm  
Channel 17 - Fri 6:30 pm  
Channel 16 - Sun 5:00 pm

## **NRP issues 2003 Affordable Housing Reserve Fund request for proposals**

The NRP Policy Board is pleased to once again announce the availability of NRP funds for the production of affordable housing.

Improvements to the city's housing stock and providing housing that is affordable to any resident are NRP and neighborhood priorities. The NRP Affordable Housing Reserve Fund is one approach the NRP is using to help achieve these objectives. In the first year of this fund, the Policy Board approved spending \$4 million for seven exemplary projects.

This year the board is again committed to assisting with the development of long-term, affordable housing units for low-income families and individuals at or

below 50 percent of the Metropolitan Median Income (adjusted for family size). The 2003 funding awards will be made through a request for proposals (RFP) process. The actual amount to be awarded will be determined by the Policy Board based on the availability of revenues to the NRP. All of the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund RFP application materials are now available on the NRP Web site at [www.nrp.org](http://www.nrp.org).

For more information on the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund RFP, or to request application materials by mail, please contact Joe Horan of the NRP staff at 612-673-5144. The deadline for applications is September 30, 2003.

### **City's community safety proposal on hold**

A proposal to transfer \$1 million of NRP funds to the City of Minneapolis to pay for community-oriented public safety activities was put on hold for 60 days following a spirited debate by members of the NRP Policy Board during its June 30 meeting. Several members of the board were concerned that important questions still needed to be answered before the proposal could be considered. The board's biggest concerns centered on the legality of the transfer as well as uncertainty over the level of NRP's Phase II funding.

### **City to hold meetings on NRP's future**

The City Council will hold a study session on July 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the City Council chambers to discuss citizen participation and engagement. NRP's role in that system will be part of the discussion. The study session is open to the public. NRP Policy Board representatives present the results of the recent public meetings on the NRP. A second important discussion will occur on August 4 when the Council's Community Development and Ways and Means committees hold a joint public hearing on proposed changes to the NRP Ordinance. The time and location for this meeting will be announced soon at [nrp.org](http://nrp.org).

## **Unique Fulton Rainwater Management Project participants to host neighborhood raingarden tour**

The Fulton Neighborhood Association recently invested \$23,000 of NRP funds in an education, outreach and grant project to promote effective rainwater management practices. The group encourages neighbors to consider rainwater management practices to help reduce pollution of area streams and lakes. Problems with basement and street flooding can also be addressed by sound rainwater management principles. Intercepting, holding/evaporating, infiltrating and treating rainwater on individual properties can decrease the volume and rate of water entering the storm water system and eventually nearby lakes and streams. The quality of water will increase due to nutrient uptake and sediment capture. These practices are especially useful to the urban environment because so much of the city is taken up by hard surfaces—streets, parking areas and houses.

### **Fulton raingarden tour to be announced soon**

Eight raingardens or other rainwater management systems are being implemented as part of Fulton's first round of project funding. Many of these projects will be on display as part of an upcoming raingarden tour.

Raingardens are a beautiful enhancement to a property according to Program Coordinator Michelle Martin. "Their design usually includes native plants, so the maintenance of the garden each year once established is minimal. And, the ecological benefits of bringing native plants into our urban environment are significant," Martin said.

To learn more about the tour, including dates and locations, go to [www.fultonneighborhood.org](http://www.fultonneighborhood.org) or call 612-922-3106.

# In Brief

## **Fifth Annual Longfellow Street Fest July 13**

Come join other Minneapolis residents at the Fifth Annual Greater Longfellow Street Fest from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 13, 2003, at the intersection of E. Lake Street and Minnehaha Avenue South. The street fest will have two entertainment stages featuring live multicultural music and dance, a hands-on art activity area, wares from local artists, fabulous food from area restaurants, a dunk tank and much more. Bands scheduled to perform include Axis Mundi, Yawo, Lake Street Barrage and JJ's Zydeco Paydirt. The Longfellow Street Fest is sponsored by the Longfellow Community Council, the Longfellow Business Association, Patrick's Cabaret and other community partners. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer to help with street fest, please contact Ruth Romano at 612-722-4529.

## **HPDL's Picnic in the Park festival July 31**

Picnic in the Park is an annual celebration of the Hale, Page and Diamond Lake neighborhoods. This year the event will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 31, at Pearl Park, 414 E. Diamond Lake Road. More than 2,000 people attend the event each year. Picnic in the Park is a wonderful way for residents, businesses, churches and nonprofit organizations to celebrate their neighborhoods and meet one another while enjoying entertainment, music, food, games, prizes and fun. This year there will be a special live music performance by the Reggae/Salsa group D'Crew Live from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will also be carnival games, free door prizes, face painting, balloon sculptures, Jacob's Ladder, the Moon Walk, Morris Dancers and much more. The event is made possible thanks to a partnership between HPDL, Pearl Park and the HPDL Business Association.

## **Multi-Cultural Quilt Project can visit you**

The Multi-Cultural Quilt Project was created to reflect the rich diversity of northeast Minneapolis. The quilt was created by several residents with the guidance of project instructor Salveen Siddique. If you would like to view the quilt or display it at one of your organization's events free of charge, please contact Theresa Berglund at Seven Bridges World Market at 612-331-2861.

## **New Loring Greenway playground to be dedicated July 21**

The Loring Greenway Committee of the Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC) will host a playground dedication event at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 21 on the Loring Greenway adjacent to Loring Park.

The Loring Greenway is a two-decade-old pedestrian gateway joining Nicollet Avenue to Loring Park. It runs roughly from 12th Street and Nicollet to a spot near the Berger Fountain.

CLPC invested \$59,500 of its NRP funds to purchase new playground equipment as part of a larger initiative to improve the Loring Greenway. Last summer the greenway received a major facelift that included upgraded lighting and sprinklers. The money was dedicated to the playground through the CLPC New Community Projects Committee.

## **Midtown Public Market opens July 12**

The much-anticipated grand opening of the Midtown Public Market will take place from 8:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 12, on the south side of Lake Street near 22nd Avenue South (just east of the Midtown YWCA). Events surrounding the grand opening will include music by neighborhood band Steve Kaul and Friends and Spanish country singer Esteban Perez. Attendees can also expect to see a drum performance by the Bancroft Taiko Kids and a special appearance by Chicks on Sticks.

Shoppers at the new outdoor market will be able to buy vegetables, meats and other locally grown and made products. Look for coffee from Mexico, cheese from Wisconsin and crafts from local artisans. More than 30 vendors are expected.

The Midtown Public Market began as an idea in early 2002 when local residents began planning ways to enrich their neighborhood. Following the lead of the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization, neighborhood groups representing Longfellow, Bancroft, Standish-Ericsson, East Phillips, Powderhorn Park and Seward soon partnered with Corcoran to bring the community-driven project to full blossom.

# In Brief

## Mayor to host community budget forums

Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak will hold two public forums this month to get citizen input on important upcoming City of Minneapolis budget decisions. All residents are welcome and encouraged to participate at these meetings.

"The city's budget is definitely on people's minds," Mayor Rybak says. "I seek out input at all the community meetings I attend, but I also want some opportunities for citizens to get information on the choices we face as a city. These will be interactive meetings where people can get their questions answered and their voices heard."

Mayor Rybak will deliver his budget to the City Council in August for its consideration this fall. Dates, times and locations for both of the mayor's forums follow:

**Thursday, July 24, 2003**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Martin Luther King Park Neighborhood Center  
4055 Nicollet Ave. S.**

**Wednesday, July 30, 2003**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Bottineau Neighborhood Center  
2000 NE Second St.**

## MOSAIC arts and culture celebration continues in July

Minneapolis has always been recognized as a great place for arts and culture. With its one-of-a-kind festivals, events and cultural organizations, Minneapolis has much to see and do. MOSAIC showcases a spectacular range of offerings, including dance, education, festivals, film, literature, music, theater and visual arts.

This summer, from June 5 to July 27, step out and celebrate with Minneapolis MOSAIC. If you would like a complete event schedule, please call the MOSAIC infoline at 612-673-3023 or visit the official event Web site at [www.minneapolismosaic.com](http://www.minneapolismosaic.com).

## In-depth training for neighborhood organizers offered beginning July 30

Neighborhood organizations are increasingly facing challenges that require having skilled organizers on staff. In order to assure that these organizers are equipped with the skills they need to do their jobs effectively, a special training program is now being offered by the Minneapolis Training Program for Neighborhood Organizers (MTPNO). This training program is geared toward assisting organizers with the complex problems facing their specific neighborhood organizations. The program will combine comprehensive coverage of organizing basics, training tailored to the individual needs of each organizer and group, long-term follow through and group support from fellow neighborhood organizers. The six-week program will take place on Wednesday nights. The MTPNO program will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 30, at the Harrison Community Center, 503 Irving Ave. N. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please call Jay Clark at 612-625-2513 or e-mail at [clark037@tc.umn.edu](mailto:clark037@tc.umn.edu). The MTPNO is a free program.

## Jazz 88FM announces its second annual National Night Out block party giveaway!

Is your block or neighborhood celebrating National Night Out? If so, tell Jazz 88FM in 50 words or less why they should come to your party. Contest entries should include a contact name, full mailing address and telephone number. Identify where the block party is held and whether or not it is registered with your local Police Department. How many years have you been celebrating National Night Out? The deadline for applications is July 25. Winners will be announced on August 1. All entries will be judged by a Jazz 88 staff panel. Mail your entry to Jazz 88 Block Party Drawing, 1555 James Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55411 or fax it to 612-668-1766. Winners will obtain the services of a Jazz 88 staffer with a sound system playing up to two hours of prerecorded jazz music. Prizes will be given away via throughout the two hours. AC power will be required at the site of the block party.

For more information, e-mail [ted@jazz88fm.com](mailto:ted@jazz88fm.com).

# In Brief

## CleanC.U.T. housing inspections program moves into second year

For the second consecutive year, the Minneapolis Inspections Division, Hennepin County Sentence to Serve and the neighborhoods of Cleveland, Lind-Bohanon, McKinley and Victory will continue the CleanC.U.T. program, a unique approach to housing inspections. The program targets three of the most frequent housing violations in the Camden community: inoperable vehicles (Cars), overgrown foliage and grass (Upkeep) and Trash.

CleanC.U.T. enables neighborhood associations to be more involved in the inspections process. By working together with their housing inspectors, they are able to notify residents of upcoming sweeps, offer assistance to individual homeowners with violations and locate members of the community who, due to a disability or income restriction, may need regular assistance with home maintenance. The program developers say that in 2002 the CleanC.U.T. program resulted in greater compliance with housing codes, provided information about underutilized resources, educated residents about their responsibilities as homeowners and community members, increased environmental awareness and improved the overall appearance of north Minneapolis.

The program organizers worked with housing inspectors in their neighborhoods to devise a more efficient method of conducting inspections. Even with neighborhood involvement, the entire process did not delay the usual inspections timetable.

Interest within the community has been building since last spring when 20 volunteers from five neighborhoods turned out to help with the first mailing that introduced the program to residents. Neighborhood groups are responding to CleanC.U.T. by developing their own assistance programs to offer residents.

If you would like to receive updates and a year-end progress report, please join the CleanC.U.T. mailing list by calling 612-302-8922 or by sending an e-mail to [McKinComm@aol.com](mailto:McKinComm@aol.com).

## First Community Land Trust homes become a reality this summer

Hope Community, located in the Ventura Village neighborhood, began serving the homeless families of Minneapolis more than 26 years ago. Today, Hope Community continues to empower the underserved and has grown in its scope and services to the community. Over the past decade, Hope Community has revitalized a two-square-block area now known as "Hope Block." Hope addresses the needs of neighborhood residents by providing a strong base of affordable housing, along with development strategies aimed at improving livability in an urban core neighborhood.

Part of this strategy is Hope Community Court, which is scheduled to begin construction in June 2003 and will contain 10 units of housing—four of which will represent the first Community Land Trust (CLT) units. The CLT units will have three bedrooms each to accommodate households with large or extended families and will be built to assist households below 50 percent of the Metro Median Income (\$38,500 for a family of four).

Through Hope Community's commitment to the CLT model, belief in providing ownership opportunities and building better communities, units valued at \$160,000 will be sold to CLT buyers for approximately \$120,000 and will be permanently affordable. These units adjoin other properties currently owned and managed by Hope Community on the "Hope Block," and residents will have access to common play space, patios, benches, gardens, pedestrian walkways and the existing picnic pavilion and playgrounds.

For more information about Community Land Trusts, please contact the City of Lakes Community Land Trust at 612-721-7556 extension 17 or visit the Web site at [www.clclt.org](http://www.clclt.org).

A Community Land Trust works to provide permanently affordable housing to community members by owning the land, but selling the home on the land to a low-income buyer.



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Several children took part in a Lyndale Farmstead Park Playground dedication event on June 21. The East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association invested \$20,400 of NRP funds in the playground renovation project.

## NRP Policy Board Report

Approved June 30, 2003

-  Holland Neighborhood Phase II Action Plan
-  Plan modifications for the Lowry Hill and Kingfield neighborhoods
-  Hennepin County 7.5% funds for the Whittier and West Phillips neighborhoods
-  Phase II planning funds for the Jordan neighborhood

## July 2003 Calendar of Events

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| <p><b>10 Management Review Team (MRT) meeting</b><br/>4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Room 323M City Hall</p> <p><b>12 Midtown Public Market Grand Opening</b><br/>8:00 a.m. to noon on the south side of Lake Street and 22nd Avenue South. See Page 3 or visit <a href="http://homepage.mac.com/pandre/mpm.htm">http://homepage.mac.com/pandre/mpm.htm</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>13 Fifth Annual Longfellow Street Fest</b><br/>Noon to 5:00 p.m. at the intersection of East Lake Street and Minnehaha Avenue South. See Page 3 or call the Longfellow Community Council at 612-722-4529 for more information.</p> <p><b>21 NRP Policy Board meeting</b><br/>4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.<br/>Room C-2350 Hennepin County Government Center</p> <p><b>21 Loring Greenway playground dedication</b><br/>10:00 a.m., at the Loring Greenway adjacent to Loring Park. See Page 3 or call 612-874-9002 for more information.</p> | <p><b>24 Mayor Rybak's community budget forum</b><br/>7:30 p.m., Martin Luther King Park Neighborhood Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. See Page 4 for more information.</p> <p><b>25 July NRP Link submission deadline</b><br/>Call 612-673-5158, e-mail <a href="mailto:bfeldman@nrp.org">bfeldman@nrp.org</a>, or fax your submission to Brett at 612-673-5138.</p> <p><b>30 Mayor Rybak's community budget forum</b><br/>7:30 p.m., Bottineau Neighborhood Center, 2000 NE Second St. See Page 4 for details.</p> <p><b>31 HPDL's 12th Annual Picnic in the Park</b><br/>5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Pearl Park 414 E. Diamond Lake Road. See Page 3 or call 612-824-7707 for more information.</p> |
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The NRP Link is published monthly by the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program. For more information, call Brett Feldman, editor, (612) 673-5158. The NRP Link is available in Braille or large print upon request. TTY (612) 673-2626.

