



Quarterly Report Second Quarter 2008



Department of Community Planning & Economic Development—CPED

Our Mission: CPED works to grow a sustainable city.

Performance Measure Update

Detailed updates & performance measures for each of the departmental goals identified in our Business Plan.

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Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan



The [Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan](#) provides guidance for both private development and public improvements within the Cedar Riverside neighborhood. Major recommendations in the plan relate to land use and design, economic development, and transportation with building accessibility and connections as overarching themes. The diverse populations and land uses in the neighborhood called for unique and creative approaches to [public participation](#) and the planning process itself. Efforts are already underway to [implement recommendations](#) in the plan, including improvements for bicycle safety and access.



Impact Mailing

The City provided technical assistance that allowed Impact Mailing to secure additional SBA funds for a \$7 million dollar privately-financed development expansion that will provide a total of 200 jobs in North Minneapolis.

Metro MSP Website

A consortium led by the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce and supported by the City and numerous regional government and private sector partners launched the www.metromsp.org website to collectively market the region for commercial and industrial development. The launch in early May included significant electronic and media coverage throughout the metro. This robust website includes considerable economic, demographic, and GIS data.

The screenshot shows the Metro MSP website interface. At the top, it says "Metro MSP: Economic Development, Diverse Economy & Metro Properties - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by City of Minneapolis". The address bar shows "https://www.metromsp.org/". The main header includes "metroMSP Minneapolis/Saint Paul Region" with links for Home, Search Properties, About Metro MSP, Data Center, FAQs, Instructions, and Contact Us. The main content area features a "Best Place to Do Business" section with text about the 11-county region's economic performance and a "Why Metro MSP" section. A sidebar on the left lists "Communities" (Anoka County, Carver County, etc.) and "Metro MSP Partners" (Associated Bank, CenterPoint Energy, etc.). A sidebar on the right highlights "Metro MSP Region Ranked Second in Business Expansion Opportunities" and "Why Metro MSP Top Ten Reasons".

2008 Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Awards

Outstanding preservation achievements in Minneapolis were celebrated at the [2008 Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Awards](#) on May 22nd at International Market Square. The event was sponsored by the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, the Minneapolis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and Preserve Minneapolis.



Grace University Lutheran Church



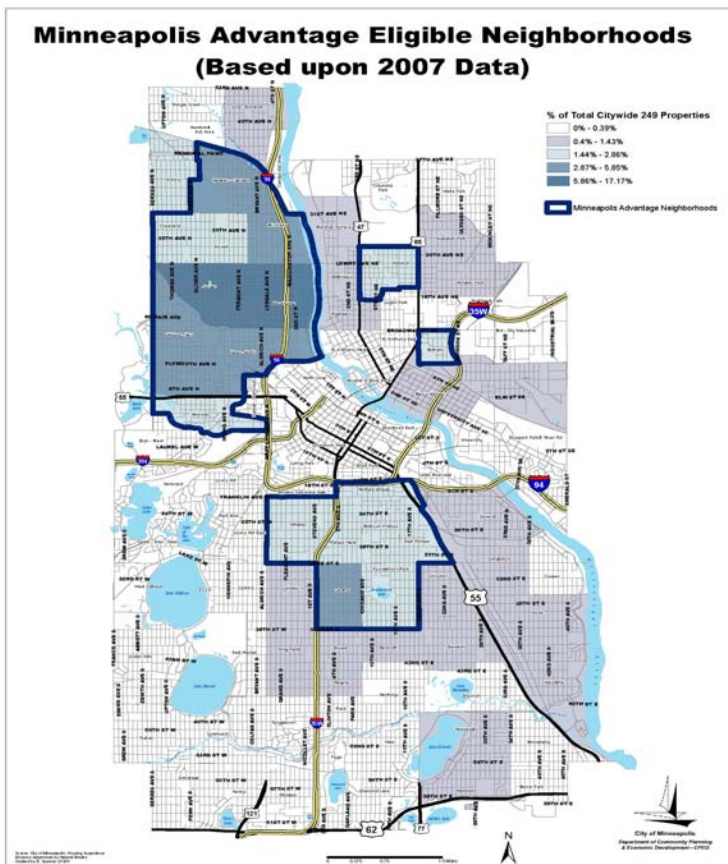
St. Anthony Falls Office Building



1101 West Broadway



Ripley Gardens



Minneapolis Advantage

The [Minneapolis Advantage](#) loan program is a downpayment and closing cost assistance program to help rebuild the housing market in key neighborhoods that have experienced higher than normal levels of mortgage foreclosures and a rapid decrease in home ownership. The program offers a \$10,000 zero-percent interest loan that is forgivable over five years to anyone buying a home in which they will live in these key neighborhoods. The City of Minneapolis is also seeking partnerships to match available funding, so more assistance may be available to homebuyers purchasing homes in eligible neighborhoods. (The McKinley, Folwell and Webber-Camden neighborhoods are spearheading this approach.) Applications were accepted beginning May 5th.

CPED Trend Busters

Minneapolis Bucks National Economic Slowdown

Minneapolis continues to grow its diverse business economy and quality workforce.

▶ Major businesses are expanding in and moving to Minneapolis.

- Federal Reserve reports Minneapolis – along with Dallas and Cleveland – is experiencing more vibrant economic growth than other metro regions.
- Minneapolis companies are expanding: Impact Mailing; Capella University; Minneapolis Children's Hospital / Children's Fairview.
- Companies are moving to Minneapolis to take advantage of transit and attract talent: Colle+McVoy; Coloplast; DLR Group; SoftBrands; Techne; Virchow Krause.
- Recent downtown openings include several luxury hotels in renovated historic structures: the W Hotel at the Foshay; the Westin at the Farmers & Mechanics Bank; the Starwood Luxury Hotel and Condominiums at the Ivy Building

▶ Minneapolis Promise is preparing more youth for productive careers.

- 1848 youth are employed this summer in jobs through the City's employment programs (44% of youth employed are from the northside).
- 723 Minneapolis high school graduates have gone to college, for free in 2006 and 2007, through the Power of You (MCTC, Saint Paul College, Metropolitan State University) and Founders Free (University of Minnesota) scholarship programs.

Minneapolis Models Comprehensive Foreclosure Response

Minneapolis and its partners mobilized quickly and comprehensively to address foreclosures.

▶ Minneapolis aggressively addresses foreclosed and blighted properties.

- Minneapolis quickly established a Strategic Acquisition Fund and secured \$11 million in state and philanthropic funds to buy and rehab vacant and foreclosed homes. Recently approved federal funds will expand this established strategy.
- Demolition is another way Minneapolis and its partners are working to stabilize and secure neighborhoods especially hard-hit by foreclosures. Hennepin County has provided \$1.25 million to help remove blighted properties.

▶ Minneapolis succeeds in marketing homes and neighborhoods.

- Applications for the new Minneapolis Advantage program were made available in May; all funds were either allocated or reserved by the end of July.

Minneapolis Anticipates & Plans for Next Decade of Growth

Minneapolis guides growth and development through its updated Comprehensive Plan.

▶ Combined commercial and residential construction continues to grow.

- The value of permitted work in the city through June 2008 was \$438.5 million; substantially above the comparable June 2007 figure of \$321 million.

▶ Minneapolis downtown office-vacancy rate continues to decline.

- The downtown Minneapolis office-vacancy rate has declined to 12.7%, which is lower than the metro area rate for the first time since the 1st quarter of 2007.

▶ Minneapolis population continues to grow.

- According to the Metropolitan Council, the Minneapolis population continued to grow in 2007 to 388,020, a modest increase from 387,970 in 2006.