



# Quarterly Report

## First Quarter 2008



### Department of Community Planning & Economic Development—CPED

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**Our Mission:** CPED works with local and regional partners to preserve and enhance our natural and built environment, plan for growth, and advance the physical and human development of the city.

[Click here](#) for detailed updates and performance measures for each of the departmental goals identified in our Business Plan.



#### Coloplast

Groundbreaking for the Coloplast corporate headquarters at 1601 West River Road in north Minneapolis was held March 4. The expansion reflects

Coloplast's decision to consolidate U.S. operations from Georgia and California here. The new facility—with green features such as storm water containment and energy efficient mechanical and electrical systems—will house more than 300 employees with a goal of 100 of its workforce residing in Minneapolis. The company is also developing an apprenticeship/internship for North High students and has pledged money for scholarships.



#### MacPhail Center for Music

The MacPhail Center for Music celebrated the grand opening of

their new facility at 501 Second Street South in January 2008. During the first quarter of 2008, the MacPhail Center has been host to scores of concerts and to Mayor RT Rybak's [2008 State of the City Address](#) in March. As MacPhail Center President David O'Fallon said at the Mayor's State of the City's speech in March, "we couldn't have done this without the City's help."



#### Penn-Lowry Crossings

City officials, Wellington Management and the northside community celebrated the opening of Penn-Lowry Crossings,

an \$8 million redevelopment project, on January 26. The project added a new grocery store anchor, turning around this key commercial node. The City of Minneapolis, through grants from the State and the Met Council, paid \$250,000 for pollution clean-up of the site. The City worked with Hennepin County to modify the Lowry Avenue rebuild, minimizing impacts to current businesses and enabling an existing hardware store to expand.



#### The Minneapolis Plan

Over 530 participated in various outreach events related to the update of the City's

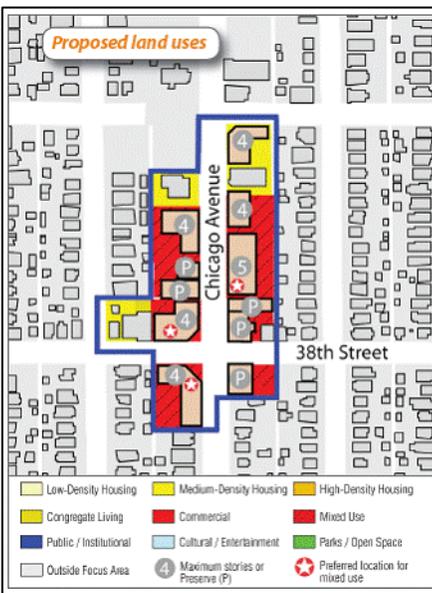
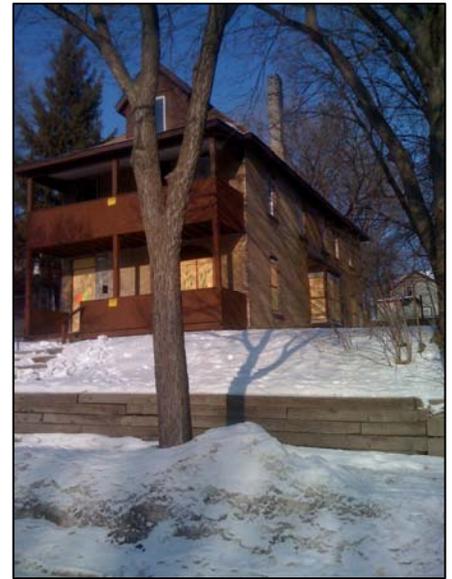
Comprehensive Plan, including the five open houses hosted by CPED, during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2008. All input received during the public comment period were compiled by topic and addressed individually. Staff has revised the plan based on these comments. The updated version of the plan will be available online soon, along with the comments and staff responses.



## [Boarding Pilot in Cottage Park](#)

As part of CPED's [Five-Point Strategy](#), which includes minimizing the blighting influence of boarded buildings on the surrounding neighborhood, the City is testing the use of boards painted to look like windows and doors as an alternative boarding method. This approach is being tested on three projects in Cottage Park. Regulatory Services plans to expand this pilot elsewhere in the city this coming summer.

[Star Tribune article: Boarded-up buildings now blend right in.](#)



## [Small Area Plans: Uptown, West Broadway and 38<sup>th</sup> and Chicago Avenue](#)

CPED works with community stakeholders to develop Small Area Plans that provide specific guidance for particular areas. Three Small Area Plans have been approved during the first quarter of 2008: Uptown, West Broadway and 38<sup>th</sup> and Chicago.

## [CPED Web Site Redesigned](#)

CPED has recently redesigned the home page and organizational structure of its information on the City of Minneapolis web site. The new design includes thematic menus and geographically-organized listings of current projects and approved City plans. Check out the new site at:

[www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped)

