

MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

**ST. ANTHONY EAST
NRP PHASE II
NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN**

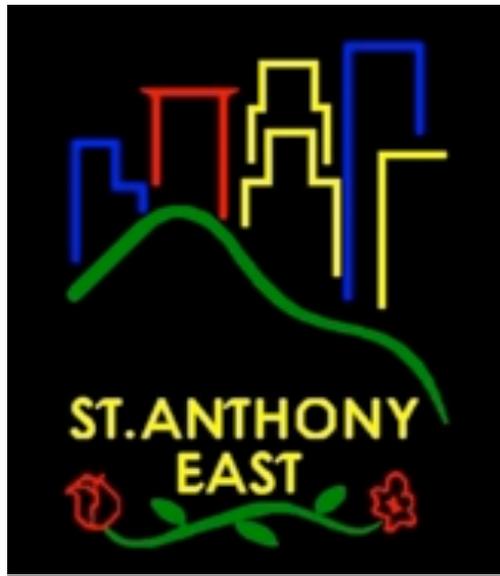
Date Adopted by the Policy Board: October 24, 2011

Date Adopted by the City Council: November 18, 2011

Document Number: 2011R-582

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program

St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association



Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

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Neighborhood Description

St. Anthony East's historical roots reach back 156 years to the old city of St. Anthony, which preceded Minneapolis by 12 years. St. Anthony was incorporated as a city in 1855 and merged with Minneapolis in 1872, losing its name but retaining its identity. Though St. Anthony East boasts of its unique characteristics and strong neighborhood development, it still holds a connection to its history. You won't search long before you find a resident whose family history is traced back to the old Northeast neighborhood. "Because St. Anthony East is an area of such continuity, history is never far from the heart. For many residents, the area's history is as simple as remembering mom and dad, or grandma and grandpa and the stories they used to tell."¹

St Anthony East is a relatively safe neighborhood with a wide range of housing options, two parks, a community garden, and eight local businesses. It is close to the river and downtown. The neighborhood extends from Broadway St NE to the north, Central Ave NE to the east, 2nd Ave NE to the south, and 5th and Washington streets NE to the west. St. Anthony East has 2,038 residents, the sixth lowest population of 13 Northeast Minneapolis neighborhoods, and it has the 14th lowest population out of the 86 neighborhoods citywide.

Though St. Anthony East's population fell by 110 people from 2000-2010, it also became more dynamic. Demographic shifts and new housing developments played an integral role in the community's composition. The neighborhood became more ethnically diverse in the past three decades, particularly with increased Latino and Black populations. In 1980, there were 4 black residents and 19 Latino residents in the neighborhood, together making up 1% of the neighborhood's total population². Today 272 Black and 220 Latino people call St. Anthony East home, amounting to 24% of the total population³. American Indian and Asian residents comprise another 5% of the neighborhood population⁴. This is in line with the demographic changes throughout Northeast Minneapolis, adding to the cultural and social milieu of the community.

There are 1,141 total housing units in St. Anthony East, fourteen more than in 2000⁵. Approximately 36% of these are homestead properties⁶. The remaining 64%

¹ McCabe, Suzanne

1997 St. Anthony East the Story of a Community
Document: NPCR 1064

² US Census Bureau. (2010). 2010 Census Redistricting Summary: Minneapolis, MN. Retrieved, June 10, 2011, from, <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/042811COW.pdf>.

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Ibid

⁶ Ibid

of properties are non-homestead, which shows the high proportion of residents who rent a housing unit. The new Old Third Town Homes development will be fully occupied by the spring of 2012 and will offer eight affordable housing units. St. Anthony East will contain five low-income housing developments. Two public housing buildings on Spring St. NE, Clare Housing Apartments, and Teamster Manor make up the rest. There are also several medium-density apartment buildings scattered throughout the neighborhood.

Most of the homes in St. Anthony East were built between 1900 and 1930 and many are in the Craftsman Foursquare, Colonial, and Bungalow style. Newer single-family homes as well as town homes make up the southern border along 3rd Avenue because this land was once cleared for a proposed freeway. NRP Phase I housing programs helped restore the aging housing stock. Forty-nine residents made improvements to their houses using the Revolving Loan and Last Resort Deferred Programs. Further investment will help carry this momentum and continue the restoration of neighborhood housing.

Neighborhood Action Plan Overview

St. Anthony East's NRP Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan was approved in December of 1998, bringing \$1,196,100 to the neighborhood. The total allocation for Phase II is only a fraction of that at \$362,535. St. Anthony East will continue its commitment to improve the quality of housing by investing 70% of these funds into home improvement loan programs. Medium and long term planning along with sustainable housing loan programs will provide future stability to the neighborhood and ensure that development does not end once NRP funds are depleted. Increased collaboration with surrounding neighborhoods, City and State departments, and partnering non-profit organizations will improve the efficiency of these initiatives. Once again, St. Anthony East will use its most valuable asset, its people, to solve neighborhood issues and strengthen the community. The Neighborhood Revitalization Program catalyzed this kind of community involvement over two decades ago, and the structures that now exist will bring cohesion and power to the neighborhood for decades to come.

Through the Phase II Action Plan, St. Anthony East will improve housing and livability, engage the community, and proactively implement strategies to increase safety. It will continue to effectuate the resident driven, collaborative approach to neighborhood improvement and community building.

Phase II Planning Process

By 2007 most Phase I programs were completed and the St. Anthony East community began to identify priorities for the NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. A series of town hall meetings were held to gauge input from the community and discuss which strategies best achieve the stated objectives. SAENA conducted outreach for these meetings by sending postcard invitations to each resident, email blasts to the neighborhood mailing list, personal invitations at community events, and announcements in the Northeaster newspaper. The following priorities were voted on in a community meeting at Logan Park Recreation Center with some strategies overlapping in multiple priorities:

- Public Safety
- Neighborhood Beautification
- Master Planning
- Communication and Outreach
- Youth, Senior Programs
- Street Lighting
- Programs for Underrepresented Groups
- Parks and Recreation

Committees were established to research the various strategies and report back to the neighborhood with their findings. Planning for Phase II strategies paused due to funding changes for neighborhood action plans and staff transitions in SAENA. Planning resumed in 2010, as SAENA initiated further community input through newsletters, mailings, and interviews with residents, asking for ideas of what would we could do to make St. Anthony East better. We talked to residents at monthly community meetings, neighborhood walks, door-to-door initiatives, and neighborhood events (i.e. Ice Cream Social and Plant Give Away) to find out what issues people in St. Anthony East care about. 2010 Census data also helped inform SAENA's Phase II strategies, particularly for our neighborhood housing programs.

St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association (Mission and Role)

SAENA's purpose is to promote the betterment of the community and improve the human environment within the neighborhood boundaries and surrounding area(s), through plans and projects as may be appropriate to accomplish these purposes.

The neighborhood association, once known as the Project Action Committee (PAC), has a long history of accomplishing impressive feats dictating zoning, infrastructure, and Urban Renewal decisions. The successful grassroots effort to stop a proposed freeway from coming through the neighborhood in the 1970's is a proud part of St. Anthony East's past, and exemplifies the impact that a community can have on their neighborhood. St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association seeks to continue this model and exercise influence on the decisions that affect the people who live, work, and play here. As a community with rich and diverse immigrant roots, we strive towards inclusion and respect for all our neighbors so that all feel welcome and valued.

SAENA holds an annual Ice Cream Social and Plant Give Away, monthly community meetings, weekly neighborhood walks, and informational workshops to engage the community. Hundreds of residents have attended these events in past years and the events are well known in the area. We disseminate information about important City, State, and non-profit resources that connect residents to entities that can help them address issues.

Phase II Strategies

1. Housing

Goal: Bolster existing lending programs and make them more accessible and useful to SAE homeowners

Objective: Improve the existing housing stock by improving exterior appearance, adding value to interior space, increasing energy efficiency and increasing home safety, e.g., protect basement windows, repair unsafe structures, add railings and other safety features

Strategy 1: Amend current Revolving Loan Program to implement new guidelines

Changes to the Revolving Loan Program may include but are not limited to:

- Eliminate the Loan-to-Value requirement.

- Increase the maximum loan amount to allow greater potential impact of each project
- Create incentives for energy efficient, or “green”, home improvements
- Increase the interest rate to ensure long-term neighborhood funding

The Revolving Loan Program will continue to provide homeowners with financing to invest in their properties, helping to increase value, safety, and beauty to residents’ houses. As the neighborhood restores its housing, it creates a more attractive market for new home buyers and provides affordable options for needed repairs. To adapt the 15 year-old program to current housing market conditions, St. Anthony East will restructure the program guidelines to increase accessibility, scope of improvements, and sustainability.

Partners: SAENA (St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association), NRP, GMHC (Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation),

Contract Administrator: Development Finance Division (DFD)

Funding: NRP

Budget: \$211,891

City Goal: Livable Communities, Healthy Lives

Strategy 2: Amend current Last Resort Deferred Loan Program to implement new guidelines

Changes to the Last Resort Deferred Loan Program may include but are not limited to:

- Loans will be repaid at the sale, or transfer of ownership, of the house
- Replenish funds by transferring program income from the Revolving Loan Program.
- Alter income restrictions to make the program more accessible to homeowners.
- Implement separate eligibility requirements for seniors to allow greater access to improvement loans.
- Increase the maximum loan amount

The Last Resort Deferred Loan currently provides financing to homeowners with limited income for home repairs that increase the safety of the property or correct housing code violations. This program will be restructured to expand eligibility requirements to better reflect the current housing needs in St. Anthony East. The

reforms will make the loans more attractive to seniors with fixed-incomes who currently are ineligible because of outdated area median income guidelines. The Last Resort Deferred Loan Program will continue to help homeowners avoid housing code violations, repair unsafe structures, and add value to their properties.

Partners: SAENA (St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association), NRP, GMHC (Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation)

Contract Administrator: Development Finance Division (DFD)

Funding: NRP

Budget: \$41,884

City Goal: Livable Communities, Healthy Lives

2. Land Use, Development, and Beautification

Goal: Experience low-impact, sustainable neighborhood growth that reflects resident priorities.

Objective: Facilitate neighborhood development that beautifies the neighborhood, maximizes green space, encourages economic development, and improves housing stock.

Strategy 2.1. St. Anthony East Neighborhood Master Plan

Create and implement a neighborhood master plan that establishes a long-range vision of land use and development and, if adopted by the City of Minneapolis, ensure that City policies do not violate the stipulations of the plan. St. Anthony East will determine a long-term neighborhood vision and pursue actions to utilize vacant property lots, foster economic development, encourage sustainable transportation options, and guide housing development. The project requires a steering committee to oversee the project as it takes place. A steering committee may be composed of neighborhood stakeholders, such as residents, business owners, landlords, SAENA board members, and of technical City staff and at least one consulting firm to design the plan. The master-planning project is transparent to the public and encourages residents to provide input throughout the process.

Partners: Consulting group, Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED), NRP, neighborhood volunteers, local business owners, University of Minnesota CURA

Contract Administrator: CPED, NRP

Funding: NRP

Budget: \$30,000

City Goal: Livable Communities, Healthy Lives; Jobs & Economic Vitality; Eco-Focused

Strategy 2.2 Neighborhood Park Improvement

Improve Community Commons Park by ensuring proper maintenance, updating park equipment, and utilizing the spaces for new recreational, environmental and artistic purposes. New uses for neighborhood green space should build community and encourage residents to enjoy outdoor activities in an urban area.

Partners: SAENA, Project Contractor, NRP, neighborhood volunteers, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Contract Administrator: NRP

Funding: NRP

Budget: \$2,000⁷

City Goal: Livable Communities, Healthy Lives; Eco-Focused

3. Safety and Livability

Goal: Safety is the foundation of a healthy neighborhood and requires a community-wide effort to look out for one another and develop strategies to prevent and report crime.

Objective: Reduce criminal activity in St. Anthony East by improving the physical environment and increasing resident communication.

⁷ St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association will make further investments to the park through its Community Commons Park account, grant funding projects, and other fundraising activities.

Strategy 3.1. Increase Safety Street Lighting

Install additional safety street lighting to increase visibility and reduce property crimes and other more serious offenses. Madison St. NE, Jefferson St. NE, and two blocks on Spring St. NE were chosen as a pilot project to increase lighting throughout the neighborhood. This is a proven method of increasing safety and improving the physical quality of a street.

Partners: Minneapolis Public Works, 2nd Precinct MPD

Contract Administrator: Public Works (PW), DFD

Funding: NRP

Budget: \$30,000

City Goal: A Safe Place to Call Home

Strategy 3.2. Focused Inspections for Housing Code Violations

St. Anthony East experienced more housing code violations than the median in Minneapolis from 2005-2010. This impacts property values and livability for other residents in the neighborhood. In 2010 and 2011, SAENA worked with the Minneapolis Housing Inspector to conduct focused inspections, as part of its Neighborhood Policing Plan. SAENA will continue to improve livability conditions through focused housing inspections.

Partners: SAENA, 2nd Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist, City Inspections Department

Contract Administrator: N/A

Funding: No funding commitment

City Goal: Livable Communities, Healthy Lives

Strategy 3.3. Develop and Support Block Clubs

Collaborate with the 2nd Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist to disseminate information on block club membership, and encourage residents to become block club leaders. Block clubs allow residents to receive email alerts from the Minneapolis Police Department when crime happens in the neighborhood. Block club leaders can then share crime information with their neighbors, making the block more engaged and ready to respond to suspicious or criminal activity. SAENA

will continue to encourage block club membership through newsletters, emails, neighborhood walks and community events. SAENA will support existing block clubs by sharing information with them regarding safety initiatives and community events.

Partners: SAENA; 2nd Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist, 2nd Precinct MPD, Neighborhood Block Clubs, Do Good Biz, AEG Live Rocky Mountains

Contract Administrator: N/A

Funding: Community volunteers

Budget: No funding commitment

City Goal: A Safe Place to Call Home

4. Community Outreach

Goal: Enhance the community's capacity to work together to develop creative, collaborative solutions to neighborhood issues and strengthen community bonds.

Objective: Engage the St. Anthony East community to increase participation and provide valuable information, resources, and volunteer support to all residents.

Strategy 4.1. Increase Outreach and Communications Activities

Continue outreach efforts to the community through direct interaction with residents, social media, newsletters, postcards, flyers, email, and collaboration with partnering organizations. Ideas include, but are not limited to:

Example 1: Publish Quarterly Newsletters

Continue to publish and distribute at least four newsletters a year. The newsletters inform the community of important issues, neighborhood events, non-profit and government resources, and SAENA initiatives. This is a primary method of getting information out to the community and foster interest in neighborhood development.

Example 2: Maintain website, social media, and e-communication

Use online resources, including website and social media to foster participation and distribute information to the community. This increases our capacity to reach a greater number of people quickly and efficiently.

Example 3: Administrative Support

Continue to fund staffing, office space, and other administrative costs, such as phone and Internet service, and office equipment. These funds support the administrative functions necessary to carry out NRP Phase II implementation and other organizational activities.

Example 4: Distribute promotional materials through collaborative partners

Develop promotional brochures, poster boards, give-away prizes, and maps to distribute through local businesses, churches, and community events.

Partners: SAENA, Do Good Biz, AEG Live Rocky Mountain, Northeaster, The Journal, Local businesses, churches, NE Farmers Market

Contract Administrator: DFD, NRP

Funding: NRP

Budget: \$43,960

City Goal: A City That Works

Strategy 4.2. Neighborhood Events and Direct Engagement

Reach out to members of the community through neighborhood events, meetings, recreational activities, and workshops. Ideas include but are not limited to:

Example 1: Informational Workshops

Hold educational, interactive workshops that provide residents with information and resources to address a particular need, interest, or problem. Landlord management, home-improvement, crime and safety, and tax assistance workshops have been held in the past or suggested for future occurrence.

Example 2: Neighborhood Walks

Continue weekly neighborhood walks through summer months. These walks are designed to create a neighborhood presence and display residents' desire to better their neighborhood by picking up trash, handing out information on safety

resources, and identify graffiti. It provides residents an opportunity to interact with each other and get to know their neighborhood better.

Example 3: Annual Neighborhood Events

Continue to hold annual events such as the Ice Cream Social, Plant Give Away, and Annual Meeting. These have become foundational neighborhood events that bring many residents of all ages and backgrounds together each year. We will build on past years' successes and implement a new annual community event.

Partners: 2nd Precinct CPS, Clare Housing, Uncle Franky's, Pletschers' Greenhouse,

Contract Administrator: DFD, NRP

Funding: NRP, CPP, fundraising

Budget: \$2,800

City Goal: Many People, One Minneapolis

5. Reserve Funds

Goal: Participate in the NRP's Affordable Housing Reserve Fund (AHRF) and the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiative Reserve Fund (COPSIRF) programs.

Objective: Assist with the development of long-term affordable housing units for low-income families and individuals, including elderly and persons with special needs, at or below 50% of the Metropolitan Median Income (MMI).

Strategy 5.1 Utilize NRP AHRF dollars to assist the construction of the Clare Housing Development at 957 Central Ave NE.

Funding: \$90,000

Objective: Improve residents' actual and perceived sense of safety and security.

Strategy 5.2 Initiate community oriented public safety measures.

Contract with Minneapolis Police Department to add directed patrols in high crime spots of the Lowry/Central Ave. area, with a major focus on property crime suppression. St. Anthony East, Holland, Windom Park, Nicollet Island-East Bank, Audubon Park, Bottineau, and Waite Park submitted a joint proposal for Community

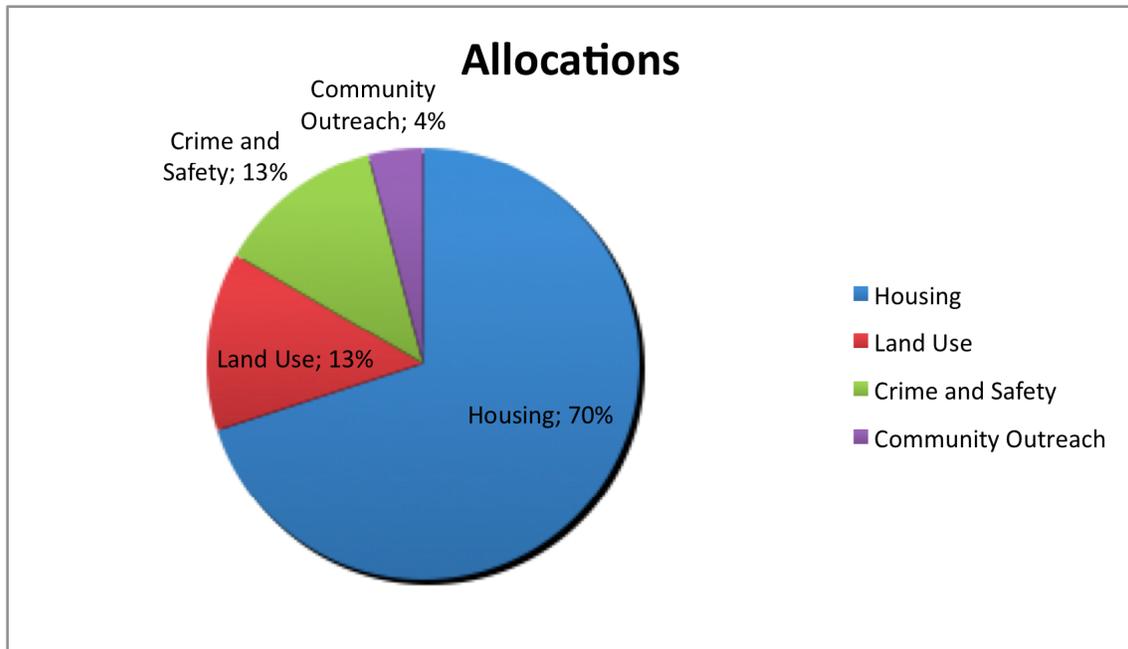
Oriented Public Safety Initiative Reserve Funds (COPSIRF).

Funding: The proposal was funded for a total of \$58,575; St. Anthony East's portion was \$7,321.88. COPSIRF allocations need to appear in the appropriate Phase II Neighborhood Action Plans to qualify as eligible NRP activities.

Total expenditures under the program were \$49,925.84; St. Anthony East's portion was \$6,240.73.

The allocation is not included in the total Action Plan Request, nor does it count against the neighborhood's Phase II allocation.

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⁸ This chart shows the distribution of funds after the plan is approved at 66% of the original allocation.

ST. ANTHONY EAST NEIGHBORHOOD PHASE II ACTION PLAN

ACTIVITY	EARLY ACCESS		ACTION PLAN		NRP	PROGRAM INCOME	PHASE I ROLLOVER	CHANGES
	NRP HOUSING	NRP OTHER	NRP HOUSING	NRP OTHER	PHASE II TOTAL			
HOUSING (page 6)								
1.1. Revolving Loan Program			211,891		211,891			
1.2. Last Resort Deferred Loan Program			41,884		41,884			
LAND USE, DEVELOPMENT, AND BEAUTIFICATION (page 8)								
2.1. St. Anthony East Neighborhood Master Plan				30,000	30,000			
2.2. Neighborhood Park Improvement				2,000	2,000			
SAFETY AND LIVABILITY (page 9)								
3.1. Increase Safety Street Lighting				30,000	30,000			
COMMUNITY OUTREACH (page 11)								
4.1. Outreach and Communications Activities				43,960	43,960			
4.2. Neighborhood Events and Direct Engagement				2,800	2,800			
RESERVE FUNDS (page 13)								
5.1. Clare Apartments		<i>see * below</i>			-			
5.2. Public Safety Initiatives		<i>see * below</i>			-			
TOTAL	0	0	253,775	108,760	362,535	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL ACTION PLAN REQUEST	0		362,535		362,535			
APPROVED AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND *	90,000				90,000			
APPROVED COPSI RESERVE FUND **	6,240.73				6,240.73			
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS IN PLAN	0		46,760		46,760	12.90%		
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS FOR HOUSING					37,579			
TOTAL HOUSING ALLOCATION					291,354	80.37%		

* - Clare Apartments (Reserve Funds 5.1.) is funded through the NRP Affordable Housing Reserve Fund for \$90,000. As such, it is considered an Early Access project. However, the allocation is not included in the total Action Plan Request, nor is it included in the calculation of the neighborhood's Housing Allocation.

** - The Audubon Park, Bottineau, Holland, Nicollet Island/East Bank, Northeast Park, St. Anthony East, Waite Park and Windom Park Community Oriented Public Safety Initiative (Reserve Funds 5.2.) was funded through the NRP Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund (COPSIRF) for a total of \$58,875; St. Anthony East's portion of the allocation is \$7,321.88. Final expenditures for this initiative are \$49,925.84; St. Anthony East's share of these expenditures is \$6,240.73. Since the allocation is from the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund, the allocation is not included in the total Action Plan Request calculated above, nor does it count against the neighborhood's Phase II allocation.

ST. ANTHONY EAST NEIGHBORHOOD PHASE II ACTION PLAN

ACTIVITY	Comments				Contract Administrator			
<u>HOUSING (page 6)</u>								
1.1. Revolving Loan Program					DFD			
1.2. Last Resort Deferred Loan Program					DFD			
<u>LAND USE, DEVELOPMENT, AND BEAUTIFICATION (page 8)</u>								
2.1. St. Anthony East Neighborhood Master Plan					CPED, NRP			
2.2. Neighborhood Park Improvement					DFD			
<u>SAFETY AND LIVABILITY (page 9)</u>								
3.1. Increase Safety Street Lighting					Public Works			
<u>COMMUNITY OUTREACH (page 11)</u>								
4.1. Outreach and Communications Activities					NRP			
4.2. Neighborhood Events and Direct Engagement					NRP			
<u>RESERVE FUNDS (page 13)</u>								
5.1. Clare Apartments					CPED			
5.2. Public Safety Initiatives					Police			

St. Anthony East Neighborhood Phase II Action Plan (St. Anthony East 2.xls)
 Date Prepared: October 17, 2011
 Last Revision: October 17, 2011
 Prepared By: Robert Cooper, Finance 673-5239