

MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

**SOUTHEAST COMO
NEIGHBORHOOD
ACTION PLAN**

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SouthEast Como
Neighborhood Action Plan

November 1999

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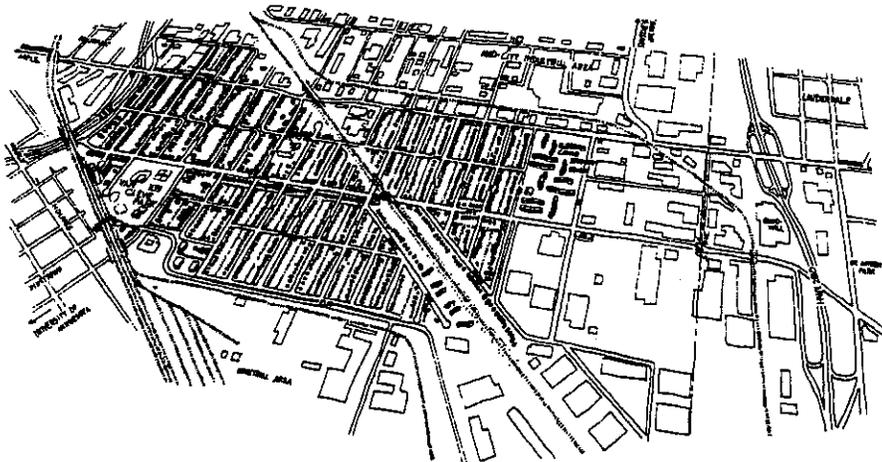
Vision Statement

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.



Neighborhood Description

The high-traffic business roads, industry, abandoned industrial sites, and active railroads that surround Como contrast sharply with the residential character of the neighborhood. The housing stock consists of modest early 20th-century bungalows and Victorian and twenties-era homes mixed with a scattering of newer duplexes and single family homes. Some areas (e.g. along Como, 15th and Hennepin Avenues) have post-60's two-story walk-up apartment buildings. Many of the larger homes have been converted into student housing. Within Como are Tuttle Elementary School, the large public Van Cleve Park (whose athletic fields are still owned by the School Board), a new University child care center, and Como Student Housing (a large University-owned married student housing complex). Commercial activity is focused on Como and East Hennepin Avenues. The neighborhood is served by two convenience grocery stores (including one with a laundromat and deli) and a number of small service businesses, including a hardware store, a barber, a dentist, two coffee houses, three bar/restaurants, a diner, a video rental shop, an electronics repair shop, a resale shop, three printers, a car parts store, several auto repair garages, and several gas stations. Como is home to three churches and a mosque.

Demographics

According to 1990 census figures, 5407 people make their homes in the Como neighborhood, in a total of 2257 housing units. Of these, 38% were owned occupied housing units and 59% were rental units (4% of the housing units were vacant). The ethnic/racial makeup of the neighborhood is 83% white, 10% Asian, 4% black and 2% Native American. According to the census, 69% of Como was under 35 years old (36% at 25-34 years old) and 8% is 65 or over.

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.

NRP Process

Initiating NRP in Como

In 1994-95, Como's Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) process began when Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA) developed and entered into the Participation Agreement with the City of Minneapolis. Throughout the summer of 1995, SECIA distributed fliers and recruited volunteers to serve on the NRP Steering Committee. The first Town Meeting was held on October 5, 1995 at which time the process and purpose of NRP were introduced, issues were brainstormed, more volunteers were sought, and the Steering Committee was elected. Following that meeting the Steering Committee met monthly to organize the NRP in Como, hire a part-time staff, etc.

Neighborhood Survey

In 1996, a survey was developed by the Como NRP Steering Committee to solicit input from all residents. About 2500 copies of the 16-page, 57-question survey were delivered to each household in Como in May 1996. A total of 388 residents (17%) returned completed surveys. The respondents consisted of 289 identifying themselves as owner occupants (34% of Como's owner occupants) and 92 identifying themselves as renters (6.5% of Como's renters). Except for a lack of youth, survey respondents were rather evenly divided by age: 20-29 years old (23%), 30-39 (19%), 40-49 (20%), 50-59 (16%), 60 and over (18%). The survey respondents were 73% white, 5% Asian, 4% Native American, 1% African American, and 6% not answering that question. Of the respondents, 22% had children in their household, 28% had a household income of \$30,000 to \$50,000, and 62% were college graduates.

Neighborhood Quality. Most of the respondents (81%) rated the neighborhood as either good or excellent. The top reasons people live in Como were convenient location (58%), affordable housing (49%), and close to the University (42%). About half (51%) believed that the neighborhood is about the same in desirability as a place to live and 13% thought it has improved since they arrived here. Crime and safety was rated as the highest concern, but also rated "high" were air pollution, ground water pollution, soil pollution, graffiti, and river pollution. Issues of appearance, transportation, and noise were rated moderate. When asked how important arts, cultural and greenspace are to the quality of life in the neighborhood, respondents listed as "very high" public gardens and blooming boulevards and listed as "high" cultural awareness programs for child & youth, neighborhood events, and religious institutions.

Housing. Most respondents rated housing as excellent or good "on my block" (61%) and "in the neighborhood" (45%) and the interior and exterior condition of their home as excellent or good (82% and 77% respectively). But, only 39% rated their housing resale value as excellent or good. Specific neighborhood housing problems cited were: irresponsible landlords (59%), irresponsible homeowners (39%), substandard housing (38%), and over-occupancy (35%). If loans and grants were available, 85% of the owner respondents would consider making needed repairs including: improve exterior (45%), interior remodeling (38%), roof (30%), and garage (29%). Renter responses included 47% very satisfied with their building management and 17% who intend to buy a home in Como.

Schools, Education, Families, & Seniors. For respondents with families, 75% rate Como as an excellent or good place to raise children. Over 1/3 (38%) of the respondents had no opinion about the quality of public schools, 24% were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality, and 32% were satisfied or very satisfied with the range of school choices. Of the seniors responding, services receiving the most "very important" ratings were transportation (50%), health/elder care (49%), and help for home upkeep (46%).

Safety & Crime Prevention. When asked specifically about crime and safety, the respondents rated the neighborhood "very high/excellent" on personal safety in and outside your home; "high/good" on bus safety and lighting; "moderate" on safety in parks and security of property; and "low" on active and visible block clubs. Safety in the neighborhood has remained the same over the past five years according to 45% of the respondents and has become less safe according to 26%.

Transportation. Como respondents use their cars primarily - 43% responded "always" or 41% "fairly often" to car use, while 3% of the people bicycle "always" and 23% bicycle "fairly often", and 8% walk "always" and 41% walk "fairly often". Concerns with traffic and transportation that rated "very high" were speeding vehicles, lack of commuter bikeways, air pollution from vehicles, and traffic noise; and concerns that rated "high" were parking availability and truck traffic on residential streets.

Government Service. The highest rated public services in the neighborhood are fire protection (70% excellent or good, 21% no opinion) and garbage and recycling (79% excellent or good). Receiving mixed ratings were housing inspection (4% excellent, 23% good, 19% fair, 17% poor, and 36% no opinion), public schools (7% excellent, 29% good, 11% fair, 6% poor, 41% no opinion), graffiti removal (2% excellent, 23% good, 27% fair, 19% poor, and 24% no opinion), snow removal from streets (6% excellent, 40% good, 30% fair, and 19% poor), and pollution monitoring and enforcement (2% excellent, 13% good, 21% fair, 19% poor, and 39% no opinion).

Business & Community Development. Most respondents rated the neighborhood's business services as good to fair. The "vitality of neighborhood business centers" was rated 4% excellent, 30% good, 37% fair, and 8% poor, but the "quality of neighborhood stores & businesses" was rated 15% excellent, 50% good, 21% fair, and only 4% poor.

Neighborhood Task Forces & Developing the First Step Plan

A second Town Meeting was held on October 29, 1996 where the results of the survey were presented and eight task forces were formed on: housing, environment, parks, schools, public safety, community services, transportation, and business/economic development. Over the next six months, the task forces identified and researched neighborhood issues and opportunities and developed proposed goals, objectives and strategies. These were presented at a third Town Meeting on May 20th, 1997 where over 150 participants cast their straw vote indicating their priority objectives and ones which raised red flags. Each task force used this response to focus on a selected number of goals and objectives for the First Step Plan. The task forces spent the summer of 1997 further researching appropriate strategies,

identifying implementation partners, and developing budgets. The task forces combined their proposals into the draft First Step Plan which was presented to the neighborhood at the Fourth NRP Town Meeting on November 18, 1997 and overwhelmingly approved by the attendees.

Developing the Action Plan & Implementing the First Step Plan

In 1998, SECIA and its NRP Steering Committee and task forces started to develop the full Neighborhood Action Plan while beginning to implement the First Step Plan. Among the first accomplishments of the First Step Plan were the volunteer-based construction of the Tuttle School playground in September and Unitree/Minnesota ReLeaf tree planting in October. A workshop for SECIA Board members, committee and task force members on November 8, 1998 kicked off the Action Planning process. All committees/Task Forces worked throughout the winter and spring investigating and preparing their Action Plan proposals. In addition Como participated in a major joint Thoroughfare Study and held the cooperative Como-Tuttle Shebang event attended by more than 170 residents. The Housing Loan Program was kicked off with a large open meeting on February 10, 1999. The draft Neighborhood Action Plan was distributed to every household (via the *Comotion* newsletter) and was presented at a Town Meeting on June 15, 1999 where participants cast their straw vote indicating their priority objectives and ones which raised red flags. The committees/task forces then refined their proposals, reached consensus on the budget, and presented the plan at an All Task Force Meeting on September 30, 1999. The Action Plan has gone through NRP staff and legal review. The neighborhood approved the plan on November 30, 1999, with 70 people attending and only 1 dissenting voter. The plan is now submitted to the City's NRP Policy Board and City Council for final approvals.

Neighborhood Action Plan

As specified below, in combining the First Step Plan and new draft Action Plan components, many strategies have been re-numbered in order to produce the most cohesive combined document. Total costs listed at the top and end of each section reflect final totals (after 1st Step plan modifications).

HOUSING

Housing Subtotal: \$1,204,267

Vision for Housing: To empower the people of our neighborhood - owners, tenants, non-resident owners and businesses - to work together, and to provide them with the resources and information they need to maintain and rehabilitate housing.

Housing Goal I. Improve the quality of housing in the Como neighborhood.

Objective Develop programs that encourage and assist home/property owners to improve and maintain their properties and that attract prospective home buyers to the neighborhood.

Strategy H1. Prioritizing Improvements

Connect homeowners with private inspection programs that will assist homeowners with prioritizing housing improvements.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing Committee), Center for Energy and Environment (CEE)/Community Revitalization Resources (CRR), Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)

Timeline: 2000-2004 (2 times in 5 years)

Resources: NRP: \$30,650 for inspection fees, mailings, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$15,325
	2001	\$0
	2002	\$15,325
	2003	\$0
	2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: MCDA

Strategy H2a. Revolving Loan Program (1st Step Strategy H1)

Establish a revolving loan program and choose a contracting agency to administer it. The program as proposed (which may be modified as needed):

- a) will be a revolving low interest loan program,
- b) will have a maximum of \$2,000 NRP dollars per year,
- c) may require matching funds,
- d) will give priority for loans based on household income,
- e) will be for both owner occupied and non-owner occupied housing, but limited to three dwelling units per structure,
- f) will be for exterior improvements only, and
- g) will exclude luxury items (e.g. swimming pools, hot tubs, fences etc.).

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing Task Force), Minneapolis Community Development Agency

(MCDA), etc.
 Timeline: 1998-99
 Resources: NRP: \$100,000 for revolving loans
 Contract Administrator: MCDA
 Results: The plan was modified to allow loans of up to \$3,500. SECIA contracted with the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to establish and administer the loan program; CEE helped with guidelines and marketing. As of August 1999, 30 applications were received of which 10 are active loans totalling \$16,514. This loan program is being extended as Strategy H2b.

Strategy H2b. Revolving Loan Program

Implement a revolving loan program with a graduated interest scale from 4 to 8% based upon income. Non-attached and recreational structures such as gazebos and hot tubs, new fences, etc. and any improvements which are only cosmetic would 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), Center for Energy and Environment (CEE)/Community Revitalization Resources (CRR), Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)

Timeline: 2000-2004 (annual program)
 Resources: NRP: \$952,500 for loans, marketing, administration and servicing, etc.; this is a continuation and refinement of Strategy H2a

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$376,500	
	2001	\$276,500	
	2002	\$176,500	
	2003	\$76,500	(plus repaid loan dollars)
	2004	\$46,500	(plus repaid loan dollars)

Contract Administrator: MCDA

Housing Goal II. Ensure code and ordinance compliance of the Como neighborhood's non-resident owners' properties.

Objective. Improve the condition of rental housing through code compliance and education programs.

Strategy H3. Rental Licensing (1st Step Strategy H2)

Work with the City to develop a timeline and process for the identification, inspection, and approved licensing of all rental properties in the Como neighborhood.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing Task Force), Mpls. City Inspections, Mpls. City Council,
Timeline: 1998-99 (complete inspection of rental property)
Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$1,000 for administration (to produce & get information for owners); plan modification moved \$ to H7 (1st Step Strategy H5)
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: SECIA and the Housing Committee met with city staff and City Council members.

Strategy H4. Implement Codes

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
Timeline: 2000-2004 (annual program)
Resources: NRP: \$6,000 for printing, mailings, facilitators, committee expenses, etc.
NRP \$/year: 2000 \$1,200
2001 \$1,200
2002 \$1,200
2003 \$1,200
2004 \$1,200

Contract Administrator: Inspections

Strategy H5. Non-resident Owner & Tenant Education (1st Step Strategy H3)

Develop non-resident owners/tenant workshops, educate the public, and enhance livability in the Como neighborhood by utilizing the staff of the Como Resource Center.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing Task Force), tenant/landlord associations, U of M Housing, City Inspections
Timeline: 1998-99 (upon completion of the Resource Center)
Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to H7 (1st Step Strategy H5)
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: This strategy was linked to the Resource Center (see H7 below).

Housing Goal III. Provide educational resources to the community.

Objective A. Provide educational opportunities on housing maintenance and improvements, owners', tenants', non-resident owners' issues, purchasing information, etc.

Strategy H6. Neighborhood Events (1st Step Strategy H4)

Develop an annual event or series of events, in conjunction with other Task Forces, designed to promote the Como neighborhood, provide information to the public on housing and other neighborhood issues and enhance a sense of the Como community. (See Results for Strategy H7 below; see also strategies PS4, P3, T14, & CB5)

Strategy H7. Housing Information & Resources (1st Step Strategy H5)

Develop and staff the Como Resource Center in order to:

- gather information on existing city, state, federal and private programs pertaining to housing issues,
- b) develop workshops about housing and neighborhood issues in conjunction with other Task Forces, and
- c) invite speakers and individuals to provide educational opportunities on housing issues.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Housing and other Task Forces), MCDA, consultants/experts, etc.

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$10,000 to implement housing resource center, neighborhood events, workshop costs, speaker's costs, subscriptions, daycare and special service fees, mailings, flyers, printing; plan modifications increased allocation to \$11,500 from Strategies H3 & H5 (1st Step Strategies H2 & H3) but moved \$1,500 to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)

Contract Administrator: MCDA

Results: The Resource Center and SECIA office were established at 2010 East Hennepin. A part-time Resource Center Coordinator was hired who worked with a new Resource Center Task Force to develop the center and hold the first Resource Center Open House on November 18, 1999 which was publicized to all SE Como residents. SECIA organized the first annual Como-Tuttle Shebang information fair (including housing information and assistance group representatives) that was attended by over 170 Como residents. SECIA has also committed \$200 towards involvement in the South High Housing Fair 2000. See also Strategy T1 regarding Thoroughfare Study.

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

Strategy H8. 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)

Timeline: 2000-2004 (annual program)

Resources: NRP: \$105,117 for space rental, coordinator, computer, supplies, resources, publications, mailings, workshops and programs, researcher stipend, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$25,024
	2001	\$20,024
	2002	\$20,024
	2003	\$20,024
	2004	\$20,021

Contract Administrator: NRP

Total NRP \$s for Housing: \$110,000 1st step + \$1,094,267 action plan = \$1,204,267

ENVIRONMENT

Environment Subtotal: \$131,600

Environment Goal I. Enhance the overall environmental quality of Como.

Objective A. Turn neighborhood gateways and throughways into neighborhood amenities.

Strategy E1. Thoroughfare Greening

Set up a 'streetscape fund' which can be tapped by neighborhood businesses to improve the Como and Hennepin streetscapes and buffer parking lots and other areas inconsistent with residential land use. (See also Business Strategies 9 and 12.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Task Force, Beautification Committee), Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), Minneapolis Public Works Department (PWD), Sustainable Resources Center/Urban Lands Program (SRC), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Timeline: 1998-99 (two-year pilot, extendable if successful)

Resources: NRP: \$5,500; was \$6,000 (\$3,000 in '98 and \$3,000 in '99 for grants and administration); plan modification moved \$500 to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)
Mn ReLeaf grant (DNR grant for trees): \$2,000
Unitree grant: \$2,000
Hawkins Chemical fund: \$2,744
volunteers and participating businesses: \$3,670 in kind for labor & maintenance

Contract Administrator: MPRB

Results: Volunteers planted 55 trees in cooperation with businesses and a multi-family housing project through the Unitree and ReLeaf programs and the MPRB has planted 35 trees to date (expending \$2,826) with the remainder planned for year 2000 planting. Tree planting through MPRB will be continued as part of Strategy E6. See also Strategy T1 regarding Thoroughfare Study.

Strategy E2. Neighborhood Greening

Increase the number of well-landscaped properties in the neighborhood, by providing neighborhood businesses and residents with information and access to resources; & institute an annual 'Beautiful Landscape' award.

Collaborative partners: SECIA (Environment Task Force, Beautification Committee), SRC

Timeline: 1998-99 (annual program)

Resources: NRP: \$1,000 for administration & awards; will be used by SECIA in conjunction with E5

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: Deferred until year 2000 to be achieved through Strategy E5.

Strategy E3. Neighborhood Gateways and Signs

Create attractive neighborhood gateways, with neighborhood signs and plantings. Additionally, post small neighborhood identification signs on streets entering the neighborhood. Develop cooperative maintenance arrangements, potentially with businesses and Youth Employment.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Task Force, Beautification Committee), SRC, MPWD
Timeline: 1998-99
Resources: NRP: \$6,000; was \$7,000 for logo design, signs, plantings; plan modification moved \$500 to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1) and to move \$500 to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB) for hire a graphic designer (see CB6)

Contract Administrator: PWD

Results: Locations have been selected for the identification signs and a new 4-color logo was created for SE Como whose design is being prepared for use as the sign design. The Thoroughfare Study identified priority gateways for improvements to be implemented in conjunction with E5.

Strategy E4. Bus Stop Planning

Develop a process for creating distinctive bus stops, which would make the streetscape more interesting and provide a visual signature for the neighborhood, as well as making bus travel more attractive. A future open design competition is proposed to develop plans for benches, shelters, and other features. This is a long-term project: the First Step Plan is to do pre-competition planning.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Task Force, Beautification Committee; Transportation Task Force)

Timeline: 1998-99 (pre-competition planning)

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$300 for administration; plan modification moved \$500 to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)

Como Environmental Task Force: in-kind - planning time

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: Work was integrated into the Thoroughfare Study (see T1). No further work is planned at this time specifically on E4.

Objective B: Strengthen the quality of Como's green spaces and their contribution to the neighborhood.

Strategy E5. Community Gardening & Greening

Provide technical assistance, matching grants, and other incentives to increase the amount and quality of gardens and landscaping along major thoroughfares (including residential buffers), at neighborhood gateways, in community gardens and public sites (e.g. Tuttle School), and through resident cooperation.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Committee, Beautification Committee), Sustainable Resource Center, Minnesota State Horticultural Society, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), People for Parks, Minneapolis Public Works Department (PWD), Minneapolis School Board, Tuttle Parent-Teacher Organization, Como Neighborhood Business Association (CBNA) Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Tree Trust, Unitree

Timeline: 2000-2004 (annual program)

Resources: NRP: \$50,900 for contracted seasonal neighborhood gardener, youth employment, trees and other plants, water tank, gardening supplies, etc. Plus NRP 1st Step funds: \$1,000 (from Strategy E2 noted above) Applications will be made to outside grantors, e.g. Mn ReLeaf and Unitree, as

appropriate which will increase the #s of trees to be planted; Hawkins fund may also supplement.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$12,500
	2001	\$9,600
	2002	\$9,600
	2003	\$9,600
	2004	\$9,600

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy E6. Public Trees

Plant trees in vacancies that occur along public rights-of-way (e.g. street trees) and city-owned land (e.g. Tuttle School and Van Cleve Park) in and around Como Neighborhood.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Committee, Beautification Committee), Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), People for Parks, Minneapolis Public Works Department (PWD), Minneapolis School Board, Tuttle Parent-Teacher Organization, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Tree Trust, Unitree

Timeline: 2000-2004 (spring and/or fall plantings one or more years as needed)

Resources: NRP: \$11,600 for MPRB planted trees and related maintenance; this is a continuation of work done through E1.

Applications will be made to outside grantors, e.g. Mn ReLeaf and Unitree, as appropriate to will increase the # of trees planted.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$0
	2001	\$6,600
	2002	\$0
	2003	\$0
	2004	\$5,000

Contract Administrator: MPRB Forestry

Environment Goal II. Rejuvenate the natural & built environment surrounding Como in order to support the quality of life in the neighborhood.

Objective. Assure that redevelopment of the Southeast Minneapolis Industrial Area (SEMI - south of Como Neighborhood) restores the natural environmental qualities of the Bridal Veil Creek Valley, while producing new jobs and a high quality built environment.

Strategy E7. SEMI Participation (1st Step Strategy E5)

Increase neighborhood participation in & monitoring of the city planning & environmental review processes (SEED - Southeast Economic Development Steering Committee - and its AUAR - Alternative Urban Areawide Review) in order to:

- a) create naturalized wetlands, increased trees, and wildlife habitat,
- b) preserve or enhance existing natural areas,
- c) achieve good quality design of new development (including buildings, pedestrian/bike access, parking, service, storm water ponds, plantings, and neighborhood buffers)
- d) assure a combination of quality jobs, pollution prevention, & environmental cleanup, e) guarantee the reclamation of at least some of the industrial Elm Street right-of-way as a planted buffer and pedestrian/bikeway.

(See also Business Strategy 8)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Task Force), SEED, MCDA, Mpls. Planning Dept.
 Timeline: 1998-99+ - SEED participation - ongoing monthly
 1999 - AUAR participation & monitoring phase 1 construction
 Resources: NRP: \$4,100; was \$3,000 for administration; plan modifications increased \$
 by \$2,100 from E9, E12, E13, & E14 (1st Step E7, E9, E10, & E11) for
 SE Como's commitment towards environmental coordination work (E11)
 but moved \$1,000 to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of
 conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)
 MCDA, Tax Increment Financing, other city funds, Board of Water & Soil
 Resources grant: \$1++ million in construction
 Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
 Results: SECIA representatives continue to actively participate in SEED and its AUAR
 process. Use of funding allocated to this strategy is discussed under pollution
 prevention and thoroughfare work (see Strategies E10 and T1).

Strategy E8a. Habitat Project (1st Step Strategy E6)

Implement a habitat enhancement demonstration project for existing Bridal Veil Creek & Pond.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Task Force), CBE (Citizens for a Better Environment),
 DNR
 Timeline: 1998 - grant application & approval
 1998-99 - implementation
 Resources: NRP: \$0; was 4,000 (matching grant) for restoration ecologist consultant, Mn
 Conservation Corps (MCC) for exotic species removal & stream bank
 restoration; plan modification moved \$ to P1
 CBE staff time & neighborhood volunteers: \$2,000 (est. in-kind)
 Conservation Partners grant (DNR): \$6,000
 Contract Administrator: Public Works Department
 Results: Project had to be postponed (see Strategy E8b) due to EPA delay in
 remediation plans affecting the site. SECIA continues to monitor EPA work in
 order to resume Strategy E8 whenever possible.

Strategy E8b. Habitat Project

Support the clean-up and habitat improvements for Bridal Veil Pond and surroundings.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environment Committee), Minnesota Department of Natural
 Resources, Minneapolis Public Works Department (PWD), Minnesota
 Pollution Control Agency MPCA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 (EPA)
 Timeline: 2001: grant application
 2001-2002: implementation (dependent upon timing of completion of USEPA's
 EE/CA report on the Valentine-Clark site and Bridal Veil Pond.)
 Resources: NRP: \$3,000 for matching grant for restoration ecologist consultant, exotic
 species removal, and native plants, etc.
 Neighborhood volunteers: \$1,000 (in-kind); Conservation Partners Grant
 (DNR): \$4,000
 NRP \$/year: 2000 \$0
 2001 \$3,000
 2002 \$0
 2003 \$0

Contract Administrator: PWD

Environment Goal III. Improve air quality and achieve pollution prevention.

Objective A. Educate residents, businesses, and workers in SE Como on air quality issues, the concerns of all stakeholders in SE Como, and pollution prevention strategies.

Strategy E9. Environmental Survey (1st Step Strategy E7)

Complete, publish, and distribute an environmental survey of Southeast Minneapolis. The distribution would include businesses, SECIA, the SE Library, Van Cleve Community Center, SouthEast Angle, etc.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environmental Task Force), CBE, Center for Urban & Regional Affairs (CURA), UofM Geography Dept, Minneapolis GIS Program (GIS), Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association (PPERRIA), Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association (MHNA)

Timeline: 1998

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to E7 (1st Step E5) for SE Como's commitment towards environmental coordination work (E11)

CBE staff time: \$2,000

CURA intern grant: \$1,800

GIS program staff time: \$2,000

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: Environmental Survey still in progress due to changing staff at CBE; see also Results for Strategy E10.

Strategy E10. Stakeholder Dialogues/ Good Neighbor Agreements (1st Step Strategy E8)

Co-host dialogues which share perspectives and information among stake holders concerned with air pollution in Southeast Como, including facilitated large group dialogue with adjoining neighborhoods. Develop Good Neighbor Agreements and other pollution prevention strategies with industry in the Southeast Como area and with the University of Minnesota. Develop other pollution prevention strategies with industry in the Southeast Como area and with the University of Minnesota.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environmental Task Force), CBE, South East Business Association (SEBA), North East Business Association (NEBA), Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council, PPERRIA, MHNA, Mpls. Env. Insp. Division

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$5,500 for consultant services

CBE staff time: \$4,000

Other \$s for technical assistance: \$5,000 (grant sought by CBE)

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Environmental Inspection Division

Results: CBE, SECIA, PPERRIA, and Marcy Holmes staff and volunteers with assistance from Environmental Inspections have spent considerable time developing a proposal and seeking funding to achieve 1st Step Strategies E8, E9, E10, and E11 and to contribute towards E5 and E7 (now Strategies E9, E10, E12, E13, & E14); as a result of this work new Strategy E11 was developed and SECIA has committed \$9,200 of NRP 1st Step \$s (from

Strategies E7 & E10) towards this.

Strategy E11. Pollution Prevention

Hire a southeast environmental coordinator to engage and educate southeast residents in community pollution prevention issues, establish stakeholder dialogues, and facilitate good neighbor agreements.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environmental Committee), Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association (PPERRIA), Minneapolis Environmental Management/Inspections, Citizens for a Better Environment (CBE)

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$44,000 for consulting coordinator, community outreach materials, stakeholder meeting supplies, engineering services, etc.
plus SECIA commitment of \$9,200 1st Step \$s (noted in Strategy E10)
PPERRIA: \$26,000 (committed) Additional funds will be requested from private and public grantors. As of August 15, 1999, requests totaling \$73,350 have been submitted to the Carolyn Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency; additional requests will be submitted to other funding sources as they are identified.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$15,750
	2001	\$14,300
	2002	\$8,100
	2003	\$5,850
	2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Environmental Management/Inspections

Objective B. Reduce air pollution from industrial sources.

Strategy E12. Permit Tracking (1st Step Strategy E9)

Develop a system for tracking environmental permit renewal that provides timely community comment and involvement.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environmental Task Force), CBE, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Minneapolis Environmental Inspections Office

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$300 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to E7 (1st Step E5) for SE Como's commitment towards environmental coordination work (E11)

CBE staff time: \$2,500

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: See Results for Strategy E10.

Strategy E13. Monitor Odors (1st Step Strategy E10)

Explore and develop techniques for tracking and monitoring odors.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environmental Task Force), Minneapolis Environmental Inspections Office, MHNA, PPERRIA

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$300 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to E7 (1st Step E5) for SE Como's commitment towards environmental coordination

work (E11)
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: See Results for Strategy E10.

Objective C. Reduce air pollution from non-industrial & residential sources.

Strategy E14. Air Pollution Education & Planning (1st Step Strategy E11)

Explore alternative future strategies and provide public educational materials on reducing air pollution from residential and traffic in SE Como. Materials could then be distributed through the proposed Neighborhood Resource Center.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Environmental Task Force), Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA), MHNA, PPERRIA

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$1,000 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to E7 (1st Step E5) for SE Como's commitment towards environmental coordination work (E11)

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: A representative of the Environment Committee is on the Resource Center Task Force to incorporate this strategy into work of the Resource Center (see Strategies H7 and H8). Also, see Results for Strategy E10.

Total NRP \$s for Environment: \$22,100 1st step + \$109,500 action plan = \$131,600

PUBLIC SAFETY

Public Safety Subtotal: \$118,200

Public Safety Goal I. Reduce Crime

Objective A. Increase lighting.

Strategy PS1. Lighting Needs and Opportunities

Survey neighborhood streets, alleys and park to determine where additional lighting could be beneficial. Work with City of Minneapolis, Public Works Department to find out what additional lighting is available for free and what lighting alternatives are, including cost of each option.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety Task Force), Minneapolis Public Works (PWD), Minneapolis Police Department (MPD), neighborhood residents, SE Como business association

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: The Task Force met with PWD lighting staff and participated on the Van Cleave Park Advisory Committee to provide input into the design of current major park renovation which includes new lighting throughout the Park; this work is resulting in new Strategy PS8.

Strategy PS2. Lighting at 15th and Como

Increase and improve lighting in the business district at 15th and Como to encourage foot traffic and reduce crime. Suggestion for decorative lighting for this area. (See also Business Strategy 10.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety and Economic Development Task Forces), PWD, MPD, neighborhood residents, SE Como business association.

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$30,000 for lights

Contract Administrator: Public Works Department

Results: The Task Force met several times with PWD, developed the specific design for the new lighting with the businesses on that block, and are waiting for completion of the petition process which was to have been completed by PWD in early summer 1999.

Objective B. Strengthen existing block clubs and encourage block clubs where they do not exist.

Strategy PS3a. Block Clubs

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

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

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$2,000 for administration and security equipment
 Contract Administrator: CCP
 Results: SECIA obtained information from CCP/SAFE and held a meeting of all block club leaders in the Como neighborhood; block club leaders were not excited about pursuing additional incentives at this time so the NRP \$s will be wrapped into a second phase in Strategy PS3b.

Strategy PS3b. Block Clubs

Provide incentives for blocks to organize, provide ongoing support to existing block clubs, and keep residents well informed of crime and safety issues.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Block Leaders and CCP/Safe
 Timeline: 2000-2004
 Resources: NRP: \$3,000 for mailings, crime notices, motion detector lights, locks, etc. plus NRP 1st Step funds: \$2000 (from Strategy PS3a noted above)
 NRP \$/year: 2000 \$600
 2001 \$600
 2002 \$600
 2003 \$600
 2004 \$600

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy PS4. Neighborhood Events

Conduct two annual events to get residents out, meeting their neighbors, finding out about resources to resolve crime or deal with potential public safety issues. (See also PS Goal II below and see Strategies H6, P3, CB4, T14, & CB5)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety, Parks, Housing, and Transportation Task Forces), CCP/SAFE, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB)
 Timeline: 1998-99
 Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$1,000 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB5 (1st Step CB3) for coordinated events
 Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
 Results: Information about resources available to prevent crime was distributed to residents at the Como-Tuttle Shebang (see Strategy H7 & CB5).

Objective C. Make it easier for Como residents to make their homes more secure.

Strategy PS5. Safety Improvements

Offer information on how to make simple repairs such as installing dead bolt locks either yourself or with the help of a paid repair person. Offer a series of how-to seminars for those who want to make repairs on their own and/or offer seminar where residents could meet reputable repair contractors. Matching funds could be used to encourage certain limited types of safety improvements.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety Task Force), Citywide Advisory Council on Home Improvement Education (CACHIE), local businesses, SE Como business association
 Timeline: 1998-99
 Resources: NRP: \$3,000 for administration and safety equipment

Contract Administrator:CCP

Results: Held three meetings to discuss this, action deferred at this time (see Strategies PS3a & PS3b).

Objective D: Increase visibility of police patrols.

Strategy PS6. Cops on Bikes

Hire Minneapolis police to patrol the Como Neighborhood on bike from approximately May through September during the daytime.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Minneapolis Police Department Second Precinct

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$25,800 for policy officer salary
NRP \$/year: 2000 \$5,160
2001 \$5,160
2002 \$5,160
2003 \$5,160
2004 \$5,160

Contract Administrator:Minneapolis Police Department

Objective E: Reduce graffiti in the neighborhood.

Strategy PS7. Graffiti:

Organize graffiti cleanup days.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Boy Scouts and Tuttle students and/or Youth Employment Program; Graffiti removal program, STS

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$2,400 for graffiti clean-up supplies, promotional materials, youth employment, etc.

Plus \$500 from Strategy B7.

Local business contributions: \$500

Neighborhood volunteers: \$2,250 (inkind)

NRP \$/year: 2000 \$480
2001 \$480
2002 \$480
2003 \$480
2004 \$480

Contract Administrator:Public Works

Objective F: Make Van Cleve Park and Tuttle School grounds safer.

Strategy PS8. Safer Public Spaces

Increase lighting at Van Cleve Park and Tuttle School and monitoring of the outdoor areas of the park by Park staff. This lighting is in addition to basic lighting being provided by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Minneapolis Public Schools.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board; Minneapolis Public Schools;

Tuttle Parent, Staff & Teacher Organization; Van Cleve Park; Tuttle School
 Timeline: 2000-2004
 Resources: NRP \$52,000 for park staff communication devices, ID clothing, park and school light fixtures, etc.
 See Strategies P1, S1 & S2 for MPRB & MPS additional current contributions to site improvements, including lighting.
 NRP \$/year: 2000 \$2,000
 2001 \$25,000
 2002 \$25,000
 2003 \$0
 2004 \$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Minneapolis Public Schools

Public Safety Goal II. Improve Como residents' sense of safety in their home and neighborhood.

Objective A. Better inform Como residents of the status of crime in the neighborhood.

Strategy PS9. Safety and Security Information (1st Step Strategy PS6)

Publicize the fact that Como neighborhood is a safe place in which to live and explain the crime statistics so residents understand. (See also PS Objective C below and Strategies CB4 & CB6.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety Task Force), MPD, CCP/SAFE,, etc.

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP \$0; was \$500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB4) for coordinated communications

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: SECIA disseminated information through the *Comotion* newsletter distributed to every household and business in the neighborhood as well as at various community meetings (see Strategy H7 & PS4.)

Objective B. Increase opportunities for residents to meet their neighbors in order to support each other in the event action needs to be taken to deal with criminal activity.

See above - Strategy PS3. Block Clubs
 Increase activity by block clubs.

See above - Strategy PS4. Neighborhood Events
 Increase number of neighborhood events and gatherings.

Objective C. Make it easier for residents to take appropriate steps to resolve problems before they become worse.

See above Strategy PS4. Neighborhood Events.
 Provide information to residents at National Night Out and other neighborhood events about what to do when faced with public safety or potential criminal activity.

Strategy PS10. Safety Resources (1st Step Strategy PS7)

Provide residents with list of resources they can turn to for help or advice when they are fearful or concerned about safety. Increase visibility of Community Crime Prevention (CCP/SAFE) program and staff as well as local police.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety Task Force), United Way First Call for Help, CCP/SAFE, MPD, Mpls. Mediation Project, Legal Aid, residents

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; \$1,000 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB4) for coordinated communications

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: See Results of PS11 below; future work being incorporated in Strategies H8 & CB7.

Strategy PS11. Welcome Packet (1st Step Strategy PS8)

Develop and distribute a "welcome packet" for new residents including renters which would include information about the neighborhood, resources available to resolve crime or neighborhood concerns, etc. It could also include information about local businesses, park, schools, noise ordinance, housing codes concerning occupancy limits, etc.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Public Safety Task Force), Office of Public Information, MCDA, Legal Aid Society, Mpls. Inspections Department

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$2,000 for administration (assembling & distributing welcome packets); plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB4) for coordinated communications

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: A group of residents has been actively meeting (every 3 weeks for the past 4 months) and developing the "Welcome Packet" for new residents and businesses in cooperation with the Resource Center and Housing Committee (Strategy H7).

Total NRP \$s for Public Safety: \$35,000 1st step + \$83,200 action plan = \$118,200

SCHOOLS

Schools Subtotal: \$118,000

Schools Goal. Strengthen Southeast Como neighborhood as a good place for young families to live.

Objective. Create safe, clean and exciting outdoor spaces for children and families.

Strategy S1. Tuttle School Playground (Early Access)

Cooperate with the Minneapolis School District and SE Community groups to design, fund and build a new playground and enhance the grounds of Tuttle School. Design the grounds to provide seating for older neighbors and play areas for younger children to promote a healthy interaction between these two groups. Utilize the Tuttle grounds as an alternative and extension to Van Cleve Park.

Collaborative Partners: Tuttle Parent/Staff Organization (TPSO), SECIA (Schools and Parks Task Forces), Tuttle Staff and Faculty, Minneapolis Public Schools District (MPS),

Timeline: 1998

Resources: NRP Early Access: \$50,000 for playground equipment and site preparation
MPS: \$50,000 match committed
School fund raisers and contributions: additional funds (up to \$20,000)
Tuttle parents: inkind labor

Contract Administrator: MPS

Results: The school playground was constructed by volunteers in Fall 1998. The TPSO/School Committee worked with a University of Minnesota landscape architecture graduate to complete the Tuttle School site master plan (see S2).

Strategy S2. Tuttle School Grounds: Improve the grounds at Tuttle School through landscaping and providing additional community oriented arts and recreation facilities.

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

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$68,000 for safety play surface, amphitheater, sound and lighting system, entrance and other paving, trees and plantings, sign, fencing, benches, trash receptacles, etc.
Minneapolis Public Schools: \$40,000 requested (plus \$12,000 remaining from the 1st Step Playground commitment)
MCDA: \$7,500 (committed through the Community Initiatives Self-Help Grant)
TPSO: \$5,000
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs: \$5,500 NPCR grant for Graduate Student Study and Planning (completed in 1999 as part of NRP planning process)
Tree Trust: Planting advice and reduced prices
FORECAST Arts Grant: (\$5,000 to be applied for)
NRP \$/year: 2000 \$30,000
2001 \$38,000
2002 \$0

2003	\$0
2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: MPLS Public Schools

Total NRP \$s for Schools: \$50,000 early access + \$68,000 action plan = \$118,200

Park Goal I. Improve the quality of the school-owned portion of Van Cleve Park.

Objective. Secure the current size of Van Cleve Park by upgrading the quality of the fields to become a visible community asset.

Strategy P1. Sports Fields (Early Access)

Upgrade the underutilized school-owned area to create high quality baseball and soccer fields, including but not limited to landscaping, sodding, and irrigation.

Collaborative Partners: Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS- Facilities and Athletic Departments),
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), SECIA (Parks Task Force)
Timeline: 1998-99
Resources: NRP Early Access: \$65,000 for design, planning, and construction
NRP: \$4,000; resulting from plan modification that moved \$ from Strategy E6
MPRB: \$920,000 (1998 & 1999 CIP bonding, including \$425,000 for site improvements)
Contract Administrator: MPS/MPRB
Results: After agreement could not be reached with the School District, the plan was modified to expand the scope of the strategy to achieve other exterior site improvements as part of the MPRB's major park renovation; major improvements (including playgrounds, basketball courts, and building renovations) completed in December 1999.

Parks Goal II. Develop Van Cleve Park as the central gathering place of the Como community.

Objective. Promote the use of Van Cleve for all age groups through a variety of activities, programs, and events. Make Van Cleve known for its park-based programs and events. (See also Strategies CS1 & CS2.)

Strategy P2. Park Council

Organize a Van Cleve Park council:

- a) develop and promote culturally diverse programs (music, dance, theater, art, social, athletic, and educational) for the Como Neighborhood, and
- b) create a youth council under the direction of the park council

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Parks Task Force), MPRB, various Van Cleve user groups
Timeline: 1998-99
Budget: NRP: \$6,000 for organization and promotional activities, start-up costs, instructors

Contract Administrator: MPRB

Results: Two organization meetings were held prior to the park closing for construction in June 1999; activity/planning sessions will resume when the park reopens and a new director is named (scheduled for December 1999).

Strategy P3. Van Cleve Event

Organize a signature event(s) for the Como Neighborhood at Van Cleve Park in conjunction with other neighborhood interest groups. (See also Strategies H6, PS4, T14, & CB5.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Parks, Housing, Public Safety, and Transportation Task Forces), park council, MPRB, neighborhood interest groups

Timeline: 1998-99

Budget: NRP: \$0; was \$1,000 for promotion, planning, and featured activities or groups; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB5 (1st Step CB3) for coordinated events

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: No events were possible in 1999 due to park construction; a major dedication of the new Van Cleve Park is being planned for Spring 2000 to include an information fair in coordination with Strategies H6, PS4, T14, & CB5.

Strategy P4. 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, a park logo and other communication channels. Support creation 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: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$87,500 for youth coordinator employed by MPRB, computer and software, graphic design and pamphlet, community programs, classes, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$44,500
	2001	\$37,000
	2002	\$2,000
	2003	\$2,000
	2004	\$2,000

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Strategy P5. Finishing Van Cleve

Improve the Van Cleve Park grounds and facilities to meet the needs of the community.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Como NRP Parks, Van Cleve Park Council

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP \$48,300 for picnic tables, benches, grills, kiosks, signage, and landscaping, etc.

Note: this is in addition to funds provided by MPRB and First Step (see P1).

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$48,300
	2001	\$0
	2002	\$0
	2003	\$0
	2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Park & Recreational Board

Goal III. Strengthen the quality of Como's public spaces and their contribution to the neighborhood.

Objective: Increase linkages between neighborhood and city park spaces.

Strategy P6. Greenways, Bikeways, and Walkways

Establish greenways that link the community to Van Cleve Park and the Minneapolis Park System via walkways and bikeways while maintaining existing green spaces. (See also Strategies T1 & T13.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Parks and Transportation Committees), Southeast Economic Development Steering Committee (SEED), SE Como Resource Center, City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, University of Minnesota, Dinkytown Business Association, Como Neighborhood Business Association, Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis Public Schools, Burlington Northern Railroad, State of Minnesota, Van Cleve Park Council

Timeline: 2000-2010

Resources: \$0

Contract Administrator: NA

Total NRP \$s for Parks: \$65,000 early access + \$10,000 1st step + \$135,800 act. plan = \$210,800

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Subtotal: \$118,500

Business Goal I. Identify and support common business interests.

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

Strategy B1a SE Como Business Association

Support formation of a SE Como business association to assist in and coordinate other goals, objectives and strategies. Investigate other business coordination needs and opportunities, such as:

- a) needs of businesses along East Hennepin and in the eastern side of the neighborhood and potential support for their activities which do not have a negative effect on the neighborhood and its residents,
- b) the potential viability of a Special Services District for 15th and Como

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development Task Force), Southeast Business Association (SEBA), Southeast Home-based Business Association (SEHBA), Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), Minneapolis Public Works Department (PWD), Mpls. Planning Dept., local businesses

Timeline: 1998

Resources: NRP: \$5,000 for needs assessment, research, administration
MCDA: \$4,800 business development grant

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: The Southeast Como Business Association has organized and holds regular meetings involving about 18 businesses to date; they are developing a website and a system for regular mailings.

Strategy B1b. Business Association

Support the Como Neighborhood Business Association and encourage the association to become more visible in the community.

Collaborative Partners: Southeast Como Improvement Association, Como Neighborhood Business Association and Minneapolis Community Development Agency

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$11,000 for consultant, newsletter, meetings, etc.
NRP \$/year:

2000	\$2,200
2001	\$2,200
2002	\$2,200
2003	\$2,200
2004	\$2,200

Contract Administrator: MCDA

Objective B: Encourage businesses to contribute to the quality of Como.

Strategy B2. Home-based Business

Provide support for the Southeast Homebased Business Association (SEHBA), to assist in other goals, objectives, and strategies.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development Task Force), SEHBA
Timeline: 1998
Resources: NRP: \$2,500 for administration (communications)
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: SEHBA has organized and held a home-based business fair and completed numerous mailings.

Strategy B3. Communications

Ensure adequate communication between businesses, SECIA, Tuttle Parent School Organization (TPSO), and other community groups in Como. This might include exchange of minutes, coordination of activities, and possibly exchange of representatives on boards and other governing bodies. (See also Strategies CB4 & CB6.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, local businesses, SE Como business association, SEHBA, TPSO, etc.
Timeline: 1998 - ongoing
Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$1,000 for administration (may include communications consultant); plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB4) for coordinated communications
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: SECIA now has regular representation of local businesses on the SECIA Board; see also Results under PS 11, CB 4, & CB6.

Objective C. Support advertising and public awareness of businesses in the Como neighborhood.

Strategy B4. Business & Service Directory

Investigate the viability of developing a directory of businesses (and potentially community services as well). Develop a plan for the directory's compilation, printing and distribution. Look at other successful models as guides, such as the Loring Business/Community Directory. (See also Strategy PS11 & CS4.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development and Community Services Task Force), local businesses, other business associations, Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA)
Timeline: 1998
Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$500 for production and distribution of directory; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB4) for coordinated communications
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: Work on this has been folded into development and production of the neighborhood welcome packet (see Results under PS11).

Business Goal II. Maintain vitality of existing businesses and create favorable conditions for new businesses in Como neighborhood

Objective. Provide resources for new and existing businesses in Como neighborhood.

Strategy B5. Business Improvements

Provide assistance to businesses in Como:

- a) for signage and exterior business improvements, and/or
- b) to meet changes in zoning code and/or to make required improvements for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility, and/or to deal with potential or actual code violations.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development Task Force), local businesses, MCDA, ADA Minnesota, SE Como business association, Inspections, Mpls. Planning Dept.

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$10,000 for grants/loans for exterior/ADA improvements & admin.

Contract Administrator: MCDA (funds will be escrowed pending finalization of strategy)

Results: The first round of grants resulted in 5 completed applications of which 2 have been funded to date; work will resume on this action when a new SECIA staff is starts.

Strategy B6. Fix-up Programs

Influence the quality of the neighborhood's business districts by providing a grant/loan fix up program. The program would encourage business nodes to collaborate on projects that would enhance the overall quality of that specific area in the Como neighborhood (15 & Como; 22 & Como; 1500 East Hennepin; 24 East Hennepin) and 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, Como Neighborhood Business Association and Minneapolis Community Development Agency

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$70,000 for loans, grants, consultant fees, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$20,000
	2001	\$20,000
	2002	\$10,000
	2003	\$10,000
	2004	\$10,000

Contract Administrator: MCDA

Strategy B7. Graffiti Reduction (1st Step Strategy B6)

Ensure participation by Como businesses in efforts to reduce and eliminate graffiti on private property. This may include specific efforts to assist businesses in graffiti removal, as well as participation in city programs to accomplish this task.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development Task Force), Minneapolis Inspections Department, Minneapolis Fire Department, local businesses, SE Como business association

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$500 for graffitti removal products

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Inspections Dept.

Results: To be combined with PS7.

Business Goal III. Ensure that the Southeast Industrial Area business development is compatible with existing business and residential needs of the Como neighborhood

Objective. Work to ensure that businesses in the SE Industrial Area are aware of Como neighborhood and are compatible with neighborhood needs.

Strategy B8. SEMI Participation (1st Step Strategy B7)

Increase neighborhood and local business participation in & monitoring of the city and private sector activities in the Southeast Minneapolis Industrial area (SEMI) in order to:

- a) communicate neighborhood needs and perspectives with MCDA, the City Council, and others, regarding businesses in the SEMI,
- b) encourage appropriate businesses to locate in the SEMI, and
- c) take necessary steps to preclude business development in the SE Industrial Area that would have a negative effect on existing businesses in the Como neighborhood.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development and Environment Task Forces), Southeast Economic Development Steering Committee (SEED), MCDA, Dinkytown Business Association (DBA), SE Como business association

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: (See Environment Strategy E7.)

Results: (See Results in Strategy E7.)

Business Goal IV. Ensure the long-term viability of the 15th and Como business district.

Objective A. Improve the streetscape appearance of the 15th and Como intersection and surrounding area

Strategy B9. Streetscape Plantings (1st Step Strategy B8)

Provide planters and other horticultural enhancements in addition to, or instead of, current tree grating.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Economic Development and Environment Task Forces, Beautification Committee), local businesses, Minnesota Green, Sustainable Resources Center/Urban Lands Program (SRC), SE Como business association, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), PWD

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: (See Strategies ED10 below & E1.)

Results: Strategy E1 resulted in numerous tree plantings, but none targeted yet to the 15th and Como business district.

Strategy B10. Graphic Identity (1st Step Strategy B9)

Develop a "unified graphic identity" for the 15th and Como business district

Collaborative Partners: SE Como Business Association, other business associations, Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), local businesses and artists

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$3,000 for design consultant, logo design, banners; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)

Contract Administrator: Public Affairs

Results: See also Strategy T1 regarding Thoroughfare Study in which the design consultants addressed the potential improvements for 15th and Como.

Objective B: Ensure the long-term viability of Como businesses.

Strategy B11. Parking

Secure more public parking at the 15 & Como business district.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA; Como Neighborhood Business Association; Minneapolis Public Works Department (MPWD); Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA)

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP \$19,500 for parking study, lease, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$4,000
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	2001	\$4,000
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	2002	\$4,000
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	2003	\$4,000
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	2004	\$3,500
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Contract Administrator: Public Works

(See also Strategy PS2.)

Business Goal V. Make East Hennepin Avenue an inviting commercial thoroughfare and entry into Como Neighborhood.

Objective. Improve the streetscape appearance of East Hennepin Avenue.

Strategy B12. Thoroughfare Greening (1st Step Strategy B10)

Support the "Thoroughfare Greening" project in cooperation with the Environment Task Force.

Cooperative Partners: SECIA (Environment and Economic Development Task Forces), MPRB, SRC, PWD, local businesses, SE Como business association

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: (See Environment Strategy E1.)

Results: More than 50 trees were planted in cooperation with 10 businesses which are providing ongoing maintenance (see also E1).

Total NRP \$s for Business: \$22,500 1st step + \$100,500 action plan = \$123,000

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services Subtotal: \$47,500

Vision for Community Services: The services and opportunities available to our residents will contribute to a sense of community which crosses the boundaries of age, class, ethnicity, and place of residence.

Community Services Goal I. Improve community opportunities for activities.

Objective A. Enhance community education opportunities.

Strategy CS1a. Community Education

Develop a 3-way partnership with Community Education, Tuttle School, and Van Cleve Park to host community education opportunities at Tuttle and Van Cleve. For example, have ceramics using the kiln at Van Cleve, theater at Tuttle, tai chi at Van Cleve, etc. (See also Strategy P2)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Community Services & Schools, and Parks Task Forces), Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) Community Education, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), Tuttle School

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$1,500; was \$1,000 for administration; plan modification increased \$ by \$500 from Strategy CS2; to be used in conjunction with Strategy CS1b

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: The Community Service Task Force took the lead in organizing the Como-Tuttle Shebang community event at Tuttle School last spring in collaboration with Van Cleve Park, with the advice of Community Education, and in cooperation other SECIA committees; 170 neighborhood residents attended. (See also Strategy CB5.)

Strategy CS1b. Community Education

Increase community education opportunities in the Como neighborhood through a partnership between Southeast Community Education and Van Cleve Park

Collaborative Partners: Southeast Community Education, Van Cleve Park, FACES

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$3,500 for instructors, promotion, staff time, materials, etc.

Plus \$1,500 from Strategy CS1a (see above)

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$700
	2001	\$700
	2002	\$700
	2003	\$700
	2004	\$700

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Public Schools

Objective B. Enhance adult health and fitness opportunities.

Strategy CS2. Fitness Programs

Evaluate interest in Community Education and/or Park Board fitness programs at Van Cleve Park and

Tuttle School. Implement programs if warranted. (See also Strategy P2)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Community Services Task Force), MPS, Tuttle School, MPRB, Van Cleve Park, SE Seniors, Eastside Neighborhood Services (ENS)

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: \$500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CS1a

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: This strategy is being addressed through Strategies P2 and C1; it will no longer be considered a separate strategy.

Objective C: Support the improvements of existing key community services.

Strategy CS3. Southeast Library

Assist the Southeast Library in improving the services they offer to the Southeast community by providing them with the resources for materials such as those needed to enhance the library's CD collection and books-on-tapes collection.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Southeast Library

Timeline: 2000-2001

Resources: NRP: \$2,500 for cd's & tapes, etc.
NRP \$/year: 2000 \$2,500
 2001 \$0
 2002 \$0
 2003 \$0
 2004 \$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Public Library

CS Goal II. Increase awareness and use of existing Southeast services and opportunities.

Objective. "Institutionalize" a means for providing consistent information about services and opportunities. Make existing Southeast services and opportunities better known.

Strategy CS4. Community Service Information (1st Step Strategy CS3)

Explore collaboration with Southeast Publications and other SE organizations for providing regular information about community services and opportunities. Explore Southeast "web-page" with the other neighborhoods and with Southeast Publications. (See also Strategies B4, CB4 & CB6.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Community Services and Economic Development Task Forces), Southeast Publications, Prospect Park East River Rd. Improvement Assn (PPERRIA), Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Assn (MHNA), Way to Grow, others with services and opportunities

Timeline: 1998

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$1,500 for administration (exploratory phase & communications plan); plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step CB4) for coordinated communications

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: The Community Services Task Force has developed a plan for this strategy,

received approval from Southeast Publications Board, and is currently promoting it to the neighborhood associations.

Strategy CS5. Promotion of Services

Collaborate with Marcy Holmes and Prospect Park neighborhoods and Southeast Publications (*Southeast Angle*) to provide regular information on community services and volunteer opportunities.

Collaborative Partners: Southeast Publications, Angle staff, other Southeast neighborhood associations

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$4,500 for intern, publishing costs, etc.

Southeast Publications & other neighborhood associations: to be negotiated

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$2,500
	2001	\$500
	2002	\$500
	2003	\$500
	2004	\$500

Contract Administrator: NRP

Strategy CS6. Southeast Organization Networking

Create a forum to the coordinate services of Southeast social service groups and thereby increase service to neighborhood residents.

Collaborative Partners: Southeast Seniors, Southeast Way to Grow, SECIA

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$2,500 for contractor time, annual meeting expenses, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$500
	2001	\$500
	2002	\$500
	2003	\$500
	2004	\$500

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Community Service Goal III. Maintain the diversity of the Como neighborhood through meeting needs of seniors, enabling them to stay in their homes as long as feasible.

Objective. Provide support for new and existing programs which address identified needs of seniors. Maintain intergenerational diversity of Como neighborhood by meeting the needs of senior and enabling them to stay in their homes as long as possible.

Strategy CS7a. Southeast Seniors (1st Step strategy CS4)

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. Provide \$10,000 per year for 2 years to SE Seniors to match support from Prospect Park and Marcy-Holmes NRP, as recommended by SECIA board, June 1994.

Collaborative Partners: SE Seniors, SECIA, PPERRIA, MHNA,

Timeline: 1998 (First Step)

Resources: NRP: \$10,000 (plus \$10,000 in NRP Action Plan)

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Results: NRP \$s were fully used to meet Como's match in supporting the living at home and block nurse program in southeast.

Strategy CS7b. Southeast Seniors

Support the services of SE Seniors in providing their block nurse and living at home program.

Collaborative Partners: SE Seniors

Timeline: 2000

Resources: NRP: \$10,000 for SE Seniors block nurse and living at home programs
Prospect Park NRP: \$10,000

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$10,000
	2001	\$0
	2002	\$0
	2003	\$0
	2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

CS Goal IV. Increase awareness and use by Como Neighborhood families (parents, infants, children, youth) of community services and activities appropriate to their needs and interests.

Objective A. Provide an array of appropriate activities for children and young people. Support services for children and families.

Strategy CS8. Youth Employment Program (1st Step strategy CS5)

Support the Youth Employment Program in stabilizing its funding, administrative, and community involvement situation by providing \$2,500 to match support from Prospect Park and Marcy-Holmes.

Collaborative Partners: MHNA, Youth Employment Program, SECIA, and PPERRIA

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$2,500 for youth employment coordination

Contract Administrator: NRP

Results: NRP \$s were fully used to continue the operation of the Youth Employment Program, such that most issues of the *Comotion* newsletter were delivered to every household in the neighborhood by the YEP youth.

Strategy CS9. Transportation for Children (1st Step strategy CS6)

Explore ways to transport children to existing activities in other parts of Southeast.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Community Services Task Force), MPRB, MPS, ENS, PPERRIA, MHNA, SECIA, U of M Technology Transfer Office

Timeline: 1998

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: This strategy was explored indirectly through Thoroughfare Study; no further work is planned.

Objective B. Provide an array of services for pregnant women, new mothers and fathers, and their infant and pre-school children, which prepare the children to achieve at their full capacity in school.

Strategy CS10. Way to Grow (1st Step strategy CS7)

Support the new Way to Grow initiative for SE Minneapolis.

Collaborative Partners: SE Way to Grow, SECIA, 1st Congregational Church, PPERRIA, MHNA, Early Childhood and Family Education

Timeline: 1998

Resources: NRP: \$2,500 for administration

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Results: NRP \$s were fully used to support expansion of SE Way to Grow programs serving Como residents.

Strategy CS11. Southeast Way to Grow

Provide a traveling toy and book lending library, to all Southeast neighborhoods.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Southeast Way to Grow

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$8,000 for lending library stock, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$5,000
	2001	\$1,000
	2002	\$1,000
	2003	\$ 500
	2004	\$ 500

Contract Administrator: Hennepin County

Total NRP \$s for Community Services: \$16,500 1st step + \$31,000 action plan = \$47,500

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Subtotal: \$42,100

Transportation Goal I. Respond pro-actively to the challenges of arterial routes surrounding and penetrating the neighborhoods.

Objective A. Develop neighborhood plans and processes to reduce traffic impacts on the neighborhood.

Strategy T1. Traffic Study

Conduct a traffic and congestion impact study with the Prospect Park, Marcy Holmes and St. Anthony Park neighborhoods. This study is to include a broad spectrum of measures oriented toward moving people not cars. *Note: Any changes must take into consideration that Como Avenue is a designated county road.*

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), Minneapolis Public Works Department (PWD), Center for Urban & Regional Affairs (CURA), Mpls. Planning Dept.

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$1,000 to supplement existing AUAR (Alternative Urban Areawide Review) transportation consultant; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study

Contract Administrator: PWD

Results: Biko Associates was hired and conducted a thoroughfare study, including an analysis of existing traffic data and exploration of a broad range of planning and design options related to housing, environment, public safety, community service, business district, and transportation issues including linkages and opportunities related to Van Cleve Park and Tuttle School. Subsequent to the Study, the Transportation Task Force meet with PWD staff to discuss opportunities for implementation and as a result temporary speed bumps were tested on Talmage near Tuttle School in late summer 1999.

Strategy T2. University Cooperation

Initiate communication with the University of Minnesota (U of M) to ensure that the SE Como Neighborhood has a voice in all planning that impacts the neighborhood. Gain representation on decision making policy forum as per the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus Master Plan 38.4- -"The Committee will create an ongoing forum for the discussion of the Master Plan by interested parties both inside and outside the University." (Page 209, Master Plan 1996.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), U of M, Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Assn. (MHNA), Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Assn. (PPERRIA)

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$1000; was \$500 for administration; plan modification increased \$ by moving T9 (1st Step T6)

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: Initial inquiries have been made; will be combined with new Strategy CB9 as part of broader look at University-neighborhood relations.

Objective: Reconstruct/repave selected roads and intersections to improve the quality of highly used streets.

Strategy T3. Repaving Hennepin

Work with Hennepin County on repaving East Hennepin Avenue, reconstructing the curbs and providing only safe parking to ensure safety for all. (This is to followup on Thoroughfare Study Strategy T1).

Collaborative Partners: Hennepin County, Minneapolis Public Works, SECIA

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$0

Strategy T4. Como & 15th Avenues

Increase the visibility of crosswalks at busy intersections, stripe edge lines on Como Avenue and work with Minneapolis Public Works Department on repaving 15th Avenue to make thoroughfares safer for all.

Collaborative Partners: Minneapolis Public Works, SECIA, Hennepin County.

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP Funds \$12,500 for striping, crosswalk light, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$7,500
	2001	\$5,000
	2002	\$0
	2003	\$0
	2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Public Works Department

Objective C. Reduce the impacts of traffic along Talmage Avenue particularly near Tuttle School.

Strategy T5. Traffic on Talmage

Implement traffic calming mechanisms along Talmage at the railroad crossing and near 19th and 18th Avenues by Tuttle School.

Collaborative Partners: Tuttle School, Public Works, SECIA

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$7,500 for speed bumps, signs, etc.

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$7,500
	2001	\$0
	2002	\$0
	2003	\$0
	2004	\$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Public Works Department

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

Objective A. Reduce speeding vehicles on Como Avenue.

Strategy T6. New Stop Signs (was 1st Step Strategy T3)

Install an additional pair of intersection stop signs on Como Avenue between 23rd and 29th Avenue as determined by the findings of the traffic impact study.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), PWD, City Council
Timeline: 1998-99
Resources: NRP: \$0 (none anticipated as being needed)
Results: Initial discussions have been held with PWD.

Objective B. Stop the speeding vehicle traffic in the "T" alleys that run parallel to Como Avenue.

Strategy T7. Alley Speed Bumps (was 1st Step Strategy T4)

Install temporary seasonal speed bumps in alleys running parallel to Como Avenue as needed between 17th and 23rd Avenues. Enlist community volunteers to maintain and inspect speed bumps on regular basis to prevent buildup of debris.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), PWD
Timeline: 1998-99
Resources: NRP: \$2,400 for 10 speed bumps for 5 blocks of alleys
Contract Administrator: PWD
Results: A survey was conducted of nearby residents and the first phase was completed in which six temporary speed bumps were installed for the whole 1999 spring-summer season on 3 blocks of the alleys.

Transportation Goal III. Improve public modes of transportation and reduce reliance on the automobile.

Objective. Improve the quality of bus service to the neighborhood.

Strategy T8. Metro Transit Buses (was 1st Step Strategy T5)

Reduce speeding buses on Como Avenue by negotiating with the Metro Transit to amend bus schedules slightly to reduce the need to use Como Avenue as a catch-up zone.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), Metro Transit (MTCO), PWD, other neighborhoods (e.g. Dist. 12 in St. Paul)
Timeline: 1998
Resources: NRP: \$500 for administration
Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
Results: Initial contact was made with MTCO.

Strategy T9. University Transit Services (was 1st Step Strategy T6)

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) increased frequency of 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, Uof M
 Timeline: 1998-99
 Resources: NRP: \$0; was 500 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to T2
 Contract Administrator: see Community Building section
 Results: Initial inquiries have been made; will be combined with new Strategy CB9 as part of broader look at University-neighborhood relations.

Transportation Goal IV. Promote the bicycle as a viable transportation mode in a balanced transportation system.

Objective A. Improve bicycle facilities in Como Neighborhood.

Strategy T10. Talmage-Rollins Bike Route (was 1st Step Strategy T7)

Upgrade and extend the existing bike path along Talmage Avenue and Rollins Avenues. Develop and implement appropriate bike route improvements, which address:

- a) reducing bicycle, vehicular, and pedestrian conflicts particularly near the University Day Care Center area (Rollins between 15th and 16th) and
- b) posting clear bike route signs.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), PWD
 Timeline: 1998-99
 Resources: NRP: \$6,000 to be used for T11; was \$8,000 to design and construct changes to traffic diverters; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)
 Contract Administrator: PWD
 Results: More analysis was completed and design options were explored for the Talmage-Rollins area as part of the Thoroughfare Study (see T1).

Strategy T11. Bike Diverter

Reconstruct the 17th & Rollins Avenue intersection/diverter to improve the safety for bikes, pedestrians and vehicles.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Minneapolis Public Works Department
 Timeline: 2000-2004
 Resources: NRP: \$11,200 (for signs, speed bumps, diverter modification, striping, landscaping, etc.)
 plus NRP First Step Funds: \$ 6,000 (from Strategy T10)
 NRP \$/year: 2000 \$10,200
 2001 \$1,000
 2002 \$0
 2003 \$0
 2004 \$0

Contract Administrator: Minneapolis Public Works Department

Strategy T12. Bike Racks and Benches (was 1st Step Strategy T8)

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

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), PWD, SE Como business association, local businesses, MCDA

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$1,000; was \$1,500 for racks and benches; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Transportation T1)

Contract Administrator: MCDA

Results: Thoroughfare Study examined primary neighborhood pedestrian and bicycle routes; plans for installation of any benches and bike racks at 15th and Como is pending PWD work on lighting plan.

Strategy T13. Grand Round/UM Connection (was 1st Step Strategy T9)

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 Uof M Master Plan).

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

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$3,000; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB2 (1st Step CB5) for purposes of conducting the Thoroughfare Study (see Strategy T1)

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: Numerous options for the Grand Round/UM connection were explored as part of the Thoroughfare Study with; no options through the neighborhood were well received and further consideration is on hold; follow-up on linkages through SEMI will be actively pursued through ongoing SEED/AUAR work and in conjunction with University coordination (new Strategy CB9).

Objective B: Educate the community about motorists', bicyclists', pedestrians', rights and responsibilities.

Strategy T14. Bike Safety Awareness Day (was 1st Step Strategy T10)

Hold an annual Bike Safety Awareness Day at Van Cleve Park. (See also Parks Strategy 3, Housing Strategy 4, Public Service Strategy 4, and Community Building Strategy 3.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA (Transportation Task Force), PWD, MPRB, Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) & Community Crime Prevention (CCP/SAFE)

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$0; was \$300 for administration; plan modification moved \$ to Strategy CB6 (1st Step Strategy CB4)

Contract Administrator: see Community Building section

Results: Bicycle awareness was planned as part of the Como-Tuttle Shebang event (see CB4) at which bicycle helmets were provided to neighborhood residents at a discounted rate and through drawings; further coordinated events will be held.

Total NRP \$s for Transportation: \$10,900 1st step + \$31,200 action plan = \$42,100

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Community Building Subtotal: \$422,662

Goal: 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.

Strategy CB1. Neighborhood Office & Resource Center

Secure a visible and convenient location for and furnish a neighborhood office and resource center. (See below for required and desired characteristics).

Collaborative Partners: SECIA

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$24,980 (plus \$21,380 included under other goals and from other SECIA funds) for setup & first 18 months of operation for a total of \$46,360
inkind: \$10,000 (est. minimum)

Contract Administrator: NRP

Results: A new neighborhood office and resource center was created at 2010 East Hennepin Avenue in the summer of 1999 with window front, meeting and office space, and resource center. (See also H8.)

(See Strategy CB3 below for Action Plan continuation of Strategy CB1)

Objective B. Assure that sufficient time and expertise is dedicated to NRP planning and implementation, community organizing, and coordination to carry-out Como NRP process and to strengthen services provided by the neighborhood organization.

Strategy CB2. Neighborhood Staff (1st Step strategy CB5)

Employ a neighborhood coordinator, program specialists and assistants necessary to implement the First Step Plan and to increase effectiveness of SECIA as the organization advocating for and serving neighborhood interests. (See below for list of suggested duties for neighborhood staff.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Youth Employment Program

Timeline: 1998 - ongoing

Resources: NRP: \$69,600; was \$55,300 (plus an additional \$43,900 included under other goals and from other SECIA funds) for first 18 months for a total of \$99,200; plan modification increased \$ by \$14,300 from Strategies E1, E3, E4, E7, PS1, B10, CS9, T1, T10, T12, T13, (1st Step Strategies E1, E3, E4, E5, PS1, B9, CS6, T1, T7, T8, and T9) to hire consultant to conduct thoroughfare study

Contract Administrator: NRP

Results: A full-time coordinator was employed from August 1998 through September 1999 (the position is being refilled); a part-time resource center coordinator was hired in August 1999.

Strategy CB3. Staff & Office

Employ a neighborhood coordinator and other staff as needed to assist in implementing the Neighborhood Action Plan.

Collaborative Partners: SECIA

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$244,432 (for staff, professional services, office rent and maintenance, advertising, phones, insurance, postage, printing, supplies, etc.)

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$51,900
	2001	\$51,900
	2002	\$51,900
	2003	\$51,900
	2004	\$36,832

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective C. 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.

Strategy CB4. Comotion (1st Step strategy CB2)

Reproduce, & distribute neighborhood newsletter *Comotion* quarterly. (See also Strategies PS9, B3 & CS4.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Youth Employment Program

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$1,800 (for first 18 months)

Contract Administrator: NRP

Results: The *Comotion* was prepared, published and distributed to every household in the neighborhood in August 1998, December 1998, March 1999, Summer 1999, Fall 1999, & November 1999.

Strategy CB5. Town Meeting (1st Step strategy CB3)

Host at least two town meetings and/or neighborhood-wide events per year. (See also Strategies H6, PS4, P3, and T14.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, Van Cleve Park, other neigh. groups

Timeline: 1998-99

Resources: NRP: \$2,900; was \$600; plan modification increased \$ by \$2,300 from Strategies H6, PS4, P3, T14 (1st Step Strategies H4, PS4, P3, and T10)

Contract Administrator: NRP

Results: The cooperative first annual Como-Tuttle Shebang was held April 22, 1999 at which more than 15 organization had informational booths and over 170 neighborhood residents attended. Town meetings were held June 15 and November 30, 1999.

Strategy CB6. Communications Plan (1st Step strategy CB4)

Develop and begin to implement a plan in increase communications within the neighborhood. (See also Strategies E3, PS9, PS10, PS11, B3, B4, & CS3.)

Collaborative Partners: SECIA, SE Como Business Association
 Timeline: 1998-99
 Resources: NRP: \$8,450; was \$1,450; plan modifications increased \$ by \$7,000 from Strategies E3, PS9, PS10, PS11, B3, B4, & CS3 (1st Step Strategies E3, PS6, PS7, PS8, B3, B4, and CS3)
 Contract Administrator: NRP
 Results: As a first step in developing a communications plan, SECIA contracted with a graphic designer who developed a logo now approved by the Board (including a 4-color option for the neighborhood signs, the 1 color version on this plan cover, a new *Comotion* masthead, and other variations).

Strategy CB7. Communications

Serve as a clearing house of information and involve the neighborhood in issues relating to Como and the City of Minneapolis through the *Comotion* 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, Tuttle School, Como Neighborhood Business Association
 Timeline: 2000-2004
 Resources: NRP \$39,000 (for newsletter production, printing, mailings, brochure, welcome packets, web site development and maintenance, meeting expenses, letterhead, business card, etc.)
 NRP \$/year: 2000 \$10,200
 2001 \$7,200
 2002 \$7,200
 2003 \$7,200
 2004 \$7,200

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective D: Foster a sense of community in Como and with the wider Southeast Community.

Strategy CB8. Resource Programs

Participate with Tuttle School, Van Cleve Park, the Como Neighborhood Business, and other organizations to promote and educate the community on NRP programs, strategies, and resources through community programs and resource fairs such as the Como-Tuttle Shebang

Collaborative Partners: Tuttle School, Van Cleve Park, Como Neighborhood Business Association, other neighborhood associations, social services, SECIA
 Timeline: 2000-2004
 Resources: NRP: \$16,500 (for promotional materials, postage, delivery, expenses, grant writer consultant, etc.)
 NRP \$/year: 2000 \$3,300
 2001 \$3,300
 2002 \$3,300
 2003 \$3,300
 2004 \$3,300

Contract Administrator: NRP

Objective E: Improve relations with the University of Minnesota and increase communications between the surrounding neighborhoods and U of M officials.

Strategy CB9. University Relations

Develop a coalition of the neighborhoods surrounding the University of Minnesota and U of M representatives to evaluate and address issues related to the University of Minnesota impact on the neighborhoods (e.g. housing, transportation and parking).

Collaborative Partners: SECIA

Timeline: 2000-2004

Resources: NRP: \$15,000 (for impact study, facilitators, meeting expenses, etc.)
plus NRP 1st Step: \$1,000 from Strategy T2 (& T9)

NRP \$/year:	2000	\$11,000
	2001	\$1,000
	2002	\$1,000
	2003	\$1,000
	2004	\$1,000

Contract Administrator: NRP

Total NRP \$s for Community Building: \$107,730 1st step + \$314,932 action plan = \$422,662

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE & RESOURCE CENTER as proposed in 1st Step Plan

Required Characteristics

- base of operation for neighborhood staff
- SECIA/Como NRP mailing address / neighborhood phone
- use & storage of all SECIA/Como NRP files, supplies, etc (repository for data etc on neighborhood)
- location of /place to use existing SECIA MAC computer, fax, & copier machine (other?)
- location of Como Neighborhood Resource Center
- base operating funding including: rent, utilities, maintenance, insurance, office supplies

Desired Characteristics

- visible & convenient storefront location (@ neighborhood commercial node e.g. Como & 15th)
- street visibility (sign, activity in window, etc) - opportunity to demonstrate good quality
- storefront/streetscape w/ good displays, flowers, well-shoveled walk etc)
- extended regular hours (e.g. 10 am to 9 pm M-F & 10am to 3 pm Sat)
- regularly scheduled resource people (e.g. housing specialist 1+ evening a week)
- meeting space & furniture for medium sized meetings (up to about 20 people e.g. SECIA)
- meeting space actively promoted & used for neighborhood programs & informal group functions
- (including couch/comfortable chairs; used for guest speakers, book club, etc)
- community bulletin board & display of neighborhood maps, photo's etc
- furnished desk spaces for at least 3+ staff/workers (including 2-3 computers, 2-3 phone lines)
- Resource Ctr - extensive selection of free brochures, printed reference materials, & regular programs on broad range of subjects (home repairs, finance, recycling, safety, gardening, available programs, etc) with many shelves, files, resident reading/work area/storage, staff assisted use of computer database &/or Internet - optional: tool lending semi-private place for program sign-up (where people fill out/discuss applications etc)

NEIGHBORHOOD STAFF (with suggested duties of each listed)

Neighborhood Coordinator

(1 FTE - full time equivalent)

- facilitate ongoing planning process to complete full Como NRP Action Plan
- oversee implementation of First Step Plan (contract development, monitoring, reports to city & neighborhood) operate neighborhood office (e.g. maintain basic office hours)
- provide staff assistance to SECIA & NRP Steering Committee/Task Forces (including coordinating with other neighborhoods, organizations, agencies, etc)
- do community organizing (publicity for neighborhood events, volunteer recruitment & retention, etc)
- supervise other staff & interns Program Specialists (½ - 1 FTE)
- staff specific projects/programs implemented in Como NRP First Step (project development, administration, publicity, participant sign-up, etc)
- operate Como Neighborhood Resource Center (including assisting users & programming activities),
- assist in staffing neighborhood office & providing extended office hours
- assist specific Task Forces & on special projects/events (including organizing a SE Como Business organization)
- do Comotion - getting articles, editing & graphic layout (desktop publishing) (unless this is done by Coordinator or others)

Administrative Assistant / Interns /

Youth Employment (1/4 - ½ FTE)

- maintain neighborhood mailing lists & databases
- do SECIA/Como NRP mailings
- assist in staffing neighborhood office & providing extended office hours
- provide clerical support & assist in office operations (copying, faxing, answering phone, filing, etc)
- provide basic facility maintenance (including shoveling/watering plants if needed)

Accountant

- maintain SECIA/Como NRP financial records
- write checks (signed by treasurer)
- make financial reports & assist with budget preparation

Budget - Summary by Strategy

All First Step Figures reflect #s after plan modifications; "part of CB" under Contract Administrator means the funds were incorporated into SECIA's overall Community Building 1st Step scope of services agreement.

#	Title	NRP \$s as modified	Contract Admin.	Contract to	1st Step # & Modifications
HOUSING					
H1	Prioritizing Improvements	\$30,650	MCDA	CEE/CRR	
H2a	Revolving Loan Program	\$100,000	MCDA	CEE/CRR	H1; inc to \$3500 max
H2b	Loan Program	\$952,500	MCDA	CEE/CRR	
H3	Rental Licensing	\$0			H2 ; \$ moved to H7
H4	Implement Codes	\$6,000	Inspections	SECIA	
H5	Non-Res. Owner/Tenant Ed.	\$0			H3; \$ moved to H7
H6	Neighborhood Events	\$0			H4
H7	Housing Info. & Resources	\$10,000		SECIA	H5; \$ from H3 & H5
H8	Resource Center	\$105,117	MCDA	SECIA	
	Subtotal	\$1,204,267			
ENVIRONMENT					
E1	Thoroughfare Greening	\$5,500	MPRB		E1; \$ moved to CB2
E2	Neighborhood Greening	\$1,000	part of CB		E2
E3	Neighbor. Gateways & Signs	\$6,000	PWD		E3; \$ moved to CB2
E4	Bus Stop Planning	\$0			E4; \$ moved to CB2
E5	Community Garden & Green	\$50,900	NRP	SECIA	
E6	Public Trees	\$11,600	MPRB		
E7	SEMI Participation	\$4,100	part of CB		E5; \$ moved to CB2
E8a	Habitat Project	\$0			E6; \$ moved to P1
E8b	Habitat Project	\$3,000	PWD		
E9	Environmental Survey	\$0			E7; \$ moved to E7
E10	Stakeholder Dial/Good Neigh	\$5,500	Env Insp		E8
E11	Pollution Prevention	\$44,000	Env Insp		
E12	Permit Tracking	\$0			E9; \$ moved to E7
E13	Monitor Odors	\$0			E10; \$ moved to E7
E14	Air Pollution Ed & Planning	\$0			E11; \$ moved to E7
	Subtotal	\$131,600			
PUBLIC SAFETY					
PS1	Lighting Needs & Opps.	\$0			PS1; \$ to CB2
PS2	Lighting @ 15 th & Como	\$30,000	PWD		PS2
PS3a	Block Clubs	\$2,000	CCP		PS3
PS3b	Block Clubs	\$3,000	NRP	SECIA	
PS4	Neighborhood Events	\$0			PS4; moved to CB5

PS5	Safety Improvements	\$3,000	CCP		PS5
PS6	Cops on Bikes	\$25,800	Police Dept		
PS7	Graffiti	\$2,400	PWD	SECIA	
PS8	Safer Public Spaces	\$52,000	MPRB/PS		
PS9	Safety & Security Info	\$0			PS6; \$ moved to CB6
PS10	Safety Resources	\$0			PS7; \$ moved to CB6
PS11	Welcome Packet	\$0			PS8; \$ moved to CB6
	Subtotal	\$118,200			
SCHOOLS					
S1	Tuttle School Playground	\$50,000	MPS		S1
S2	Tuttle School Grounds	\$68,000	MPS		
	Subtotal	\$118,000			
PARKS					
P1	Sports Fields	\$69,000	MPRB		P1; scope changed
P2	Park Council	\$6,000	MPRB		P2
P3	Van Cleve Event	\$0			P3; \$ moved to CB5
P4	Parks Programming	\$87,500	MPRB		
P5	Finishing Van Cleve	\$48,300	MPRB		
P6	Greenways, Bikeways	\$0			
		\$210,800			
BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
B1a	SE Como Business Assn	\$5,000	part of CB		B1
B1b	Business Association	\$11,000	MCDA		
B2	Home-based Business	\$2,500	part of CB		B2
B3	Communications	\$0			B3; \$ moved to CB6
B4	Business & Service Directory	\$0			B4; \$ moved to CB6
B5	Business Improvements	\$10,000	MCDA		B5
B6	Fix-Up Programs	\$70,000	MCDA		
B7	Graffiti Reduction	\$500	Inspections		B6
B8	SEMI Participation	\$0			B7
B9	Streetscape Plantings	\$0			B8
B10	Graphic Identity	\$0			B9; \$ moved to CB2
B11	Parking	\$19,500	PWD		
B12	Thoroughfare Greening	\$0			B10
	Subtotal	\$118,500			
COMMUNITY SERVICES					
CS1a	Community Education	\$1,500	part of CB		CS1; \$ fr CS2
CS1b	Community Education	\$3,500	MPS	FACES	
CS2	Fitness Programs	\$0			CS2; \$ moved to CS1

CS3	SE Library	\$2,500	MPL		
CS4	Community Service Info	\$0			CS3; \$ to CB6
CS5	Promotion of Services	\$4,500	NRP	SECIA	
CS6	SE Organization Networking	\$2,500	Henn. Co.	SE WTG	
CS7a	Southeast Seniors	\$10,000	Henn Co.	SE Seniors	CS4
CS7b	Southeast Seniors	\$10,000	Henn. Co.	SE Seniors	
CS8	Youth Employment Program	\$2,500	NRP	YEP	CS5
CS9	Transportation for Children	\$0			CS6; \$ to CB2
CS10	Way to Grow	\$2,500	Henn Co.		CS7
CS11	SE Way to Grow	\$8,000	Henn. Co.	SE WTG	
	Subtotal	\$47,500			
TRANSPORTATION					
T1	Traffic Study	\$0			T1; \$ moved to CB2
T2	University Cooperation	\$1,000	part of CB		T2; \$ fr T9
T3	Repaving Hennepin	\$0			
T4	Como & 15 th Avenues	\$12,500	PWD		
T5	Traffic on Talmage	\$7,500	PWD		
T6	New Stop Signs	\$0			T3
T7	Alley Speed Bumps	\$2,400	PWD		T4
T8	Metro Transit Buses	\$500	part of CB		T5
T9	University Transit Services	\$0			T6; \$ moved to T2
T10	Talmage-Rollins Bike Route	\$6,000	PWD		T7; \$ moved to CB2
T11	Bike Diverter	\$11,200	PWD		
T12	Bike Racks & Benches	\$1,000	MCDA		T8; \$ moved to CB2
T13	Grand Round/UM Connect	\$0			T9; \$ moved to CB2
T14	Bike Safety Awareness Day	\$0			T10; \$ moved to CB6
	Subtotal	\$42,100			
COMMUNITY BUILDING					
CB1	Office & Resource Ctr.	\$24,980	NRP	SECIA	CB1
CB2	Neighborhood Staff	\$69,600	NRP	SECIA	CB5; \$ fr var.
CB3	Staff & Offices	\$244,432	NRP	SECIA	
CB4	Comotion	\$1,800	NRP	SECIA	CB2
CB5	Town Meeting	\$2,900	NRP	SECIA	CB3; \$ fr var.
CB6	Communications Plan	\$8,450	NRP	SECIA	CB4; \$ fr var.
CB7	Communications	\$39,000	NRP	SECIA	
CB8	Resource Programs	\$16,500	NRP	SECIA	
CB9	University Relations	\$15,000	NRP	SECIA	
	Subtotal	\$422,662			
	TOTAL	\$2,413,629			