



## **Armatage Neighborhood Association Neighborhood Priority Plan**

**November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

The Armatage Neighborhood Association proposes to use CPP (Community Participation Program) funds in the amount of \$11,810.00 for a Neighborhood Priority Plan to support improving safety throughout the neighborhood. The direction of the ANA (Armatage Neighborhood Association) was the direct result of multiple surveys in three different formats administered from March – August of 2013. The final community vote will take place at our monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 2013. Residents were notified 21 days prior to vote via the Armatage website, email and Facebook

### **Surveys**

The ANA developed different “visions” for residents to vote on. These visions included Safety, Building a Sense of Community, Natural Environment and Health and Wellness. Ideas and suggestions were given under each vision. There was also space given in each survey for residents to offer their ideas and feedback. The different formats used were a paper version, an on-line version via Survey Monkey and lastly, residents were able to vote with gumballs at our summer festival.

### **Results**

Overall, Safety was the number one vision in every survey. The safety vision was described as “maintaining and enhancing the physical safety of residents.” Overall themes included under this vision were: recruiting block leaders, “this is your speed” signs and airplane noise. The primary focus will be on recruiting new block leaders. Reasons for this include:

- This is also a priority of the Minneapolis Police Department.
- This reflects residents’ number one concern.

- This is a measurable goal.

### **Action Plan**

The ANA will partner with Minneapolis Police Department Crime Prevention Specialist, Amy Lavender. Increasing the number of Armatage block leaders is important in keeping Armatage's crime rate low. It encourages social events and communication, key pieces in preventing crime. It gives residents a go-to person who can help organize events and send out important safety alerts. CPP funds will be used in advertising the need for new block leaders, education materials as to why block leaders are important to communities and when training sessions will be held.

In addition, the ANA will also offer safety workshops. These workshops may include seminars on personal and home safety including classes on self- defense, internet safety and crime prevention. Other ideas are a "leave the lights on" campaign to reduce crime as well as Neighborhood Watch signs throughout the neighborhood. (The city will not install these on public street signs anymore because of budget issues.)

Two other safety areas the ANA will focus on are environmental and traffic safety. Neighbor's concerns regarding RNAV and increased airplane noise was evident in all three surveys. Increased speed throughout the neighborhood has also been a concern. Installing "this is your speed signs" was also a popular idea. The ANA will research options that will maintain livability and traffic safety in the neighborhood.

The ANA is looking forward to taking the next step in this already successful partnership with the Minneapolis Police Department. Recruiting block leaders, maintaining environmental safety from airplane noise and traffic issues will ensure the safety of all residents, honoring our number one neighborhood priority.

*"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community." - Anthony Burgess*

