

MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

**BRYANT
NRP PHASE II
NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN**

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Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program

NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan for Bryant Neighborhood

*Draft Plan for Public Comment – October 29, 2011
Revised Plan for Public Voting – November 12, 2011
Bryant-Approved Plan for NRP – November 15, 2011*

**we love
bryant**

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Neighborhood Description:

The Bryant Neighborhood in south Minneapolis stretches from Interstate 35W on the west to Chicago Avenue on the east, and from East 38th Street on the north to East 42nd Street on the south.

Bryant is composed mainly of low-density housing, but it also contains pockets of higher-density housing, commercial and institutional facilities, and green space. Neighborhood businesses and non-profit organizations include the Minneapolis Urban League, Sunshine Place Child Care Center, and My Computer. The northeast corner of the neighborhood is the intersection of 38th Street and Chicago Avenue, and this area is currently experiencing a significant influx of new businesses. The premier green space is Phelps Park, which contains a playground, wading pool, athletic fields, and the facility for the Southside Village Boys and Girls Club. There is also a strong religious presence in the neighborhood with at least half a dozen organizations of this nature.

With just over 2800 residents, Bryant is smaller than the average Minneapolis neighborhood. It is however very racially diverse. According to the 2010 Census, the three largest racial groups that exist in Minneapolis each have a nearly equal presence within the Bryant neighborhood (the African American, Caucasian and Hispanic populations account for 33%, 30% and 28% of the neighborhood, respectively). Since 2000, the neighborhood's African American population has been reduced by a third, the Caucasian population has grown by 50%, and the Hispanic population has doubled. This trend of African American populations moving out and Hispanic populations moving in has occurred in many nearby neighborhoods as well. The largest age group in the neighborhood by far is people between 25 and 44 years old (1,010 people), followed by 45-64 (548 people) and 5-17 (527 people). This indicates a strong presence of young people and families. Those 65 and older account for roughly 6% of the population. There are slightly more than 1000 housing units (primarily owner-occupied) in the neighborhood, with roughly an 8% rate of vacancy.

Plan Development Process:

Due to a number of significant transitions within the organization, the Bryant Neighborhood Organization (BNO) has been a bit slow to begin the Phase II planning process. Phase I plans created in the mid-90s, though quite successful in what they achieved, were not reviewed until 2011. Similarly, Phase II planning, which was in full swing in many other neighborhoods several years ago, was only just begun in Bryant in 2011. That being said, the BNO board, which has experienced considerable turnover in recent years, has now been built up to a solid group of dedicated individuals, and the newly-employed part-time staff is helping to get things accomplished.

Working within an incredibly condensed timeframe, the BNO has made great efforts to bring as much of our community as possible into the discussion of NRP Phase II funding. Much of our outreach has occurred online. The current year ushered in a new website for the organization (www.welovebryant.org) as well as a Facebook Group page and a Twitter account. Utilizing these three tools together, BNO staff has been able to reach a fairly broad cross-section of the community to communicate about various topics. Bryant also has an email list that gets used extensively by many neighborhood residents. These online resources, in addition to more traditional resources like the BNO newsletter, have been heavily relied on for Phase II outreach.

Gathering community input began with the creation of a survey utilizing Survey Monkey. The survey was kept as short as possible in order to garner as many responses as we could, and was based on successful surveys we had seen other neighborhoods use. Numerous surveys were completed online, and some hard copies (available in both English and Spanish) were filled out by residents at neighborhood events and local institutions. Shortly after the survey process was complete, the BNO held Saturday morning focus groups in which residents were asked to share their concerns and ideas for the neighborhood. Topics such as housing, crime and safety, senior citizens, and youth and families were used to guide the discussions, but attendees also found other areas of interest to discuss. The following plan attempts to address and prioritize the issues raised by Bryant residents.

Plan Overview:

Based on the input received from the surveys and focus groups, there are a few key concerns that need to be addressed in the Bryant Neighborhood. The most important neighborhood issue on people's minds, by a considerable margin, is crime prevention. The area near the intersection of 38th Street and Chicago Avenue, an area that seemed to be shedding much of its reputation for violent crime, has recently experienced some unsettling incidents of this variety. People are excited about the new business developments in this area, and they are not willing to allow a few reckless criminals spoil what promises to be a great neighborhood asset. Responses from the BNO's survey indicate that nearly 85% of residents feel either 'mostly safe' or 'very safe' overall in this neighborhood. This is a sentiment we aim to preserve and grow, and NRP funds will play a key role in our work.

Given the NRP's focus on housing (at least 70% of Phase II funds must be allocated to housing) and a strong interest by Bryant residents in rehabilitating our housing stock, this issue is also given great prominence in our plan. Low-interest loans and matching grants are the primary strategies we will use to address housing needs.

The rest of the plan addresses other critical neighborhood issues. People want more and better businesses to move into the neighborhood. People want to inhabit a cleaner and greener environment. People want neighborhood youth and the elderly to be well cared for. We feel that this Neighborhood Action Plan provides a solid foundation for us to begin to address these issues and to continue to improve upon our quality of life.

Funding Allocation Summary:

NRP Phase II Funding	.. \$295,498.⁰⁰
70% Housing Requirement	\$225,134.31
30% Other	\$ 70,363.69
NRP Phase I Rollover	\$120,892.20

(Rollover funds not subjected to housing requirement)

Total NRP Funds Available .. \$416,390.²⁰

	Phase 1 Rollover	Phase II Housing	Phase II Other
Safety			
Private Property	\$ 5,000.00		
Block Clubs	\$ 5,000.00		
Public Lighting	\$ 5,000.00		
Graffiti	\$ 5,000.00		
Traffic Improvement	\$ 10,000.00		
COPSIRF			\$ 16,714.29
Housing/Commercial			
Low-Interest		\$ 180,000.00	
Emergency Loans		\$ 41,848.60	
		\$ 20,000.00	
First-Time Buyer Grants			
Business Grants			\$ 45,000.00
Business Loans	\$ 15,000.00		
Community			
Senior Citizens	\$ 1,192.20		\$ 8,649.40
Crisis Intervention	\$ 5,000.00		
Neighborhood Clean-up	\$ 2,700.00		
Community Garden	\$ 10,000.00		
Phelps Park Programs	\$ 10,000.00		
Education/School	\$ 10,000.00		
Sustaining the BNO	\$ 13,000.00		
Marketing & Development	\$ 10,000.00		
Events	\$ 4,000.00		
Implementation Support	\$ 10,000.00		
Totals	\$ 120,892.20	\$ 225,134.31	\$ 70,363.69

Total of all funds	\$416,390.20
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(A) SAFETY

Goal 1 ----> To create a safer neighborhood environment.

Objective 1: Develop strategies to prevent crime.

Strategy 1: Private Property

- **ACTION:** Create a rebate program to reimburse property owners for a portion of the cost of purchasing and installing crime deterrent products on their property. Products must be devices recommended by the Minneapolis Police Department (<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/>) such as motion-detecting light fixtures, double cylinder deadbolts, security strike plates, basement window pipes, etc).
- **RESOURCES:** \$5,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Burglaries and domestic violence focused on and fought.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Strategy 2: Block Clubs

- **ACTION:** Work with CCP/SAFE and existing block leaders to organize block clubs on 100% of Bryant neighborhood blocks. Encourage block clubs to stay connected with our neighborhood's designated Crime Prevention Specialist(s). Sponsor activities for block clubs. Funds to be used for promotion, supplies and materials.
- **RESOURCES:** \$5,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Collaborative and caring communities help prevent crime.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Strategy 3: Public Lighting

- **ACTION:** Work with partners to assess and locate sites for potential new lighting in public/park areas and continue to advocate for this issue through the city's Capital Improvement budget process.
- **RESOURCES:** \$5,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Healthy homes, welcoming neighborhoods.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Strategy 4: Graffiti

- **ACTION:** Establish a program for graffiti reduction. Funds to go toward graffiti clean-up events, paint and clean-up materials, and matching grants for graffiti clean-up on private property.
- **RESOURCES:** \$5,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Guns, gangs, graffiti gone.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Strategy 5: Community Oriented Public Safety Initiative Reserve Fund (COPSIRF)

- **ACTION:** Utilize directed patrolling services as outlined in the COPSIRF proposal and contract with the Minneapolis Police Department Third Precinct.
- **RESOURCES:** \$16,714.²⁹ (*COPSIRF funds*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Collaborative and caring communities help prevent crime.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** Minneapolis Police 3rd Precinct

Objective 2: Develop strategies to minimize conflict between automobiles and pedestrians/bicycles.

Strategy 1: Traffic Improvements

- **ACTION:** Work with various agencies to plan and implement traffic enhancements. This may include working to obtain accurate traffic counts on neighborhood streets, more visibly delineating and identifying pedestrian crossings of Bryant's higher-volume, higher-speed one-way streets (Park and Portland Avenues), and reaching out to residents in order to better understand other traffic problems and potential solutions.
- **RESOURCES:** \$10,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Livable Communities, Healthy Lives – Equitable, integrated transit system.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** City of Minneapolis Public Works

(B) HOUSING

Goal 1 ----> To have better-maintained neighborhood structures.

Objective 1: Improve the physical condition of neighborhood housing.

Strategy 1: Low-Interest Loans

- **ACTION:** Provide a low-interest loan product for property owners to utilize for routine home improvements and repairs.
- **RESOURCES:** \$180,000.00 (*NRP Phase II Housing*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Healthy homes, welcoming neighborhoods.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Strategy 2: Emergency Loans

- **ACTION:** Provide a low-interest loan product for neighborhood property owners to utilize for emergency repairs.
- **RESOURCES:** \$41,848.⁶⁰ (*NRP Phase II Housing*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Healthy homes, welcoming neighborhoods.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Objective 2: Encourage potential homebuyers to buy in Bryant.

Strategy 1: First-Time Buyer Grants

- **ACTION:** Provide grants for first-time homeowners to purchase homes within the neighborhood.
- **RESOURCES:** \$20,000 (*NRP Phase II Housing*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Many People, One Minneapolis – New arrivals welcomed, diversity embraced.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Objective 3: Improve the physical condition of neighborhood businesses and encourage the growth of new businesses in and around the neighborhood.

Strategy 1: Business Grants

- **ACTION:** Provide matching grant money for businesses within or just outside Bryant to make exterior improvements to their buildings.
- **RESOURCES:** \$45,000 (*NRP Phase II Other*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Jobs & Economic Vitality – Businesses – big and small – start here, stay here, thrive here.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** CPED

Strategy 2: Business Loans

- **ACTION:** Provide a low-interest loan product for businesses moving into or near the neighborhood. Work with the 38th and Chicago Business Association to attract desirable businesses to our area.
- **RESOURCES:** \$15,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Jobs & Economic Vitality – Businesses – big and small – start here, stay here, thrive here.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

(c) COMMUNITY BUILDING

Goal 1 ----> To provide more and better services for neighborhood residents.

Objective 2: Provide assistance to individuals in need.

Strategy 1: Senior Citizens

- **ACTION:** Determine the need for a program (such as Nokomis Healthy Seniors) that provides assistance to senior citizens who need it. Work with such an organization to include Bryant neighborhood in its service area.
- **RESOURCES:** \$9,841.⁶⁰ (\$1,192.²⁰ *NRP Phase I Rollover* and \$8,649.⁴⁰ *Phase II Other*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Livable Communities, Healthy Lives – High-quality, affordable housing for all ages and stages in every neighborhood.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** Hennepin County

Strategy 2: Crisis Intervention

- **ACTION:** Establish a “Bryant Helps” crisis intervention program to assist those who are experiencing personal or domestic crises. Research organizations that provide these types of services and attempt to bring in an organization(s) for periodic assistance specifically for Bryant residents.
- **RESOURCES:** \$5,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Many People, One Minneapolis – Family-friendly opportunities and amenities abound.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** Hennepin County

Goal 2 ----> To enhance the neighborhood’s physical environment.

Objective 1: Decrease the amount of litter.

Strategy 1: Neighborhood Clean-Up

- **ACTION:** Organize an annual litter clean-up event. Coordinate with block club leaders to ensure that all blocks participate. Promote the events, obtain necessary clean-up materials, and work with volunteers to clean up streets, boulevards, sidewalks and alleys.

- **RESOURCES:** \$2,700 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Healthy homes, welcoming neighborhoods.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Objective 2: Increase the amount of landscaping and greenery.

Strategy 1: Community Garden

- **ACTION:** Research potential locations for community garden space within Bryant. Attempt to establish community gardens through purchase, lease, or donation of land. Use garden as an educational tool to inform neighborhood residents and youth about growing food, healthy eating, etc.
- **RESOURCES:** \$10,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Eco-Focused – Locally grown food available and chosen.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Goal 3 ----> To better engage with neighborhood youth.

Objective 1: Provide meaningful activities for neighborhood children.

Strategy 1: Phelps Park Programs

- **ACTION:** Support a variety of kids' programming at Phelps Park.
- **RESOURCES:** \$10,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Youth in school, involved, inspired and connected to an adult.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Strategy 2: Education/School

- **ACTION:** Reach out to a school(s) within or near the neighborhood and support beneficial improvements and/or children's programs.
- **RESOURCES:** \$10,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A Safe Place to Call Home – Youth in school, involved, inspired and connected to an adult.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** Minneapolis Public Schools

Goal 4 ----> To market the BNO and expand upon its capabilities.

Objective 1: Allow the BNO to grow and become more self-sustaining.

Strategy 1: Sustaining the Neighborhood Association

- **ACTION:** Research options available for sustaining the neighborhood organization and provide sources of income in the future.
- **RESOURCES:** \$13,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A City that Works – Strong partnerships with parks, schools, government, non-profits and private sector.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Objective 2: Better define what the BNO provides to its residents, and better understand how we can reach them.

Strategy 1: Marketing & Development

- **ACTION:** Create materials (pins, magnets, signs, event banners, etc.) that market our organization to neighborhood residents. Create a Welcome Packet for new Bryant residents that highlights neighborhood businesses and services.
- **RESOURCES:** \$10,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Many People, One Minneapolis – New arrivals welcomed, diversity embraced.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Strategy 2: Events

- **ACTION:** Plan and/or support area events and programming
- **RESOURCES:** \$4,000 (*NRP Phase I Rollover*)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** Livable Communities, Healthy Lives – Plentiful arts, cultural and recreational opportunities.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

(D) IMPLEMENTATION

Goal 1: To maintain the capacity of the BNO to meet neighborhood needs

Objective 1: Ensure organizational support for implementation of the NRP Plan

Strategy 1: Administrative Support

- **ACTION:** Provide resources to allow for the implementation of the NRP Phase II plan. Resources will be utilized to pay staff and provide other administrative support.
- **RESOURCES:** \$10,000 (NRP Phase I Rollover)
- **RELEVANT CITY GOAL:** A city that works- Strong partnerships with parks, schools, government, non-profits and private sector.
- **CONTRACT MANAGER:** DFD

Bryant Focus Group – October 7, 2011

Introductions: Sandra Smith, Aaron Darling, Aaron Geodkte, Robert Skoro, Mary Leoni, Jennifer, Steve sfsferree@gmail.com , Doug Nicholson djnichol66@gmail.com , Nikki Pretzer,

Summary of survey results: concerns about crime, housing, improve aesthetics in neighborhood, food store – co-ops/organic options, green space, clean-ups, community gardens, engage youth

Concerns:

- Electricity goes out on westside of 41st
- Street lighting – park & streets
- Traffic calming
 - Fast driving through residential streets – speed bumps
 - Bump-outs, boulevards
 - Identify top areas:
 - 41st & Oakland, 38th & Columbus
 - Research options/costs
- New owner of Venus has been vandalized
- Food
 - Grocery stores – potential to have Seward have satellite store at 38th & Chicago? Reach out to Seward
 - Connect to youth to food learning
- Churches in neighborhood are engaged with community members especially with Hispanic populations
- Community gardens – empty lots, engage children
- More communication from BNO – newsletter, postcard, ability to receive phone calls/emails for Hispanic & Somalian

Block group is really active, email list

Annual Meeting is November 12th

1. What do you see as the neighborhood's greatest needs? Please rank the options below, with most important. List any additional needs in the space below.

	1 - most important	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 - least important
Housing stock	7.7% (4)	7.7% (4)	9.6% (5)	3.8% (2)	11.5% (6)	17.3% (9)	15.4% (8)	15.4% (8)	11.5% (6)
Food stores	17.5% (10)	17.5% (10)	12.3% (7)	10.5% (6)	3.5% (2)	7.0% (4)	8.8% (5)	12.3% (7)	10.5% (6)
Assisting seniors	1.8% (1)	3.6% (2)	10.9% (6)	14.5% (8)	9.1% (5)	20.0% (11)	16.4% (9)	10.9% (6)	12.7% (7)
Green space	3.6% (2)	9.1% (5)	12.7% (7)	5.5% (3)	14.5% (8)	20.0% (11)	10.9% (6)	12.7% (7)	10.9% (6)
Community gardens or orchards	1.8% (1)	5.4% (3)	7.1% (4)	17.9% (10)	10.7% (6)	10.7% (6)	17.9% (10)	16.1% (9)	12.5% (7)
Crime prevention	46.6% (27)	29.3% (17)	8.6% (5)	1.7% (1)	8.6% (5)	1.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	3.4% (2)
Lighting for streets	7.1% (4)	14.3% (8)	10.7% (6)	21.4% (12)	16.1% (9)	5.4% (3)	8.9% (5)	7.1% (4)	8.9% (5)
Restaurants	7.0% (4)	8.8% (5)	19.3% (11)	7.0% (4)	10.5% (6)	10.5% (6)	7.0% (4)	8.8% (5)	21.1% (12)
Youth engagement	8.5% (5)	8.5% (5)	13.6% (8)	15.3% (9)	16.9% (10)	11.9% (7)	13.6% (8)	11.9% (7)	0.0% (0)

Addition

answered

skipped

2. What types of neighborhood gatherings would you engage in?

	Yes	No	Rating Average	Response Count
Neighborhood walks	66.7% (36)	33.3% (18)	1.33	54
Neighborhood bike rides	57.4% (31)	42.6% (23)	1.43	54
Community garage sale	84.5% (49)	15.5% (9)	1.16	58
Neighborhood sports team	37.7% (20)	62.3% (33)	1.62	53
Art show	66.7% (36)	33.3% (18)	1.33	54
Music concert	85.7% (48)	14.3% (8)	1.14	56
Picnic	78.2% (43)	21.8% (12)	1.22	55
Sledding in winter w/ hot cocoa	62.3% (33)	37.7% (20)	1.38	53
Ice skating trips in winter for kids	32.1% (17)	67.9% (36)	1.68	53
Assisting low income neighbors in home repairs	62.1% (36)	37.9% (22)	1.38	58
Litter clean-up	82.8% (48)	17.2% (10)	1.17	58
Other ideas?				8
answered question				62
skipped question				0

3. Neighbors

	Yes	No	Response Count
Do you know your neighbors next door?	100.0% (61)	0.0% (0)	61
Do you know your neighbors across the alley?	83.6% (51)	16.4% (10)	61
Are you interested in getting to know your neighbors better?	87.9% (51)	12.1% (7)	58
In what ways do you engage with your neighbors?			35
answered question			61
skipped question			1

4. Local Youth Organizations

	Yes	No	Response Count
Do you know about the two youth organizations in Bryant (Phillips Activities Council (PAC) and the Boys and Girls Club)?	63.9% (39)	36.1% (22)	61
Do you have any children that belong to the Boys and Girls Club or play with the PAC?	1.6% (1)	98.4% (60)	61
answered question			62
skipped question			0

5. Do you rent or own your current residence?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Rent		3.4%	2
Own		96.6%	57
answered question			59
skipped question			3

6. How do you want the BNO to use our NRP funds for housing purposes?

	Yes	No	Rating Average	Response Count
Provide low interest loans for residents to make repairs to their homes	95.2% (59)	4.8% (3)	1.05	62
Provide low interest loans for residents to make emergency home repairs	98.3% (58)	1.7% (1)	1.02	59
Provide grants to businesses within and just outside of the neighborhood	78.0% (46)	22.0% (13)	1.22	59
Work toward more affordable housing	54.5% (30)	45.5% (25)	1.45	55
Other ideas?				9
answered question				62
skipped question				0

7. What (if any) concerns do you have about the housing stock in Bryant?

	Response Count
	24
answered question	24
skipped question	38

8. In which age range do you belong?

		Response Percent	Response Count
12-17		0.0%	0
18-24		0.0%	0
25-44		58.1%	36
45-64		37.1%	23
65-74		4.8%	3
75 and older		0.0%	0
	answered question		62
	skipped question		0

9. How safe do you feel in Bryant:

	Very Safe	Mostly Safe	Somewhat Safe	Mostly Unsafe	Very Unsafe	Rating Average	Response Count
Overall?	12.9% (8)	71.0% (44)	14.5% (9)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	2.05	62
Walking/Biking during the day?	59.0% (36)	36.1% (22)	4.9% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.46	61
Walking/Biking at night?	1.7% (1)	30.5% (18)	42.4% (25)	22.0% (13)	3.4% (2)	2.95	59
answered question							62
skipped question							0

Q1. What do you see as the neighborhood's greatest needs? Please rank the options below, with 1 being the most important. List any additional needs in the space below.

1	a food coop would be nice and if the MLK center would do more with small children instead of just a lunch program and basketball. We need little league and gymnastics and crafts and martial arts etc. etc. We need a new playground.	Sep 23, 2011 3:58 PM
2	While violence has gone down a lot in the past 10 years, there is still room for improvement, especially near the freeway and at 38th and Chicago. Not sure how to address this.	Sep 21, 2011 11:02 AM
3	I would want a coop as a food store, and not an aldi or something on that order since I believe their food is all processed	Sep 15, 2011 10:00 PM
4	The sidewalks on the lower level of the park are very bad. Crumbling, bumpy, difficult for children (or adults) to bike on. In some parts the sidewalk is falling apart so badly there is barely even a "path" to walk/bike on. I would love to see more greenery (trees?) a long the 38th and Chicago block. Trees make a place feel beautiful and established, comfortable. They give the impression that people care about the space. Speed bumps on Columbus Ave would also be a valuable improvement - kids are constantly walking along the street to get the Boys and Girls Club, and there is a Daycare on the corner as well as several preschool and daycare groups who walk this street to get to the park. Despite the presence of children, cars still frequently speed down the block. Speed bumps would make children (and parents) feel safer.	Sep 14, 2011 3:00 PM
5	It is an over simplification of the issue by rating all of these on an importance scale since they are interconnected with one another. Focusing on one issue tends to be to the detriment of the others which allows certain groups to exploit the original issue being focused on.	Sep 12, 2011 12:28 PM
6	Note: The food store would be best as a co-op, or a store with many organic options.	Sep 12, 2011 9:18 AM

Q1. What do you see as the neighborhood's greatest needs? Please rank the options below, with 1 being the most important. List any additional needs in the space below.

7	#1 priority: reduce crime, particularly 38th & Chicago. That area needs asthetic improvement to further that goal, such as trees, etc. A real grocery store would be nice... Perhaps a co-op..	Sep 11, 2011 7:48 AM
8	I would love to hear about a innovative housing program where people live together, earn equity and when needed..move on. We have to much expensive housing and not enough good housing with good family support systems. That is more important than low income housing without the support systems to help 'at risk' or 'needy' families.	Sep 10, 2011 5:28 PM
9	Off-leash recreation area where humans can gather, get to know each other better, and socialize with their canines	Sep 10, 2011 3:15 PM
10	Trash and graffitti clean up	Sep 10, 2011 3:01 PM
11	affordable, safe housing	Sep 10, 2011 2:59 PM
12	speed bumps on certain streets, safer pedestrian crossings at Park/Portland	Sep 10, 2011 1:34 PM

Q2. What types of neighborhood gatherings would you engage in?

1	All great ideas! Our household does a neighborhood walk as is.	Sep 23, 2011 3:58 PM
2	If this could get funded somehow, I would love to add some color somewhere near/around the Boys and Girls Club/Playground, and do a neighborhood mural. This could be done with help from some of the students who attend Boys and Girls Club? I'd also be up for painting the nice, new park benches that were put up last year around the park. A coating of paint may make them last longer and protect them from snow/moisture?	Sep 14, 2011 3:00 PM
3	I'd like to see 38th and Chicago feel more like 48th and Chicago. To that end, we should have to gorgeous street lamps extended up the street.	Sep 11, 2011 10:26 AM
4	youth gardening group at the Bud Garden	Sep 10, 2011 10:01 PM
5	Some method of tool-sharing so that neighbors don't all have to buy the same expensive tools, but they would be available when needed to maintain one's home. PPL used to have a tool library--something like that, or maybe neighbors could organize on a block. Houses may not get kept-up if tools to do so are not affordable or otherwise available.	Sep 10, 2011 7:07 PM
6	summer festivals that include walks, art, music, "pony rides," food stands, fresh produce sales, craft sales, etc. Phelps Park would be ideal for this.	Sep 10, 2011 2:59 PM
7	All great ideas, but just too busy!	Sep 10, 2011 2:50 PM
8	Not really a winter person here	Sep 10, 2011 2:12 PM

Q3. Neighbors

1	Out walking, yard work. Keeping an eye on folks that don't belong in the	Sep 23, 2011 3:58 PM
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Q3. Neighbors

	neighborhood- i.e. suspicious behavior. Destruction of trees and community gardens. Tracking those kids.	
2	Help shovel the sidewalks of less able. Offer help with gardening..sharing plants. Conversations 'over the fence'.	Sep 21, 2011 9:52 PM
3	We talk in the yard and in the driveway. My block has a good turn out for Neighborhood Night Out. I know that I can go to my neighbors in an emergency and they can come to me.	Sep 21, 2011 11:02 AM
4	I walk and chat.	Sep 20, 2011 3:18 PM
5	Take cookies to them around Christmas.	Sep 20, 2011 2:55 PM
6	In the winter months, we see our alley neighbors more :)	Sep 20, 2011 2:31 PM
7	Often via the children from various households on our block.	Sep 18, 2011 6:01 AM
8	National Night Out, informal gatherings, kids playing together	Sep 17, 2011 7:05 PM
9	NNO, Progressive Dinners, and just talking in passing or making plans to get together.	Sep 17, 2011 1:37 PM
10	Saying hi mostly.	Sep 16, 2011 3:23 PM
11	Block parties, Fall and Winter Progressive Dinner, Block Garage Sale, Babysitting and Play Dates, Birthday Parties, Helping people move, Bring Meals for new Moms	Sep 14, 2011 3:00 PM
12	Over the fence conversation.	Sep 13, 2011 3:05 PM
13	we socialize often	Sep 13, 2011 2:48 PM
14	working on neighborhood block club	Sep 12, 2011 1:02 PM
15	We talk when we are outside together. We have helped during a couple crisis situations.	Sep 12, 2011 12:28 PM
16	Chat in the yard and alley.	Sep 12, 2011 9:18 AM
17	chit chat. occasional tool-borrowing	Sep 12, 2011 3:34 AM
18	bonfires, backyard gatherings, meals, card games, shoveling in winter	Sep 11, 2011 9:55 PM
19	National night out, general talking across the fence. It would be nice to have a gathering of folks from across the busy streets (we live on Park) and know folks beside and behind us, but not across the street.	Sep 11, 2011 12:59 PM
20	Our street is very friendly. We help petsit and some of us have keys to the others' houses. Our National Night Out is epic!	Sep 11, 2011 10:26 AM
21	Kids play together, etc.	Sep 11, 2011 7:48 AM
22	Chatting over the fence and in the alley.	Sep 10, 2011 10:01 PM
23	Chatting in passing, occasionally having drinks in the summer.	Sep 10, 2011 9:19 PM

Q3. Neighbors

24	Minimally- casual wave or hi. We have lived in our home 5+ years, and barely know anyone on our block.	Sep 10, 2011 8:00 PM
25	The older homeowners here all seem to know each other, but the newer ones, and the renters(more and more of these), won't have anything to do with anyone who lives here, no matter what we try to do to get acquainted. NNO only attracts a small group, the people who already know each other. I have thought of having a neighborhood supper group, or a progressive dinner, or rotating back yard get-togethers, or a walking/exercise group, gardening tool/plant exchange. We can't even seem to get a block club meeting group to work.	Sep 10, 2011 7:07 PM
26	chat and friendship, pet sitting, tool sharing,	Sep 10, 2011 6:17 PM
27	We try to chat when we see them. It would be really nice to have more organized gatherings so we could get to know more of them.	Sep 10, 2011 5:44 PM
28	Sometimes, I try to when out of doors. I feel somewhat tired due to work.	Sep 10, 2011 5:28 PM
29	Nno, playing with kids,	Sep 10, 2011 3:26 PM
30	We mostly engage when we happen to be outside - either coming or going with our pets. Pets being the ice-breakers to meeting new people, we'd like to see more opportunities in the neighborhood for strangers to get together with their dogs off-leash, and walk home together as neighbors.	Sep 10, 2011 3:15 PM
31	Block party each year and conversations when outside in the summer.	Sep 10, 2011 3:01 PM
32	walk my dog twice a day and say good morning and good evening to everyone I meet. I talk to my neighbors when we are outside watering plants, etc. I ask my neighbors to watch my house and pick up the mail when I'm out of town. (I am one of 3 white women in a black neighborhood--my neighbors are very fine people.)	Sep 10, 2011 2:59 PM
33	Conversations over the fence/alley Home care when away	Sep 10, 2011 2:17 PM
34	We help each other out with snow removal in the winter - also taking care of each others' dogs, making sure the elderly neighbors are ok, and watching out for each other	Sep 10, 2011 2:12 PM
35	dinner parties/BBQs, watching each other's kids, NNO, watching each other's houses when vacations are taken, sharing garden produce	Sep 10, 2011 1:34 PM

Q6. How do you want the BNO to use our NRP funds for housing purposes?

1	Because Bryant is so small a neighborhood and there is little developable land, I would like to see even greater communitys-supported commercial development at 38th and Chicago, at 40th and along 38th street.	Sep 21, 2011 11:02 AM
2	I think the BNO would do well to act in a curatorial fashion with regards to providing grants to businesses in and immediately outside of Bryant. For instance, how can vacant commercial spaces be occupied by businesses that attend to the basic needs of the neighborhood, or how can existing businesses	Sep 18, 2011 6:01 AM

Q6. How do you want the BNO to use our NRP funds for housing purposes?

such as the Venus Deli space be improved? Regardless of where the exact boundaries lie on 38th and Chicago, I think the BNO can act to stabilize some of the progress made by having Blue Ox, the Fire Arts Center, The Third Place, etc. change the dynamic of that intersection.

3	Buying an unused plot of land for a community garden.	Sep 13, 2011 3:05 PM
4	Could we do something regarding houses with weedy, junky yards, alleys are weedy and junky too. Maybe some community gardening focused on easy to maintain landscaping?	Sep 12, 2011 8:59 AM
5	Our housing stock seems to be affordable. However, residents may need assistance in improving the facade or other elements of the home. Grants or low-interest loans toward heating, windows, fascia and paint, and/or roof repairs would be appreciated.	Sep 11, 2011 10:26 AM
6	Actually make the loans accessible to people in the neighborhood given how much our home values have dropped. Seems like a sham program.	Sep 10, 2011 8:00 PM
7	Housing here is already pretty affordable but it must be maintained. Taxes that keep going up and up are causing problems for many poorer homeowner who could lose their homes as a result.	Sep 10, 2011 7:07 PM
8	Business grants could support a new and needed service.	Sep 10, 2011 5:28 PM
9	I've had a negative experience with NRP -- it wasn't responsive to my needs for establishing a locally owned, locally staffed (under and un-employed) business.	Sep 10, 2011 2:59 PM

Q7. What (if any) concerns do you have about the housing stock in Bryant?

1	Yards are not well maintained/landscaped	Sep 23, 2011 3:58 PM
2	Many are visibly in disrepair.	Sep 21, 2011 9:52 PM
3	I actually think the stock is fairly strong. There's been significant ownership turnover in the past 10 years and with new families many homes have been upgraded.	Sep 21, 2011 11:02 AM
4	Vacant houses become moldy, animal infested and may not be habitable.	Sep 20, 2011 3:18 PM
5	n/a	Sep 20, 2011 3:05 PM
6	Deterioration; yard upkeep; alleys littered and run down	Sep 19, 2011 6:35 PM
7	I guess I don't really understand what this means.	Sep 17, 2011 7:05 PM
8	concern about the decline in home value.	Sep 17, 2011 1:37 PM
9	Its important to me to keep improving the housing stock in the neighborhood. However that can happen.	Sep 13, 2011 3:05 PM
10	Absentee landlords that have low standards for their renters, are not licensed by	Sep 12, 2011 12:28 PM

Q7. What (if any) concerns do you have about the housing stock in Bryant?

	Minneapolis and are probably not paying taxes.	
11	absentee landlords not maintaining houses and yards	Sep 12, 2011 11:08 AM
12	Too many foreclosures dragging down home prices. I'd like to see people stay in their homes.	Sep 12, 2011 9:46 AM
13	i don't have any concerns about the neighborhood specifically - just housing stock in general (in the metro area)	Sep 11, 2011 9:55 PM
14	some poor conditon houses	Sep 11, 2011 7:48 AM
15	It is run down in need of TLC.	Sep 10, 2011 10:48 PM
16	Concerned about absetee landlords, espically in some of the larger apartment buildings.	Sep 10, 2011 10:01 PM
17	Low home values!	Sep 10, 2011 8:00 PM
18	Too much rental property, not enough home owners. Absentee slum-lords who don't keep up their property, tenants who don't care what they do because they don't plan to stay for long.	Sep 10, 2011 7:07 PM
19	owner occupied housing becoming rental.	Sep 10, 2011 5:02 PM
20	No	Sep 10, 2011 3:26 PM
21	too many vacant houses	Sep 10, 2011 3:01 PM
22	pervasive abandonment due to foreclosure (mine is next)	Sep 10, 2011 2:59 PM
23	decaying. would love too see some of the homes better kept	Sep 10, 2011 2:50 PM
24	Vacancies and aging	Sep 10, 2011 2:12 PM