

NRP

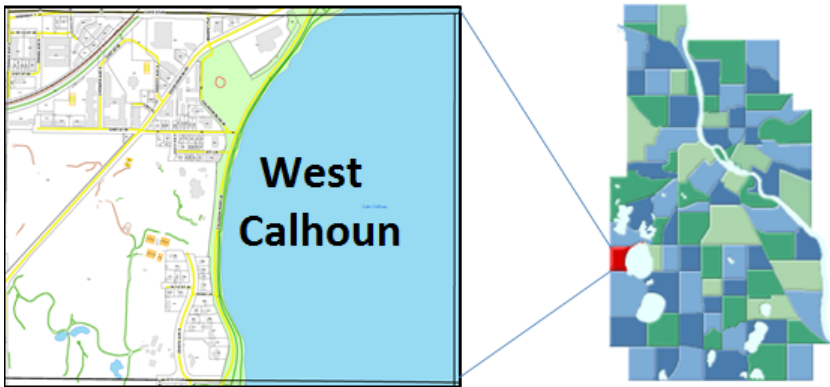
Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Neighborhood Profile

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Neighborhood Profile

Neighborhood Description

West Calhoun is located on the western edge of Minneapolis in the Calhoun-Isles community. The neighborhood is bounded by France Avenue, Lake Street, Lake Calhoun and 36th Street.

Lake Calhoun has gone through several name changes. Some Dakota people called the lake "Mde Ma-ka-ska," which means "Lake of the White Earth." This was because of the lake's sandy north shore. Later, early Europeans renamed the lake with another Dakota name, "Medoza," or loon. The current name comes from early surveyors who mapped the western lands in 1817. They named it after the secretary of war at the time, John C. Calhoun. Calhoun was also a congressman, senator, secretary of state and vice president.

The Grand Rounds Scenic Byway borders Lake Calhoun, and the oldest country club in Minneapolis, the Minikahda Club, occupies most of the western and southern sections of the neighborhood.

Located on the neighborhood's eastern edge, the Bakken Museum was established to study electricity and magnetism. It was founded in 1975 by Earl E. Bakken, inventor of the first transistorized cardiac pacemaker. Its research library holds 11,000 rare books and 2,500 scientific instruments relating to the role of electricity in life.

Demographic Profile	West Calhoun		Minneapolis	
Total population	1,935		385,023	
Male	939	48.50%	193,360	50.20%
Female	996	51.50%	191,663	49.80%
Under 18 years	295	15.20%	77,423	20.10%
18-24 years	159	8.20%	55,944	14.50%
25-34 years	576	29.80%	81,420	21.10%
35-54 years	579	30.00%	99,678	25.80%
Over 54 years	326	16.90%	70,558	18.30%
White	1,717	88.70%	239,351	62.20%
Of Color				
– Asian or Pacific Islander	44	2.30%	21,182	5.50%
– Two or more races	76	3.90%	13,531	3.50%
Foreign Born	185	9.60%	56,287	14.60%

Demographic Profile <i>cont.</i>	West Calhoun		Minneapolis	
Family Households	470	37.20%	74,759	45.00%
Non-Family Households	792	62.80%	91,434	55.00%
Households with children				
Households with one + children under 18 years	224	17.70%	40,919	24.60%
Households with one + people 65 years or over	157	12.40%	23,808	14.30%
Single Unit Structures				
Single Unit Structures	536	37.80%	88,044	48.60%
More than 4 Unit Structures	797	56.10%	68,056	37.60%
Owner-occupied				
Owner-occupied	667	50.50%	83,163	50.00%
– Average household size	1.7		2.3	
Renter-occupied				
Renter-occupied	655	49.50%	83,030	50.00%
– Average household size	1.2		2.1	
Income				
With income below poverty	132	6.80%	83,366	22.50%
With income 100-149% of poverty	161	8.30%	37,056	10.00%
With income 150-199% of poverty	<i>suppressed</i>	<i>suppressed</i>	30,792	8.30%
With income 200% of poverty or higher	1,629	84.20%	218,639	59.10%

Data are from the American Community Survey 5-year estimates and represent averages of data collected between 2008-2012. Data have been suppressed when there was an error margin greater than 70% of the estimate of a numeric value.

Plan Development Process

During the Fall of 2015, the West Calhoun Neighborhood Council (WCNC) Board focused much of its community engagement efforts around neighborhood planning.

In the months that followed, WCNC tied three planning efforts into one process – review and updating of our Phase I NRP investments, development of our Phase II NRP plan, and identification of our key Neighborhood Priorities under the Community Participation Program (CPP).

The prospect of Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) development is on the horizon and inevitably will bring challenges and opportunities. Also, there is a growing desire to develop the neighborhood’s only significant public green space so that it isn’t subject to flooding and has a clear neighborhood identity.

We reviewed our NRP Phase I Plan to make sure its strategies and resources are aligned in a way that reflects current neighborhood priorities, and to determine where we can invest NRP Phase II and CPP resources.

The ability to combine our planning initiatives into one well-coordinated process has allowed us to use our resources wisely and be very focused and strategic on the neighborhood’s top priorities.

WCNC has reached out to residents, property owners, businesses and other stakeholders for input in the plan development process through several channels. Notices of meetings were distributed via postcards, e-mails and our web site, and special invitations were made to specific stakeholders. Cooperation with other organizations has helped us collect input from people who may not be aware of WCNC regular activities. And WCNC employed techniques such as targeted interviews, surveys, and community workshops to gather input from the neighborhood.

The West Calhoun NRP Phase I Review and Modifications, NRP Phase II Action Plan and CPP Neighborhood Priorities were drafted by the Board, distributed in summary form to all neighborhood stakeholders, and made available for public review at neighborhood-wide meetings and Board meetings. Neighborhood adoption of the plan was demonstrated by vote at a heavily promoted neighborhood meeting. The WCNC Board has ensured that the approach described above has been followed, endorses the adopted plan, and transmits the Plan for City for approval.

Timetable

Summer 2015	Began Brainstorming and Outreach
June 16, 2016	Participation Agreement Approved by WCNC and NCR
Spring/Summer 2016	Outreach Conducted to Develop Plan
August/September 2016	Draft Plan Submitted to Community for Review
October 11, 2016	Neighborhood Final Vote on Plan Approval
November/December 2016	Plan Submitted to NRP Policy Board for Approval
December 2016/January 2017	Plan Submitted to City Council for Approval and legal publication
January 2017	Implementation Process Begins

West Calhoun Phase II Plan

Plan Philosophy

The plan's guiding philosophy is to leverage the neighborhood's resources and maximize opportunities. West Calhoun will use NRP funds to participate in local projects when there is an opportunity to further community goals. With the stops and starts of SWLRT, the WCNC has decided to refocus on fewer priorities to maximize impact to the neighborhood. This renewed focus will come to fruition through partnerships with Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, the Park Board, etc.; efforts such as the Lake Harriet/Lake Calhoun Master Plan (CAC) and the West Lake Multimodal Transportation Study; and work and communications with surrounding neighborhood organizations and committees.

Plan Summary

The West Calhoun NRP Phase II Action Plan will concentrate on three major goal areas over the next several years. Each Under each goal the plan describes what will be done, how much it is expected to cost, who will perform it, what partnerships can be made to help complete it, and during what time period it will be accomplished.

Goals and Objectives

Section 1 - Amenities and Public Spaces

GOAL 1

Pursue improvements designed to better utilize public space in the neighborhood.

OBJECTIVE 1

Work with local public agencies and others to make significant improvements to the neighborhood's green space – especially the large public open space adjacent to the northwest corner of Lake Calhoun.

STRATEGY 1 – Public Green Space Enhancement and Amenities

The West Calhoun Neighborhood Council will partner with the Minneapolis Park Board, Hennepin County and others to further flesh out and implement the recommendations of the Lake Harriet/Lake Calhoun Master Plan. This will include legacy improvements to this community space, especially the green space at W. 32nd and Calhoun Parkway. This regional park space is utilized by residents, city wide and beyond.

Improvements may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Improve drainage of neighborhood park
- Make improvements to allow more high-demand recreational activities
- Establish a town-center feel to the park by building a gazebo or other focusing structure
- Landscaping and public art near the West Lake light rail station (contingent on construction)

NRP Phase II funds – \$38,849.10

NRP Phase I rollover funds – \$138,444.20

CPP Neighborhood Priority funds – \$11,522.00

Potential Partners – Park Board, Hennepin County, others as appropriate

Additional Information: Appendix A or,

https://www.minneapolis-parks.org/project_updates/2014/06/08/2090/cac_meeting_11_summary/

Section 2- Safety and Livability

GOAL 1

Pursue improvements to safety and livability – especially the physical environment for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

OBJECTIVE 1

Work with local public agencies and others to study and make improvements to traffic/traffic congestions issues.

STRATEGY 1 – Multi-Modal Safety Improvements

The West Calhoun Neighborhood Council will partner with the City of Minneapolis (including the 13th Ward Councilmember, Public Works Dept., Police Department, etc.), Hennepin County and others to implement recommendations from the West Lake Multimodal Transportation Study and other related studies and plans for the area.

Safety and livability Improvements may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Utilize traffic calming techniques
- Provide infrastructure signage and signalization
- Provide improved pedestrian infrastructure
- Provide improved bicycle infrastructure, including safe linkages between Midtown Greenway, Lake Calhoun, Calhoun Commons, Calhoun Village, and the West Lake Station (contingent on its construction)
- Improve motorist, bicyclist and pedestrian behavior through educational campaigns.

NRP Phase II funds – \$38,849.10

NRP Phase I rollover funds – \$138,444.19

CPP Neighborhood Priority funds –

Potential Partners – City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, other as appropriate

Additional Information: **Appendix B** – West Lake Multimodal Transportation Study

Appendix C – West Calhoun Safety Committee Update 9/8/15

3 - Housing

GOAL 1

Support efforts to develop or improve affordable housing in Minneapolis.

OBJECTIVE 1

Work with local agencies to support investments that provide new or upgraded affordable housing in Minneapolis.

STRATEGY 1 – Affordable Housing Loans

The West Calhoun Neighborhood Council will support the Affordable Housing Working Capital Fund – a loan fund administered by the Nonprofits Assistance Fund that provides early infusions of capital to non-profit affordable housing projects.

Activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Provide loan funds to improve the affordable housing stock in Minneapolis

NRP Phase II funds – \$181,295.80

NRP Phase I rollover funds –

CPP Neighborhood Priority funds –

Potential Partners – City of Minneapolis, Nonprofits Assistance Fund, others as appropriate

Additional Information: **Appendix D** – Program Description - Affordable Housing Working Capital Fund