

Stevens Square-Loring Heights NRP Phase I Plan Review (Abridged)

March 2001

The Stevens Square-Loring Heights neighborhood was one of the first neighborhoods to conduct and complete its NRP Action Plan. Under the guidance of the Stevens Square Community Organization (SSCO), NRP planning began in 1991 after the neighborhood was picked in the lottery determining which neighborhoods could start, and ended in June 1993 when the Stevens Square-Loring Heights NRP Implementation Committee recommended it for approval by the NRP Policy Board and Minneapolis City Council.

The Stevens Square-Loring Heights NRP Action Plan identified 42 objectives, and allocated \$4.2 million to 23 strategies in four main sections: Community Safety, Community Services, Community Environment and Community Development. The largest projects included:

- \$1,525,000 to capitalize the Residential Rehab Loan Program
- \$500,000 to capitalize the Commercial Rehab Loan Program
- \$500,000 towards the renovation of Stevens Community Associates apartment buildings
- \$300,000 towards the renovation of the Van Dusen Mansion at 1900 LaSalle
- \$313,000 towards streetscape improvements for Nicollet Avenue, Third Avenue, Franklin Avenue and Fourth Avenue
- \$125,000 towards the creation of a Greenway and Overlook along 17th Street/I-94

The first phase of NRP has had a dramatic and positive effect on the Stevens Square-Loring Heights neighborhood. It has helped the neighborhood make gigantic strides towards its goals and vision for itself. It is a testament to the process that was used that the vision can remain so clear nearly ten years after it was first put to paper. Now, Stevens Square-Loring Heights approaches this next phase of NRP with great interest, and expects that through it, the community will get even closer to its vision.