



HPDL Neighborhood Action Plan Taking Shape

Input from Hale, Page and Diamond Lake residents is an important component in the creation of HPDL's Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. Determining priorities for the plan is even more critical this time, since the HPDL Community Association expects to receive only around \$700,000 from the NRP for implementation, as opposed to over \$2,000,000 for Phase I.

At the Community Meeting on January 26, 2004, the process of gathering information from residents continued. HPDL's NRP Phase II Planning Committee started the meeting with information about the NRP program and a brief overview of the process HPDL followed to create the first Neighborhood Action Plan under Phase I. After briefly discussing the reasons for the multiple delays in the Phase II planning process, committee members spoke about results of the data collected so far. The purpose of the meeting was not only to give information, but also to gather more data from those attending. The audience participated several times: by voting on the primary topic area that they wanted addressed, by voting on the top concerns within those

Mark your Calendars!

From the Earth Day Cleanup to the Hale School Plant, there's lots to do on spring weekends.

See page 6 for a list of upcoming events.



Marie Foss

Snow coats the surface of 35W.

HPDL Community Meeting: Road Construction and our Waterways

By Scott Foss

categories and by supplying suggested solutions and actions to address these concerns.

Results of the 2001 HPDL survey

At the meeting, neighbors learned the results of the most recent HPDL household survey, completed in 2001 as part of the Phase II process. The survey showed that "neighborhood quality" improved, as compared to the previous survey conducted in 1992 for Phase I. Both surveys were delivered to each HPDL household, with about 1000 residents answering the 2001 survey and about 1200 responding to the 1992 survey. "Quality" was measured by having residents list the most appealing characteristics of the neighborhood, rank overall living conditions and indicate their plans to move away (resident stability).

As in the 1992 survey, the three most appealing neighborhood features indicated in 2001 survey results were: Convenient Location, Well-Maintained Homes, and Parks and Recreation. The number of respondents ranking HPDL overall living conditions as "excellent" doubled between 1992 and 2001, from 15% to 33%. Nearly two-thirds (64.5%) of 2001 survey respondents with an opinion felt that the area improved over the last 8 years. More residents planned to remain in the neighborhood in 2001 (68%) than in 1992 (46%). The top five reasons residents gave for moving (if they were

Are you concerned about how the 35W/Crosstown reconstruction project will affect our neighborhood waterways? Do you want to know about the plans to ensure water quality in Diamond Lake and Minnehaha Creek during construction and after the highway is rebuilt? You will have a chance to get answers to these questions and others at an upcoming Open House and Community Meeting on Monday, March 15, 2004, at the Pearl Park Community Center.

An Open House sponsored by Mn/DOT will be held from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. to allow HPDL residents to examine visual overviews of the 35W/Crosstown reconstruction plans. The Community Meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m., with water quality presentations and a question and answer period.

Representatives from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and Mn/DOT will talk about quality of the two local water bodies plus respond to concerns from the community about the environmental impacts of the highway project. A representative from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will also be on hand. Discussion topics may range from sedimentation from construction flowing into waterways, to the long-term effects of the Crosstown Commons drain area on water quality, to possible remediation of past sediment build-up in Diamond Lake.

Please join us to help ensure the long-term quality of our neighborhood's natural resources.

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HPDL Survey from page 1

planning to do so, or if they wanted to move if they could), were in order: Airport Noise, Highway 35W/62 Reconstruction, Property Taxes, Schools, and Crime and Safety Issues.

Most issues of concern to residents improved or stayed the same between 1992 and 2001 according to the survey. Respondents were asked to rate issues and indicate whether or not they needed action or improvement. Issues receiving "good" or "excellent" marks in the current rating section included Quality of Life, Neighborhood Appearance, Sense of Community, Safety, Public Services and Recreational Opportunities. Issues needing remedial action "urgently" or "soon" were: Airport Noise Control, Vehicles Speeding through Neighborhood Streets, Water Quality (lakes, creek, etc.), Street and Alley Maintenance, Graffiti, Quality of Minneapolis Public Schools, Security of Personal Property and Snow Removal. Interestingly, while Airport Noise was still by far the top issue that residents felt needed action and was still the number one reason why residents are moving or would like to move from the neighborhood, the data indicated that there have been improvements. From the 1992 survey to the 2001 survey, the number of residents saying Airport Noise needed "urgent" action decreased by about 29%.

A Housing Addendum was included in the 2001 survey. In general, all housing strategies received support, with the least support going towards development of small multi-unit buildings and housing opportunities for working families with limited income. The strongest support was for helping current residents improve their homes through grant or loan programs and developing a range of options to assist seniors to remain in the neighborhood even if they leave their homes.

Resident Input at the Community Meeting

At the January meeting, HPDL neighbors voted on topic areas that came from "open-ended" survey questions. These questions allowed residents to write in their unique answers. The ranking of topic areas that most concerned survey answerers, from the most frequently mentioned to the least frequently mentioned, was: Education/Schools, Airport, Environment, Transportation, Crime and Safety, City Government/Public Works, Housing, Building Community/Quality of Life, Commercial Development, Parks and Recreation, and Libraries.

The residents at the meeting ranked the topic areas differently. Their areas of concern, starting with the most frequently mentioned, were: Crime and Safety, Building Community, Environment, Commercial Development, Schools/Education, Housing and Transportation. Airport, City Government/Public Works, and Parks and Recreation were indicated as lesser priorities. Within each of these categories, the top four concerns, taken from all data gathering results, were also voted on that evening. Finally, in small groups, those present supplied specific suggestions for future HPDL action steps to address these issues. The HPDL website, accessible via www.rabbithood.com, has the results of these votes and a detailed list of ideas generated at the meeting.

Next Steps

The next step in the planning process is for the NRP Phase II Committee to put together a first draft of the plan. This draft plan will be sent to each HPDL household for review and comment in a special edition newsletter in the spring of 2004. HPDL Committees and the Board of Directors will also respond to the draft. After the first draft is revised and refined, the community will be asked to vote on the final draft. If the plan is approved by the neighborhood, the Phase II committee will work with the NRP Management Review Team to develop commitments and final numbers on resources. The hope is to have the plan submitted to the NRP Policy Board for their

approval in August of 2004.

If you have ideas and opinions you'd like to share about HPDL's Phase II action plan, the time to participate is now. Please contact the HPDL office at (612) 824-7707 for more information or fill out the feedback form available at our website: <http://www2.bitstream.net/~hpd/> Click on the link for "Results from the January 26 Community Meeting group exercises."



HPDL Homes featured in Home Tour

Three homes from the HPDL neighborhood are included in the 2004 Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour on Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2, 2004.

Chris Cowen and Bryan Nelson, of 5139 Elliot Avenue South, did an extensive remodeling, converting this 1935 Tudor from a three bedroom, one bath home into a five bedroom, three bath home. During the remodel, they preserved a cathedral vaulted living room while adding an elaborate master bedroom suite to previously unusable space on the top floor.

Rob and Judy Grundstrom, of 4916 Cedar Avenue South, will showcase their historically preserved pre-fabricated steel home, known as a Lustron house. The home was built in 1949 and was featured in the May/June 2003 issue of *Architecture Minnesota*.

Peter and Lisa Krause, of 5841 Elliot Avenue South, extensively remodeled their main floor, creating a spacious open eating, cooking and living area. Their remodel reclaimed space from an underutilized three-season porch and dining room.

The Home Tour, now in its 17th year, will take place on Saturday, May 1, 2004, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 2, 2004, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Home Tour website www.msphometour.com describes when and where you can pick up a copy of the Home Tour Guide, which includes a description and address of all the homes on the tour.





Yes!

I want to help HPDL keep my neighborhood a great place to live.



Here is my tax deductible contribution:

\$10 \$15 \$25
 \$50 \$100 Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: __ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please return this form with your check payable to:

HPDL, 5144 13th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55417. **Thank You!**

From City Hall

*By Scott Benson
City Council Member, Ward 11*

To my friends and neighbors with HPDL:

Thank you for the opportunity to update you about the happenings at City Hall. I will try to keep my column short but informative. If you have questions or want to learn about something more in depth, please feel free to e-mail me at scott.benson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us or call my office at (612) 673-2211.



Meet Your Neighbor

By Laurie Frevert

Two HPDL residents have creative jobs in the mass media.



Liz Zilka

Liz Zilka

My family has lived in the HPDL neighborhood for almost 11 years. I have a 15 year old son, Charlie, who is a freshman at South High School in the Liberal Arts program. He runs on the cross country team and is an avid skateboarder. We have three delightfully mischievous cats, all siblings, named Tigger, Nick and Velvet. And for their amusement, since they are indoor cats, I have set up a little bird sanctuary in the backyard. Being a Minnesota gal all my life, I attended the University of Minnesota and studied Theatre and Art. I fell in love with



Jamie Hutt

makeup early in my life and character makeup only fueled my curiosity.

My passions are art and gardening, both of which allow me a great outlet for my love of color. This passion spills over into my work as a freelance makeup artist. My main jobs over the last 15 years have included work for WCCO-TV, Twin Cities Public Television and *Jesse Ventura's America* on MSNBC. Each one has given me access to a wide variety of people from political candidates and pundits to sports stars and the who's-who of the entertainment industry.

With the development of high definition television, makeup has taken a technological turn. Along with my training in traditional methods, I upgraded my skills by adding airbrush makeup to my bag of tricks. This new technology allows for a perfect match to all skin tones, giving a more natural appearance to the skin.

Even with all of the new developments, the most dangerous item any one can possess before going on the air is a cup of coffee. This lesson is permanently etched in my brain from a little incident with Pat Buchanan. Pat arrives early for makeup, so he has time to collect his thoughts and have a final cup of coffee before show time. One day, I asked an intern to grab a cup of black coffee while I did my work. After I put the finishing touches on his hair and removed the makeup cape, Mr. Buchanan stood up and sharply turned the corner right into his fresh cup of coffee. The quick thinking intern pulled the cup back toward himself, taking the largest splash. But a long drip ran down the front of Mr. Buchanan's white shirt anyway. He calmly suggested using white out to cover the stain and tossing the shirt after the show. We all agreed. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Jamie Hutt

My family includes my wife, Helene, and children Rachel, Stuart and William. We have two cats, Muffy and Jakob. I was born in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada. I attended the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and have a diploma in Graphic Design. I work for the Minneapolis Star Tribune's website, www.startribune.com, as

a design editor. I've been a news designer since 1988. I was the design editor of the Halifax Daily News and a senior news designer at the Calgary Herald prior to coming to the Star Tribune in 1994. I like the fast pace of news and the opportunity to use new technologies and cool tools.

I'm a geek, with a large collection of old Macintosh computers in the basement. My idle time is spent digitizing the thousands of photographs I've taken over the years, along with very old family photos. Once the photos are scanned and cleaned up, I publish them on my web site.

35W/62 Construction Update

By Bill Hood

Planning for construction of I-35W and Highway 62, or the Crosstown Commons Reconstruction Project continues. Recently, the Minnesota Department of Transportation held several Public Information Open Houses to facilitate neighborhood participation in the project design process.

An upcoming Open House on Monday, March 15, 2004, is in conjunction with HPDL's bi-monthly Community Meeting (see the article on page one). The topic for that meeting is "35W/62 Construction and our Waterways." The current construction design includes a "proposed water quality pond" to be built between the Crosstown and 61st Street, just east of Portland. In addition, the impact of construction on Diamond Lake and Minnehaha Creek will be discussed.

Mn/DOT has established a website for the project, <http://projects.dot.state.mn.us/crosstown/> which includes nine excellent maps. For information on the reconstruction, you can also contact the Project Manager, John Griffith via the website or call him directly at (651) 582-1206. If you want to look at the website information but don't have access to the Internet, the HPDL office can provide you with a hard copy.

Hale School Plant Sale

By Deb Geraghty

Here in Minnesota, it's a little hard to take the calendar seriously when it says spring begins on March 21. But we all know it *will* get here eventually, so it's time to look ahead and start thinking about flowers!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 15, 2004, when the Hale and Field schools will be holding their first annual combined plant sale. Both schools have had successful plant sales of their own in the past, but this year they decided to join forces for an even bet-

Kid's Corner

By Krista Hong

Do you wear a bike helmet when you swim? Should you wear a life jacket when you ride your bike? Do police dogs get to drive the squad car? Do the police horses wear bullet proof vests? Should you fingerprint your toes? Does the water patrol put out fires?

Kids, bring your parents to the Community Safety Fair to learn the answers to these safety questions. The HPDL Crime Prevention and Community Safety committee, in partnership with the Minneapolis Police Department's 3rd Precinct Community Crime Prevention / SAFE Unit, is sponsoring this event.

At the Safety Fair, you can visit with McGruff the Crime Dog, the Minneapolis Police Horse Patrol and K-9 unit and the Hennepin County Water Patrol. You can also learn about bike safety and even take home a set of your own fingerprints.

There will be plenty of activities and information to learn how to be safe this summer. Mark your calendar to start your summer off safely: Saturday, May 22, 2004, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Pearl Park Community Center. And don't forget your safety goggles!

Nokomis Healthy Seniors

“Nurse Is In”

Blood pressure checks; pedicures (call to schedule); coffee and conversation.

Thursday mornings, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Nokomis Healthy Seniors Office,
4553 - 34th Avenue South

Macular Degeneration Support Group

Second Thursday, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Ebenezer Lutheran Church,
1830 East 41st Street

Caregiver Support Group

Last Thursday, 1:00 p.m.
Ebenezer Lutheran Church,
1830 East 41st Street

Blood Pressure Check

Fourth Tuesday, 12:00 p.m.
Standish Green,
2210 East 40th Street

Blood Pressure Check

Congregate Dining (reserve 2 days ahead
at (612) 729-6668, cost is \$2.75)
First Thursday, 12:00 p.m.
Holy Cross Lutheran Church,
1720 East Minnehaha Parkway

If you have any questions about the programs for seniors, please call the Nokomis Healthy Seniors office at (612) 729-5499.

The Power of a Paint Brush

Applications are being accepted for this year's Metro Paint-A-Thon, an annual event that organizes teams of volunteers to scrape, prime and paint the homes of low-income seniors and people with disabilities. A program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, Paint-A-Thon volunteers have painted more than 5100 homes in the metro area since 1984.

Applicants must meet eligibility guidelines. For details, visit the program's website at gmcc.org/paint-a-thon, send an email to jkinkaid@gmcc.org, or call (612) 721-8687, x321. Deadline for applications is May 10, 2004. In addition, volunteer teams from corporations, congregations and civic groups are encouraged to call for information on participating.

More HPDL (and nearby) Tidbits

By Bill Hood

Most neighborhoods in Minneapolis derived their name from the elementary school built to serve that geographic community. Many schools in South Minneapolis were named after novelists or poets or characters in poems, dead Presidents, patriots, captains of industry, compass directions, and a few remarkable women.

Hale School, built in 1930, was named, of course, for **Nathan Hale** (1755-1776) who was captured and hanged by the British and who is remembered still for his legendary words, "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country." A statue of Hale stands today in a small, eponymous park in St. Paul across the street from the residence of Prairie Home Companion legend, **Garrison Keillor**.

Page School was named for **Walter Hines Page** (1855-1918) who was a captain of industry, a successful journalist, an editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*, a founder of the publishing giant, Doubleday, Page and Company, and, until his death, ambassador to Great Britain. Another point of interest: Page School was built twice. The original wood frame structure built in 1925 was on the northeast corner of 3rd Avenue and Luverne Avenue. That building was taken down in 1957 and replaced, a year later by a concrete block building on the northwest corner of Luverne and Tarrymore. The school was closed for good in 1982 and town homes were built on the site in 1985.

Field School, built in 1920 and where many HPDL children attend grades 5-8, was named for another journalist, **Eugene Field** (1850-1895). Field will always be remembered for his once popular, always wistful children's poems, *Little Boy Blue*; *Wynken, Blynken and Nod*; and the sweet, sad love song about the doomed *Gingham Dog and Calico Cat*.

It's OK to call 911

HPDL Needs You!

If you can spend a few hours a month, have an interest in your community, and want to affect what happens in your own neighborhood, please give us a call. Rosie or Viola at the HPDL office would love to hear from you. The number is (612) 824-7707.

HPDL Committee Meetings

Airport Call
Building Community Call
Business Association Call
Commercial Development Call
Crime and Safety Second Tuesday
Housing Call
Newsletter Call
Environment Call
Gardening Every Wednesday
(Spring - Fall)
Phase II Planning Committee Call

HPDL Board:

Paul Dykes (Secretary)
Dawn Lindblom
Ken Martin 869-0138
Reid Olson
Laura Pagois
Jeff Rau (Treasurer)
Jane Shimek 827-6060
Janine Stiles
Jason Stone
Margaret Sullivan (Chair) 825-9615
Justin White (Vice-Chair) 861-4434

HPDL Staff:

Rosie Doege
Viola Carlson

HPDL publishes this newsletter quarterly and distributes it to the Hale, Page and Diamond Lake Neighborhoods. If you have questions or comments, would like to contribute, or join the Newsletter Committee, please call the HPDL office at 824-7707.

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Doug Frevert Jennifer O'Rourke
Laurie Frevert Karen Pritz

Newsletter Staff:

Rosie Doege

HPDL was founded in 1991. It is bound by 35W, 62nd Street, Cedar Avenue, and Minnehaha Creek. HPDL serves as a forum/clearinghouse for ideas; provides a meeting place to air grievances, define concerns and develop solutions; provides opportunities to work with other organizations across the city; serves as a conduit between residents and government; and helps us to celebrate our neighborhoods and their own special uniqueness within our diverse city.

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HPDL Community Association
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HPDL Community Calendar

March 15 Monday	HPDL Community Meeting 35W/62 Construction / Impact on Diamond Lake 6 – 7 p.m. Open House 7 – 9 p.m. Meeting	Pearl Park Community Ctr. 414 E. Diamond Lake Rd.
March 22 Monday	HPDL Board Meeting 7 p.m.	HPDL Office 5144 13 th Ave. S.
March 27 Saturday	South Minneapolis Housing & Home Improvement Fair 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.	South High School 3131 19 th Ave. S.
April 17 Saturday	Earth Day Clean Up/ Celebration 9:30 – 10:00 a.m., registration	Pearl Park Community Ctr. 414 E. Diamond Lake Rd.
April 26 Monday	HPDL Board Meeting 7 p.m.	HPDL Office 5144 13 th Ave. S.
May 22 Saturday	Community Safety Fair 10 a.m. – Noon	Pearl Park Community Ctr. 414 E. Diamond Lake Rd.

You make the call:

Bus Ride Info	373-3333
Humane Society	763-522-4325
Animal Control	348-4250
CCP/SAFE	
Officer Brian Cross	673-2848
Spec. Sue Roethele	673-2839
Burned Out Street Lights	673-2429
Airport Noise	726-9411
Graffiti	673-2090
Pearl Park	370-4906
City Council Member Scott Benson ⁽¹¹⁾	673-2211
County Commissioner	
Gail Dorfman ⁽³⁾	348-7883
Peter McLaughlin ⁽⁴⁾	348-7884
State Senator	
Wes Skoglund ⁽⁶²⁾	651-296-4274
State Representative	
Jean Wagenius ^(62A)	651-296-4200
Minnesota Public Lobby	378-0285
HPDL Office	824-7707
. hpd@bitstream.net	
. www2.bitstream.net/~hpd	