

# **The West Side Community Plan**

## ***An Addendum to the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan***

Recommended by the Saint Paul Planning Commission on 1/11/2013

Adopted by the Saint Paul City Council on 2/6/2013

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### Cover photo

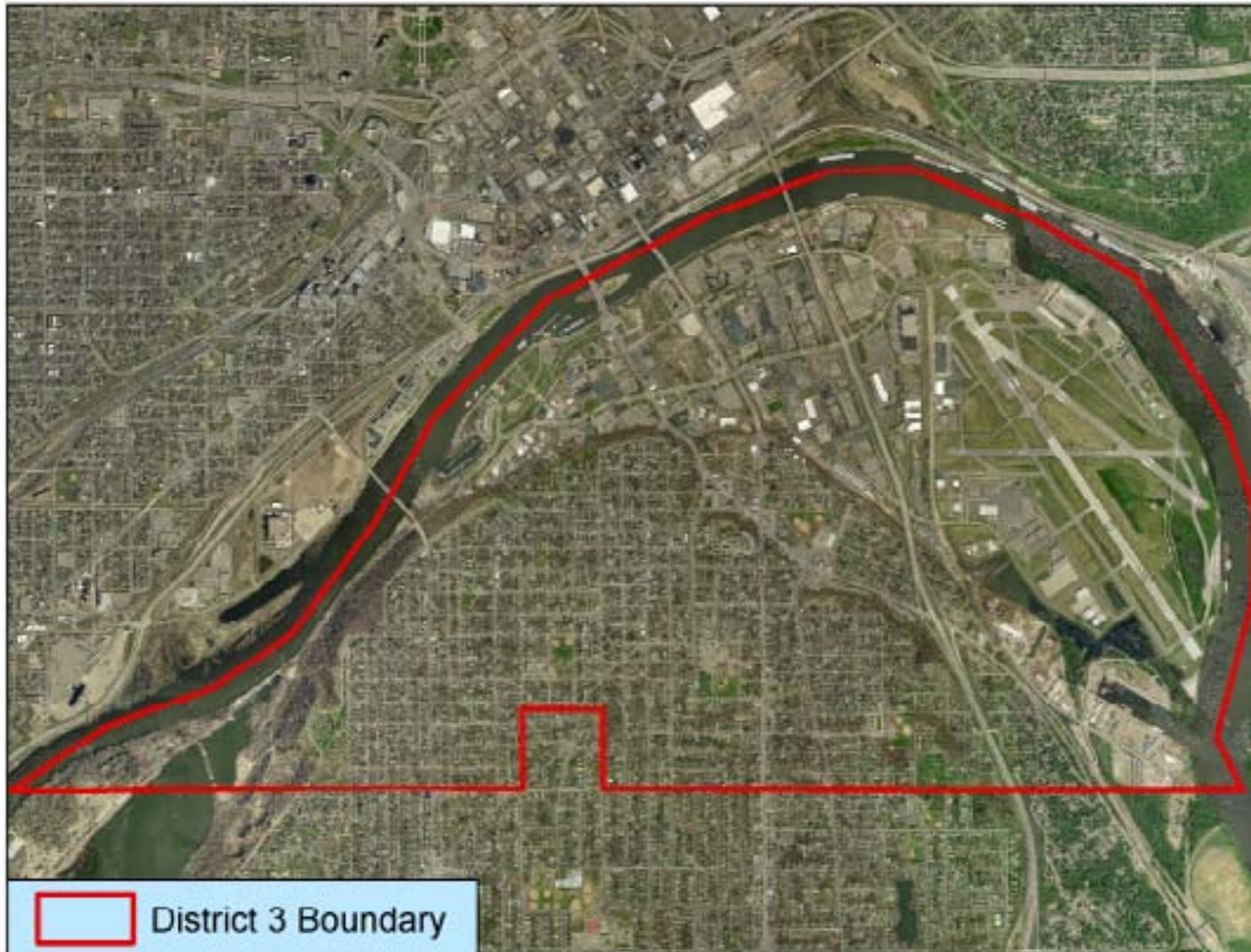
Community Design Group

### Photos

Special thanks to West Siders Marina Castillo-Knut and Robert Ferguson for providing photos of the neighborhood.

## Study Area

The West Side neighborhood is bordered by Annapolis Street to the south and the Mississippi River on all other sides, excluding one section outside city limits bound by Page, Bidwell, Annapolis, and Charlton Streets.



## Purpose of the Plan

The document works to plan and prioritize improvements for the neighborhood by identifying needs, articulating priorities, and steering the changes, policies and investments initiated by developers, by the City and its agencies, and by local institutions and stakeholders. Adopted by the City Council in 2012, the West Side Community Plan is a formal addendum to the City of Saint Paul's Comprehensive Plan.



## Overall Vision and Themes

Beginning in 2011 and continuing through the spring of 2012, WSCO held a series of community conversations with residents and businesses to learn about their ideas and vision for the future of the West Side. Over 150 people participated in the visioning sessions, providing more than five hundred comments and recommendations for “Key Strategies” to guide the community’s vision of a thriving, successful and sustainable West Side. Nine primary themes emerged from the community planning process, including:

### *A welcoming community*

*“The West Side is a community that draws people from many places together, and fosters connections, learning and friendship between them. The West Side takes care of its people, with connections and services that address their diverse needs with culturally-appropriate services. The West Side helps new arrivals develop and prosper and find a place within its mosaic. It self-organizes to address its needs, and connects with outside partners as needed to bring additional resources to its efforts.”*

### *A sustainable community*

*“The West Side is a leader in sustainability and innovation, and can meet its needs in food and energy production. Residents take part in the planting, growing, and harvesting of the food that sustains them; and they run the stores that sell and trade the fruits of their labor. Young people are treated as equal partners in sustaining the vitality of the community. Energy, mobility, and entrepreneurship are important components of the West Side’s sustainability plans.”*



### *Vibrant arts and culture*

*“On the West Side, artistic activity draws people together to learn about each other and celebrate people-driven art. Spaces for artistic creation and sharing are catalysts for rehabilitation and new vitality for historic structures, commercial districts and economic development. The West Side nurtures and appreciates its artists, and works with them to promote and market the products of their*

### *Thriving businesses and economic development*

*“West Side businesses are engines of prosperity - offering needed goods and services, employment, and convenience to residents and visitors. They are activators of public space, and innovative leaders in green and local business startups. They provide a variety of services to the West Side’s diverse communities, and partner to support the educational, recreational and civic institutions. The West Side offers opportunity and support to striving entrepreneurs, recognizing the vital role they play in creating an economically-sustainable community.”*

### *Strong education and civic engagement*

*“The West Side is a community that loves and respects its children and young people, and embraces and respects its schools. Schools are partners in sustainability initiatives, fostering learning, appreciation and improvement as they work with the next generation of West Siders. The excellence of its schools, and their approach to connecting with its communities, draws families from far and wide.”*

### *Strong housing*

*“On the West Side, housing initiatives are integrated with thinking and decision-making about business districts, and mobility and transportation corridors. A wide range of incomes, ages, and family sizes, and cultures call the neighborhood home, and can choose to live anywhere in the community because there are a wide variety of housing tenures and styles available within it.”*



*Robert Ferguson*

### *Multi-modal mobility and transportation*

*“The West Side is a walkable community that provides multiple options for accessing employment, shopping, and entertainment, both within and outside its boundaries. It is a community that gives priority to sustainable mobility, with connected and well-maintained sidewalks and bicycle routes, and high-quality transit options that connect to local and regional destinations. It provides the right amount of parking to serve businesses, residents and visitors, and equalizes all modes so that people walking, bicycling, riding transit or driving can safely and comfortably share it’s streets.”*

### *Preserved natural spaces and active parks*

*“The West Side is a community that is surrounded by, and is in nature. The Mississippi River that defines it, and the parks and natural areas that inhabit it, are accessible and open for its residents to visit and enjoy. Its parks and recreation centers enrich the lives of young people and their families as they quietly teach values of respect and appreciation for nature and our place within it.”*

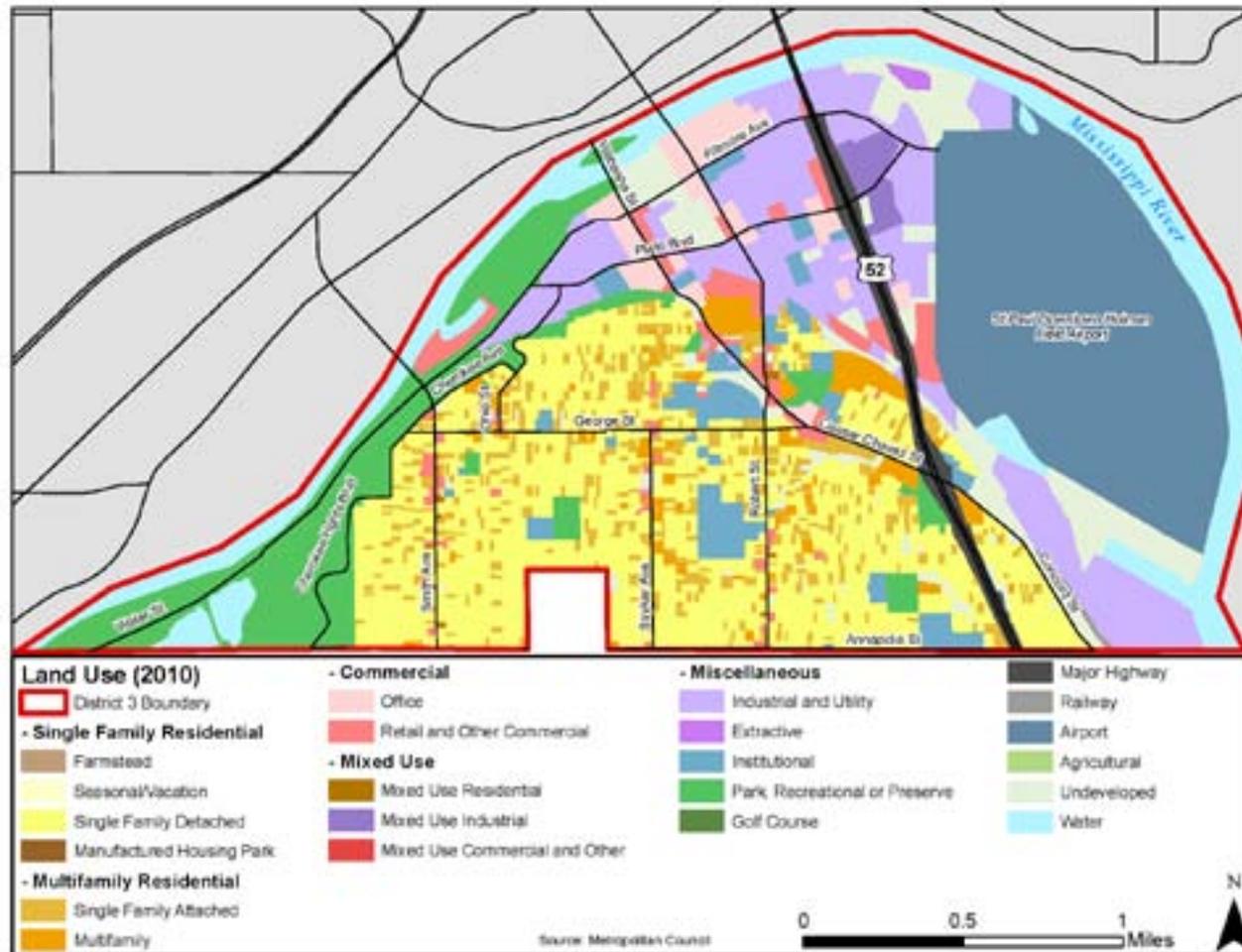
### *Safe and comfortable community*

*“The West Side is a safe, friendly and connected community, where neighbors know and help each other, and where people live without suspicion or fear. The police are daily partners in the development of a connected and loving community. Young people have trusted partners and mentors who guide them into productive and connected adulthood.”*



## Land Use

The West Side has a broad range of land uses, comprised of a mix of housing, commercial, institutional and recreational uses. The neighborhood's industrial land use is located primarily in the north east and south east quadrants adjacent to the Mississippi River. In the south east quadrant, the industrial land use, currently home to the city's impound lot and several metal recycling facilities, generates environmental impacts relating to air, water and soil quality, limits access to the river and is incompatible with the adjacent residential land use. The community's focus will be on ensuring balanced land use that provides opportunities for housing, business, employment, recreation, with an eye towards preserving the environment.





## Land Use Cont.

### Land Use Objectives and Strategies

*LU1. Support land use that balances the housing, commercial, industrial, ecological, agricultural and green space needs of the community.*

LU1.1 Conduct a study of the area bounded by Robert Street, Highway 52, Plato Blvd and the river to determine appropriate land use.

LU1.2 Update the existing West Side Flats Master Plan to better address storm water/hydrology and revise land use guidelines.

LU1.3 Develop a plan for the Barge Channel Road area to mitigate the industrial/residential land use issues and identify mechanisms to reconnect the neighborhood with the river.

LU1.4 Complete an assessment of vacant land and determine appropriate parcels for both temporary and long term urban agricultural use.

LU1.5 Develop a primary access route to South Port Industrial Park at Eaton Street.

*LU2. Eliminate contaminated sites to improve the environmental health of the community and promote redevelopment of vacant and underutilized parcels.*

LU2.1 Conduct an assessment to determine the extent of soil toxicity in the areas bounded by Wabasha, Water

Street W, Plato Blvd, and County Hwy 40 and Robert St, Filmore Ave, and Hwy 52 to encourage job and economic growth.

LU2.2 Secure resources to conduct remediation activities.

*LU3. Promote development that maintains the traditional urban form and respects the unique topography of the West Side.*

LU3.1 Prioritize the reuse and rehabilitation of existing structures over new construction whenever possible.

LU3.2 Protect bluff and river views by limiting building heights and respecting the neighborhood context.



## Transportation

With its unique topography, traveling through the West Side can be a challenge, regardless of the mode of transportation. In addition, connections to other parts of the city and access to regional transportation systems is limited due to the neighborhood's physical location and lack of public transit infrastructure. Over the next decade, priority will be given to creating a more connected West Side.

### Transportation Objectives and Strategies

#### *T1. Invest in a multi-modal transportation network.*

T1.1 Improve bicycle infrastructure by enhancing and improving bicycle amenities such as on-street bike lanes, paved trails and bicycle racks to promote the use of the bicycle as a practical and safe means of transportation on the West Side.

T1.2 Fill gaps in the bicycle trail network on Wabasha Street (between Water and Cesar Chavez) and on Smith Avenue and Stryker Avenue, as recommended in The Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan.

T1.3 Create east-west bicycle routes along George and Annapolis to further integrate the bicycle into the overall transportation network and coordinate with work on the citywide bike plan.

T1.4 Support partnerships to establish a bicycle-sharing program on the West Side. -- Potential partner in Nice Ride Minnesota

T1.5 Improve pedestrian infrastructure, including safety measures such as crosswalk bump-outs, colored/textured crosswalks, streetscape improvements, vegetative buffers and other traffic calming techniques to provide an environment that is conducive to pedestrian mobility.



*Cherokee Park by Marina Castillo-Knut*



## Transportation Cont.

T1.6 Improve Mississippi River access by securing funding and resources for repairing staircases from the bluffs to the river.

T1.7 Pursue funding to reconstruct the Green Stairs copying the historic route and configuration.

### *T2. Improve the public transportation infrastructure.*

T2.1 Explore Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on Robert Street as identified in the Met Council 2030 Transportation Policy Plan.

T2.2 Develop a northbound Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) station and a southbound BRT station at or near the intersection of Robert/Cesar Chavez.

T2.3 Explore options to increase the frequency of bus service on the West Side.

T2.4 Continue support for the West Side youth circulator bus.

T2.5 Explore the implementation of trolley lines by participating in the upcoming citywide streetcar study.

### *T3 Improve automobile infrastructure so that it takes into account all road users.*

T3.1 Ensure that general traffic lanes on Wabasha and Cesar Chavez streets are no wider than 11 feet and the two-way left-turn lane is no wider than 12 feet.

T3.2 Enhance the pedestrian realm along Cesar Chavez between Wabasha and Robert streets by implementing parking limits, widening sidewalks and providing areas

for introducing street trees.

T3.3 Encourage owners of parking lots to develop and implement a shared parking policy for District del Sol

T3.4 Implement traffic calming improvements along Smith Avenue.

### *T4 Create connections to regional transportation systems.*

T4.1 Conduct a community engagement and planning process to outline specific community driven strategies for connections to regional transit system.



*Wabasha Street Bridge by Marina Castillo-Knut*



## Parks and Recreation

The West Side is fortunate to have ample parks and recreational spaces, including Baker, Prospect, Douglas, Castillo, El Rio Vista, Bluff (neighborhood) and Lilydale, Cherokee and Harriet Island (regional). Over the next decade, priority will be placed on strengthening their infrastructure and ensuring improvements align with community values.

### Parks and Recreation Objectives and Strategies

*PR1 Strengthen and sustain amenities and programming at neighborhood parks and recreation centers.*

PR1.1 Work with residents and community stakeholders to develop specific short and long term plans for the Baker Center in order to maintain the Center as community space that serves the needs of all age groups.

PR1.2 Coordinate the planning and design of



*Marina Castillo-Knut*

improvements to El Rio Vista Park and Parque Castillo to create a seamless park experience.

PR1.3 Provide additional recreation facilities at Parque Castillo, such as a splash pad, band shell, enhanced play area, skate park or community-maintained garden.

PR1.4 Conduct a community design process to identify improvements and plans for Bluff Park.

PR1.5 Prioritize CIB funding and other city funding for neighborhood park improvements, including ball fields at El Rio and Baker

PR1.6 Increase the amount of playground facilities and other recreational amenities near multi-family housing sites in the community.

*PR2 Align planned improvements at regional parks with community values.*

PR2.1 Develop community process to outline specific implementation strategies for Lilydale Regional Park, Harriet Island and Great River Park Plans.

PR2.2 Assess the potential for increased livability concerns relating to increased use of Harriet Island as an event venue and develop strategies to promote community benefits.



## Housing

One of the fundamental building blocks of any community is its housing. On the West Side, this sentiment holds true, with housing options including single family homes, duplexes and both small and large multi-family buildings. From historic properties near the bluffs to modest dwellings along Belvidere Street, the housing stock on the West Side provides options for a wide range of incomes and family types. The plan focuses on providing housing choice, preserving the existing housing stock and creating additional housing opportunities.

### Housing Objectives and Strategies

#### *H1. Provide a range of housing options on the West Side.*

H1.1 Develop rental housing options appropriate to a commercial corridor, incorporating a variety of options accessible to all income levels.

H1.2 Create mixed income housing opportunities per the Stryker George Precinct Plan

H1.3 Support mixed income rental and ownership opportunities per the West Side Master Flats Plan.

H1.4 Increase the number of units affordable to people at 30-80% of AMI.

H1.5 - Develop additional senior housing options so elders can stay in this community when they can no longer stay in their home.

#### *H2. Preserve and improve the existing housing stock.*

H2.1 Conduct an inventory and assessment of vacant residential housing.

H2.2 Encourage rehabilitation over demolition

H2.3 Expand grant and loan programs to address deferred maintenance issues.

H2.4 Develop incentives to improve exterior aesthetics, including native landscaping.

H2.5 - Develop additional options for seniors so they continue to inhabit, maintain and improve their homes.

#### *H3. Expand access to affordable homeownership*

H3.1 Partner with local housing organizations to provide homebuyer readiness education for current renters.

H3.2 Explore housing land trust, restrictive covenants and other affordability mechanisms to encourage and preserve affordability.

H3.3 Provide down payments grants to potential home buyers.

H3.4 Partner with local housing organizations to provide foreclosure prevention services.



## Environment, Natural, and Water Resources

The West Side is rich in natural and ecological assets, boasting several miles of Mississippi riverfront, the bluffs and critical areas for vegetation and wildlife. Preserving and protecting the neighborhood's assets will be the priority over the next decade.

### Natural Resources Objectives and Strategies

#### *NR1. Protect and improve the West Side bluffs.*

NR1.1 Maintain our commitment to the West Side Bluff Management Action Plan.

NR1.2 Create a natural, sustainable landscape by replacing invasive vegetation with native vegetation in accordance with the West Side Bluff Ecological Inventory & Vegetation Management Plan (GRG 2001).

NR1.3 Provide long-term maintenance of bluff vegetation, especially with respect to re-plantings of native vegetation.

NR1.4 Establish and secure funding for a re-planting strategy prior to removing any vegetation on the bluff.

NR1.5 Improve bluff habitat for local wildlife and migratory birds using the Mississippi River flyway.

NR1.6 Selectively encourage development projects that protect and improve views from the top of the bluffs to downtown and the river.

NR1.7 Ensure that vegetation management and improvements protect the interests, property values, safety and other concerns of property owners and bluff users.

NR1.8 Promote education/interpretation of the bluff and bluff management activities.

NR1.9 Identify potential funding sources for bluff improvement.

NR1.10 Create partnerships between the City, residents, organizations and area businesses to share responsibility for bluff maintenance, management, clean-up and beautification.

#### *NR2. Protect and improve existing natural areas and green spaces.*

NR2.1 Implement efforts to eliminate non-native plant species in existing natural areas.

NR2.2 Increase efforts to restore native planting along the river corridor.

NR2.3 Mitigate future damage by promoting only environmentally sensitive recreational activities in natural areas.

NR2.4 Work in partnership with Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, DNR, NPS and others to conduct regular rivers edge clean up and beautification activities.



## Environment, Natural, and Water Resources Cont.

NR2.5 Promote educational, community engagement, and interpretive opportunities regarding environmental and natural resource issues.

NR2.6 Develop creative alternatives for river edge treatments.

NR2.7 Prioritize water quality improvements at Pickerel Lake.

NR2.8 Explore the creation of a conservation land trust to preserve natural spaces.

NR2.9 Preserve the prairie and oak savanna remnants along the Cherokee Bluffs.

### *NR3. Increase access and connections to natural areas.*

NR3.1 Identify funding to restore staircases that connect the bluffs to the river.

NR3.2 Rebuild and incorporate the Green Stairs into a broader trail system.

NR3.3 Work with the Parks department to install kayak/canoe launch at the old sea plane basin.

NR3.4 Create trail access at Southport using railroad easements.

NR3.5 Promote urban reforestation and other landscaping efforts along residential and commercial streets.

## Water Resources Objectives and Strategies

*WR1 Develop a comprehensive water management plan to preserve the ecology of the West Side.*

WR1.1 Engage the Lower Mississippi Watershed District (LMWD) to pursue water quality projects on the West Side that reduce point and non point water pollution.

WR1.2 Implement a series of demonstration projects to address storm water management in housing, commercial and park settings.

WR1.3 Address impacts to the bluffs by pursuing improvements to storm water management practices in adjacent residential areas.

WR1.4 Implement educational programs and events to provide information on ways to protect water resources.

## Zero Waste Objectives and Strategies

*ZW1 Develop a zero waste plan to reinvigorate economy and improve quality of life for West Side residents.*

ZW1.1 Engage non profit partners to pursue zero waste programs and projects on the West Side.

ZW1.2 Attract businesses that increase reuse and repair of products within the community.

ZW1.3 Promote and incentivize businesses to provide



## Environment, Natural, and Water Resources Cont.

products and services that reduce the volume and toxicity of waste and materials.

ZW1.4 Implement a series of zero waste projects and demonstrations in schools with block clubs.

*ZW2 Encourage citywide curbside collection of compost and the creation of a community plan for the distribution of new soil that can be used to benefit the community both economically and environmentally.*

ZW2.1 Encourage the city to develop composting collection programs for discarded food and encourage the city to provide at least one drop-off location on the West Side for residents who live in apartments.

ZW2.2 Participate in a city-wide process to identify how and where the new soil from compost collection is used and measured.

*ZW3 Encourage and promote zero waste in conjunction with the city of Saint Paul's zero waste 2020 goal.*

ZW3.1 Establish a zero waste welcome kit for residents that includes information on how to recycle, reduce, reuse, and compost, to be handed out with recycling bins.

ZW3.2 Provide multilingual educational materials targeted at youth and families to promote in home waste reduction.

ZW3.3 Establish a speaker bureau where experts can speak about the methods and benefits of reaching zero waste.

### Energy Objectives and Strategies

*E1. Encourage and promote energy conservation and local renewable energy.*

E1.1 Establish an energy welcome kit for residents and hand them out with recycling bin pick ups or at other outreach events.

E1.2 Provide creative educational materials involving youth and family conserving energy in their homes in multiple languages.

E1.3 Establish a speaker bureau where experts can speak about conservation and renewable energy.

E1.4 Initiate block support systems that will assist elderly and the disabled in energy conservation projects.

E1.5 Initiate work share groups to assist interested residents with energy projects.

E1.6 Explore wind turbine or solar energy manufacturing facility on the West Side to employ residents and generate local power.

E1.7 Conduct an assessment of current solar energy use on the West Side.



## Environment, Natural, and Water Resources Cont.

E1.8 Assess the potential of a solar farm on the flats.

E1.9 Provide affordable energy-efficient products for residents of all income levels.

### *E2. Implement programs to create more energy efficient commercial buildings.*

E2.1 Explore how vacant commercial buildings can receive energy retrofits before they are used for new businesses or community purposes.

E2.2 Conduct an assessment of the potential for solar energy use on existing buildings on the West Side.

E2.3 Promote existing rebate programs to make businesses more energy efficient.

### *E3. Explore the creation of a sustainable energy utility (SEU).*

E3.1 Conduct research on SEU models and determine appropriateness for neighborhood.

E3.2 Create one-stop site for residents where they can receive information related to purchasing, loans, and rebates on energy efficiency home improvement work, etc.



## Historic Preservation

The story of the neighborhood is told through its historic resources, both built and natural. For instance, the bell tower at Torre de San Miguel tells the story of the various immigrant groups who have called the West Side home, with the river telling the story of the indigenous people who inhabited the area before Saint Paul was even a city. To preserve the neighborhood's history, its historic resources must be preserved through careful planning, designation, education and the allocation of resources.

### Historic Preservation Objectives and Strategies

*HP1. Integrate Preservation Planning into the Broader Public Policy, Land Use Planning, and Decision-Making Processes.*

HP1.1 Incorporate preservation considerations into development, land use and environmental reviews.

HP1.2 Prioritize the retention of historic resources over demolition when evaluating planning and development projects that require or request WSCO action, involvement, or funding.

HP1.3 Give equal consideration to projects with preservation factors when formulating Capital Improvement Budget requests.

HP1.4 Partner with the City (Heritage Preservation Commission) and with organizations like Historic Saint Paul and community development corporations to fund and promote preservation initiatives, including surveys to identify historic resources.

*HP2. Identify, Evaluate, and Designate Historic Resources.*

HP2.1 Implement a new survey to identify and evaluate all types of historic resources on the West Side,

including buildings, structures, objects, bridges, stairs, archaeological sites, districts, and landscapes. This survey should be carried out prior to implementing other strategies in the Plan.

HP2.2 Conduct new cultural resource surveys in accordance with the State Historic Preservation Office and Heritage Preservation Commission standards, including the development and collection of data and dissemination in electronic formats.

HP2.3 Utilize existing historic contexts and develop new ones to allow for the continual identification of a full spectrum of historic resources .

HP2.4 Identify and evaluate historic resources systematically and comprehensively.

HP2.5 Evaluate properties based on historic contexts, reconnaissance surveys, and applicable designation criteria to determine their potential significance as well as their potential eligibility for designation as a heritage preservation site by the City and for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



## Historic Preservation Cont.

HP2.6 Forward properties that appear to be potentially eligible for listing on the NHRP to the SHPO for an official determination of eligibility.

HP2.7 Forward significant historic resources to the City (HPC) for designation as heritage preservation sites or historic districts.

### *HP3. Preserve and Protect Historic Resources.*

HP3.1 Use design review controls in conjunction with WSCO committees to protect designated historic resources, including archaeological sites, from destruction or alterations that would compromise their historic significance.

HP3.2 Protect undesignated historic resources that are eligible or potentially eligible for local or national designation.

HP3.3 Continue to support the preservation and maintenance of designated sites and encourage compatible uses so they continue to remain community assets.

### *HP4. Use Preservation to Further Economic Development and Sustainability.*

HP4.1 Rehabilitate key historic resources to serve as a catalyst for development in adjacent areas.

HP4.2 Integrate historic properties into new development.

HP4.3 Assist developers with identifying historic preservation opportunities for economic development.

HP4.4 Invest in historic resources along transit corridors (Smith Avenue, Robert Street, George Street, Wabasha).

HP5. Preserve Areas with Unique Architectural, Urban and Spatial Characteristics.

HP5.1 Determine the character-defining features of each neighborhood that should be preserved; incorporate these features into area plans and master plans for new development.

HP5.2 Increase community awareness about the distinctive features and characteristics of the West Side's neighborhoods.

HP5.3 Explore the creation of neighborhood conservation districts.

### *HP6. Provide Opportunities for Education and Outreach.*

HP6.1 Identify and mark significant historic resources.

HP6.2 Partner with the City and with other organizations to educate property owners and developers on methods and incentives for historic preservation.

## **Community Economic Development**

Reinvigorating the economy of the West Side will require creative thinking and a commitment to blending traditional economic development strategies with community development practices. The focus of community economic development efforts over the next ten years will be on building local resilience through businesses development, local energy, local food and using the arts as an economic

### **Business Development Objectives and Strategies**

*B1 Reininvigorate the economy on the West Side through commercial/industrial start ups and business expansion.*

BD1.1 Create opportunities for green industry to locate along Barge Channel Road, the West Side Flats and adjacent to Harriet Island.

B1.2 Attract businesses that will increase the diversity of products and neighborhood services available to residents and visitors.

B1.3 Support local residents in developing entrepreneurial business models.

B1.4 Invest resources available through city and state programs to improve the vitality of District del Sol, Smith Avenue and the Stryker/George commercial areas.

B1.5 Encourage a broad range of businesses that cater to local and regional markets.

B1.6 Conduct an economic base/jobs assessment of the West Side.

B1.7 Connect residents to jobs and training opportunities at existing and new businesses.

B1.8 Target job growth centers in the Riverview Industrial Park.

*B2. Prioritize redevelopment at opportunity sites along commercial corridors.*

B2.1 Develop mixed use projects along Cesar Chavez and Robert Streets to catalyze redevelopment of the District Del Sol commercial node.

B2.2 Develop a design and identify resources to construct a gateway at Smith Avenue and the High Bridge in order to attract new businesses and customers to Smith Avenue.

B2.3 Continue to work with West St. Paul on creating a seamless Smith Ave Corridor from Dodd Road to the High Bridge

### **Urban Agriculture Objectives and Strategies**

*UA1. Promote locally grown food to address food security issues on the West Side.*

UA1.1 Inform the community about the current state of local food quality, food access, and food distribution.

UA1.2 Educate the community about current policies pertaining to local food agriculture systems.

UA1.3 Increase the number of backyard gardens,



## Community Economic Development Cont.

community gardens, community compost sites, and neighborhood farms on the West Side.

UA1.4 Utilize local assets such as schools, businesses, youth groups, and community centers to develop urban agriculture workshops and initiatives.

UA1.5 Examine the incorporation of an AquaPond/ Greenhouse combination in partnership with local schools.

UA 1.6 Encourage youth throughout the West Side to become educated and involved in the growth and production of their food.

*UA2. Revise current City policies to address urban agriculture and associated uses.*

UA2.1 Explore policies to allow the sale of unprocessed foods at the source.

UA2.2 Explore community food processing models including commercial kitchen uses.

UA2.3 Evaluate current height restrictions for boulevard planting.

UA2.4 Assess permit requirements and processes for greenhouses, aquaculture, beekeeping, hoop houses, animal processing and yard landscaping.

*UA3. Incorporate neighborhood food-production systems into current and future Land Use plans.*

UA3.1 Partner with food policy makers and other leaders to influence land access and permanency for neighborhood gardens and farms.

UA3.2 Identify potential Community Garden and Urban Farm sites on the West Side.

UA3.3 Encourage affordable housing development to include space for community gardens and promote existing housing to allow community gardens.

UA3.4 Identify existing fruit trees in the neighborhood and support the growth of more fruit trees.

UA3.5 Explore the use of vacant property for agricultural purposed as an interim use until development occurs.

*UA4. Promote Community Supported Agriculture, local food co-operatives, and Farmer's Markets.*

UA4.1 Conduct a market assessment of the viability of CSA's, Food Co-Ops, and Farmer's Markets on the West Side.

UA4.2 Encourage the purchasing of locally grown foods by residents, businesses, and other neighborhood institutions.

UA4.3 Promote farms-to-school food distribution.

UA4.4 Promote EBT acceptance and purchasing accessibility with Community Supported Agriculture Farms and Farmers Markets.



## Community Economic Development Cont.

### *UA5. Connect the West Side to regional food systems.*

UA5.1 Create partnerships with regional leaders, policy makers, growers, distributors, businesses, and food security activists to plan a regional food system.

UA5.2 Establish new and formalize current bulk purchasing co-operatives and storage sites.

### **Arts and Culture Objectives and Strategies**

#### *AC1. Stimulate excellence in Public Arts and Culture*

AC1.1 Enhance the aesthetic environment of public places within the neighborhood through engaging, unique and high quality public artworks.

AC1.2 Develop mechanisms for experienced artists to mentor emerging artists.

#### *AC2. Enhance community identity and place*

AC2.1 Build awareness of community history, identity, cultures and geography by using various arts mediums.

AC2.2 Develop artworks that are integrated into neighborhood building projects and are compatible with their settings.

AC2.3 Provide an inventory of the existing public art.

#### *AC3. Utilize the arts to promote community vitality*

AC3.1 Promote the West Side as a City recognized art and culture destination.

AC3.2 Build the capacity of and cooperation between artists, community members and community development practitioners.

AC3.3 Use the arts as a tool to encourage civic dialogue about important neighborhood issues.

AC3.4 Explore the development of a mixed use art space that creates retail and programmatic arts focused opportunities.

#### *AC4. Involve a Broad Range of People of Color Communities*

AC4.1 Enhance opportunities for all residents and neighborhood organizations to participate in the planning and creation of artworks.

AC4.2 Celebrate the neighborhood's cultural communities by organizing arts and cultural events and programs.

AC4.3 Ensure multiculturalism themes in public art by acknowledging all ethnic groups.

#### *AC5. Value Artists and Artistic Processes*

AC5.1 Involve both artists and residents in the concept, design and creation of public artworks.

AC5.2 Develop a mechanism to prioritize public art projects on the West Side.

#### *AC6. Use arts resources wisely*

AC6.1 Develop and sustain projects in a cost effective



## Community Economic Development Cont.

manner and ensure budgets adequately support artists, the creative process and ongoing maintenance of the art pieces.

AC6.2 Use funds to leverage private investment in public art and use public art to leverage investments in other neighborhood ventures.

AC6.3 Ensure new public art installations have a sustainable lifespan of 10 years or more by utilizing best practices, professional artists and high quality materials suitable for Minnesota's climate.

AC6.4 Establish an endorsement to maintain existing and future public art.



## Community Vitality

The neighborhood is a mosaic of people who live, go to school, work and play on the West Side. Providing quality education and enrichment opportunities, as well as ensuring the community remains a welcoming and safe place, is critical to maintaining the excellent quality of life generations of families have come to expect from the West Side.

### Youth and Family Objectives and Strategies

*YF1. Provide age-appropriate career development and leadership development opportunities for youth.*

YF1.1 Encourage local businesses on the West Side to employ youth.

YF1.2 Establish a bike co-op where youth can learn bicycle repair skills.

YF1.3 Promote stronger relationships among seniors and youth by providing intergenerational activities after school and on weekends.

YF1.4 Establish senior home visits where youth can entertain or help with chores.

YF1.5 Create youth leadership programs that engage youth in civic life.

*YF2. Increase culturally specific art programs that involve youth and families.*

YF2.1 Provide community cultural arts program for youth in the parks, schools and arts studios.

*YF3. Work to strengthen and maintain West Side community spaces for youth and family engagement and learning—parks, libraries, community center, youth centers, etc.*

YF3.1 Support and improve transportation infrastructure between public spaces in community and places where youth live. Create map walking/biking routes. (promotes active living, youth engagement— Circulator)

YF3.2 Develop classes and programs that bring youth and adults together in same locations to learn and engage in community life.

YF3.3 Support development of strong community schools that support the learning and development of West Side youth (and families).

YF3.4 Develop programs in parks and community centers where youth and families can become more physically active.

YF3.5 Engage West Side adults to volunteer and work with youth in diverse ways including West Side schools, community centers, parks, and other public spaces.

YF3.6 Support Efforts to create dedicated community space for elders



## Community Vitality Cont.

### Education

#### *E1. Increase community involvement in all West Side schools.*

E1.1 Coordinate an Annual Education meeting between all West Side schools PTO's, Site Councils, Educators, Administrators, and Saint Paul Public Schools.

E1.2 Develop a regular stream of communication between all West Side School PTO, Site Councils, and the greater West Side community.

E1.3 Establish a process for students attending West Side Schools to communicate and express their experiences and needs within West Side schools.

E1.4 Utilize Parent Teacher Conferences at West Side Schools to increase participation in Site Councils and PTO's.

E1.5 Promote the strengths and successes of West Side schools by generating a regular media communications stream focused on the positive activities and circulate it throughout the community.

#### *E2. Strengthen and support after school programming on the West Side.*

E2.1 Increase awareness of new and existing After School programming on the West Side by improving communication.

E2.2 Create partnerships and regular check-ins with West Side youth to gain a better understanding of student After-School programming needs.

#### *E3. Ensure academic quality*

E3.1 Identify community volunteers to share skills, resources, time, and energy within our public schools.

E3.2 Establish a clear and structured pathway for community volunteers to contribute re-sources in West Side Schools.

E3.3 Work closer with the school district to build trust: asking what our community can do to support SSPS efforts to increase academic success.

E3.4 Identify needs and mechanisms to support the academic success of English Language Learners.

E3.5 Evaluate the unique needs of the West Side student population with a focus on cultural inclusivity in learning.

E3.6 Ensure West Side Schools have adequate budget resources by educating the community about the SPPS



## Community Vitality Cont.

budget setting process.

### Safety

*S1. Maintain and improve safety in the community through resident engagement.*

S1.1 Increase the number of active block clubs in the community, including block clubs at multi-family buildings.

S1.2 Hold regular community building activities at the block level.

S1.3 Work with new immigrant communities to carry out culturally appropriate crime prevention trainings.

*S2. Build ongoing relationships between law enforcement, residents and businesses.*

S2.1 Develop annual comprehensive crime prevention work plans with community stakeholders in order to create better connections between groups working on crime related issues.



## Community Health

The objectives and strategies of this plan's chapters—1) land use, 2) transportation, 3) parks and recreation 4) housing, 5) environment, natural and water resources, 6) historic preservation, 7) community economic development and 8) community vitality—reach for a state of vitality that reflects the preferences and needs of the residents and stakeholders. The process of developing the plan itself- residents meeting with each other and finding out what matters to them- constitutes one strand of health that is being woven into the fabric of the communities future here. The objectives and strategies identified in the chapters all possess the potential for building and strengthening individual and collective health: accessibility to safe transport by foot, bicycle, public transportation; housing that is safe, appealing, and fits into the landscape; an integrated network of historic, natural, economic, and cultural resources that draw residents into healthy interaction with each other; and, local access to services, including locally produced products and health care - are intertwined and reinforcing. It is time for the West Side itself to begin to define what community health means, and to devise local objectives and strategies to bring it into being. To that end, the Plan proposes the following objectives in three phases.

### Community Health Objectives and Strategies

#### *CH1. Conduct a resident driven Community Health Assessment.*

CH1.1 Measure indicators of a physically and mentally healthy community.

CH1.2 Measure indicators of a economically and environmentally healthy community.

CH1.3 Measure indicators of equal access to health care.

CH1.4 Measure indicators in other areas where community groups see ideals of health.

#### *CH2. Assess areas of health as defined in CH1.*

CH2.1 Seek Departments of Health and Public Health data for West Side by groups.

CH2.2 Conduct survey of other indicators not measured by DHS and DPH

#### *CH3. Develop sustainable systems for monitoring West Side health indicators*

CH3.1 Infrastructure to educate and monitor health indicators

CH3.2 Develop a community health curriculum for West Side schools and organizations

CH3.3 Develop GIS-based capacity to characterize and monitor West Side Community health

CH3.4 Develop direct interface between residents and public health agencies to monitor indicators of community health

## Implementation

To prioritize the strategies outlined in the plan, a convening of West Side institutional partners and stakeholder was held in March 2012. Feedback from the convening, combined with information gathered through the community planning process was used to identify partners and timelines for implementation. Each strategy was assigned a short, medium or long term ranking. The implementation plan will be used by WSCO, City departments and stakeholders to target and align resources develop annual work plans.

Land Use Strategies			
#	Strategy Summary	Implementing Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
LU1	<i>Support land use that balances the housing, commercial, industrial, ecological, agricultural and green space needs of the community.</i>	--	Ongoing
LU1.1	Conduct a study of the area bounded by Robert Street, Highway 52, Plato Blvd and the river to determine appropriate land use.	PED, Public Works, SPPA, WSCO	Short term
LU1.2	Update the existing West Side Flats Master Plan to better address storm water/hydrology and revise land use guidelines.	PED, WSCO, NeDA	High priority
LU1.3	Develop a plan for the Barge Channel Road area to mitigate the industrial/residential land use issues and identify mechanisms to reconnect the neighborhood with the river.	SPPA, WSCO	High priority
LU1.4	Complete an assessment of vacant land and determine appropriate parcels for both temporary and long term urban agricultural use.	WSCO, CEED	Short term
LU1.5	Develop a primary access route to South Port Industrial Park at Eaton Street.	WSCO, SPPA	Mid term

## Implementation Cont.

Land Use Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
LU2	<i>Eliminate contaminated sites to improve the environmental health of the community and promote redevelopment of vacant and underutilized parcels.</i>	PED, SPPA, WSCO	Ongoing
LU2.1	Conduct an assessment to determine the extent of soil toxicity in the area bounded by Wabasha, Water Street W, Plato Blvd and, County Hwy 40 and Robert St, Filmore Ave, and Hwy 52 to encourage job and economic growth	PED, WSCO, SPPA	Medium priority
LU2.2	Secure resources to conduct remediation activities.	PED, SPPA	Ongoing
LU3	<i>Promote development that maintains the traditional urban form and respects the unique topography of the West Side.</i>	PED, Licensing, WSCO, NeDA	Ongoing
LU3.1	Prioritize the reuse and rehabilitation of existing structures over new construction whenever possible.	PED, Licensing, WSCO	Ongoing
LU3.2	Protect bluff and river views by limiting building heights and respecting the neighborhood context.	PED, WSCO	Ongoing

Transportation Strategies			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
T1	<i>Invest in a multi-modal transportation network.</i>	PED, Met Council, MNDot	High priority
T1.1	Improve bicycle infrastructure by enhancing and improving bicycle amenities such as on-street bike lanes, paved trails and bicycle racks to promote the use of the bicycle as a practical and safe means of transportation on the West Side.	PED, Public Works, WSCO	Hight priority

## Implementation Cont.

Transportation Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
T1.2	Fill gaps in the bicycle trail network on Wabasha Street (between Water and Cesar Chavez) and on Smith Avenue and Stryker Avenue, as recommended in The Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan.	PED, Public Works	Short term
T1.3	Create east-west routes along George and Annapolis to further integrate the bicycle into the overall transportation network and coordinate with work on the citywide bike plan.	PED, Public Works	Medium priority
T1.4	Support partnerships to establish a bicycle-sharing program on the West Side. -- Potential partner in Nice Ride Minnesota.	PED, Public Works, Nice Ride, WSCO	Short term
T1.5	Improve pedestrian infrastructure, including safety measures such as crosswalk bump-outs, colored/textured crosswalks, streetscape improvements, vegetative buffers and other traffic calming techniques to provide an environment that is conducive to pedestrian mobility.	PED, Public Works, WSCO	Medium priority
T1.6	Improve Mississippi River access by securing funding and resources for repairing staircases from the bluffs to the river.	Public Works, WSCO	High priority
T1.7	Pursue funding to reconstruct the Green Stairs copying the historic route and configuration.	Public Works, PED, WSCO	High priority
T2	<i>Improve the public transportation infrastructure.</i>	MetroTransit, MNDot, WSCO, PED	Ongoing
T2.1	Explore Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on Robert Street as identified in the Met Council 2030 Transportation Policy Plan.	Ramsey County, Met Council, WSCO, NeDA	High priority
T2.2	Develop a northbound Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) station and a southbound BRT station at or near the intersection of Robert/Cesar Chavez.	Ramsey County, Met Council, WSCO, NeDA	Medium priority

## Implementation Cont.

Transportation Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
T2.3	Explore options to increase the frequency of bus service on the West Side.	WSCO, Met Council	High priority
T2.4	Continue support for the West Side youth circulator bus.	WSCO, Youth Serving Organizations	High priority
T2.5	Explore the implementation of trolley lines by participating in the upcoming citywide streetcar study.	Public Works, WSCO	Medium priority
T3	<i>Improve automobile infrastructure so that it takes into account all road users.</i>	--	--
T3.1	Ensure that general traffic lanes on Wabasha and Cesar Chavez streets are no wider than 11 feet and the two-way left-turn lane is no wider than 12 feet.	Public Works	Ongoing
T3.2	Enhance the pedestrian realm along Cesar Chavez between Wabasha and Robert streets by implementing parking limits, widening sidewalks and providing areas for introducing street trees.	NeDA	Mid-term
T3.3	Encourage owners of parking lots to develop and implement a shared parking policy for District del Sol.	NeDA	Mid term
T3.4	Implement traffic calming improvements along Smith Avenue.	WSCO, Public Works, West St. Paul	Mid-term
T4	<i>Create connections to regional transportation systems.</i>		Ongoing
T4.1	Conduct a community engagement and planning process to outline specific community driven strategies for connections to regional transit system.	WSCO, NeDA	High priority

## Implementation Cont.

Parks and Recreation Strategies			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
PR1	<i>Strengthen and sustain amenities and programming at neighborhood parks and recreation centers.</i>	--	--
PR1.1	Work with residents and community stakeholders to develop specific short and long term plans for the Baker Center in order to maintain the Center as community space that serves the need of all age groups.	WSCO, Jane Addams	Medium priority
PR1.2	Coordinate the planning and design of improvements to El Rio Vista Park and Parque Castillo to create a seamless park experience.	Neighborhood House, WSCO, Parks & Recreation	High priority
PR1.3	Provide additional recreation facilities at Parque Castillo, such as a splash pad, band shell, enhanced play area, skate park or community-maintained garden.	Parks & Recreation	High priority
PR1.4	Conduct a community design process to identify improvements and plans for Bluff Park.	Parks & Recreation, WSCO	Long term
PR1.5	Prioritize CIB funding and other city funding for neighborhood park improvements, including ball fields at El Rio and Baker	WSCO, Neighborhood House	High priority
PR1.6	Increase the amount of playground facilities and other recreational amenities near multi-family housing sites in the community.	Parks & Recreation	Ongoing
PR2	<i>Align planned improvements at regional parks with community values.</i>	WSCO, Parks & Recreation, PED	Ongoing
PR2.1	Develop community process to outline specific implementation strategies for Lilydale Regional Park, Harriet Island and Great River Park Plans.	WSCO, Parks & Recreation	High priority

## Implementation Cont.

Parks and Recreation Strategies Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
PR2.2	Assess the potential for increased livability concerns relating to increased use of Harriet Island as an event venue and develop strategies to promote community benefits.	WSCO, Parks & Recreation	High priority

Housing			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
H1	<i>Provide a range of housing options on the West Side.</i>	--	--
H1.1	Develop rental housing options appropriate to a commercial corridor, incorporating a variety of options accessible to all income levels.	NeDA	Medium priority
H1.2	Create mixed income housing opportunities per the Stryker George Precinct Plan	NeDA	Mid term
H1.3	Support mixed income rental and ownership opportunities per the West Side Master Flats Plan.	NeDA	Medium priority
H1.4	Increase the number of units affordable to people at 30-80% of AMI.	NeDA	Medium priority
H1.5	Develop additional senior housing options so elders can stay in this community when they can no longer stay in their home.	NeDA	Long Term

## Implementation Cont.

Housing Strategies Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
H2	<i>Preserve and improve the existing housing stock.</i>	--	--
H2.1	Conduct an inventory and assessment of vacant residential housing.	NeDA, WSCO	Short term
H2.2	Encourage rehabilitation over demolition	WSCO, PED, NeDA	Ongoing
H2.3	Expand grant and loan programs to address deferred maintenance issues.	NeDA, CNHS	Ongoing
H2.4	Develop incentives to improve exterior aesthetics, including native landscaping.	PED, LMWD	Medium priority
H2.5	Develop additional options for seniors so they continue to inhabit, maintain and improve their homes.	WSCO, PED, NeDA	Ongoing
H3	<i>Expand access to affordable homeownership</i>	--	--
H3.1	Partner with local housing organizations to provide homebuyer readiness education for current renters.	NeDA, CNHS, Neighborhood House	Ongoing
H3.2	Explore housing land trust, restrictive covenants and other affordability mechanisms to encourage and preserve affordability.	Rondo Community Land Trust, NeDA	Medium priority
H3.3	Provide down payments grants to potential home buyers.	PED	Medium priority
H3.4	Partner with local housing organizations to provide foreclosure prevention services.	NeDA, CNHS	On going

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Natural Resources			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
NR1	<i>Protect and improve the West Side bluffs.</i>	WSCO	Ongoing
NR1.1	Maintain our commitment to the West Side Bluff Management Action Plan.	WSCO, West Side Bluffs Taskforce, City	High priority
NR1.2	Create a natural, sustainable landscape by replacing invasive vegetation with native vegetation in accordance with the West Side Bluff Ecological Inventory & Vegetation Management Plan (GRG 2001).	GRG, WSCO	High priority
NR1.3	Provide long-term maintenance of bluff vegetation, especially with respect to re-plantings of native vegetation.	West Side Bluffs Taskforce, City	Ongoing
NR1.4	Establish and secure funding for a re-planting strategy prior to removing any vegetation on the bluff.	Parks, DNR, GRG, West Side Bluffs Taskforce	Medium priority
NR1.5	Improve bluff habitat for local wildlife and migratory birds using the Mississippi River flyway.	Parks, DNR, GRG, West Side Bluffs Taskforce	Mid-term

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Natural Resources Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
NR1.6	Selectively encourage development projects that protect and improve views from the top of the bluffs to downtown and the river.	City	Ongoing
NR1.7	Ensure that vegetation management and improvements protect the interests, property values, safety and other concerns of property owners and bluff users.	City	Ongoing
NR1.8	Promote education/interpretation of the bluff and bluff management activities.	West Side Bluffs Taskforce	Medium priority
NR1.9	Identify potential funding sources for bluff improvement.	WSCO, GRG, DNR	Mid-term
NR1.10	Create partnerships between the City, residents, organizations and area businesses to share responsibility for bluff maintenance, management, clean-up and beautification.	WSCO, NeDA	Ongoing
NR2	<i>Protect and improve existing natural areas and green spaces.</i>	--	--
NR2.1	Implement efforts to eliminate non-native plant species in existing natural areas.	DNR, WSCO	Mid-term
NR2.2	Increase efforts to restore native planting along the river corridor.	GRG	Mid-term
NR2.3	Mitigate future damage by promoting only environmentally sensitive recreational activities in natural areas.	WSCO, Parks	Ongoing
NR2.4	Work in partnership with Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, DNR, NPS and others to conduct regular rivers edge clean up and beautification activities.	WSCO	Ongoing
NR2.5	Promote educational, community engagement, and interpretive opportunities regarding environmental and natural resource issues.	WSCO, Ce Tempoxcali	Medium priority

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
NR2.6	Develop creative alternatives for river edge treatments.	SPPA, WSCO, PED	Mid term
NR2.7	Prioritize water quality improvements at Pickerel Lake.	Parks	High priority
NR2.8	Explore the creation of a conservation land trust to preserve natural spaces.	WSCO	Long term
NR2.9	Preserve the prairie and oak savanna remnants along the Cherokee Bluffs.	GRG, Parks	High priority
NR3	<i>Increase access and connections to natural areas.</i>	--	--
NR3.1	Identify funding to restore staircases that connect the bluffs to the river.	WSCO, Public Works	High priority
NR3.2	Rebuild and incorporate the Green Stairs into a broader trail system.	Public Works, WSCO	High priority
NR3.3	Work with the Parks department to install kayak/canoe launch at the old sea plane basin.	Parks	Medium priority
NR3.4	Create trail access at Southport using railroad easements.	SPPA, Public Works	High priority
NR3.5	Promote urban reforestation and other landscaping efforts along residential and commercial streets.	U.S. Forest Service	Medium priority

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Water Resources			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
WR1	<i>Develop a comprehensive water management plan to preserve the ecology of the West Side.</i>	--	--
WR1.1	Engage the Lower Mississippi Watershed District (LMWD) to pursue water quality projects on the West Side that reduce point and non point water pollution.	WSCO, NeDA, Ce Te-moxcali	High priority

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Water Resources Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
WR1.2	Implement a series of demonstration projects to address storm water management in housing, commercial and park settings.	WSCO, NeDA, Ce Tempoxcali	Medium priority
WR1.3	Address impacts to the bluffs by pursuing improvements to storm water management practices in adjacent residential areas.	WSCO, PED	Ongoing

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Zero Waste			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
ZW1	<i>Develop a zero waste plan to reinvigorate economy and improve quality of life for West Side residents.</i>	--	--
ZW1.1	Engage non profit partners to pursue zero waste programs and projects on the West Side.	Eureka, WSCO	Short term
ZW1.2	Attract businesses that increase reuse and repair of products within the community.	Eureka, WSCO	Short term
ZW1.3	Promote and incentivize businesses to provide products and services that reduce the volume and toxicity of waste and materials.	Eureka, WSCO	Short term
ZW1.4	Implement a series of zero waste projects and demonstrations in schools with block clubs.	Eureka, WSCO	Short term
ZW2	<i>Encourage citywide curbside collection of compost and the creation of a community plan for the distribution of new soil that can be used to benefit the community both economically and environmentally.</i>	--	--

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Zero Waste Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
ZW2.1	Encourage the city to develop composting collection programs for discarded food and encourage the city to provide at least one drop-off location on the West Side for residents who live in apartments.	Eureka, WSCO	Short term
ZW2.2	Participate in a city-wide process to identify how and where the new soil from compost collection is used and measured.	Eureka, WSCO	Mid term
ZW3	<i>Encourage and promote zero waste in conjunction with the city of Saint Paul's zero waste 2020 goal.</i>	--	--
ZW3.1	Establish a zero waste welcome kit for residents that includes information on how to recycle, reduce, reuse, and compost, to be handed out with recycling bins.	Eureka, WSCO	Short term
ZW3.2	Provide multilingual educational materials targeted at youth and families to promote in home waste reduction.	Eureka, WSCO	Mid term
ZW3.3	Establish a speaker bureau where experts can speak about the methods and benefits of reaching zero waste.	Eureka, WSCO	Mid term

Environment, Water, and Natural Resources - Energy			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
E1	<i>Encourage and promote energy conservation and local renewable energy.</i>	--	--
E1.1	Establish an energy welcome kit for residents and hand them out with recycling bin pick ups or at other outreach events.	WSCO, NeDA, NEC	High priority, short term

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Natural, and Water Resources - Energy Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
E1.2	Provide creative educational materials involving youth and family conserving energy in their homes in multiple languages.	WSCO, NEC, NeDA	High priority
E1.3	Establish a speaker bureau where experts can speak about conservation and renewable energy.	WSCO	Long term
E1.4	Initiate block support systems that will assist elderly and the disabled in energy conservation projects.	WSCO	Mid term
E1.5	Initiate work share groups to assist interested residents with energy projects.	WSCO	Long term
E1.6	Explore wind turbine or solar energy manufacturing facility on the West Side to employ residents and generate local power.	WSCO	Long term
E1.7	Conduct an assessment of current solar energy use on the West Side.	WSCO, CEED	Short term
E1.8	Assess the potential of a solar farm on the flats.	WSCO	Long term
E1.9	Provide affordable energy-efficient products for residents of all income levels.	WSCO, NEC, Xcel	High priority
E2	<i>Implement programs to create more energy efficient commercial buildings.</i>	--	--
E2.1	Explore how vacant commercial buildings can receive energy retrofits before they are used for new businesses or community purposes.	PED, NeDA	Medium priority
E2.2	Conduct an assessment of the potential for solar energy use on existing buildings on the West Side.	WSCO, CEED	Medium priority

## Implementation Cont.

Environment, Natural, and Water Resources - Energy Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
E2.3	Promote existing rebate programs to make businesses more energy efficient.	NeDA	High priority
<i>E3</i>	<i>Explore the creation of a sustainable energy utility (SEU).</i>	--	--
E3.1	Conduct research on SEU models and determine appropriateness for neighborhood.	WSCO	Mid term
E3.2	Create one-stop site for residents where they can receive information related to purchasing, loans, and rebates on energy efficiency home improvement work, etc.	WSCO, NeDA	Mid term

## Implementation Cont.

Historic Preservation			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
HP1	<i>Integrate Preservation Planning into the Broader Public Policy, Land Use Planning, and Decision-Making Processes.</i>	--	Ongoing
HP1.1	Incorporate preservation considerations into development, land use and environmental reviews.	WSCO	Ongoing
HP1.2	Prioritize the retention of historic resources over demolition when evaluating planning and development projects that require or request WSCO action, involvement, or funding.	WSCO	Ongoing
HP1.3	Give equal consideration to projects with preservation factors when formulating Capital Improvement Budget requests.	WSCO	Ongoing
HP1.4	Partner with the City (Heritage Preservation Commission) and with organizations like Historic Saint Paul and community development corporations to fund and promote preservation initiatives, including surveys to identify historic resources.	WSCO, HSP, HPC	Medium priority
HP2	<i>Identify, Evaluate, and Designate Historic Resources.</i>	--	--
HP2.1	Implement a new survey to identify and evaluate all types of historic resources on the West Side, including buildings, structures, objects, bridges, stairs, archaeological sites, districts, and landscapes. This survey should be carried out prior to implementing other strategies in the Plan.	HPC	High Priority
HP2.2	Conduct new cultural resource surveys in accordance with the State Historic Preservation Office and Heritage Preservation Commission standards, including the development and collection of data and dissemination in electronic formats.	HPC	Long term

## Implementation Cont.

Historic Preservation Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
HP2.3	Utilize existing historic contexts and develop new ones to allow for the continual identification of a full spectrum of historic resources.	HPC, WSCO	Ongoing
HP2.4	Identify and evaluate historic resources systematically and comprehensively.	HPC	Ongoing
HP2.5	Evaluate properties based on historic contexts, reconnaissance surveys, and applicable designation criteria to determine their potential significance as well as their potential eligibility for designation as a heritage preservation site by the City and for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.	HPC	Ongoing
HP2.6	Forward properties that appear to be potentially eligible for listing on the NHRP to the SHPO for an official determination of eligibility.	WSCO	Ongoing
HP2.7	Forward significant historic resources to the City (HPC) for designation as heritage preservation sites or historic districts.	WSCO	Ongoing
<i>HP3</i>	<i>Preserve and Protect Historic Resources.</i>	--	--
HP3.1	Use design review controls in conjunction with WSCO committees to protect designated historic resources, including archaeological sites, from destruction or alterations that would compromise their historic significance.	WSCO, HPC	Ongoing
HP3.2	Protect undesignated historic resources that are eligible or potentially eligible for local or national designation.	HPC	Ongoing
HP3.3	Continue to support the preservation and maintenance of designated sites and encourage compatible uses so they continue to remain community assets.	HPC	Ongoing

## Implementation Cont.

Historic Preservation Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
HP4	<i>Use Preservation to Further Economic Development and Sustainability.</i>	--	ongoing
HP4.1	Rehabilitate key historic resources to serve as a catalyst for development in adjacent areas.	HPC, HSP	Medium priority
HP4.2	Integrate historic properties into new development.	HPC, PED, WSCO	Ongoing
HP4.3	Assist developers with identifying historic preservation opportunities for economic development.	HPC	Ongoing
HP4.4	Invest in historic resources along transit corridors (Smith Avenue, Robert Street, George Street, Wabasha).	PED, WSCO, NeDA	Medium priority
HP5	<i>Preserve Areas with Unique Architectural, Urban and Spatial Characteristics.</i>	--	--
HP5.1	Determine the character-defining features of each neighborhood that should be preserved; incorporate these features into area plans and master plans for new development.	HPC	Ongoing
HP5.2	Increase community awareness about the distinctive features and characteristics of the West Side's neighborhoods.	WSCO, HPC	Ongoing
HP5.3	Explore the creation of neighborhood conservation districts.	HPC	Long term
HP6	<i>Provide Opportunities for Education and Outreach.</i>	--	--
HP6.1	Identify and mark significant historic resources.	MN Historical Society, HPC	Medium priority
HP6.2	Partner with the City and with other organizations to educate property owners and developers on methods and incentives for historic preservation.	HSP, NeDA, HPC	Medium priority

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Business			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
B1	<i>Reinvigorate the economy on the West Side through commercial/industrial start ups and business expansion.</i>	--	Ongoing
B1.1	Create opportunities for green industry to locate along Barge Channel Road, the West Side Flats and adjacent to Harriet Island.	SPPA, NeDA, WSCO, PED	Medium priority
B1.2	Attract businesses that will increase the diversity of products and neighborhood services available to residents and visitors.	WSCO, NeDA	Ongoing
B1.3	Support local residents in developing entrepreneurial business models.	NeDA	High priority
B1.4	Invest resources available through city and state programs to improve the vitality of District del Sol, Smith Avenue and the Stryker/George commercial areas.	NeDA	High priority
B1.5	Encourage a broad range of businesses that cater to local and regional markets.	NeDA, WSCO	High priority
B1.6	Connect residents to jobs and training opportunities at existing and new businesses.	WSCO, NeDA	High priority
B1.7	Target job growth centers in the Riverview Industrial Park	WSCO, PED, SPPA	Medium priority
B2	<i>Prioritize redevelopment at opportunity sites along commercial corridors.</i>	--	--
B2.1	Develop mixed use projects along Cesar Chavez and Robert Streets to catalyze redevelopment of the District Del Sol commercial node.	NeDA, WSCO	High priority
B2.2	Develop a design and identify resources to construct a gateway at Smith Avenue and the High Bridge in order to attract new businesses and customers to Smith Avenue.	WSCO, NeDA, PED	Mid term

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Business			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
B2.3	Continue to work with West St. Paul on creating a seamless Smith Ave Corridor from Dodd Road to the High Bridge.	WSCO, NeDA, City	High priority

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Urban Agriculture			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
UA1	<i>Promote locally grown food to address food security issues on the West Side.</i>	--	--
UA1.1	Inform the community about the current state of local food quality, food access, and food distribution.	WSCO, YFMP	Ongoing
UA1.2	Educate the community about current policies pertaining to local food agriculture systems.	WSCO, YFMP	Ongoing
UA1.3	Increase the number of backyard gardens, community gardens, community compost sites, and neighborhood farms on the West Side.	WSCO, Neighborhood House	High priority
UA1.4	Utilize local assets such as schools, businesses, youth groups, and community centers to develop urban agriculture workshops and initiatives.	WSCO, YFMP, River's Edge Academy	Ongoing
UA1.5	Examine the incorporation of an AquaPond/Greenhouse combination in partnership with local schools.	Humboldt, YFMP	Long term
UA1.6	Encourage youth throughout the West Side to become educated and involved in the growth and production of their food.	WSCO, YFMP, River's Edge Academy	Ongoing
UA2	<i>Revise current City policies to address urban agriculture and associated uses.</i>	--	--
UA2.1	Explore policies to allow the sale of unprocessed foods at the source.	PED, WSCO	Short term
UA2.2	Explore community food processing models including commercial kitchen uses.	WSCO, Neighborhood House	Long term
UA2.3	Evaluate current height restrictions for boulevard planting.	PED	Short term

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Urban Agriculture Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
UA2.4	Assess permit requirements and processes for greenhouses, aquaculture, beekeeping, hoop houses, animal processing and yard landscaping.	PED, WSCO	Short term
UA3	<i>Incorporate neighborhood food-production systems into current and future Land Use plans.</i>	--	--
UA3.1	Partner with food policy makers and other leaders to influence land access and permanency for neighborhood gardens and farms.	WSCO	Mid term
UA3.2	Identify potential Community Garden and Urban Farm sites on the West Side.	WSCO, YFMP, Neighborhood House	Short term
UA3.3	Encourage affordable housing development to include space for community gardens and promote existing housing to allow community gardens.	WSCO, NeDA	Ongoing
UA3.4	Identify existing fruit trees in the neighborhood and support the growth of more fruit trees.	WSCO	Long term
UA3.5	Explore the use of vacant property for agricultural purposes as an interim use until development occurs.	WSCO, NeDA, PED	High priority
UA4	<i>Promote Community Supported Agriculture, local food co-operatives, and Farmer's Markets.</i>	--	--
UA4.1	Conduct a market assessment of the viability of CSA's, Food Co-Ops, and Farmer's Markets on the West Side.	WSCO	Mid term
UA4.2	Encourage the purchasing of locally grown foods by residents, businesses, and other neighborhood institutions.	NeDA, YFMP, WSCO, River's Edge Academy	Ongoing
UA4.3	Promote farms-to-school food distribution.	YFMP	Ongoing
UA4.4	Promote EBT acceptance and purchasing accessibility with Community Supported Agriculture Farms and Farmers Markets.	WSCO, YFMP, Neighborhood House	Ongoing

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Urban Agriculture Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
UA5	<i>Connect the West Side to regional food systems.</i>	--	--
UA5.1	Create partnerships with regional leaders, policy makers, growers, distributors, businesses, and food security activists to plan a regional food system.	WSCO, Neighborhood House	Medium priority
UA5.2	Establish new and formalize current bulk purchasing co-operatives and storage sites.	WSCO	Long term

Community Economic Development - Arts and Culture			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
AC1	<i>Stimulate excellence in Public Arts and Culture</i>		
AC1.1	Enhance the aesthetic environment of public places within the neighborhood through engaging, unique and high quality public artworks.	WSCO	High priority
AC1.2	Develop mechanisms for experienced artists to mentor emerging artists.	Springboard	Ongoing
AC2	<i>Enhance community identity and place</i>	--	--
AC2.1	Build awareness of community history, identity, cultures and geography by using various arts mediums.	WSCO	Ongoing
AC2.2	Develop artworks that are integrated into neighborhood building projects and are compatible with their settings.	WSCO, NeDA	High priority
AC2.3	Provide an inventory of the existing public art.	WSCO	Short term

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Arts and Culture Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
AC3	<i>Utilize the arts to promote community vitality</i>	--	--
AC3.1	Promote the West Side as a City recognized art and culture destination.	WSCO, NeDA, Neighborhood House	High priority
AC3.2	Build the capacity of and cooperation between artists, community members and community development practitioners.	WSCO, NeDA, Artists	High priority
AC3.3	Use the arts as a tool to encourage civic dialogue about important neighborhood issues.	WSCO	High priority
AC3.4	Explore the development of a mixed use art space that creates retail and programmatic arts focused opportunities.	NeDA, WSCO, resident leaders	Mid term
AC4	<i>Involve a Broad Range of People of Color Communities</i>	--	--
AC4.1	Enhance opportunities for all residents and neighborhood organizations to participate in the planning and creation of artworks.	WSCO	High priority
AC4.2	Celebrate the neighborhood's cultural communities by organizing arts and cultural events and programs.	WSCO, Neighborhood House	High priority, ongoing
AC4.3	Ensure multiculturalism themes in public art by acknowledging all ethnic groups.	WSCO	
AC5	<i>Value Artists and Artistic Processes</i>	--	--
AC5.1	Involve both artists and residents in the concept, design and creation of public artworks.	WSCO, NeDA	Ongoing
AC5.2	Develop a mechanism to prioritize public art projects on the West Side.	WSCO	High priority

## Implementation Cont.

Community Economic Development - Arts and Culture Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
AC6	<i>Use arts resources wisely</i>	--	--
AC6.1	Develop and sustain projects in a cost effective manner and ensure budgets adequately support artists, the creative process and ongoing maintenance of the art pieces.	WSCO, Artists	Ongoing
AC6.2	Use funds to leverage private investment in public art and use public art to leverage investments in other neighborhood ventures.	WSCO, NeDA	Ongoing
AC6.3	Ensure new public art installations have a sustainable lifespan of 10 years or more by utilizing best practices, professional artists and high quality materials suitable for Minnesota's climate.	WSCO	Ongoing
AC6.4	Establish an endowment to maintain existing and future public art.	WSCO	Long term

Community Vitality - Youth and Family			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
YF1	<i>Provide age-appropriate career development and leadership development opportunities for youth.</i>	--	--
YF1.1	Encourage local businesses on the West Side to employ youth.	WSCO, YFMP, NeDA, Jane Addams, Center for Democracy & Citizenship, Neighborhood House	Ongoing
Y1.2	Establish a bike co-op where youth can learn bicycle repair skills.	NeDA, YFMP, River's Edge Academy	Medium priority

## Implementation Cont.

Community Vitality - Youth and Family Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
YF1.3	Promote stronger relationships among seniors and youth by providing intergenerational activities after school and on weekends.	Cerenity, Schools	Ongoing
YF1.4	Establish senior home visits where youth can entertain or help with chores.	Cerenity	Mid term
YF1.5	Create youth leadership programs that engage youth in civic life.	WSCO, Neighborhood House, YFMP, REA	High priority
YF2	<i>Increase culturally specific art programs that involve youth and families.</i>	--	--
YF2.1	Provide community cultural arts program for youth in the parks, schools and arts studios.	WSCO, YFMP	Mid term
YF3	<i>Work to strengthen and maintain West Side community spaces for youth and family engagement and learning—parks, libraries, community center, youth centers, etc.</i>		--
YF3.1	Support and improve transportation infrastructure between public spaces in community and places where youth live. Create map walking/biking routes. (promotes active living, youth engagement— Circulator)	YFMP, Jane Addams, WSCO, REA	High priority, short term
YF3.2	Develop classes and programs that bring youth and adults together in same locations to learn and engage in community life.	YFMP, Jane Addams, REA	Medium priority
YF3.3	Support development of strong community schools that support the learning and development of West Side youth (and families).	Jane Addams, WSCO, REA	High priority, short term

## Implementation Cont.

Community Vitality - Youth and Family Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
YF3.4	Develop programs in parks and community centers where youth and families can become more physically active.	Parks, YFMP, Neighborhood House	Ongoing
YF3.5	Engage West Side adults to volunteer and work with youth in diverse ways including West Side schools, community centers, parks, and other public spaces.	Neighborhood House, YFMP, REA	Ongoing
YF3.6	Support efforts to create dedicated community space for elders.	Cerenity	Medium priority

Community Vitality - Education			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
<i>E1</i>	<i>Increase community involvement in all West Side schools.</i>	--	--
E1.1	Coordinate an Annual Education meeting between all West Side schools PTO's, Site Councils, Educators, Administrators, and Saint Paul Public Schools.	WSCO	Medium priority
E1.2	Develop a regular stream of communication between all West Side School PTO, Site Councils, and the greater West Side community.	Schools, PTO's, REA	Medium priority
E1.3	Establish a process for students attending West Side Schools to communicate and express their experiences and needs within West Side schools.	Schools, PTO's, REA	High priority
E1.4	Utilize Parent Teacher Conferences at West Side Schools to increase participation in Site Councils and PTO's.	Schools, PTO's	Ongoing

## Implementation Cont.

Community Vitality - Education Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
E1.5	Promote the strengths and successes of West Side schools by generating a regular media communications stream focused on the positive activities and circulate it throughout the community.	Schools, PTO's, REA	Medium priority
E2	<i>Strengthen and support after school programming on the West Side.</i>		
E2.1	Increase awareness of new and existing After School programming on the West Side by improving communication.	YFMP, West Side Connect, Neighborhood House	Ongoing
E2.2	Create partnerships and regular check-ins with West Side youth to gain a better understanding of student After-School programming needs.	West Side Connect, Neighborhood House, REA	Ongoing
E3	<i>Ensure academic quality</i>	--	--
E3.1	Identify community volunteers to share skills, resources, time, and energy within our public schools.	YFMP, SPPS, REA	High priority
E3.2	Establish a clear and structured pathway for community volunteers to contribute re-sources in West Side Schools.	SPPS, REA	High priority
E3.3	Work closer with the school district to build trust: asking what our community can do to support SPPS efforts to increase academic success.	PTO's	High priority
E3.4	Identify needs and mechanisms to support the academic success of English Language Learners.	SPPS	Medium priority
E3.5	Evaluate the unique needs of the West Side student population with a focus on cultural inclusivity in learning.	SPPS	Medium priority
E3.6	Ensure West Side Schools have adequate budget resources by educating the community about the SPPS budget setting process.	PTO's, WSCO	High priority

## Implementation Cont.

Community Vitality - Safety			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
S1	<i>Maintain and improve safety in the community through resident engagement.</i>	--	Ongoing
S1.1	Increase the number of active block clubs in the community, including block clubs at multi-family buildings.	WSCO, West Side Safe	High priority
S1.2	Hold regular community building activities at the block level.	WSCO	High priority
S1.3	Work with new immigrant communities to carry out culturally appropriate crime prevention trainings.	WSCO	High priority
S2	<i>Build ongoing relationships between law enforcement, residents and businesses.</i>	--	--
S2.1	Develop annual comprehensive crime prevention work plans with community stakeholders in order to create better connections between groups working on crime related issues.	WSCO, Neighborhood House	High priority

Community Health			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
CH1	<i>Conduct a resident driven Community Health Assessment.</i>	--	Short term
CH1.1	Measure indicators of a physically and mentally healthy community.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Short term
CH1.2	Measure indicators of an economically and environmentally healthy community.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Short term

## Implementation Cont.

Community Health Cont.			
#	Strategy Summary	Responsible Parties	Time Frame or Community Priority for Implementation
CH1.3	Measure indicators of equal access to health care.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Short term
CH1.4	Measure indicators in other areas where community groups see ideals of health.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Short term
<i>CH2</i>	<i>Assess areas of health as defined in CH1.</i>	--	Mid term
CH2.1	Seek Departments of Health and Public Health data for West Side groups.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Mid term
CH2.2	Conduct survey of other indicators not measured by DHS and DPH.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Mid term
<i>CH3</i>	<i>Develop sustainable systems for monitoring West Side health indicators.</i>	--	Long term
CH3.1	Infrastructure to educate and monitor health indicators.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Long term
CH3.2	Develop a community health curriculum for West Side schools and organizations.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Long term
CH3.3	Develop GIS-based capacity to characterize and monitor West Side Community health.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Long term
CH3.4	Develop direct interface between residents and public health agencies to monitor indicators of community health identified in CH1.	La Clinica, Health Providers, Residents, WSCO	Long term