



## Overview:

The Columbia Park neighborhood in northeast Minneapolis is bound on the north by 37th Avenue, on the east by Central Avenue, on the south by 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and St. Anthony Boulevard and on the west by University Avenue NE, 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE and the Mississippi River. This neighborhood was named for three reasons: Columbia Park, one of the area's parks; the park's acquisition in 1892, the "Columbian" year, the 400<sup>th</sup> year since Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the Americas; and the adjacent suburb Columbia Heights. The neighborhood has residential areas tucked away with industrial surroundings, between the city of Columbia Heights and the neighborhood's Columbia Park and golf course. Its north end consists of a narrow strip of streets from Main Street to Central Avenue while Columbia Boulevard, which runs north of the golf course, looks much like Minnehaha Parkway with the same type of housing – stucco and brick Tudors and two-story colonials.

## Crime Statistics:

While Columbia Park remains a safe neighborhood in northeast Minneapolis, a comparison of the 2007 \*\*Part 1 Crime statistics with 2006 shows that the number of Robberies decreased from 32 to 9 and Aggravated Assaults decreased 21 to 6. All other crime categories decreased or stayed relatively the same. (\*\*Part 1 Crimes include: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny/Theft, Auto Theft & Arson)

## Neighborhood Concerns:

- Personal Safety of patrons in and around the local community bars.
- Problem Properties
- Graffiti on park buildings and bridges
- Unsupervised youth in the community.

## 2008 Policing Strategy:

The Minneapolis Police Department has two citywide goals: reduce crime and improve the relationship with the community it serves. In the Columbia Park Neighborhood, we will be focusing on the following crime reduction strategies:

- Reducing Aggravated Assaults. Hosting Personal Safety Workshops (coordinated through the Sector Crime Prevention Specialist) to provide residents the opportunity to be safe when out in the neighborhood and promoting the utilization of the various City electronic technologies for information dissemination.
- Reducing Robberies. Providing Personal Safety Workshops, when necessary, for residents to learn strategies for staying safe in the neighborhood. (Contact Crime Prevention Specialist for further information)
- Encouraging residents to report problems in the community by calling 911, 311 and/or their Crime Prevention Specialist to discuss their concerns.
- Utilizing the information received from the community by their reporting of problems via 911, 311 and/or the Sector Crime Prevention Specialist to assist in deploying the officers out in the precinct each week as discussed at the weekly CODEFOR meeting

- Utilize the new Juvenile Supervision Center by taking youth picked up for Curfew and Truancy status offenses to the Center for assessment and referral.

We will also engage in two projects to increase the relationship with the community:

- We will increase communication with people in the neighborhood via the city WorkSite program and the precinct electronic e-mail notification program, which are designed to facilitate stronger communication and information sharing in the community through web-based technology.
- Provide Block Leader Training (contact your Crime Prevention Specialist) periodically throughout the year so residents are looking out for each other and that concerns are being directed to the proper City agency to handle.

## **Neighborhood Engagement:**

While the Minneapolis Police Department has committed to a number of steps to improve policing service in Columbia Park, policing is a team sport and residents are a key part of that team. The collaboration of MPD and Residents, through the Columbia Park Neighborhood Organization, have committed to the following:

- New Neighborhood Block Club. Work towards adding at least one new block club in the Columbia Park Neighborhood during the year. To be promoted by the Neighborhood Association and trained by the Crime Prevention Specialist.
- Create Old Liquor District Consortium with the surrounding neighborhoods to address some of the concerns concerning personal safety around the bars. (Contact Neighborhood Organization for more information)
- Participating fully in utilization of the City technologies for the electronic dissemination of information.
- Assist the Minneapolis Police Department in promoting Block Leader Training and Personal Safety Workshops throughout the Columbia Park Neighborhood.
- Have Columbia Park Neighborhood represented at the monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Advisory Council (2 PAC) meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at 1900 Central Ave NE.

For more information on the Columbia Park Neighborhood contact

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/minneapolis/colpark/main.html>

## **2008 Performance Measures:**

We will use the following criteria to measure our success in the Columbia Park Neighborhood:

- 5% decrease in the number of Part 1 Crimes in the neighborhood.
- Add at least one new block club in the neighborhood during the year.

# COLUMBIA PARK

## – 2007 NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN RESULTS

### 2007 Policing Strategy:

The Minneapolis Police Department has two citywide goals: reduce crime and improve the relationship with the community it serves. In the Columbia Park Neighborhood, we will be focusing on the following crime reduction strategies:

- Reducing Aggravated Assaults. Hosting Personal Safety Workshops (coordinated through the Sector Crime Prevention Specialist) to provide residents the opportunity to be safe when out in the neighborhood and promoting the utilization of the various City electronic technologies for information dissemination. **Ongoing**
- Reducing Robberies. Providing Personal Safety Workshops, when necessary, for residents to learn strategies for staying safe in the neighborhood. (Contact Crime Prevention Specialist for further information) **Ongoing**
- Encouraging residents to report problems in the community by calling 911, 311 and/or their Crime Prevention Specialist to discuss their concerns. **Ongoing**
- Utilizing the information received from the community by their reporting of problems via 911, 311 and/or the Sector Crime Prevention Specialist to assist in deploying the officers out in the precinct each week as discussed at the weekly CODEFOR meeting. **Ongoing**

We will also engage in two projects to increase the relationship with the community:

- We will increase communication with people in the neighborhood via the city WorkSite program and the precinct electronic e-mail notification program, which are designed to facilitate stronger communication and information sharing in the community through web-based technology. **Ongoing**
- Provide Block Leader Training (contact your Crime Prevention Specialist) periodically throughout the year so residents are looking out for each other and that concerns are being directed to the proper City agency to handle. **Completed**

### Neighborhood Engagement:

While the Minneapolis Police Department has committed to a number of steps to improve policing service in Columbia Park, policing is a team sport and residents need to be part of that team. The collaboration of MPD and Residents, through the Columbia Park Neighborhood Organization, have committed to the following:

- Create Old Liquor District Consortium with the surrounding neighborhoods to address some of the concerns concerning personal safety around the bars. (Contact Neighborhood Organization for more information) **Ongoing**
- Participating fully in utilization of the City technologies for the electronic dissemination of information. **Ongoing**

- Assist the Minneapolis Police Department in promoting Block Leader Training and Personal Safety Workshops throughout the Columbia Park Neighborhood. **Ongoing**
- Have Columbia Park Neighborhood represented at the monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Advisory Council (2 PAC) meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at 1900 Central Ave NE. **Ongoing**

## **2007 Performance Measures:**

We will use the following criteria to measure our success in policing the Columbia Park Neighborhood:

- 5% decrease in the number of Part 1 Crimes in the neighborhood – especially Robberies & Aggravated Assaults. **Goal not met**
- Increase in number of people that have signed on to utilize the City's technologies for the electronic dissemination of information. **Transferring to new e-mail system – measures not yet available**

--- end of 2008 Plan; 2007 Results for Columbia Park Neighborhood