



2014 Neighborhood Priority Plan

BNA Background

The Bancroft Neighborhood Association (BNA) is a grassroots, democratically run, neighborhood-based nonprofit designed to meet the following key goals: stimulate the interest of residents in the welfare of the community, and to actively support the improvement of the neighborhood; and represent the community for constructive development in the areas of neighborhood beautification, zoning and land use planning, traffic control, police and fire protection, mass-transit, community public relations, local ordinance enforcement, and coordination of government services provided.

BNA was established in 1994 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to strengthen and support the Bancroft neighborhood, a south Minneapolis community bounded by Chicago Avenue, 38th Street, Cedar Avenue, and 42nd Street.

Proposed Neighborhood Priority Plan: Bancroft Meridian Garden

The Bancroft Meridian Garden is a perennial flower garden located at the corner of 38th Street and 12th Avenue in the Bancroft neighborhood. The Meridian has been funded through grants from community and neighborhood organizations, as well as donations from neighborhood residents and businesses. For many years, the Meridian was lovingly tended by neighborhood volunteers; however, as those volunteers have moved away or otherwise not been able to commit to the garden, it has become overgrown and unsightly.

BNA proposes to use up to \$6,500 to bring the garden back to a warm, welcoming, usable space for the community. The \$4,000 currently budgeted in our Neighborhood Participation Plan strategy, as well as \$2,500 of the 2012/13 CPP rollover amount, will make up that total. We will take the following steps to complete the plan:

- Hire a landscape architect for garden ideas, planning and design

- Remove existing debris, broken bricks, and overgrown plants and bushes
- Repair retaining wall that runs along the back of the garden
- Implement garden design, including soil stabilization and reclamation
- Focus on ecological supportive ground cover and soil amendments
- Current sign, benches, and pergola will remain
- Install two trash receptacles to be emptied by City services
- Garden party in late summer/early autumn to celebrate the space with the community

BNA proposes to work with residents, neighborhood businesses, Halsey Creative Services, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), Minnesota Horticulture Society, and Minneapolis Department of Public Works to implement this Neighborhood Participation Plan.

Development

This priority plan was developed through various community meetings and by gathering input through surveys from residents and businesses throughout the neighborhood. The Bancroft Neighborhood Association Community Council approved this Neighborhood Priority Plan on December 12, 2013.