

Bottineau Neighborhood Priority Plan - Public Health Study of Residents around the Lowry Bridge
\$6000.00 - \$3000.00 for intern and \$3000.00 for survey postage

History: Bottineau Neighborhood Association has a long term neighborhood involvement with the environmental quality and specifically air pollution. There are neighborhood NRP I and II strategies for this regarding environmental concerns for water and air pollution. In 1995 a letter was written to the then MPCA Citizen Review Board asking that VOCs be added to the list of Hazardous Air Pollutants monitored on the MPCA permit for GAF Building Supplies Inc. located at 50 N Lowry Minneapolis, MN 55412. The noxious fumes from GAF blow into the neighborhood a majority of time due to prevailing winds. While the Citizen Review Board has been eliminated by legislative order the concerns in the community have only increased. In 2007 Xcel Energy converted away from coal as a source of fuel to natural gas. When this occurred it became clear to the community that it was not the coal fired plant fumes that were causing the air pollution problem in Bottineau. The stench remained, children under 4 were getting asthma in homes without smokers. Many neighbors and friends were getting inexplicable bladder and lung cancers even if they never smoked.

Current Issues: Neighbors from Bottineau asked the BNA board to get involved with the problem of air pollution at 5 meetings between August 2014 and October 2014. In October BNA requested the MPCA to attend a community meeting to address the neighborhood concerns and out of that grew out CIF grant request from the City that was granted by the City Council in June 2015. Additionally at that October 2014 meeting, the MPCA agreed to expand the monitoring at the Lowry Bridge from 10 PM and 2.5 PM particulates and the EPA's 6 identified pollution hazards like ozone and nitrous di-oxide to include VOCs and other HAPS, Hazardous Air Pollutants. (The Lowry air monitoring site was scheduled to move to western Minnesota to monitor a hog farm.) This MPCA expansion included improving the air testing schedule from 1:12 days for 12 hours a day to 1:6 days for 24 hours a day. BNA was only promised 3 months of this schedule and during that time Northern Metals Recycling was found to be out of compliance with their permit and therefore the lawsuits between the MPCA and NMR Inc. and the resulting 2,000,000 settlement was decided with the City of Minneapolis getting 600,000 dollars of those funds.

Bottineau and Marshall Terrace neighborhoods formed the EQL, Environmental Quality of Life, and Committee that meets to this day and has a Facebook page on the BNA Facebook. This current health prevalence study, for which we are requesting a funds transfer to C-37219, is an out-growth of previous study we did of vital statistics that spanned 19 years of deceased people around the Lowry Bridge that showed air pollution related deaths are 350% higher around the Lowry Bridge than in other parts of Hennepin County. This prevalence study will show how often the living are getting sick of air pollution related diseases and be compared to Hennepin County, Minnesota and the US in an age, race, sex, and income adjusted manner just as was our previous study of the dead was analyzed.

We need the funds to pay an MPH intern from the University Of Minnesota Department Of Public Health and to pay for the postage to mail the surveys to a random sample of people around the Lowry Bridge.