UPDATES

Northside Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC) Community Benefits Agreement Presentation
NRRC has requested time to share with the community the results of their work on the CBA. For questions please contact NRRC at (612)335-5924.

UROC UPDATES

--U Purchases Plymouth Penn Shopping Center
The University of Minnesota has purchased the Plymouth Penn Shopping Center property at 2001 Plymouth Ave. N. in North Minneapolis. The property was acquired from the Northside Residents Redevelopment Council, Inc. (NRRC) on Feb. 6 at a cost of $1,125,000. The property comprises 2.19 acres and features a 21,374 square foot structure.

The existing building on the property will be renovated and house the university’s newly created Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC). Expected to anchor the university’s presence in the community, the center will coordinate and facilitate new and existing university research, outreach and engagement activities related to North Minneapolis, such as the University Northside Partnership, and provide residents easier access to university programs and services.

--Conversations on Managing the Mortgage Crisis in North Minneapolis
UROC-UNP co-sponsored an on campus meeting regarding the impact of mortgage foreclosure on north Minneapolis on Wednesday February 13th. Participants of that event who are interested in working on the action steps have been invited to attend today’s Community Affairs Committee meeting. Beginning at 3:00 p.m. those present will begin to discuss outcomes, strategies and action steps to address impact on the north side.
--Proposal to the Bush Foundation

The University of Minnesota is preparing a $1.5M over three years grant request to be submitted to the Bush Foundation to support a new initiative entitled “The University of Minnesota Urban Outreach and Community Engagement Initiative.” This project would develop a model for organizing and coordinating activities that engage University faculty, staff and students in partnership with community organizations, residents, and other partners to address issues of primary importance to urban communities and that are important to the University’s educational mission. Specific activities would be aimed at strengthening relationships between the University and the UNP in order to support existing and foster new effective and sustainable partnerships; building the capacity of community partners and affirming the value of their contributions; and ensuring timely and significant flow of communications by building UROC’s website and strengthening UNP’s web presence.

FIPSE Grant to Support activities for UROC

A $1,153,000 grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) has been awarded to the University of Minnesota, with Senior Vice President Robert Jones and Associate Vice President Geoff Maruyama serving as co-principal investigators to develop an urban research and outreach/engagement center (UROC) model. The grant extends over a three year period from Nov 1, 2007 - Oct 31, 2010.

Focused on needs—education and human development, economic and community development, and urban health—identified through a community listening process, the FIPSE-UROC grant is seeding efforts of teams to carry out collaborative activities including research, outreach, and service learning that build on community and University expertise. The project is establishing collaborative activities in education, focusing on out of school time; economic development, emphasizing youth entrepreneurship programming; and urban health, targeting issues of healthy foods, nutrition, obesity, and exercise. For more information on the FIPSE-UROC grant please contact Geoff Maruyama at geoff@umn.edu or (612) 625-5861.

CENTER FOR URBAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS (CURA)

--Charles Krusell Community Development Fellowship

The Krusell Fellowship is the most comprehensive scholarship program for students interested in community development. Krusell Fellows are recruited from diverse backgrounds. During the two years of their academic program, students receive a full scholarship plus three paid field placements with community agencies. Prospective students interested in more information about the Krusell Fellowship can contact the Humphrey Institute Admissions Office at 612-626-7229 or HHAdmit@umn.edu.

--Neighborhood Partnership Initiative Program (NPI)

at the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) supports innovative and effective partnerships that involve new constituencies, solve problems, and improve the community for everybody. Grants up to $10,000 will be awarded to successful applicants. Deadline: April 15, 2008. For more information visit: http://www.cura.umn.edu/NPI.php
-- Northside Seed Grants (NSG) Spring Round of Competition These seed grants support community organizations that operate programs serving residents of the Minneapolis Northside community by providing student research assistants and faculty researchers to carry out neighborhood-initiated and neighborhood-guided projects. The program provides approximately 200 hours of student time to work on a project defined by the community (260 hours during the summer.) Applications are available online at the Center for Urban & Regional Affairs (CURA) website: http://www.cura.umn.edu/NSG.php For more information contact Kris Nelson, the University-Northside Partnership Seed Grant coordinator, by phone at 612-625-1020 or by e-mail at ksn@umn.edu. Deadline: March 15, 2008.

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board – BCBS Active Living Grant
BlueCross/BlueShield (BC/BS) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) called Active Living Minnesota that focuses on making physical activity a routine part of daily life in Minnesota neighborhoods, cities and counties. Emily Ero-Phillips, planner with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has contacted UROC-UNP to determine how we might be able to partner to apply for this grant. The next meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, February 26 from 3:30 to 4:30 at the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Office 2117 West River Road in Minneapolis. For more information contact Emily at: eero-phillips@minneapolisparks.org or call the office at: 612 230-6400.