

The Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program



2002 Voter's Guide



**for the NRP Policy Board
Neighborhood Representative Election**

Compiled by the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis NRP

2002 NRP Voter's Guide

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As part of the election process, NRP Policy Board candidates were asked to respond to the following questions in 100 words or less:

1. How have your life/work experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?
2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?
3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?
4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?
5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.
6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?
7. Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.
8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

The following pages of this publication feature the responses each candidate submitted to the questions above.

Published candidate responses have been retyped but otherwise remain intentionally unedited by those who compiled this guide.

The 2002 Voter's Guide is compiled by the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis NRP to provide information to City residents about those candidates seeking a Neighborhood Representative seat on the 2003 NRP Policy Board. Candidates are running in one of four categories: at-large, protection, revitalization or redirection. Electors selected by each neighborhood organization to vote on behalf of their neighborhood will vote for one representative and one alternate to sit on the NRP Policy Board from their neighborhood category and for an at-large representative and alternate.

The 2002 NRP Policy Board Neighborhood Representative candidate forums/election will begin at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, November 21, 2002 on the second floor of the Crown Roller Mill Building, 105 Fifth Avenue South. One candidate forum will be held in each of the four categories. Candidates will introduce themselves and respond to questions submitted by the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis and audience members. Candidate forums are moderated by LWV members and are free and open to the public.

The Crown Roller Mill Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Parking is available on the street, in surface parking lots and in the Gateway and Depot ramps. However, the NRP will not reimburse parking fees. To request language interpretation or childcare services during election events, please call 673-5158 at least one week prior to the election. For more information about the NRP Policy Board election process, call 333-6319. For bus information, call the MTCO Bus Line at 373-3333.

At-Large Candidates



represent all of the Minneapolis
neighborhoods participating in the NRP.

- Julia Burman.....4-5
- Ron Ravensborg.....6-7

Julia Burman

No Occupation listed

Address: 2543 Jackson St NE (55418)

Neighborhood of Residence: Holland

Years in Neighborhood: 17 years Years in Minneapolis: Lifetime

Phone: 612-788-6766

E-Mail: JKBurman@att.net



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

Being a community volunteer in neighborhoods, schools, scouting, as well as my experience in administrative support services have given me the foundation necessary to understand and look for solutions to the issues that face our neighborhoods.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The strengths of the NRP include:

- Strengthening citizen participation
- Enabling residents to find solutions specifically tailored to the needs of their communities
- Providing resources to implement those solutions.

The weaknesses would include:

- Technical expertise expected of neighborhoods which some may not have
- The current uncertainty regarding future funding

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have been a board member, president and staff over the 11 years I've been involved in my neighborhood association. During the first year of Holland's NRP participation, I was employed as the Holland NRP Neighborhood Coordinator. In this position, I worked on all aspects of design and preparation of the 1st step plan. I continued to work on the plan and other NRP projects as a volunteer.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

Ideally, I would have at least one contact person in each of the neighborhood organization. I will attend meetings as needed. I am also available by phone, e-mail or letter.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

Identifying the resources for full funding for Phase II of NRP must be a priority for all of us. I would like to ensure the continuation of NRP resources to be allocated through neighborhood plans and to assure that the best of NRP is saved.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

NRP is an important revitalization and development tool. Being a neighborhood representative will allow me to use my background in neighborhood issues to support the work of the neighborhoods within the framework of the NRP.

7. Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

- Holland Neighborhood Housing Committee
- NE Community Development Corporation Interim Board of Directors
- Neighbors for Neighborhoods

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Volunteer for various community activities listed above (unpaid)

Ron Ravensborg

Investment Finance Broker

Address: 5348 10th Ave S (55417)

Neighborhood of Residence: Hale

Years in Neighborhood: 1.5 years Years in Minneapolis: 16 years

Phone: 612-618-4946 (cell)

E-Mail: rravensborg@aol.com



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have lived and worked in Minneapolis for over 16 years, experiencing and welcoming the challenges our city has to offer. By trade I have worked as a home restorationist, and am acutely aware of the need to preserve and maintain quality housing for all of our residents. I also have long been an advocate for our insuring the vitality and diversity of all of our city's neighborhoods, including serving as a volunteer baseball coach for city youth. I possess an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (B.A., CLA) and have performed additional MBA coursework at the University of ST. Thomas. Finally, I have had the privilege of serving on the NRP Policy Board this past year as the At-Large Representative.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Without question, the major strength of the NRP is the ability for neighborhood residents to meet their own needs with innovative ideas and flexible plans; plans they can implement with real dollars. NRP's biggest weakness is our need to rely upon the annual city council and mayoral budgeting process for funding.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

This past year I have worked hard while serving on the Policy Board as the At-Large Representative to prevent the NRP from being folded into CPED, the proposed reorganization of city departments that would change the NRP from an innovative, neighborhood-focused program into a nominally-funded advisory panel. Additionally, I have been a vocal proponent on the Policy Board of guaranteed – not conditional – funding for each neighborhood proposal the board approves. Currently, I am helping lead a drive to release two million in previously designated NRP dollars for the revitalization of neglected commercial corridors.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I plan to maintain relationships with neighborhoods through periodic letters and phone calls with the neighborhood NRP representatives. If the situations should warrant it, I shall do more.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

I shall devote myself to insuring the survival of the NRP in its current form. After 10 years of hard-earned experience, innovation and cooperation, our neighborhood organizations cannot be allowed to be reduced to fighting each other over vastly reduced (and arbitrary) discretionary dollars.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

After one year of work on the NRP Policy Board as the At-Large Representative, I can see more clearly than ever that we need full, permanent funding for the NRP. This past year demonstrated that we cannot rely upon the political promises of our city leaders to guarantee the survival of one of the most successful neighborhood programs in our nation. I believe I can best accomplish that goal by returning to the Policy Board of a second term.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

I am a member of the Twin Cities Bungalow Club, the Hennepin County Historical Society, and the HPDL neighborhood organization.

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

None

Protection Candidates



represent the 30 Minneapolis neighborhoods
experiencing few social, physical and economic problems,
but requiring attention to maintain their quality of life.

- Debbie Evans.....9-10
- Nicholas T. Kakos.....11-12
- Jeffrey L. Strand.....13-16

Debbie Evans

Marketing Promotions Manager

Address: 3807 Zenith Ave S (55410)

Neighborhood of Residence: Linden Hills

Years in Neighborhood: 14 years Years in Minneapolis: 14 years

Phone: 612-860-2526

E-Mail: devans3807@aol.com



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

As a Policy Board member, I would be an advocate for neighborhoods, marketing NRP neighborhoods' needs to the Board and others. I would approach my work with energy, enthusiasm, careful planning, preparation, attention to detail, and follow through.

My service as a board member and former LHiNC co-chair, founding member of Neighbors for Neighborhoods, planner and facilitator of neighborhood conferences with the mayor and council members and an NRP Management Review Team Neighborhood Representative has prepared me for serving on the Policy Board.

It is a representative's responsibility to inform neighborhoods of concerns and opportunities regarding NRP. The long-term dedicated neighborhood funding issue has been ignored while the McKinsey Report is being implemented. This should be a serious concern to all of the City's neighborhoods.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

STRENGTHS:

Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed. It's the only thing that ever has." This is NRP. In 1991 Minneapolis residents were given the opportunity to determine funding priorities for their neighborhoods. Through NRP, citizens have been able to make giant strides in improving their neighborhoods and building a sense of community.

Through NRP, neighborhood organization's have had the ability to use tax dollars to leverage other funds. NRP projects have leveraged more than a **HALF BILLION DOLLARS...\$500,000,000.**

WEAKNESSES:

The uncertainty of future funding for NRP generates volunteer frustration, burnout and excessive turnover.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have been deeply involved in LHiNC and its NRP planning and implementation process since 1995. I have Co-chaired the LHiNC Board, the Natural Environment Committee, the Commercial Business/Commercial Property Committee and Chaired the Communications Committee and served on the Finance and Education/Environment Committees. I have been editor of the *Linden Hills News* since 1997. I have overseen the implementation of LHiNC's NRP projects, big and small, and secured extensive matches for neighborhood NRP dollars.

I am presently serving as the Protection Neighborhood's Representative to NRP's Management Review Team.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I would inform neighborhoods of important NRP issues and be a resource for information and support for neighborhoods during their Phase I Plan Review process and their Phase II planning process. I would be readily available to neighborhood board members via phone, fax and e-mail, and attend as many neighborhood meetings as possible. I would host meetings/events to disseminate and/or exchange information. I would be your advocate at the Policy Board. I would facilitate neighborhood responses to elected officials on the very important decisions being made regarding the future of NRP.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

Sorry, There are FOUR:

- 1) ENSURE FULL FUNDING OF NRP.
- 2) Improve and streamline neighborhood/agency relationships.
- 3) Promote neighborhood awareness of opportunities to secure additional funds, e.g. grants, in-kind contributions, untapped neighborhood resources, sharing/pooling of resources across neighborhoods.
- 4) Encourage neighborhoods to build on their Phase I accomplishments as they begin Phase II.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I have deep respect for neighborhood volunteers. I would be a strong and ever present advocate for neighborhoods and their investment of volunteer time and energy. As a Neighborhood Representative, I would be a constant reminder to the Policy Board that government is here to help meet the needs that residents cannot meet by themselves.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

NRP Management Review Team, Neighborhood Representative
 Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (LHiNC), Board Member & former Co-Chair
 LHiNC Communication Committee, Chair
 LHiNC Commercial Business/Commercial Property Committee, Co-Chair
Linden Hills News, Editor
 Neighbors For Neighborhoods, Member
 Animal Humane Society, Foster Parent

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Marketing Promotions Manager, HMT Marketing, Inc.
 All of the positions as noted in #7 above are unpaid.

Nicholas T. Kakos

Licensed Public Accountant

Address: 3240 Humboldt Ave S (55408)

Neighborhood of Residence: East Calhoun (ECCO)

Years in Neighborhood: 56 years Years in Minneapolis: Life

Phone: 612-825-9709

E-Mail: None listed



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

Lifetime experience working as a volunteer leader, organizer or director in community, church, school or youth recreation programs has provided me a strong base of understanding the needs and capability to work effectively with neighborhood organizations. As a Protection Neighborhood Representative the past 6 years, I have learned to project and provide guidance and direction on an equitable basis to the NRP program on a citywide basis.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The strength of the NRP program is derived from the tremendous volunteer citizen participation involvement enabling neighborhoods to determine their own needs and cooperatively develop and implement their own plans in attaining their community's long term visionary improvement objectives. From an overall viewpoint, there are no significant weaknesses in the NRP program. Recent policy and procedural changes implemented during the past two years have streamlined the NRP process, which has greatly reduced concerns of high citizen participation turnover and burn-out.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I was Chairperson of the East Calhoun NRP Steering Committee for 3 years directly responsible for development of the neighborhood's Action Plan. Currently, I am on the East Calhoun Neighborhood Organization's Board of Directors which is responsible for implementation of our Phase I Action Plan.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

Experience has shown that it is difficult to maintain direct communication and attend meetings of all 31 Protection Neighborhoods. Currently, all relevant information, issues, policy changes are effectively communicated to the neighborhoods by NRP staff under the direction of the Policy Board through its Executive Director which adequately provides each neighborhood with up to date information. Nonetheless, I would make myself available when requested to attend meetings, provide information, counsel, guidance and any assistance to neighborhood when needed.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

The Tax Revenue changes enacted by the State Legislature in 2001 has directly affected the future funding mechanism for the NRP program creating significant uncertainties as to the program's long term survival. Because of my financial experience and knowledge of NRP's intricate financial structure, I would concentrate in exploring and attempting to obtain long term financial commitments from the City of Minneapolis to alleviate this problem. I would also work towards maintaining the independence of the Policy Board currently threatened by recommendations of the McKinsey Report.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

My 6 years on the NRP Policy Board have taught me that the financial structure is not simple, but complex with many intermingling financial, legal and governmental jurisdictional requirements. With our current critical funding uncertainties threatening the future of NRP, there will be many important financial decisions to make. My financial background, experience and current participation in analyzing the options available to NRP should be helpful in making every effort possible to assure the future continuation of an independent, community driven NRP program on a strong, sound financial basis.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

NRP Policy Board

Board of Directors, East Calhoun Community Organization

Hellenic Post 129, American Legion – Finance Officer

Fifth District American Legion, Executive Board & Baseball Director

Minnesota Department American Legion, State Baseball Committee

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Affiliation with all community-based organizations is on a voluntary non-compensated basis. I receive no compensation for services from any of these organizations.

Jeffrey L. Strand

Public Records Supervisor, Hennepin County

Address: 5100 Thomas Ave N (55430)

Neighborhood of Residence: Shingle Creek (Camden Community, 4th Ward)

Years in Neighborhood: 13 years Years in Minneapolis: 24 years

Phone: 612-588-4817

E-Mail: STRAND-JEPPESEN@mn.rr.com



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

My life/work experiences helped me to develop and refine critical thinking, a respect for fair play, a desire to resolve problems through “win-win” solutions, and to empathize with others. I am grateful to have been given the fantastic opportunity by the duly elected neighborhood electors to serve as Protection Neighborhoods representative during 2002. I served an unexpired 2001 term on the Policy Board subsequent to the resignation of the representative for Revitalization neighborhoods. By having this experience, I was able to work effectively on the Policy Board to achieve or advance some important initiatives to work to defend the program.

I have lived in Minneapolis for 24 years. In that period I have been a student, a renter, an apartment caretaker, a homeowner, a downtown worker, a municipal volunteer, an AFSCME union member, a neighborhood director and chair, a GLBT and DFL political activist, a supervisor, a community activist. My local government career has given me an opportunity to meet and work with an array of residents-taxpayers, neighborhood activists, business persons, elected officials, and local and state government staff.

My work is team-oriented, including participation in the following groups: Minneapolis Industrial Lands Employment Strategy (MILES) committee; County Environmental Assessment Team; MCDA Tax-Forfeit Orphan Sites US-EPA Brownfield’s Pilot Project; Minneapolis/Hennepin County Collaborative on Vacant, Boarded and Tax-Forfeit Properties (Boarded Buildings Task Force). I have served as a volunteer on the Minneapolis Capital Long-Range Improvements Committee for 8 years. My CLIC colleagues asked me to serve on the Water Works Advisory Committee, which ultimately recommended the city implement a multi-million dollar capital investment in membrane filtration to protect the city’s potable water supply. I formerly served on the Management Review Team including work on a grievance panel.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

I have been a neighborhood activist and an advocate for NRP for over a decade. NRP’s true strength and wisdom resides in Minneapolis citizens, the essence of the program. The long-term value and effectiveness of the Minneapolis NRP has been demonstrated by citizen participation and input in numerous neighborhood-based municipal projects. The NRP provides a means for “bottom-up” planning that fosters innovation and develops citizen leaders.

The core of the NRP process is its role in redirecting municipal planning and resources rather than going after “the money.” This last comment has been especially true as one working in the context of a Protection category neighborhood organization, where prudent use of limited resources has been mandatory. I view neighborhood activism as another form of good citizenship—just like voting, paying one’s taxes, caring about one’s neighbors, and maintaining one’s home.

Despite existing for more than a decade, a weakness of the NRP is the extent to which the municipal bureaucracy and officials have failed to embrace the neighborhoods-based planning arising from the NRP program. Mayor

Rybak and a majority of council members espouse support for the NRP. We should expect greater integration between the NRP and the municipal bureaucracy and systems during the Rybak administration.

Of equal importance as a weakness is the present lack of committed long-term funding for the NRP Phase II. While the commitments made by prior municipal officials to neighborhoods may not be legally binding, there is certainly a moral obligation for sitting officials to do their utmost to honor those promises. Only the State Legislature can break its promises with impunity through sovereign immunity. The mayor and city council may be unwilling or unable to guarantee long-term funding for NRP. In that case, I support a carefully crafted Minneapolis City Charter amendment to bring the issue to a vote of the people to establish the NRP Program under the City Charter and to re-secure the program's funding.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have been board chair of Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association since 1997. The NRP process in Shingle Creek was first being organized by immediate-past Chair Craig Cooper when I moved to the neighborhood in 1989. I helped to form the neighborhood association and to develop the NRP action plan to preserve and enhance the quality of life in my neighborhood and our city. I was elected to the SCNA board of directors in 1992. On behalf of SCNA, I have volunteered or been elected to serve as representative on the Humboldt Greenway Steering Committee; founding delegate to the Mississippi Corridor Neighborhood Coalition; voting delegate on the Penn Lowry Implementation Council; ex officio member on task force to oppose closing of Shingle Creek Elementary school; director on the Community Board of the CommonBond Communities Shingle Creek Commons senior housing facility; and participant in the Camden Alliance of Neighborhoods (CAN!).

Shingle Creek has in September 2002 become eligible for entry into NRP Phase II. The association just celebrated its first decade of existence with a neighborhood meeting and potluck. One of the residents at the neighborhood meeting summarize Shingle Creek as "the mouse that roared", citing the numerous achievements through the first ten years of NRP in such a small neighborhood having a relatively small NRP allocation. Among the achievements include: creation of trail linkage between city and county trail systems; Clarence Labelle VFW housing redevelopment, Owens Corning off-street truck staging area; Olson Middle School gym improvements; Humboldt Greenway Project; Shingle Creek regional pond-wetlands reclamation and trails; enterprise facilitation; uniforms for Creekview Park youth programs; Shingle Creek Commons senior housing; task force and moratorium on closing Shingle Creek Elementary Environmental Magnet School. Most recently, I have facilitated a community-based visioning, planning, and greening process for the Humboldt Industrial Area with Council Member Johnson, and with assistance from MCDA, Minneapolis Planning, CEAC and CUE that has involved residents and industry.

I have chaired the association's monthly meetings. I have represented the neighborhood's interests at public meetings and while speaking before the City Council committees, Park Board Commissioners, Minneapolis School Board, and at the committee of the Minnesota Legislature in 1998 while seeking funding for the Humboldt Greenway project. I have written articles for the neighborhood newsletter and have composed numerous letters and emails, or initiated phone calls to local elected officials and government staff seeking redress of neighborhood problems. I have coordinated seven plan modifications to the Shingle Creek NRP Action Plan to accommodate changes in neighborhood priorities, or to support local government planning goals supported by the neighborhood.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I can only promise to do my best to remain accessible to those whom I represent if re-elected. I would continue to use my knowledge, experience and networking skills developed as a neighborhood chair, long-time board member and community activist to ensure successful communication among the various stake holders involved

in the NRP process. The four neighborhood representatives have worked together closely during 2002. I believe my service on CLIC and on the Policy Board demonstrates I can work effectively with officials and representatives from different wards and interest groups to work for the common good.

Policy Board meetings generally do not attract large number of the public. Phase II plan activity should increase during 2003, so it is likely more residents and neighborhood activists will attend meetings. We all have busy schedules. You should be able to trust your elected neighborhood representatives to act wisely on your behalf. Policy Board meetings occur at the Government Center. If the neighborhood organizations and residents request it, I would support holding Policy Board meetings in different parts of the city on a rotating basis to increase accessibility.

If re-elected to serve of 2003, I will continue to support the use of the NRP web site, mailings and the "NRP Link" as primary means of disseminating program and Policy Board information to neighborhoods and residents. You have my promise if re-elected that I will remain accessible to concerned neighborhoods and residents on NRP issues. I have concluded that using existing NRP resources makes more sense than providing neighborhood representatives with a separate communications budget. By way of example about communications, following the Policy Board debate on the McKinsey Report I requested that NRP administration post the Chair's letter sent to the mayor and city council on the web site. I also posted a message regarding this matter to the Minneapolis Issues forum. I strongly support regular notification to and solicitation of comments from the neighborhoods on proposed policies that the Policy Board is considering.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

Securing long-term funding for the NRP should be the primary goal, which will require strong support from the mayor and city council, the participating jurisdictions, and the voters. But there are other initiatives underway. I would like to serve another term on the Policy Board to complete some of the initiatives that I supported during 2002. If re-elected to the Policy Board I will advocate for the joint powers jurisdictions to adopt the Policy Board bylaws amendments. I served on the bylaws subcommittee with Commissioner Dorfman and Ken Kelash. Revision and updating of the bylaws was an election goal from last year. Changes approved by the Policy Board and subject to ratification by the joint powers jurisdictions include an increase in neighborhood representatives from 4 to 5 and requirements for active participation from representatives from community interests.

In last year's election guide I stated that "As a person having firsthand experience at the neighborhood level, it seems to me that the Policy Board and the NRP have plenty of rules and regulations to impose on the neighborhood organizations and residents/participants. It seems to me that NRP ought to review what additional support services it can provide to neighborhood organizations and residents to streamline reporting processes, to centralize available resources, and to reduce the burden of "red tape." I worked on the Policy Board to have adopted a program for Accounting Assistance for neighborhoods, which the NRP should be piloting in late 2002. Ensuring neighborhood enthusiasm and advancing the program is important.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I am running for re-election to the Policy Board for the 2003 term for a number of reasons.

- To continue work with the mayor, city council, and joint powers jurisdictions on securing long term funding for NRP
- To push for adoption by the jurisdictions of the Policy Board bylaws changes that we already worked on earlier this year
- To see that the NRP follows through on providing enhanced neighborhood support such as the Accounting Assistance

- To prudently consider the continued implementation of the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund and Commercial Area Development Reserve Fund, but to achieve better geographic balance of distribution of those funds to projects in the city
- To fight for continued independence of the NRP while the mayor and city-council initiated planning and community development reforms are implemented

My prior Management Review Team and Policy Board service means that I am comfortable reviewing the neighborhood action plans, participation agreements and plan modifications, and other matters that come before the NRP Policy Board. As the record reflects, I attend and speak up in meetings because I consider it critical that anyone serving as a neighborhood representative on the Policy Board not be hesitant about asking direct and tough questions. If re-elected I will do my best to preserve the integrity of the program and to represent the neighborhood organizations and citizens.

The Policy Board is still dealing with the financial ramifications of the blow dealt the NRP by the Minnesota Legislature when it passed the 2001 Property Tax Reform. Release of the McKinsey Report required a deliberate and measured response from the Policy Board in its fiduciary role as the governing body of the joint powers entity that is the NRP. Director Miller has said effective neighborhood representation during 2003 will be critical; I concur. I will work on your behalf to preserve the integrity and autonomy of the NRP's neighborhoods-based planning and goal setting processes. To impact policy the four neighborhood representatives cannot rely on their votes alone. Rather they must rely on their personal integrity, credibility, and persuasion to craft and shape policies developed by the Policy Board. I respectfully ask for your vote as Protection Neighborhoods Representative for 2003.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association, Board Chair/Association President
 Penn Lowry Implementation Council, Secretary/SCNA Voting Delegate (term limited as of October 2002)
 Shingle Creek Commons Senior Housing Community Board (CommonBond Communities) Director
 Camden Alliance of Neighborhoods (CAN!), participant from SCNA

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Paid: Employer: Taxpayer Services Department, Hennepin County, Minnesota

Volunteer or Unpaid:

- NRP Policy Board Member, 2002 Protection Neighborhoods Representative
- Minneapolis Capital Long-Range Improvements Committee, 4th Ward Appointee, Transportation and Property Services Task Force Chair, Executive Committee
- DFL Party: Senate District 58 DFL Party Secretary, Minneapolis DFL Central Committee, DFL 4th Ward Co-Coordinator
- Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, financial contributor
- Minnesota Public Radio, donor/member
- HC-2002 Employees Combined Charitable Campaign, department coordinator
- Community Crime Prevention/SAFE
- Hennepin History Museum, donor
- Minneapolis-Moline Collectors, Inc., club member
- Hart-Parr Oliver Collector's Association, member #7821
- State Agricultural Heritage Museum, Brookings, South Dakota, member/donor
- Minnesota's Machinery Museum, Hanley Falls, Minnesota, donor/member
- TPT – Twin Cities Public Television, member #1918897
- City-County Federal Credit Union and Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union, member

Redirection Candidates



represent the 13 Minneapolis neighborhoods experiencing
serious social, physical and economic problems.

- Zachary Korb.....18-19
- Carol Pass.....20-21

Zachary Korb

Program Analyst – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Address: 1830 Stevens Ave. S. #34 (55403)

Neighborhood of Residence: Stevens Square

Years in Neighborhood: Less than 1 year Years in Minneapolis: 3 years

Phone: 612-871-5249

E-Mail: zacharykorb@yahoo.com



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have worked hard to commit my skills and energy to citizen-based community improvement work. This has included many life / work experiences, such as:

- Several experiences with the NRP from multiple perspectives: as an active resident, neighborhood staff person, and as a member of my Neighborhood Board.
- Work in local community and economic development areas, both within Minneapolis neighborhoods and outside of Minnesota.
- AmeriCorps service in Redirection Neighborhoods.
- An interest and experience in community development policy issues.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

NRP Strengths:

- *Provides residents with many opportunities to be engaged, democratic, and political in their communities.* The NRP provides numerous opportunities for residents to be involved in their community, shape large decisions, and implement important projects. This type of work entails working with other neighbors and government agencies – a process that can be both frustrating and rewarding. This negotiation, frustration, and common work of the NRP makes our communities more engaged, democratic, and politically savvy.
- *Provides significant resources for citizen work.* Undoubtedly many important projects are undertaken, and successful, due to the resources of the NRP. Additionally, these resources let residents devote more of their time to the important work of planning and implementing projects in their neighborhoods, rather than to fundraising efforts to sustain their organizations.
- *Helps to build a sense of identity in our neighborhoods.* The process of working with the NRP builds common experiences in neighborhoods. These experiences help create a neighborhood identity – a connection to the place where you live and with your neighbors. Additionally, the NRP has helped to raise the credibility of neighborhood-level work within Minneapolis.

NRP Weaknesses:

- *The NRP does not draw upon all of our citizen resources.* Much success has come from residents working together with the NRP. However the NRP needs to do a much better job of drawing upon all of the citizen resources in neighborhoods. Many groups remain underrepresented in the NRP and we need to do a better job of attracting them, and letting them share in the benefits of involvement.
- *Some projects are defined by neighborhood boundaries when issues impact an area larger than a single neighborhood.* Some NRP planning and projects put fences up at their City/NRP-defined neighborhood boundaries. Issues often impact areas larger than a single neighborhood. I think we should continue to encourage communities to plan together, combine resources, and implement projects across their boundaries when appropriate.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have been involved with my neighborhood organization and the NRP in several ways. When I moved back to Minneapolis this summer, I began to attend neighborhood meetings in my current neighborhood- Stevens Square (SSCO). I am also involved with SSCO's Housing and Community Development Committee and I plan to support efforts to finalize and implement SSCO's Phase II Plan.

Previously, I was involved with Citizens for A Loring Park Community as a Board Member. I was also the staff person with the CARAG neighborhood. At CARAG, I supported NRP First Step implementation efforts and aided in the development of CARAG's Full Action Plan and Neighborhood Master Plan.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I will maintain relationships with the neighborhoods in several ways. These include attending neighborhood meetings and holding community forums when critical issues arise. I will make myself available by phone and email.

I will also establish an email discussion list with each Redirection Neighborhood Board and Staff. This list will be used to create a forum between Redirection Neighborhoods and myself, sharing ideas and experiences on Policy Board issues.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

There are two areas that I would like to work on if elected. First, I want to continue to promote the involvement of groups that remain less represented in the NRP. I think there is much more to be gained from broader participation in the NRP. Secondly, I want to work on understanding the long-term impact of the McKinsey report and its recommendations on the NRP. I want to make sure the NRP, and neighborhoods, have a legitimate and integral role in shaping citywide development.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I am interested in working on community development efforts in new ways in Minneapolis. My experiences have been committed to citizen-driven efforts and the NRP is one of the most exciting programs I have participated in. I am running for the Policy Board because I will bring a new and fresh approach to the Board with energy to try and understand how to make the NRP work better.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Stevens Square Community Organization

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Paid: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Unpaid: American Planning Association

Civic Alliance to Rebuild Downtown New York

Carol Pass

College Teacher/Property Management

Address: 2536 18th Ave S (55404)

Neighborhood of Residence: East Phillips

Years in Neighborhood: 30 years Years in Minneapolis: 35 years

Phone: 612-721-4509

E-Mail: bpass@usinternet.com



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have lived in an inner urban core neighborhood for 30 years, raised my children here, foster parented children here, hired neighborhood people here, helped get kids into college from Phillips, rehabbed houses here, presided over redevelopment, crime control, and general beautification. As a college teacher, I mentored inner city college students, so I've helped at the other end when kids move on as well. My son has chosen to live in Phillips and teaches at North High. He owns a home and he and his wife are now raising their kids here. My work in housing and social issues of every sort has educated me as have all these other experiences. I know and love the city, especially Phillips, and it has taught me well.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The greatest strength of the NRP is the granting of full discretionary decision-making power over funding allocations to the individual neighborhoods. While this has sometimes caused dissension, in general it has leveraged countless volunteer hours and dramatically empowered neighborhoods. It has engendered some of the best creativity in urban planning anywhere and, as the neighborhoods have matured in this process, has led to valuable coalition building and collaboration among neighborhoods. The greatest weakness is that the centralized bureaucracy needed to watch over and guide the neighborhoods can be as sluggish and immersed in personal issues, as any other bureaucracy, and, of course, neighborhood bureaucracies can suffer from these problems as well. The additional training for neighborhoods is a strength also, and much appreciated.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I began as a housing board member before the break up of People of Phillips and was a founding member of our new organization, East Phillips Improvement Coalition. I have continuously been its Housing and Redevelopment Chair and am the current treasurer of the organization. I chair the East Phillips Commons redevelopment on Lake and Bloomington, a collaboration of Powderhorn, Midtown Phillips and East Phillips. I have been a representative on the High Lake Guidelines committee, collaborating with Longfellow and Corcoran neighborhoods. I have helped start and maintain the Bloomington Ave. Citizen's Patrol, a crime control street patrol of Midtown and East Phillips. I am currently helping begin a Home Block Nurse Program for East and Midtown Phillips, which will be using NRP funds. We have guided our process for maximum leverage and accountability and been careful to maximize our finances toward affordable housing production and maintenance. I am also on the Village in Phillips Redevelopment Board. These projects both were initiated by NRP funds and will create roughly 200 plus affordable housing units.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I am currently working with the multi-neighborhood process to address the mayor and city council regarding neighborhood issues. Several redirection neighborhoods are involved and we maintain a relationship through the staff and volunteers in that process. I would hope to visit more of the redirection neighborhoods actual meetings and ask them to voice key issues. An e-mail space for questions and answers like a web-site would be very valuable to poll regarding specific issues. Having been a representative for one year has made me aware that regular contact has not been there. The multi-neighborhood group is the closest we've come, so I am committed to amplifying the voice of the redirection neighborhoods on the NRP Board and elsewhere.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

I would like to assist the inner core and redirection neighborhoods in having a larger and more focused voice in city affairs in general with regard to specific issues and overall city policy. I would like to assist them in beginning a process to learn strategies from one another. We could also learn from one another's creative solutions and programs. I envision a joint conference of the Redirection Neighborhoods. This would be a hard project to accomplish, but extremely valuable.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I have served a very complex and busy year on the Policy Board. I feel that this experience has skilled me up to be far more useful to the Redirection Neighborhoods. We are confronted with very serious structural and financial issues about which I have formed strong convictions based on guarding the empowerment and financial future of the neighborhoods. I am convinced that both ample funding and discretionary power must be retained and I want to be a part of seeing to it that that occurs. I have never missed a meeting or briefing and have worked to be effective. My concept of being effective, of course, has grown, but I hope I have grown too. I would like very much to mentor others toward effectiveness at this post as well. For that I need another year.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

I am a founding member and current treasurer of East Phillips Improvement Coalition. I am President of the Board of our beginning Home Block Nurse Program (EPIC Community of Care) I am part of the Bloomington Ave. Citizen's Patrol, a Board member of Village in Phillips Redevelopment and Chair of East Phillips Commons Redevelopment. I am a member of the Bloomington/Cedar/Lake Commercial Association.

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Treasurer-East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC)
 Chair, East Phillips Commons Redevelopment
 Board member, Village in Phillips Redevelopment
 President, EPIC Community of Care
 Member, Bloomington/Cedar/Lake Commercial Association
 Chair, East Phillips Housing
 Member, Bloomington Ave. Citizen's Patrol
 Member/Delegate – DFL
 Nature Conservancy
 Sierra Club
 Wildlife Defense Fund

Revitalization Candidates



represent the 37 Minneapolis neighborhoods
beginning to experience some social,
physical and economic problems.

-
- Greg Bastien.....23
 - Cam Gordon.....24-25
 - Eric Lindberg.....26

Greg Bastien

Teacher

Address: 2709 E. Minnehaha Pkwy (55417)

Neighborhood of Residence: Nokomis East

Years in Neighborhood: 17 years Years in Minneapolis: 52 years

Phone: 612-722-7582

E-Mail: None listed



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

Prior to being a teacher I spent 25 years working with labor unions. The job entailed advocacy and reaching consensus. The neighborhoods of Minneapolis need advocacy and consensus builders within the changing organizational structures of the city.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The NRP is the only independent community based planning tool within the city structure. It is unique and has been recognized by the United Nations as an empowerment and change agent. The weakness of the NRP is that for many it is viewed as a temporary add-on to city development structures. The neighborhoods need to fully embrace their power by having a NRP.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have participated over the last 8 years in the capacity of steering committee chair, vice-chair of the NENA Executive Board and board member. More importantly volunteering within the neighborhood has allowed me to participate with others in the development of projects that otherwise would never have come to fruition.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

If elected I would reveal my e-mail address and send out a quarterly update. I would also visit random neighborhoods to view projects and meet with their boards.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

Permanent dedicated funding for the NRP. An independent organization with dedicated funding is in the best interests of Minneapolis.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I think I have gathered enough information and experience to represent the neighborhoods on the Policy Board. Neighborhoods need advocacy now to get the message out that the broader the base of support the greater the power to affect positive change within Minneapolis.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

I play violin in community based orchestras and have participated in community theater in Minneapolis.

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

I have been or am a member of the Sierra Club, MPR, Kenwood Chamber Orchestra, TCC Orchestra, Greenpeace, Green Party, NROC, Nature Conservance, Southern Poverty Law Center, WAMM, etc.

Cam Gordon

Teacher

Address: 914 Franklin Terrace (55406)

Neighborhood of Residence: Seward

Years in Neighborhood: 12 years Years in Minneapolis: 45 years

Phone: 612-296-0579

E-Mail: gordo030@umn.edu



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

As Seward Neighborhood Group co-chair (1999 and 2000-2) and board member since 1995, I gained a deeper understanding of neighborhood issues and learned many skills needed to represent people effectively. As chair of the committee that managed Seward's NRP, I gained first hand knowledge of NRP.

My past involvement as board member for the Minneapolis Center for Neighborhoods and other groups have helped me learn more about the challenges that face our city and neighborhoods.

Through my participation in many grassroots efforts to improve our community I believe that I have proven my commitment to our community and worked hard to make this a better place.

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

NRP has had positive impacts on housing and commercial development, as well as on parks, schools, youth programming, support for our elders, arts and cultural efforts and other community initiatives. NRP's strengths lie in its ability to bring communities together to address common concerns and reach for common goals. To do this NRP reaches beyond just the City government – into the neighborhoods and out across jurisdictions. For the first time in some cases, various agencies and jurisdictions throughout the city have had to listen, include, coordinate with and cooperate with neighborhoods, – as well as with each other – to implement improvements.

NRP's weakness is that it cannot always include all the people and sometimes it has asked more of neighborhoods than they have had the capacity to deliver. We must ensure that communities have the support they need. Improved oversight, education and resources will all help neighborhoods make more informed decisions and manage funds more accountably within an open and democratic process.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have served on the board of my Neighborhood Association and as its co-chair for two years. I was also involved in virtually all aspects of our Phase I NRP process. I served on our first NRP committee and helped draft our Participation Agreement. I was chair our Social Environment Committee and served on the Steering Committee that drafted our action plan and for five years I served as chair of our Implementation Oversight Committee.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I would attend meetings periodically in neighborhoods and provide regular written reports to Neighborhood Association Boards. I would also convene regular meetings for interested individuals and create an email forum to share ideas and keep people informed. In general I would also work to maintain open and effective lines of communication and welcome phone calls, letters and emails and respond to them in a timely manner. Additionally I would work to insure that the Policy Board as a whole would make communication with neighborhoods top priority.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

I think that it is vitally important that we work to preserve NRP and its funding through this second phase. Additionally, and in part to do this, we must also be willing to examine how it functions as part of our City's overall planning process. As we work to adjust to possible changes at the City level I am convinced that we must work to keep the NRP program independent, neighborhood centered and driven, as well as a partnership between neighborhoods, the City and all the other jurisdictions that are currently at the table.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I care deeply about our city and its neighborhoods and am convinced that NRP offers an enormous opportunity to improve both. I believe that I have the skills, values, time and energy needed to be an effective representative and I want to apply these to the continued and improved success of NRP.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

The Seward Neighborhood Group (member and volunteer)

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

River's Edge Children's House (the child care, music education business I co-own)

Mayor's Ethics Task Force (volunteer citizen representative)

Green Party of Minnesota (I am an unpaid party official)

Eric D. Lindberg

Retail while Full Time Student

Address: 3439 19th Ave. S. (55407)

Neighborhood of Residence: Corcoran

Years in Neighborhood: 7 years Years in Minneapolis: 11 years

Phone: Not listed

E-Mail: Eric_Corcoran2002@yahoo.com



1. How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I believe my house is typical of the neighborhood housing, and my experience in dealing with the maintenance issues would be relevant. My retail experience has given me a lot of experience dealing with many different people. Attended Longfellow Business Association Meetings until August (semi-regularly) 2002

2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

I'm only aware of the strengths, which I see as vital to the strengthening of our older metropolitan neighborhoods. The NRP is just one way in which we can continue to improve our quality of life whether it be improved "green space" for all residents to enjoy or simply making efficient heating more attainable for someone on a limited or fixed income.

3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I recently received NRP matching funds for my house, a kitchen remodel (much needed) as well as concrete work. Have been involved in various block club activities and currently am a contact for Crime Prevention/Safe.

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I would enjoy attending neighborhood functions as a NRP representative with the intent to hear neighbors concerns and answer their questions about what is happening with the program.

5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.

I feel it is very critical that we maximize the benefit to the neighborhoods, keeping an eye on overhead costs – and that recipients are meeting guidelines which are clear and easily understood would be my primary concern.

6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I have been seeking an opportunity to volunteer with a program that I feel I could make a difference with. I have been very interested in city politics and the way decisions are being made which effect us. I'm currently pursuing a career in paralegal and think this role would both enhance my education and I maybe able to bring something to the position of that nature as well.

7. List any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

None listed.

8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

None unless my job at the retail store counts. If that is the case – Smith & Hawken, 799 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105



Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board Forums & Election

WHEN:

**Thursday, November 21, 2002
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

WHERE:

**2nd Floor, Crown Roller Mill Building
105 Fifth Avenue South
Minneapolis**

THE AGENDA:

- 6:30 - 7:00 p.m..... Registration/Meet the Candidates Social/
Rules Presentation by League of Women Voters**
- 7:00 - 8:15 p.m..... At-Large Candidate Forum & Voting**
- 8:15 - 9:00 p.m..... Redirection, Revitalization and Protection
Candidate Forums & Voting**

**This event is accessible to persons with disabilities. To request language interpretation or childcare services,
call 673-5158 by Thursday, November 14. For more detailed bus information, call MTCO BusLine at 373-3333.**

For more information about the NRP Policy Board election process, call the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis at 333-6319.