

## **Re-allocation of Phase One Action Plan Funds Proposal February 29, 2004**

The ECCO NRP Steering Committee met on Thursday, February 26, 2004 to create the following proposal for use of Phase One Action Plan Funds:

This re-allocation proposal does not recommend a wholesale move of funds from multiple strategies into others within the Action Plan. The Steering Committee proposes that the neighborhood explore one new strategy, expand an existing strategy, continue to have funding for administration, and work to increase funds through a one-time opportunity. In order to complete the proposed action in a timely manner the Steering Committee suggests that the neighborhood proceed in a series of steps, outlined below.

First-

**Approve the following plan modification at the March 2004 Board of Directors Meeting. Move \$12,000 from Recreation Strategy 1.2.1 (Lake Access/Zen Center Crossing) to Implementation Strategy 1.1.1 (Administration).**

Rationale: This will allow the neighborhood to continue to have contracted staff and the ability to create communication material. The neighborhood last moved funds into this strategy in August 2002. The \$12,750 moved at that time covered all costs associated with the Phase One Review and other required administrative duties.

Second-

**Introduce a new strategy for the Phase One Action Plan at the April 2004 Board of Directors Meeting. This strategy would allow for the neighborhood to complete improvements to the "Loon Lake" Trolley Path, including repair to the existing staircase at the end of Corsairs Way.**

Rationale: The existing staircase is a danger to the community due to its disrepair. This new strategy will allow the neighborhood to make improvements that will reduce these dangers. This strategy build on the land survey that the neighborhood approved in 2001 and the continuing volunteer efforts to clean up the path over the last three years. Since this is a new strategy it will require community support and final approval from the Minneapolis City Council. In order to introduce this strategy the Steering Committee will need to develop a budget for repair to the staircase only (estimated at \$15,000) and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board review. This should be complete in March in time for the April meeting.

Third-

**Expand the existing Environmental Strategy 1.5.1 (Community Garden/Tree Fund) to purchase and plant shade trees within the neighborhood in 2004 and to develop a program to preserve the neighborhood existing shade trees. Direct the Environment Committee to produce program guidelines and a budget for Board of Directors approval.**

Rationale: This project will provide more mature trees for the neighborhood to combat the recent rash of tree removals. This will also give some renewed energy to a tree treatment program that neighborhood explored three years ago. There is \$2,543 remaining in this Strategy, any additional funding need would require Board of Directors and possible neighborhood approval.

Fourth-

**Authorize the application to the Minneapolis Police Department for one-time community policing funding to fund the "Rush Hour" Police Buy-Back program.**

Rationale: This is a one-time opportunity to increase NRP funds in East Calhoun. This program is exactly what was approved in the Traffic Plan of 2001. This buy-back would occur in the morning and in the afternoon peak commuter times in an attempt to calm traffic traveling through the neighborhood.