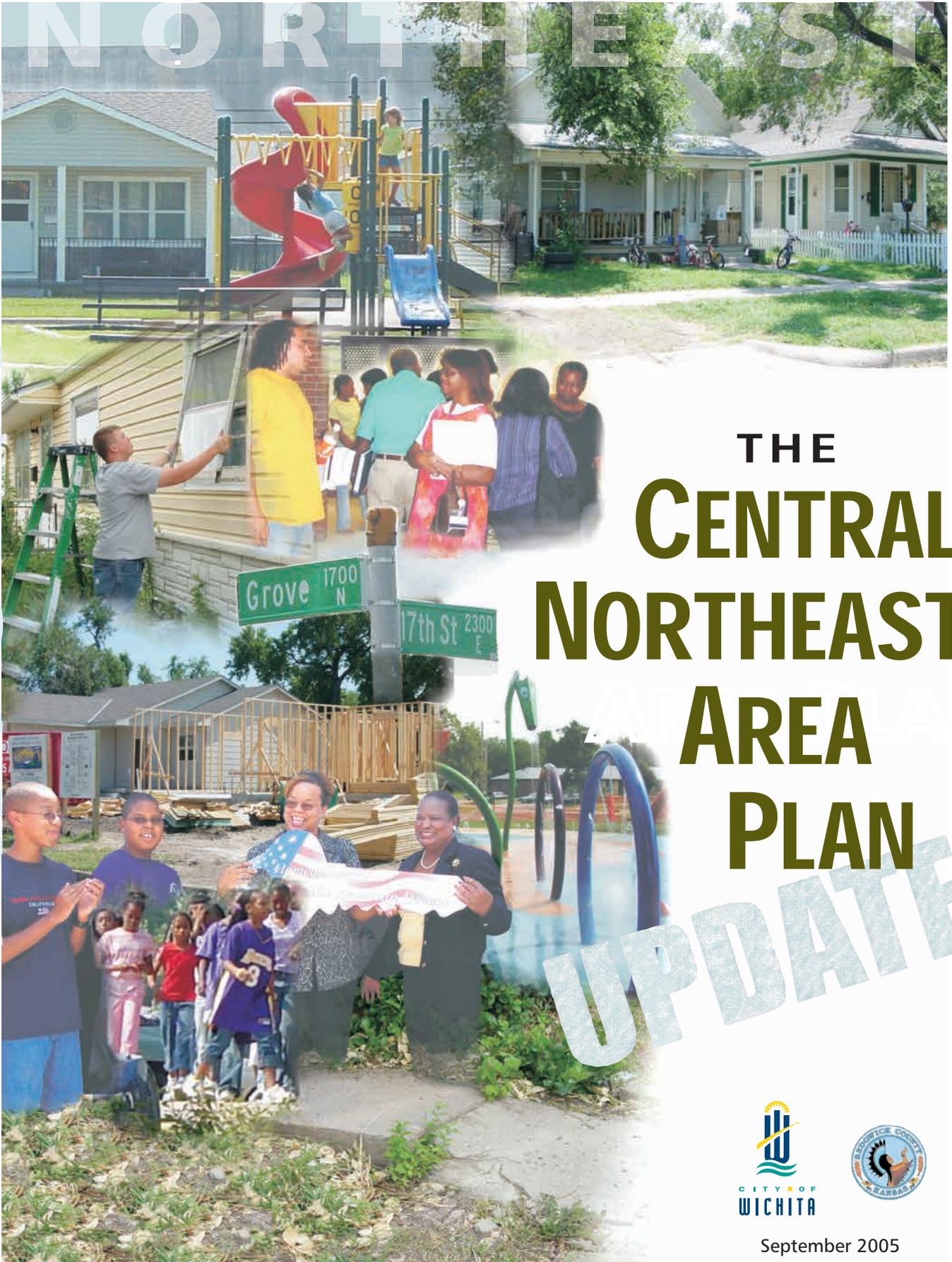


WICHITA'S

NORTHEAST



THE
**CENTRAL
 NORTHEAST
 AREA
 PLAN**

UPDATE



September 2005

ORDINANCE NO. 46-657**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CENTRAL NORTHEAST AREA
PLAN UPDATE AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE WICHITA-SEDGWICK
COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. (DR 2004-00016)**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by the statutes of the State of Kansas, in K.S.A. 12-747 et seq., the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission developed a Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County in 1993, and amended in 1996, 2000, 2002; and 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan may be amended, as needed, to ensure it reflects timely and relevant information and the needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County in collaboration with the Central Northeast Plan Update Steering Committee, 21st Century Coalition for Neighborhood Revitalization, Sunflower Community Action - Northeast Chapter, Mennonite Housing, Country Overlook Neighborhood Association, Fairmount Neighborhood Association, Ken-Mar Neighborhood Association, MacDonald Neighborhood Association, Matlock Heights Neighborhood Association, McAdams Neighborhood Association, Murdock Neighborhood Association, New Salem Neighborhood Association, Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association, Sleepy Hollow Neighborhood Association, Uptown Neighborhood Association, Elm Neighborhood Association, and area neighborhood stakeholders, did initiate the development of the Central Northeast Area Plan Update to promote the stabilization and revitalization of the Central Northeast Area; and

WHEREAS, before the adoption of any Comprehensive Plan or amendment thereto, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission is required by K.S.A. 12-747 to hold a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission did give notice by publication in the official City and County newspaper on July 21, 2005, of a public hearing on said area plan; and

WHEREAS, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission on August 11, 2005, did hold a public hearing at which a quorum was present, and did hear all comments and testimony relating to said neighborhood, and approved a resolution adopting the Central Northeast Area Plan Update as an amendment to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. The City of Wichita hereby adopts the Central Northeast Area Plan Update as an amendment to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan; and

SECTION 2. Notice of this action shall be transmitted to the Sedgwick County Board of County

Ordinance

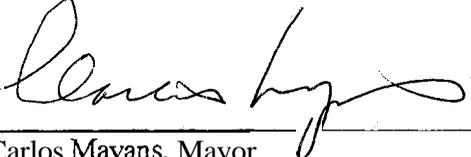
Page 2

(Central Northeast Area Plan Update)

Commissioners for its consideration, and to all other taxing subdivisions in the planning area which request a copy of the plan.

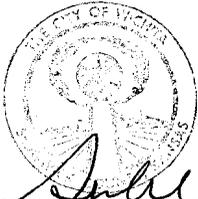
SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective and be in force from and after its adoption and publication once in the official City newspaper.

ADOPTED at Wichita, Kansas, this 9-20-05



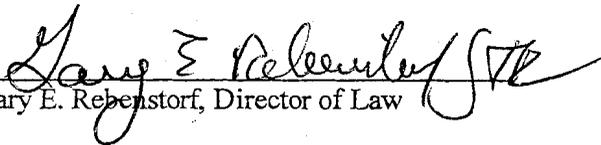
Carlos Mayans, Mayor

ATTEST:




Karen Sublett, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Gary E. Rebenstorf, Director of Law

RESOLUTION NO. 158-05

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CENTRAL NORTHEAST AREA PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by the statutes of the State of Kansas, in K.S.A. 12-747 et seq., the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission developed a Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County in 1993, and amended in 1996, 2000, 2002, and 2005; and

Whereas, the Comprehensive Plan may be amended, as needed, to ensure it reflects timely and relevant information and the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County in collaboration with the Central Northeast Plan Update Steering Committee, 21st Century Coalition for Neighborhood Revitalization, Sunflower Community Action - Northeast Chapter, Mennonite Housing, Country Overlook Neighborhood Association, Fairmount Neighborhood Association, Ken-Mar Neighborhood Association, MacDonald Neighborhood Association, Matlock Heights Neighborhood Association, McAdams Neighborhood Association, Murdock Neighborhood Association, New Salem Neighborhood Association, Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association, Sleepy Hollow Neighborhood Association, Uptown Neighborhood Association, Elm Neighborhood Association, and area neighborhood stakeholders, did initiate the development of the Central Northeast Area Plan Update to promote the stabilization and revitalization of the neighborhood; and

Whereas, before the adoption of any comprehensive Plan or amendment thereto, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission is required by K.S.A. 12-747 to hold a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission did give notice by publication in the official City and County newspaper on July 21, 2005, of a public hearing on said neighborhood plan; and

WHEREAS, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, on August 11, 2005, did hold a public hearing at which a quorum was present, and did hear all comments and testimony relating to said neighborhood, and approved a resolution adopting the Central Northeast Area Plan as an amendment to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan;

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS:

SECTION I. That after receiving a recommendation from the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, and after said Planning Commission has given proper notice and held a public hearing as provided by law, under the authority granted in K.S.A. 12-747, the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners hereby adopts the Central Northeast Area Plan Update as an official amendment to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan; and

SECTION II. That upon taking effect, a notation of this amendment to the Comprehensive Plan shall be entered in the official Comprehensive Plan records in the offices of the Metropolitan Area Planning Department.

SECTION III. Notice of this action shall be transmitted to the Wichita City Council, and to all other taxing subdivisions in the planning area which request a copy of the plan.

SECTION IV. This resolution shall become effective upon its passage and publication once in the Official County Newspaper.

Commissioners present and voting were:

DAVID M. UNRUH	<u>aye</u>
TIM R. NORTON	<u>aye</u>
THOMAS G. WINTERS	<u>aye</u>
LUCY BURTNETT	<u>aye</u>
BEN SCIORTINO	<u>aye</u>

DATED this 14th day of September, 2005

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

ATTEST:

Don Brace
DON BRACE, County Clerk

David M. Unruh
DAVID M. UNRUH, CHAIRMAN
First District

Ben Sciortino
BEN SCIORTINO,
CHAIRMAN PRO TEM, Fifth District

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robert W. Parnacott
ROBERT W. PARNACOTT,
Assistant County Counselor

Tim R. Norton
TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner,
Second District

Thomas G. Winters
THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner,
Third District

Lucy Burtnett
LUCY BURTNETT, Commissioner,
Fourth District



The Central Northeast Area Plan

UPDATE

*An Update to the 1995 Northeast Area Plan
Rediscovering Community:
Exploration of a Place and its Promise*



Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department

September 2005

The Central Northeast Area Plan Update

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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POWER CDC
21st Century Coalition for Neighborhood Revitalization
Sunflower Community Action, Northeast Chapter
Mennonite Housing
Sunflower Community Action, Northeast Chapter
Country Overlook Neighborhood Association
Fairmount Neighborhood Association
Ken-Mar Neighborhood Association
MacDonald Neighborhood Association
Matlock Heights Neighborhood Association
McAdams Neighborhood Association
Murdock Neighborhood Association
New Salem Neighborhood Association
Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association
Sleepy Hollow Neighborhood Association
Uptown Neighborhood Association
Elm Neighborhood Association
Wichita- Sedgwick County MAPC Representative

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Heather Frazier
Michael Hollimon
Paul Gunzelman
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Office of Central Inspection
Environmental Services
Wichita Police Department
Housing and Community Services
Public Works Department
Housing and Community Services
City Manager's Office

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Plan Context

The History and Future of the Central Northeast Area

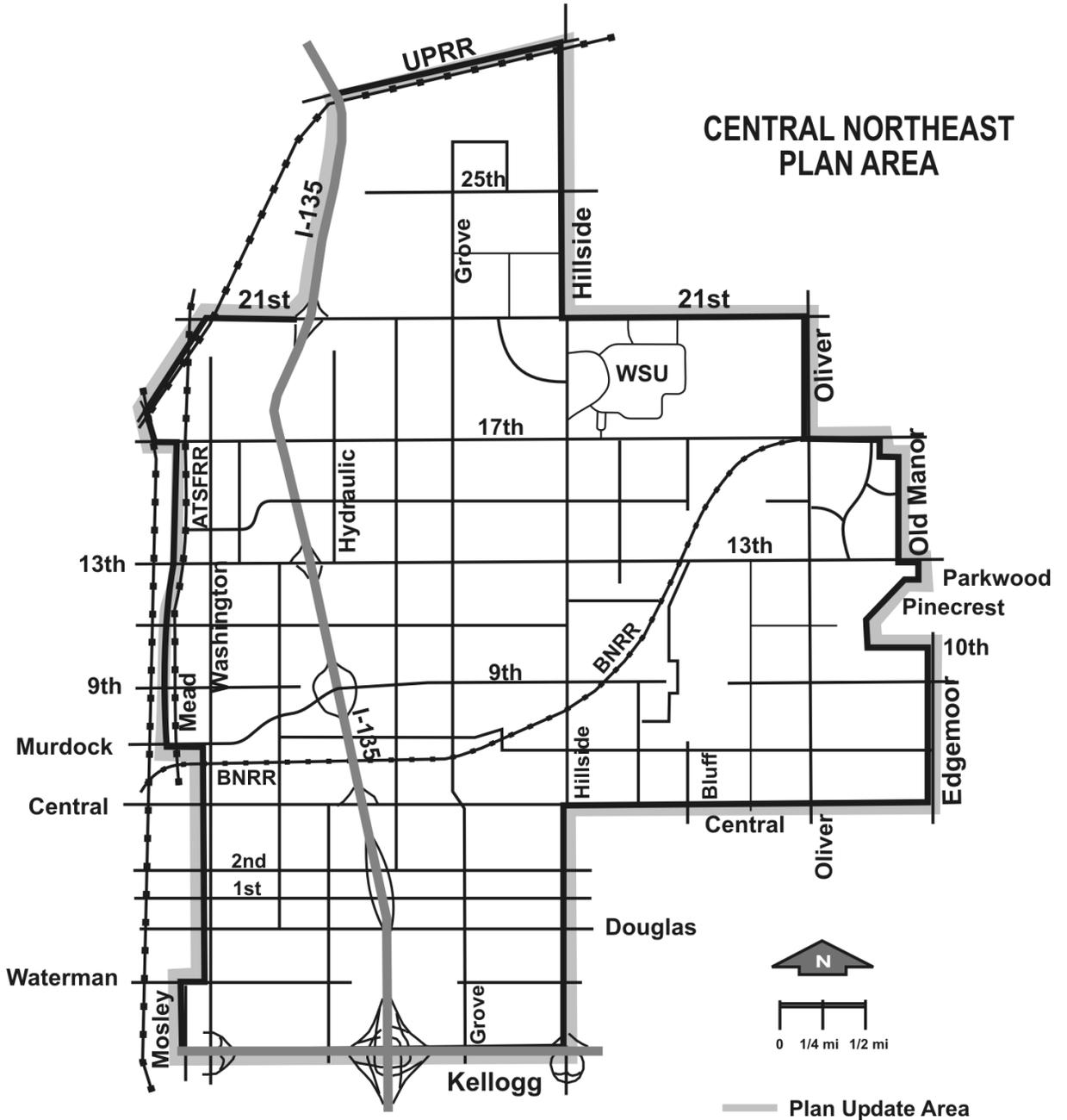
PLAN BACKGROUND

In 1995 citizens of central northeast Wichita worked with City staff to develop a plan that addressed the numerous issues facing their community. The result of their hard work and effort was a plan for the northeast area entitled *Rediscovering Community: Exploration of a Place and its Promise*. The Plan addressed numerous community redevelopment and revitalization issues for several low-moderate income neighborhoods located in central northeast Wichita and contained over 90 recommended strategies to achieve positive long-term change.

Nearly a decade has passed since the *1995 Northeast Area Plan* was completed and many of the issues facing the northeast community have remained the same. Although the 1995 Plan was never adopted by the Wichita City Council, community leaders saw how relevant it remains to the issues facing the Central Northeast Area and in 2004 contacted the City Council Member for District I with an interest in revisiting the 1995 Plan. This document is the result of those efforts to revisit and update the 1995 Plan. The purpose of this document is not to replace the *1995 Northeast Area Plan*, but rather to develop strategies for realizing the community vision first defined nearly a decade ago.

LOCATION

The Central Northeast Area Plan Update retains the boundaries of the 1995 Northeast Plan, as illustrated with the map below. The Plan area is irregular in shape. Its boundaries are Mosley, Washington, Mead, the Union Pacific railroad, 21st Street, and I-135 on the west; the Union Pacific railroad, Hillside and 21st Street on the north; Oliver, the former Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad corridor, Old Manor, Pinecrest, 10th Street and Edgemoor on the east; and Central, Hillside and Kellogg on the south.



KEY INDICATORS

DEMOGRAPHICS

Over the past 10-15 years, the neighborhoods in the Central Northeast Area have witnessed some stabilization of conditions existing in the 1980s. However, the trends that have negatively affected the neighborhood continue to be manifest. These trends include: depopulation, a reduction in the total number of households, an increase in vacancies, and a decrease in owner-occupied homes. Although far from a drastic reversal of fortunes, positive trends have emerged over the past decade. The percentage of residents that have obtained a high school diploma increased from 1990 to 2000. In addition, the unemployment rate in the area declined during the same period of time, although it remains high compared to the rest of Wichita.

Population and Households

Although the loss of residents appears to be slowing, the Central Northeast Area continues to lose a significant number of residents. In 1980, there were nearly 39,000 residents in the area. Ten years later, that number was reduced to just a little more than 32,000. By the year 2000 the population of the Central Northeast Area had decreased to 30,281, nearly a 20 percent decline since 1980.

The decline in the number of dwelling units has been reduced from six percent between 1980-1990, to just over one percent between 1990-2000. The percentage of vacant homes increased by just one percent over the last decennial Census, while the increase between 1980-1990 was a marked 14 percent.

The renter vs. owner balance has tipped in the past ten years, with the majority of housing now occupied by renters. The percentage of housing units in use as rental housing increased from 51 percent in the 1990 Census to 54 percent in the 2000 Census.

While the absolute number of residents under age 18 has declined, the percentage rate has increased from 30.4 percent to nearly 32 percent. The elderly population (classified as aged 65 and over) has slowly decreased from 10.8 percent in 1990 to 10.4 percent in the 2000 Census.

PHYSICAL INDICATORS

Building and Development Activity

Building activity in Central Northeast, measured by residential and commercial construction and remodeling permit statistics, has been increasing steadily since 2000. The largest jump involved an increase in the number of remodeling / addition permits from 80 in 2002 to 106 in 2003. The number of new dwelling units per year grew from 17 to 24 in the same time period.

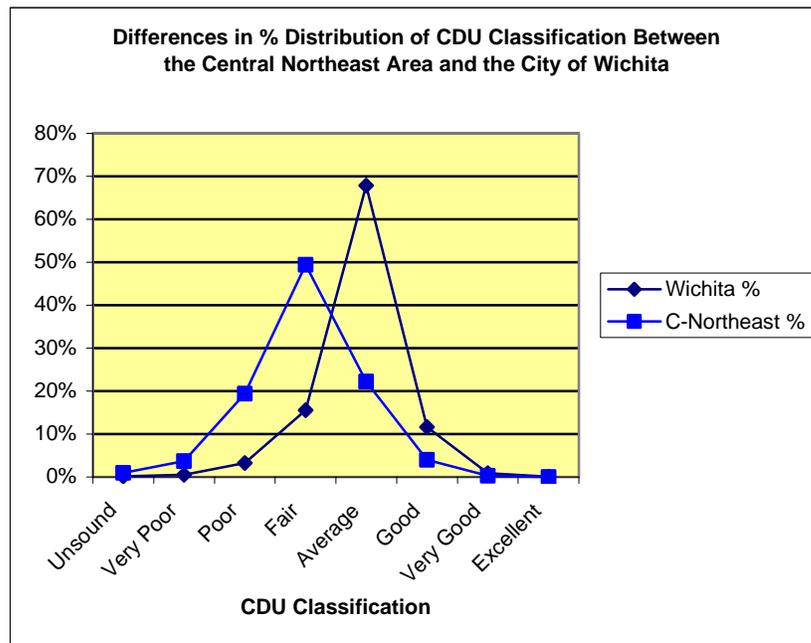
There have been a net total of 210 dwelling units demolished since 1995. Most of the demolitions (290) took place between 1995-1999. Sadly, the number of new dwelling units has not kept pace with the number of demolitions. While a variety of groups and private developers consider this an opportunity and are seeking to reverse this trend, there is plenty of room for new organizations and individuals to help stem this contributor to depopulation in the Central Northeast Area.

Commercial redevelopment has been positive, with 69 new construction projects since 1995, and 419 remodels or additions. This trend has kept up with the number of demolitions in the area, 40 since 1995. In addition, the bulk of these demolitions took place in the late 1990s.

Housing Conditions

The housing conditions in the Central Northeast Area diverge considerably from conditions of housing stock citywide. Data limitations do not enable MAPD staff to provide statistics over time. However, the latest information available through the Sedgwick County Appraiser's Office provides a snapshot of the distribution of housing conditions in the Central Northeast Area, and in Wichita as a whole.

The majority of housing units in the Central Northeast Area (49.42 percent, or 5,219 units) are characterized as fair. This is significantly less than in the rest of Wichita, where nearly 68 percent of housing stock in Wichita is considered to be in average condition. The table below illustrates how housing in the Central Northeast Area is considered to be in worse condition than housing stock in the rest of Wichita.



A significant dip in housing values plagues the Central Northeast Area. While the Wichita region enjoys an average valuation of \$135,022, the average home in Central Northeast Area is valued at \$52,289. The highest average value exhibited in the Central Northeast Area is \$135,826, corresponding to 34 homes in the area. According to the Sedgwick County Appraiser's office, there are no homes considered to be in excellent condition in the Central Northeast Area. There are new homes and very well kept properties in the area, but other surrounding conditions keep these from obtaining an excellent rating by the County Appraiser.

Members of the Steering Committee have highlighted the fact that the concerted efforts of area community housing development organizations, such as Power CDC and Mennonite Housing, have resulted in more than 70 brand new homes in the Central Northeast Area.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Household Income

Median household income increased by 36 percent from \$18,103 to \$24,709 between 1990 and 2000 for residents of the Central Northeast Area. However, this increase did not keep pace with the growth in median household income for Wichita as a whole during the same time period. Median household income for Wichita grew 43 percent from \$28,024 to \$39,939 between 1990 and 2000. The 1990 Central Northeast Area median household income was 65 percent of the 1990 figure for Wichita. In 2000, the median income for households in the Central Northeast Area fell to 62 percent of median household income for Wichita.

Labor Force & Employment

Unemployment in the Central Northeast Area remains relatively high. While the Wichita unemployment rate stood at 5.3 percent in 2000 (a decrease from the 1990 rate of 5.9 percent), fully 10 percent of Central Northeast residents were unemployed in 2000, a decrease of just under one percent, from 10.8 percent, in the ten years prior to the last Census count. Similarly, the number of employed persons decreased between 1990 and 2000 by more than one thousand, from 13,538 to 12,521. The total labor force was reduced from 15,200 to just less than 14,000.

Employers

Major employers in the area (those employing more than 1,000):

- Wesley Medical Center 3,000
- Wichita State University 2,059
- Wichita Clinic 1,100



The following employ between 186 and 250:

- Kansas Elks Training Center
- University of Kansas Medical School
- McCormick – Armstrong Co. Inc.
- Big Dog Motorcycles
- East High School
- Ketch



The following employ between 100 and 142:

- W. D. Enterprises
- Life Care Center of Wichita
- Western Uniform and Towel Service
- Wichita Children's Home
- Graphics Systems
- Food 4 Less
- Police Department – Patrol North
- Tramco Inc.
- Cessna Aircraft
- Wichita State Lanes
- Vinyl Line



Educational Attainment

The number of Central Northeast Area residents without a high school diploma has declined in the past Census decade, from 21.2 percent to 17.4 percent of the total population. In hard numbers, this difference equals nearly 1,000 additional individuals that now possess at least a high school diploma compared to the 1990s. In fact, the percentage of residents with a high school diploma or at least some higher education grew from 70 percent to 75.3 percent. The biggest jump involved residents who graduated from college with an associate degree, from 3.5 percent of the population to 4.8 percent.

On the other hand, the number of residents 25 years and older with a bachelor's degree declined from 10 percent in the 1990 Census to 9 percent the 2000 Census. And while the number of residents with graduate degrees maintained the same percentage of population of 4.4 percent throughout the two Census decades, the actual number of residents with graduate degrees declined in proportion to the overall loss of population, from 810 to 764.

20/20 Vision

A Vision for all Neighborhoods

VISION STATEMENT

The Vision outlined in the 1995 Plan outlines in broad strokes a desirable Central Northeast community. It continues to be well received and relevant today.

This Looks Like...

Street rights-of-way are nicely landscaped and invite walking. Streets and alleys are clean and properly maintained, and all dirt roads have been paved. Parks and streets are well lit and safe, and there are new and improved sidewalks throughout the neighborhood. Lawns are manicured and cleared of all abandoned cars. There is enough water pressure to adequately serve all existing homes as well as the many new homes that have been built throughout the neighborhood. Residents feel safe, and drainage problems have been solved. Homes are clean, repaired, and newly painted. Community policing works to keep people safe. The parks have been improved, with added recreational activities for young and old alike.

A fully equipped senior center serves all seniors in the area. There are new recreational centers and schools to serve all residents well. Public spaces are well maintained and accessible. New grocery and retail stores provide easy access to shopping. Regular block parties create community cohesion as well as personal and neighborhood pride. Entertainment and community events abound in the neighborhood, and include a redeveloped Dunbar Theater. Area neighborhood associations work together to build capacity. Street signs are readable and clearly marked, and transportation systems function well to serve all segments of the community.

NE Area Plan Status 1995-2005

Celebrating a Decade of Success

SUCCESSES AND MILESTONES

Leaders in the Central Northeast Area have been busy rehabbing homes, and adding shopping centers and play areas for children to help fulfill the neighborhood vision. Here are a few highlights:

New Homes

Mennonite Housing, Power CDC, and 21st Century Challenge for Neighborhood Revitalization have shared a unified vision of adding new homes to strengthen the neighborhood's residential stock. The three organizations are working closely with the City of Wichita, area lenders and national redevelopment assistance agencies to bring badly needed healthy homes for new and existing low-and middle-income families.

While more than 100 units have been added over the last ten years, the vacancy and demolition rate of old homes continue to pose a challenge to these organizations. Ambitious plans are in the works to create a healthy neighborhood fabric for new families to move into, taking advantage of existing neighborhood assets, such as the existing infrastructure, connectivity to downtown and the City's established employer base.



Rehabilitation of Older Homes

Community Housing Services has helped qualified buyers to purchase newly rehabbed or constructed homes in the area.

Children



With the help and support of a neighborhood association, improvements have been made to Lynette Park, such as the enhancement of the play lot.

The McAdams Neighborhood Association has worked with the City of Wichita to create a new neighborhood pocket park that will be constructed southeast of the intersection of 11th Street and Indiana.

The Boys and Girls Club is getting ready to relocate to a brand new facility located at the former Heartspring site on 21st Street.

Shopping and Services

A new shopping center has opened up at 2251 E.21st Street.

A new Save-A-Lot grocery store is in the planning stages for the intersection of 13th Street and Grove.

The #10 Fire Station is being relocated to 21st Street and Chautauqua, and is scheduled to open in late 2005.



Industrial Redevelopment



The El Paso - Derby Refinery is finally coming down! Located in such close proximity to the Central Northeast Area, the refinery has contributed to blight on the visual landscape for almost half a century. Its removal heralds a new era for Wichita's older neighborhoods by increasing their desirability as places to live and work. The removal of the above-ground structures, to be completed later this year, frees up more than 95 acres of land to redevelopment in the vicinity of the Central Northeast Area.

The Cessna 21st Street Learning Center and Sub-assembly Facility, located at 21st and Jardine, was completed in 1997. Since its completion, the campus has helped to remove barriers to success by providing training combined with counseling and daycare to area residents. To date, the project has placed 321 persons in full-time jobs.

Recreation Improvements

There have been multiple improvements to the parks and recreational facilities within the Central Northeast Area. New playground equipment has been installed at Evergreen Park and Grove Park. A new multi-use trail / bike path extends the K-96 trail to Grove Park. Other improvements include the new spray park in the Fairmount Neighborhood, and a new gymnasium floor at the Lynette Woodard recreation center. Future improvements include a small neighborhood park to be installed at 11th Street North and Indiana Street in the McAdams Neighborhood, as part of the McAdams Neighborhood Revitalization Plan.



Beautification Improvements

Markers identifying neighborhoods, such as Northeast / Millair and McAdams, have begun to sprout in the area. These aesthetically pleasing markers showcase the ever-growing pride that residents feel for their neighborhoods, and encourage passers-by to take a second look rather than quickly passing through.



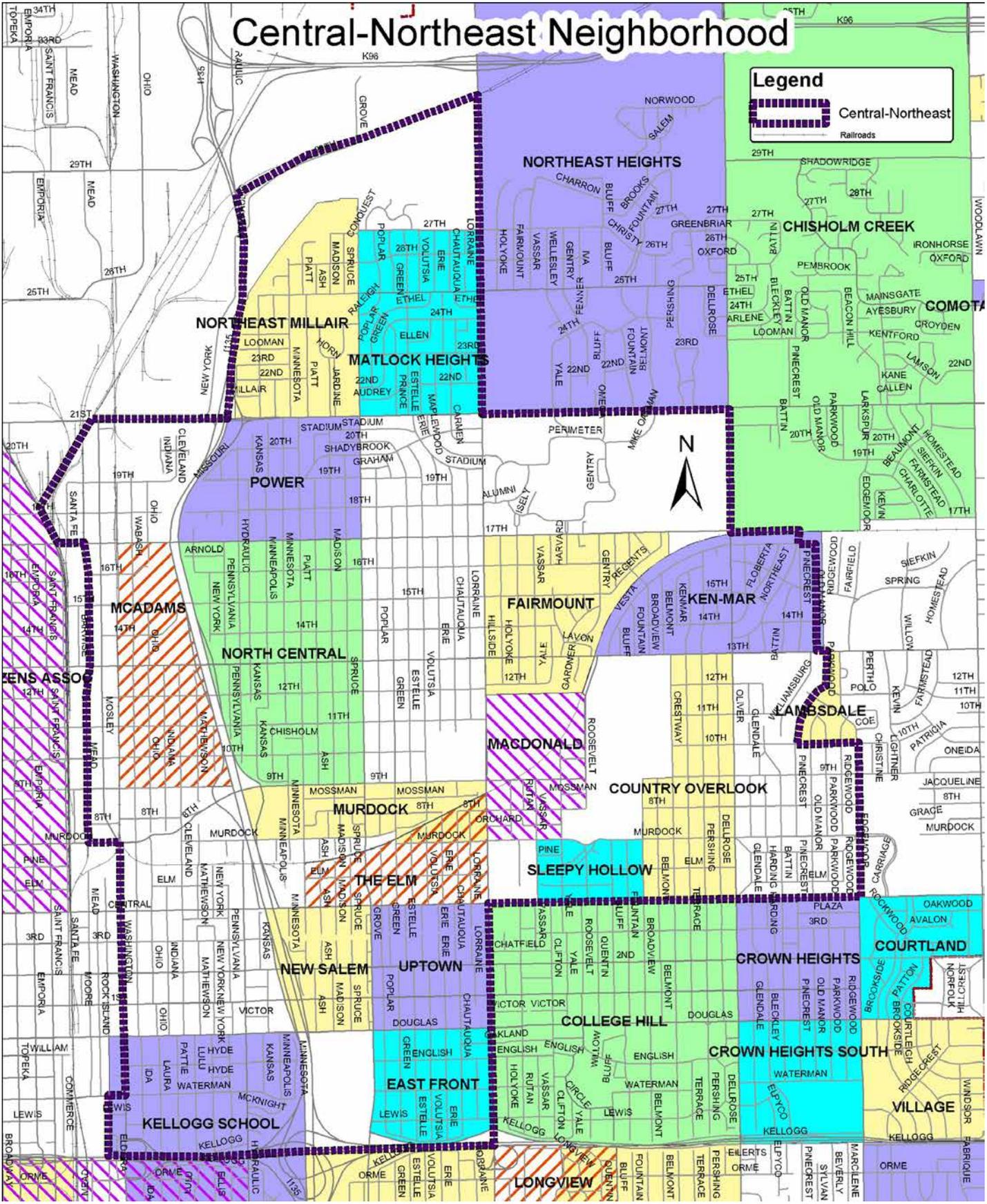
Neighborhood Associations

Neighborhood residents have continued to organize better, forming small block groups and new neighborhood associations. The organizations have helped to create lasting change by tracking revitalization activities, brainstorming ideas, and leveraging relationships. Most importantly, neighborhood associations have provided a voice for community residents to local decision makers.

There are many examples of positive changes brought about by neighborhood associations in the Central Northeast Area. The Northeast / Millair neighborhood participates in the annual National Night Out celebrations and has been able to use the events to decrease crime in their area. Likewise, the McAdams Neighborhood has worked with the City of Wichita to develop a new neighborhood park that will serve as a gathering place and a landmark for neighborhood residents.

The following map illustrates the sixteen neighborhood associations that exist in the Central Northeast Area of Wichita. Current information about these and any additional neighborhoods is available from the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department (268-4421), the District I Neighborhood Assistant (303-8018), or online at the City website (<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/AdvancedPlans>).

Central-Northeast Neighborhood



2005 and Beyond

Celebrating a Future of Success

While much has been accomplished, many of the issues identified in the *1995 Central Northeast Plan* continue to challenge neighborhood leaders and area residents. This section outlines priorities that have been identified by the current leaders of neighborhood associations and neighborhood-based organizations in the Central Northeast Area.

TOP ISSUES

The Central Northeast Area Plan Update Steering Committee identified the following issues as those that are the most important to the area:

Housing

Housing-related challenges include:

- Developing more housing for low-income persons, as well as seniors, many of whom are low-income.
- Educating area property owners about existing housing improvement and homebuyer assistance programs.
- Adapting strict assistance guidelines that do not require the applicant to place a mortgage on the property.
- Developing new housing improvement programs that meet community needs and have community buy-in.
- Updating and remodeling existing housing stock in the Central Northeast Area when units become obsolete. Specific housing renovation issues include: the limited number and size of rooms; lack of insulation and weatherization; and electrical wiring that is not up to code and presents a safety hazard.
- Addressing boarded-up homes, as they are a disincentive to repairs of adjacent homes.
- Rehabilitating or removing abandoned and vacant homes in the area.
- Establishing a program to provide rehab loans for exterior improvements.



- Creating a common voice and dialogue for neighborhood associations to address area problems and unite neighbors.
- Holding absentee landlords responsible and accountable for their properties in the community.
- Making more funding available to community development organizations that develop new homes and rehabilitate existing ones within the Central Northeast Area.
- Rehabilitating and repairing existing housing stock.
- Providing for environmental clean-up or removal of structures that have environmental concerns with lead, asbestos, etc.
- Revitalization of the area should focus on rehabilitation, not demolition of existing homes.



Business

Business-related needs and issues include:

- Accessing business assistance programs and developing new business loans, especially in the area of entrepreneurship development and start-up technical education.
- Creating a small business incubator program.
- Redistributing business development funds and developing new priorities.
- Training and retraining programs for area workers are needed.
- Providing more venture capital and investment in area businesses.



Quality of Life

Important issues that affect the general quality of life for residents in this area include the following:

- Ensuring that active neighborhood associations exist to represent all portions of the Central Northeast Area.
- Hosting more neighborhood-wide clean-up initiatives to ensure that all neighborhoods in the Central Northeast Area have an annual clean-up.
- Preventing crime.
- Increasing trust between the community and the City through on-going dialogue.
- Promoting a positive image for the Central Northeast Area.
- Improving the appearance of the Central Northeast Area. For example, trash along the abandoned rail corridors continues to promote the image of a blighted neighborhood.
- Attracting new residents to the Central Northeast Area.



PRIORITIES

The Steering Committee, consisting mostly of neighborhood association representatives, decided that they would begin a more concerted effort on prioritizing and resolving important problems and issues. The identified priorities are listed below. Please note that the priorities are not listed in order of importance because priority will vary by neighborhood.

1. **Increase Neighborhood Capacity** - To build increased participation, organizational and leadership capacity amongst area residents, businesses and neighborhood associations in order to lead the revitalization implementation initiatives identified in this Plan.
2. **Housing Repair** - To create new housing repair strategies that will help fill the entire residential fabric of the area with healthy and habitable housing stock.
3. **Neighborhood Clean-Up** - To create new opportunities to remove trash and debris from yards and easements controlled by property owners.
4. **Neighborhood Watch and Community Safety** - To fight crime to persons and property by creating an effective Neighborhood Watch program throughout the area, and reaching out to police officers to recharge community-policing efforts.
5. **Encourage More Neighborhood-Serving Retail & Personal Services** - To create more neighborhood-serving retail, commercial and personal services businesses in the area.
6. **Retain and Attract New Businesses and Jobs** - To retain and grow existing businesses, and create new business and employment opportunities that will benefit area residents.
7. **Improve the Quality of Life for Area Children** - To create a neighborhood environment that ensures an improved quality of life for children residing in the neighborhood.
8. **Promote New Home Construction** - To protect the neighborhood fabric by ensuring that the rate of new home construction exceeds the housing demolition rate.
9. **Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign** - To develop and implement an on-going neighborhood and personal pride campaign and an area image enhancement campaign.
10. **Improve Neighborhood Infrastructure** – To create a better quality of life by improving sidewalks, roadways, and drainage infrastructure.
11. **Improve Area Recreational Opportunities** - To improve the quality of life in the area by enhancing existing recreational facilities, enhancing programs, and by developing new facilities.

Implementation Framework

More Work Needs to Be Done

MAKING THE PLAN A REALITY

Multiple short-term, mid-term and long-term initiatives have been identified to help realize the vision for the Central Northeast Area of Wichita, as validated by the current leaders of neighborhood associations and neighborhood-based organizations in the area. These initiatives detail steps to achieve the desired priorities identified for the Central Northeast Area.

Many of the initiatives are optional, and the timing of their implementation will vary by neighborhood, depending on neighborhood capacity. However, the Steering Committee has identified key initiatives that are very important to the overall success of the Central Northeast Area. These key initiatives are indicated throughout this chapter with a star by the initiative title.



PRIORITIES / INITIATIVES SUMMARY

Many of the initiatives are optional and the timing of their implementation will vary by neighborhood depending on the abilities of their members. The Central Northeast Area Plan Steering Committee and MAPD staff have provided an estimated time when the initiatives should be started. Those categories are as follows: short-term (2005 to 2006), mid-term (2007 to 2010), and long-term (2011 and beyond). The following is a summary of the priorities and associated initiatives:

 = Lead Involvement of the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

 Key Initiative

Key Initiative	Initiative Title	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	CNE Council Lead Organization	Page Number
	1. Increase Neighborhood Capacity. To build increased participation, organizational and leadership capacity amongst area residents, businesses and neighborhood associations in order to lead the revitalization implementation initiatives identified in this Plan.					
	1. Coordinate Central Northeast Neighborhoods	X				23
	2. Organize Your Neighborhood	X				24
	3. Host an Annual Neighborhood Event	X				26
	4. Advertise Upcoming Meetings and Events	X				29
	5. Discover Neighborhood Strengths	X				30
	6. Publish a Neighborhood Newsletter	X				32
	7. Host Training Classes for Association Members	X				34
	8. Create a Neighborhood Association Website		X			36
	9. Show Your Neighborhood Pride	X				38
	2. Housing Repair. To create new housing repair strategies that will help fill the entire residential fabric of the area with healthy and habitable housing stock.					
	1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills	X				40
	2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups	X				41
	3. Paint the Town	X				43
	4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position	X				45
	5. Use and Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties	X				47
	6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Properties	X				49
	7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership	X				51
	8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties	X				53
	3. Neighborhood Clean-Up. To create new opportunities to remove trash and debris from yards and easements controlled by property owners.					
	1. Host a Neighborhood Clean-Up	X				54
	2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances and Code Violations	X				57
	3. Create a Public Recognition Award		X			59

Key Initiative	Initiative Title	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	CNE Council Lead Organization	Page Number
	4. Neighborhood Watch and Community Safety. To fight crime to persons and property by creating an effective Neighborhood Watch program throughout the area, and reaching out to police officers to recharge community-policing efforts.					
	1. Encourage Community Policing and Neighborhood Watch Activities	X				60
	2. Improve Neighborhood Lighting	X			●	63
	5. Enhanced Neighborhood Shopping Opportunities. To create more neighborhood-serving retail, commercial and personal services businesses in the area.					
	1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator		X		●	65
	2. Market Potential Business Sites		X		●	67
	3. Start a "Shop Local" Campaign		X		●	70
	6. Retain and Attract New Businesses and Jobs. To retain and grow existing businesses, and create new business and employment opportunities that will benefit area residents.					
	1. Encourage the Growth and Development of Area Business Associations	X			●	72
	2. Promote and Encourage the Development of Business Assistance Programs	X				73
	7. Improve the Quality of Life for All Neighborhood Children. To create a neighborhood environment that ensures an improved quality of life for children residing in the neighborhood.					
	1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement and Revitalization of the Area	X			●	75
	2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues	X			●	78
	3. Promote Existing Youth Programs	X			●	80
	8. Promote New Home Construction. To protect the neighborhood fabric by ensuring that the rate of new home construction exceeds the housing demolition rate.					
	1. Promote New Home Construction on Vacant Lots.	X			●	82
	2. Ensure that Neighborhood Zoning is Consistent with the Neighborhood Vision	X			●	84
	9. Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign. To develop and implement an on-going neighborhood and personal pride campaign and an area image enhancement campaign.					
	1. Develop Community Gardens or Pocket Parks		X		●	85
	2. Initiate Streetscape Renovation Projects		X		●	88
	3. Encourage Landscaping at Individual Houses	X			●	90
	4. Improve Neighborhood Signage	X			●	91
	5. Improve Business Building Facades and Sites		X			93
	6. Publicly Recognize Accomplishments	X			●	94
	10. Improve Neighborhood Infrastructure To create a better quality of life by improving sidewalks, roadways, and drainage infrastructure.					
	1. Improve Area Sidewalks	X			●	95
	2. Pave Dirt Streets	X			●	97
	3. Improve Area Drainage		X		●	99
	11. Improve Area Recreational Opportunities: To improve the quality of life by enhancing existing recreational facilities, enhancing programs, and by developing new facilities.					
	1. Enhance Existing Recreational Activities and Facilities	X			●	100
	2. Acquire and Develop New Recreational Areas			X	●	102

1. Increase Neighborhood Capacity

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1.1 Coordinate Central Northeast Neighborhoods



Timeline: Short-Term

Create the Central Northeast Council of Neighborhood Associations to coordinate the efforts of all area neighborhoods and to present a unified voice for the community.

Get Organized

- Convene a meeting of all Central Northeast Area neighborhood association presidents.
- Elect a president or chairman of the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations.
- Develop a mission statement for the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations.
- Adopt a decision making process for the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations.
- Establish quarterly meeting dates, times, and locations.

Distribute Information

- Distribute letters to member associations to notify them of upcoming meetings and include packets with an agenda and minutes.
- Develop and distribute a contact list for the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations member organizations.

Develop Relationships

- Host meetings where you invite public officials and representatives of outside organizations:
 - Federal government representatives
 - State government representatives
 - City Council Members
 - County Commissioners
 - School Board Members
 - Non-Profit executive directors
 - Social organization presidents
 - Financial institution representatives
 - Business association representatives

Lead Organization: Neighborhood associations
Partners: City Neighborhood Assistants, WIN
Capital Cost: NA
Operating Cost: NA
Funding: NA

1. Increase Neighborhood Capacity

1. Coordinate Central Northeast Neighborhoods
- 2. Organize Your Neighborhood**
3. Host an Annual Neighborhood Event
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1.2 Organize Your Neighborhood



Timeline: Short-Term

Identify leadership and organize new neighborhood associations for those areas that are outside existing neighborhood association boundaries, or expand existing association boundaries to incorporate those areas.

Get Organized

- Contact the City Neighborhood Assistants to obtain a listing of inactive / dormant neighborhood associations in the Central Northeast Area (303-8028).
- Contact former association members to invite them to participate in a neighborhood association and to learn what pitfalls to avoid.
- Invite area residents, property owners, and business owners to attend your neighborhood association meetings. If there is enough interest from residents living in an area without a neighborhood organization, then encourage them to start their own association.
- Discuss the option of establishing a new neighborhood association with local social organizations and churches. Members of these organizations are more likely to be willing participants in a community neighborhood association since they are already involved in a social organization.
- Contact the neighborhood assistant at the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall (303-8028) to find out if the City has the most up-to-date information about your neighborhood association. Having up-to-date information with the City ensures that the neighborhood association receives information about City programs, zoning cases, City events, and Council District updates.
- Become a member of Wichita Independent Neighborhoods (WIN), an organization that represents and supports Wichita neighborhood associations on a City-wide basis (260-8018).
- Consider forming block groups within your neighborhood association, have residents on those blocks appoint block captains who will help to engage block residents.

Promote the Neighborhood Association

- Go door-to-door with local residents to drop-off flyers and to discuss the creation of a neighborhood association.

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- Welcome new neighborhood residents and inform them about the positive aspects of the neighborhood association.
- Distribute flyers to local businesses, churches, and other gathering places.
- Contact local area newspapers to inquire about having notices or articles about the neighborhood published.
- Celebrate the successful creation of the neighborhood association by sharing success stories with sponsors, community organizations, and local media sources.

Reward and Promote Great Neighborhoods

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should consider creating an annual award to recognize neighborhood association achievements.

Lead Organization:	CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners:	Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, City Neighborhood Assistants, WSU Self-Help Network
Capital Cost:	NA
Operating Cost:	NA
Funding:	Donations, membership dues, grants

1. Increase Neighborhood Capacity

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1.3 Host an Annual Neighborhood Event

Timeline: Short-Term

Host an annual neighborhood event to give area residents a better sense of place and community. Events offer a wonderful way to introduce new residents into a community and to re-establish ties with long-time residents.

Get Organized

- Have the association vote on what type of annual event it would like to host, what size the event should be, when, and where it would like the event to occur.
- If necessary, the association should appoint an events coordinator to be responsible for the event.
- Get a commitment from area residents to attend the event and have them sign up on a list to indicate what they will contribute to the event (food, chairs, entertainment, etc.).
- Contact local area businesses to get commitments for donations of food, goods, funding, or volunteers for the event. Stress the opportunity for representation with local shoppers.
- Solicit the outside organizations to have representatives appear at the annual function. Suggested organizations include the following:
 - Elected and appointed City and County officials
 - Government staff
 - Media representatives
 - Local area Fire Department unit
 - Community Policing and D.A.R.E officers
- Request information about what equipment is available for loan from the City Neighborhood Assistants or City Park and Recreation Department (loud speakers, sound equipment, and tables). If necessary, inquire about reserving / renting public facilities.
- Get commitments from area schools or social clubs to attend and assist with the event.
- Create banners and other items that will make people aware of the neighborhood organization's involvement in the event.

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Market the Event

- Go door to door with local residents to drop off flyers and to discuss the upcoming event.
- Distribute flyers to local businesses, churches, and other gathering places.
- Contact local area newspapers to inquire about having notices published the day before the event or on the preceding Wednesday in the local events section.
- Incorporate recognition of sponsors in all marketing materials and media opportunities.

Maximize the Event

- Utilize this event to promote a renewed neighborhood spirit by providing opportunities for residents to meet and socialize with each other.
- Form a welcoming committee to introduce new residents to the neighborhood association members and programs.
- Create and sell buttons as entrance tickets to the event, or as a way to show that individuals donated to the event.
- Provide food and drinks throughout the event.
- Have information about your neighborhood association visible and available during the event.
- Request that a D.J. be present, depending on the type of event.
- Provide jars or other means for collecting donations from those attending the event.
- Offer prizes for kids in order to attract more participation by area youth and their parents.

Follow Up

- Celebrate the successful event by sharing success stories with sponsors, community organizations, and local media sources.

Examples of Annual Events

- Home / garden tour
- Community festival / fair
- Block party
- Community Unity Day
- Picnic / potluck
- National Night Out
- Wichita Black Arts Festival
- Northeast Wichita Awards
- Communities United Credit Union Annual Event

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Additional Resources

- City of Wichita National Night Out:
http://www.wichitagov.org/CityOffices/Police/CommunityAffairs/National_Night_Out_main.htm

Lead Organization: Neighborhood association, CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: City Neighborhood Assistants, local service organizations, Communities United Credit Union, KSJM 107.9

Capital Cost: NA

Operating Cost: NA

Funding: Donations, entrance fees, grants

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1.4 Advertise Upcoming Meetings and Events

Timeline: Short-Term

Advertise upcoming meetings and events in area newspapers and local organization bulletins to attract greater attendance and neighborhood participation.

Get Organized

- Organize a list of local events and meetings with dates and times.
- Schedule reoccurring events on the same day of the month or week (every second Monday of the month etc.).
- Distribute the calendar of events at local gathering sites, public facilities, and with local organizations (i.e. local libraries, Phyllis Wheatley Center, WSU, African American Museum, grocery stores, churches, and coffee shops).
- Post the schedule on a website, area libraries, WSU, African American Museum, and Phyllis Wheatley Center.
- Include the schedule of events in your neighborhood newsletter.

Make Contacts

- Inform the local media representatives and reporters about your neighborhood organization's schedule of events with specific dates, times, and descriptions of the events.

Follow Up

- Following publication be sure to send a thank you note and/or a success story to the local media staff to generate a positive press buzz after your successful event.

Lead Organization: Neighborhood association
Partners: Community Voice, Wichita Eagle, Urban News, Urban League, KSJM 107.9
Capital Cost: Publication materials
Operating Cost: NA
Funding: Donations, grants

1. Increase Neighborhood Capacity

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1.5 Discover Neighborhood Strengths

Timeline: Short-Term

Conduct a survey of neighborhood residents to determine the association's skills and resources. Survey results can then be used to determine what events and projects the neighborhood association can easily undertake, and what education classes association members might be interested in.

Conduct a Neighborhood Skills Survey

- Research what type of surveys have been done in other areas and what type of skills will be most useful to your neighborhood.
- If necessary, request assistance from staff and students at WSU with preparing and conducting the survey (Sociology Department, Public Administration, WSU Self-Help Network, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods).
- Design the survey to ask relevant questions that will discover the skills that are useful to your neighborhood.
- Distribute the survey to area residents with instructions that detail how to complete and return the survey.
- Summarize the results of the survey to find out what skills your neighbors have and what skills might be needed in your neighborhood.
- Plan projects / events that play on your strengths. Some examples are listed below:
 - host a talent show – dancing, singing, musical skills;
 - host neighborhood art fair –painting, pottery;
 - hold yard improvement classes – landscaping, gardening.
- If the survey results show that association members might benefit from learning certain skills, then request assistance from WSU, USD 259, or the City Neighborhood Assistants to develop an educational session (see Initiative I.7 Host Training Classes for Association Members).

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Additional Resources

- Community skills survey:
<http://www.northwestern.edu/ipr/abcd/abcdci.html>
- WSU Self-Help Network
<http://www.selfhelpnetwork.wichita.edu/>

Lead Organization:	Neighborhood association
Partners:	WSU Self-Help Network, WSU
Capital Cost:	Survey materials
Operating Cost:	NA
Funding:	Donations, grants

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1.6 Publish a Neighborhood Newsletter

Timeline: Short-Term

Produce a monthly neighborhood association newsletter to inform area residents about upcoming events, project status updates, and contact information for association officers.

Do Your Homework

- Pick up copies of other area neighborhood association newsletters for examples of newsletter formats, sizes, color, and content.
- Contact Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, print shops, and other neighborhood organizations to find out how other neighborhood associations develop, publish, and distribute their newsletters.
- Schedule classes to teach association members publishing skills or how to improve existing neighborhood newsletters. Possible educational resources may include the following organizations: City Neighborhood Assistants, WSU English Department, and Wichita Independent Neighborhoods.

Organize the Press Corp

- Your neighborhood association should elect or appoint an editor of the newsletter to package the newsletter, review the articles for correct spelling, and to ensure that the newsletter gets published on time.
- Solicit articles for publication in the newsletter from area residents, businesses, and organizations.
- Have local residents volunteer to help distribute the newsletter. Keep in mind that the newsletters will need to be delivered on time and to the right places in order to be effective.

Sell, Sell, Sell

- Visit local businesses to let them know that you are publishing a local newsletter and to inform them how they can use the newsletter to advertise with local customers. Follow up with postcards that provide information about the newsletter and contact information. Remember, advertisements help pay for the publication of the neighborhood newsletter.

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- Offer to advertise for local candidates during the election season.

Start the Press

- Estimate the number of newsletters you will need to publish by counting the number of homes and businesses in your neighborhood. If you need assistance, feel free to contact the Planning Department (268-4421) to get an estimate.
- Contact the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall Neighborhood Assistant (303-8018) to inquire about the City's program to assist neighborhood associations with printing newsletters.

Additional Resources

- Falcon Heights Neighborhood Liaison Handbook
http://www.ci.falcon-heights.mn.us/nlhandbook/com_tips.html
- Yes We Can! "How to Create a Neighborhood Newsletter"
http://www.wkkf.org/Pubs/GreaterBC/NeighborhoodNews_00254_02994.pdf
- City of Overland Park, Kansas "Preparing a Neighborhood Newsletter"
http://www.opkansas.org/Documents_and_Forms/preparing_newsletter.pdf
- Der Printing Haus
http://www.goldrush1.us/29.00_Der_Printing_Haus/index.htm

Lead Organization:	Neighborhood association
Partners:	Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, City Neighborhood Assistants, WSU English Department, local print shops
Capital Cost:	Varies depending on type of publication operation
Operating Cost:	NA
Funding:	Donations, advertising fees, grants, City of Wichita newsletter assistance program

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1.7 Host Training Classes for Association Members

Timeline: Short-Term

Host training classes for association members to develop the skills necessary to advance your neighborhood association.

Continuing Education

- Discover what your neighborhood organization members are interested in and invite outside experts to attend your meetings or to host outside training classes.
- The results of a neighborhood skills survey can be very useful when determining which classes might be useful and interesting for neighborhood residents. Please refer to Initiative 1.5 for more information.

Organize the Event

- Topics for training can be limitless, but some suggestions are: how to run a meeting, keeping books, creating by-laws, and how to be an effective advocate for your neighborhood. In addition to general classes pertaining to neighborhood development, other agencies such as City Arts, the Police Department, Fire Department, Park and Recreation Department and USD 259 can be contacted to inquire about training / educational opportunities they might offer to community groups. Other ideas include inviting experts from landscaping companies to hold Saturday training sessions on landscaping, for local arts teachers to host classes on pottery, or for members of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) to be invited to teach how to develop a business plan. Additional organizations that may be able to host educational sessions include the following:
 - Small Business Development Center,
 - WSU Self-Help Network,
 - Sedgwick County Weed and Seed,
 - Wichita Independent Neighborhoods,
 - Communities United Credit Union.
- If necessary, contact the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall Neighborhood Assistants to reserve rooms for training seminars.

Market the Event

- Go door-to-door with local residents to drop off flyers and to discuss the upcoming event.

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- Contact local area newspapers to inquire about having notices published the day before the event or on the preceding Wednesday in the local events section.
- Distribute flyers to local businesses, churches, and other gathering places.
- Incorporate recognition of sponsors in all marketing materials and media opportunities.
- Celebrate the successful event by sharing success stories with sponsors, community organizations, and local media sources.

Lead Organization: Neighborhood association
Partners: City Arts, Community Voice, City of Wichita, City Neighborhood Assistants, Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
Capital Cost: NA
Operating Cost: NA
Funding: Grants, donations, workshop dues

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1.8 Create a Neighborhood Association Website

Timeline: Mid-Term

Host a neighborhood website with information about neighborhood boundaries, officers, and events.

Get Organized

- Gather a list of the essential things your neighborhood wants others to know about (i.e. individual accomplishments and awards to area residents). These might include the following: boundaries, meeting times, officers, upcoming events, contact information, elected officials, newsletters, and/or meeting minutes.
- Appoint an association member as the webmaster to design and maintain the association website.

Get Training

- If your neighborhood needs to develop the expertise to create and maintain a website, then make some calls to find out if USD 259, WSU, the Sedgwick County Extension Office, or the City Neighborhood Assistants can arrange training for your association members.
- Inquire with WSU to see if a student might be able to assist with the development of a neighborhood association website.

Host, Post, and Update

- Approach Urban League, WSU, and the City of Wichita to request that they host the website. If they do not agree to host your website, then peruse other hosting options that are available on-line (typical hosting costs can range around \$45).
- A website doesn't do much good if it isn't relevant. Take the time to maintain your website and to update it with current events. This will give people a reason to visit more often.
- Contact organizations that might be interested in posting a link to your website (local businesses, the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, or local social / service organizations).
- Add links to other Central Northeast Area Neighborhood websites and the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations website.

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- Consider placing advertisements on the websites to generate funds.

Additional Resources

- Simply Neighbors website
www.simplyneighbors.com
- Historic Midtown Citizens Association
<http://www.historic-midtown.org/>

Lead Organization: Neighborhood association
Partners: WSU, USD 259, www.simplyneighbors.com, City Neighborhood Assistants, Sedgwick County Extension Office Technology and Community Development Staff
Capital Cost: Web publishing software
Operating Cost: Site hosting costs
Funding: Donations, grants, advertising fees

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9. **Show Your Neighborhood Pride**

1.9 Show Your Neighborhood Pride

Timeline: Short-Term

Create buttons, shirts, or hats to make the neighborhood association members more recognizable at public meetings, neighborhood activities or during daily outings.

Create a Logo

- Logos can be an asset to an organization because they are easily identifiable, communicates a lot without many words, and are easily replicated. In addition to a logo, consider picking colors for your neighborhood (i.e., gold and blue or silver and purple).
- Neighborhood groups can request assistance with creating a logo from neighborhood residents, area schools, WSU, or perhaps City Arts.
- Host a contest for the design of the logo. Have local artists submit works and local residents judge them.

Apply Your Design

- Discuss how and where members of your neighborhood association want to be recognized. Depending on those factors, you can decide if you want to create stickers, buttons, shirts, signs, banners, or other various items to advertise your neighborhood association.
- Once you decide what you are going to produce and how it will look, then you can call around to local print shops to get price estimates for the orders.
- Calculate how much it will cost to produce each item and present order forms to association members.
- Be sure to receive payment for the items before you order them.
- Seek corporate donations to assist with financing the creation of the items.
- Wear neighborhood association items to advertise and to show pride in your neighborhood.

1. Coordinate Central Northeast Neighborhoods
2. Organize Your Neighborhood
3. Host an Annual Neighborhood Event
4. Advertise Upcoming Meetings and Events
5. Discover Neighborhood Strengths
6. Publish a Neighborhood Newsletter
7. Host Training Classes for Association Members
8. Create a Neighborhood Association Website
9. **Show Your Neighborhood Pride**

Lead Organization:

Partners:

Capital Cost:

Operating Cost:

Funding:

Neighborhood association

City Arts, WSU, USD 259

Varies according to project

NA

Donations, grants

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



2.1 Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills



Timeline: Short-Term

Identify existing available talent, skills and construction tools within the Central Northeast Area for the purposes of making these resources available to interested area residents on a voluntary basis.

Compile / Distribute Survey Results

- Utilize the survey results from Initiative 1.5 Discover Neighborhood Strengths to identify those individuals within the Central Northeast area who would be willing to volunteer / share their talents and resources to help others in the area with home improvement and repair issues.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should make the survey findings available to the President of each neighborhood association.
- Members of a neighborhood association needing a particular home repair skill, or needing to borrow a specialized repair tool, would be eligible to access the survey information through the executive membership of their Neighborhood Association.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Individual Neighborhood Associations and their members, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, neighborhood residents and property owners
Capital Costs: None
Operating Cost: Copying charges
Funding: Donations, grants

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. **Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups**
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



2.2 Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups

Timeline: Short-Term

Encourage residents and property owners to participate in maintenance and repair work on their properties.

Gather Information

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department provide copies of pamphlets that summarize all city, county, state and federal funding programs available to area residents and property owners for home repair and maintenance.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should invite the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department staff to make presentations on how to properly maintain and repair a home. In conjunction with the presentation, the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request copies of the City's "Homeowner Maintenance Handbook" that summaries the key "things to know" on how to properly maintain and repair a home.

Organize Block Parties

- Organize and hold two block party events a year (spring and fall) to focus specifically on home maintenance and repair issues.
- Provide residents and property owners with current information on community resources and funding programs to assist with home maintenance and repair.

Target New Home Construction Areas

- Identify all homes or major home additions constructed since 2000 by neighborhood (using current data and maps provided by the MAPD).
- Target homeowners in blocks immediately adjacent to newly constructed homes as the first priority for encouraging a commitment to inventory repair needs in their homes, and completing all necessary home repairs within three years.

Lead by Example, Invite Others to Follow

- Support housing repair and maintenance efforts by asking residents to "lead by example" in their own homes.

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. **Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups**
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

- The executive members of each neighborhood association will personally invite and challenge active members of their neighborhood association to make a commitment to inventory repairs needs in their homes, and complete all necessary home repairs within three years.
- Prepare a “challenge and commitment” letter on Neighborhood Association letterhead. Hand deliver the letter to each active member of the Neighborhood Association along with the issuance of a personal challenge.

Lead Organization: Neighborhood Association Presidents, CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: Individual neighborhood association members, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Department of Housing and Community Services, Community Housing Services

Capital Cost: Variable

Operating Cost: TBD

Funding: HOME funds, CDBG funds, donations, grants

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. **Paint the Town**
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



2.3 Paint the Town

Timeline: Short-Term

Organize a yearly “Paint the Town” event, whereby 20 to 30 homes within a targeted residential area of Central Northeast Wichita will be identified for a volunteer house-painting blitz.

Get Organized

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should create a sub-committee to oversee the organization of an annual “Paint the Town” event in the area. This sub-committee will establish the blitz target area each year (focus on adjacent blocks).
- Oversight assignments will be made in the following areas: contacting painting supply establishments for donations; contacting volunteer painters from community service groups; media relations; contacting owners of homes to be painted; fund-raising; and event co-ordination.
- Create and maintain a record of homes that receive assistance from the “Paint the Town” program, both during the current and prior years.

Seek Sponsors

- Identify paint suppliers and manufacturers willing to participate in the blitz, and determine the extent of their participation. Secure donated painting supplies from participating paint manufacturers and painting supply stores.
- Contact the Sedgwick County Household Hazardous Waste Facility to inquire about obtaining free paint. (660-7464)
- Identify funding sponsors to financially assist with the purchase of necessary painting supplies.
- Have potential project homeowners contact the City of Wichita Neighborhood Improvement Services Division of the Housing and Community Services Department to discover if any paint grant funds are available.
- Seek donations for needed minor exterior repairs materials.
- Seek donations of food and refreshments for the volunteers.

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
- 3. Paint the Town**
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

Recruit Volunteer Painters and Homes

- Assemble work crews of volunteers to assist with exterior repairs to the project homes. Request volunteers from the local Police Bureau and fire stations.
- Determine number of volunteer painters required, based upon the number of homeowners willing to participate and the availability of painting supply resources (donated and purchased).
- Recruit homeowners willing to have their homes painted by volunteers and determine preferred paint colors.
- Recruit painting volunteers from various community service organizations, youth and church groups with an interest in the Central Northeast area.

Making the Blitz Happen

- Inspect the proposed project homes to discover any minor exterior repairs that need to be completed prior to priming and painting the home. Any homes requiring extensive repairs should be excluded from the “Paint the Town” project.
- Repair any minor exterior defects discovered during the inspection (repair crew).
- Coordinate a separate day to apply a primer to the project structures.
- Coordinate the “event day.” Ensure that donated / purchased painting supplies, list of volunteer painters, participating homeowners all come together on the same day.

Resources

- City of Wichita Paint Grant Program
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/HeartOfWichita/FreePaintProgram.htm>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Individual Neighborhood Associations and their members, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, painting suppliers and manufacturers, local community service groups, JROTC, scouts, church service groups, local banks, City of Wichita Neighborhood Improvement Services, Mennonite Housing, Sedgwick County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
Capital Costs: Variable
Operating Cost: TBD
Funding: HOME funds, CDBG funds (Paint Grants), Donations

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
- 4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position**
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

2.4 Establish a Resource Coordinator Position

Timeline: Short-Term

Establish the position of a “Central Northeast Resource Coordinator” to act as a “one-stop” resource person to area residents on matters related to housing, code enforcement, renter assistance, city financial assistance programs, consumer credit counseling, etc.

Define the Position

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations will create a sub-committee to develop and prepare for discussion purposes, a proposed job description outlining the duties and responsibilities of this “Central Northeast Resource Coordinator” position. The list of duties and responsibilities may include:
 - attends CNE Council of Neighborhood Association meetings,
 - communicates the availability of Federal, State, and local funding sources to area businesses and residents,
 - assists with coordinating / resolving housing and code enforcement issues,
 - provides information about renter, homebuyer, and landlord assistance programs,
 - coordinates classes and related efforts to assist area residents with consumer credit, homeownership skills, and related subjects.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should work with Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, the City Department of Housing and Community Services, and City Neighborhood Assistants to discuss and determine the viability of this position.

Gather Support

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should lobby the City of Wichita for the commitments necessary to create this Resource Coordinator position.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should seek the support of Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, the City Department of Housing and Community Services, the Wichita Housing Board, the City Council Member from District I, and the City Mayor.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should seek funding sources to help fund the creation of this position.

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. **Establish a Resource Coordinator Position**
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

Establish the Position

- City of Wichita recruits the position following approval and securing of all necessary funding sources.
- Determine the appropriate location for the “Central Northeast Resource Coordinator” offices (possibilities include Atwater Neighborhood City Hall, Urban League, POWER CDC, etc.).

Lead Organization:

CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
 Individual Neighborhood Associations, Wichita
 Independent Neighborhoods, Department of
 Housing and Community Services, Wichita Housing
 Board, District I City Council Member, City Mayor

Partners:

N/A

Capital Costs:

\$50,000 per year

Operating Cost:

CDBG, donations, City funding (GO)

Funding:

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. **Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties**
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



2.5 Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Rental Properties

Timeline: Short-Term

Develop an incentives program specifically targeted to encourage landlords to improve the condition and quality of their rental housing properties.

Inventory Existing Situation

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request the MAPD to generate a listing of the names and addresses of all absentee property owners in the area.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request to meet with the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department staff to discuss existing incentive programs available to rental property owners and options for promoting the programs.

Consider New Incentives

- Evaluate the need and the possibility of developing new rental property incentive programs targeted to the Central Northeast Area.

Initiate a Dialogue

- The City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department should partner with the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations to host a meeting where rental property owners and rental property associations can learn about City incentive programs that they can use to improve the condition and quality of rental housing properties.

Work With Tenants

- Develop a tenant screening program to help assist landlords in selecting good tenants. The screening process may take into account police reports, credit reports, and discussions with previous landlords.
- Utilize existing tenant education programs to teach tenants life skills that are necessary when one rents or owns a home. Invite representatives to establish a class at a neighborhood location and to present during a neighborhood association meeting. The Sedgwick County Extension Office currently offers classes that can be utilized.

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. **Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties**
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

Additional Resources

- Sedgwick County Extension Office
<http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/sedgwick/>
- City of Wichita Rental Housing Revolving Loan Program
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/HeartOfWichita/RentalHousingLoans.htm>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Individual Neighborhood Associations, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Wichita Housing and Community Services staff, Sedgwick County Extension Office
Capital Costs: Variable
Operating Cost: Variable
Funding: HOME, CDBG (Rental Rehab Program), grants

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
- 6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing**
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



2.6 Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing

Timeline: Short-Term

Use and develop incentives for homeowners to make improvements to their homes throughout the Central Northeast Area.

Use Existing Programs

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request to meet with the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department staff to discuss existing incentive programs currently available to home owners in the Central Northeast Area. The discussion should include options for promoting the existing incentive programs.
- Advertise the existing City programs in local newsletters and/or on the website, possibly include it as a separate section.
- Invite City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department staff and representatives of non-profit organizations to neighborhood meetings and annual events to present and discuss their programs with area residents. These discussions should include information about the recent changes to the Emergency and Deferred Loan programs, which will debut July 2005.
- Neighborhood association members should help reduce confusion about City assistance programs by encouraging prospective clients to contact the Housing and Community Services, Neighborhood Improvement Division (462-3712) with questions or comments. This is very important for issues concerning the City programs that require housing liens.
- Create a master list / binder of programs and funding options that are available to homeowners. The binder should be made available at the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall and should include information about as many programs as possible. Information about programs offered by the following organizations is highly recommended: South Central Kansas Economic Development District, City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, and the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging.

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
- 6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing**
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

Consider New Incentives

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request to meet with City Housing and Community Services staff to discuss the needs of the Central Northeast Area community and the assistance programs available. This discussion should include newly developed programs and unmet needs in the community.
- Encourage the development of forgivable loans that are tied to the amount of time spent in a home. One example would be to forgive 10 percent of a loan for every year the owner resides in the residence.

Additional Resources

- City of Wichita Home Repair Assistance Programs
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/HeartOfWichita/>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Individual Neighborhood Associations, Wichita Housing and Community Services, area non-profits, South Central Kansas Economic Development District, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging
Capital Costs: Variable
Operating Cost: Variable
Funding: HOME, CDBG, grants

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. **Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership**
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



2.7 Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership

Timeline: Short-Term

Develop an incentive program specifically targeted to encourage homeownership in the Central Northeast Area.

Inventory Existing Situation

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should request the MAPD to calculate and create maps illustrating the percentage of homeownership in target areas of the Central Northeast Area.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should meet with the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department to review the existing incentive programs available to increase homeownership and discuss ways of promoting existing incentives programs.

Consider New Incentives

- Evaluate the need for and the possibility of developing new homeownership incentive programs targeted to the Central Northeast Area.
- Encourage the development of forgivable loans that are tied to the amount of time spent in a home. One example would be to forgive 10 percent of a loan for every year the owner resides in the residence.

Promote the Central Northeast Area

- Create brochures, flyers, and packets that can be used to promote homeownership opportunities and the related assistance programs available in the Central Northeast Area. Also, consider including related articles and personal testimonies with promotional materials.
- Host a tour of the Central Northeast Area for area realtors. Include walk-throughs of newly developed housing units, discussions with CNE homebuilders, and opportunities to meet new neighborhood homeowners in the list of associated activities.

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. **Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership**
8. Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties



Credit is the Key

- Advertise and encourage area residents to participate in credit education programs offered by Urban League, Consumer Credit Counseling Services, Community Housing Services, and the Sedgwick County Extension Office.
- Invite representatives of credit counseling organizations and homeownership educational programs to present at neighborhood meetings. Invite representatives of area banks, area community development corporations, realtors, neighborhood associations, and City staff to meet to discuss developing programs and loan pools to assist those with poor credit. Banks that may be willing to assist include Capital Federal, Bank of America, and Commercial Federal.

Additional Resources

- City of Wichita Home Buyer Assistance Programs
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/HOME/>
- Consumer Credit Counseling Services
<http://www.salhelp.org/cccs/page10.html>

Lead Organization:	CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners:	Individual Neighborhood Associations, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Wichita, Urban League, Community Housing Services, Capital Federal, Bank of America, Commercial Federal, Sedgwick County Extension Office
Capital Costs:	Variable
Operating Cost:	Variable
Funding:	HOME, CDBG, donations, grants

2. Housing Repair

1. Identify Resident Housing Rehabilitation Skills
2. Organize Volunteer Home Repair Groups
3. Paint the Town
4. Establish a Resource Coordinator Position
5. Use & Develop New Incentives to Improve Rental Properties
6. Use and Develop Incentives to Improve Owner-Occupied Housing
7. Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership
8. **Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties**



2.8 Address Boarded-Up or Abandoned Properties

Timeline: Short-Term

The City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department is in the process of developing and proposing a “StopBlight Initiative,” which will have several tools designed to address deteriorated property conditions in neighborhoods. The details of this initiative are still in the development stage and are not ready for incorporation into the Central Northeast Area Plan Update.

During a public meeting, held on June 9, 2005, the Central Northeast Area planning committee identified boarded-up homes as a major issue facing the area, and specifically requested that this plan address the issue. In order to avoid a duplication of efforts, it was agreed upon by the Steering Committee to utilize the “StopBlight Initiative” to address this issue. The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should obtain further information about the initiative, and how to most effectively pursue / request assistance from the City Housing and Community Services Department.

3. Neighborhood Clean-Up

1. Neighborhood Clean-Up
2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances & Code Violations
3. Create a Public Recognition Award



3.1 Host a Neighborhood Clean-Up

Timeline: Short-Term

Implement at least one clean-up event per neighborhood, as funding allows, under the leadership of area neighborhood associations.

Designate and Coordinate

- Appoint a special projects coordinator from the neighborhood association to ensure that all of the necessary neighborhood clean-up events and volunteers are coordinated and scheduled correctly.
- If necessary, divide the area for the proposed clean-up program into sections and prioritize clean-up schedules.
- Coordinate the clean-up project with a neighborhood nuisances and code violations sweep (see Initiative 3.2 Address Neighborhood Nuisances and Code Violations).

Seek Sponsors

- Partner with the City's Office of Central Inspection to seek available funding and utilize existing programs.
- Partner with local businesses to sponsor clean-up activities.
- Identify and coordinate clean-up activities with a solid waste management company that will sponsor clean-up activities by discounting fees and/or providing free bins.
- Coordinate the utilization of the Sedgwick County Household Hazardous Waste Program to dispose of old chemicals and household hazardous waste free of charge. Invite program representatives to the event, and provide an opportunity for representatives to distribute program promotional materials.
- Solicit the involvement of area City Fire and Police Department personnel, the Boys and Girls Club, Hope Street, Sedgwick the County Day-Reporting Center, local service clubs, youth groups, and church groups.
- Identify residents that may not be able to participate physically in clean-up efforts and assign other non-physical tasks for these individuals.

Market the Event

- Incorporate recognition of sponsors in all marketing materials and media opportunities.

1. **Neighborhood Clean-Up**
2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances & Code Violations
3. Create a Public Recognition Award



- Contact the City of Wichita Office of Central Inspection to request flyers that describe how to separate trash for pickup during the neighborhood clean-up event (appliances separate from garbage, etc.).
- Advertise the clean-up event through flyers, community organizations, and if possible through local media sources.
- Share success stories following the event with sponsors, community organizations, and local media sources.

Assign Tasks and Obtain Resources

- Delegate specific tasks to each participating group prior to the event in order to plan for and gather the appropriate materials and/or tools necessary to complete each task.
- Utilize existing equipment, tools, or resources owned by residents or volunteer groups. If additional resources are necessary, seek assistance from sponsors that may be willing to donate or loan the requested resources.
- Provide volunteers with protective work gloves, wash and reuse the gloves for subsequent neighborhood clean-up projects.
- Ensure that volunteers are stationed near the dumpsters and vehicles to prevent people from outside of the neighborhood from dumping their materials.
- Provide plenty of food and drinks for volunteers during the event.
- Schedule portable toilets to be available for neighborhood clean-up volunteers.
- Contact the City Neighborhood Improvement Services to inquire about establishing a neighborhood clean-up fund targeted specifically to the Central Northeast Area. A separate program will allow for more flexibility to schedule and coordinate clean ups with area neighborhood associations.

Annual Available Funding

- The Neighborhood Improvement Services funds are designated for Local Investment Areas only, of which \$50,000 is available citywide annually. (Mike Hollimon – Housing Services)
- Career Development utilizes \$25,000 of Community Service Block Grant funds to serve low-income areas that are determined by Census tract data. These areas are outside the Local Investment Areas. (Joe Dermid – Career Development)
- Public Works has \$125,000 that is not designated for any particular income sector. (Nancy Skinner – Public Works)

1. Neighborhood Clean-Up
2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances & Code Violations
3. Create a Public Recognition Award



Target Alleys

- Identify and develop a list of public alleys in the area that are overgrown or that are currently being used as a dumping ground.
- Notify the Public Works Department, Division of Traffic Maintenance about the problem alleys; provide a written description of the alleys or call the Division to provide details (268-4083).
- Encourage private property owners to clear and maintain easements in conjunction with neighborhood clean-up events.
- Contact the Office of Central Inspection (268-4460) to notify them of properties that are not maintaining easements.

Additional Resources

- Definition of easement: A contractual agreement to gain temporary or permanent use of, and/or access through, a property, usually for public facilities and access ways, without transfer of property ownership.
- Map of Local Investment Areas and Neighborhood Reinvestment Areas as part of the Wichita Consolidated Plan <http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/CommunityInvestments/2004-2008HUDConsolidatedPlan.htm>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: Neighborhood residents, City Office of Central Inspection, local businesses, local solid waste management companies, Sedgwick County Household Hazardous Waste Program, City Fire and Police Department personnel, local service clubs, youth groups, church groups, and Wichita Neighborhood Improvement Services

Capital Costs: N/A

Operating Cost: Cost will depend on the size of the area and the amount of equipment available. Large areas typically cost between \$2,000-\$3,500 (includes equipment, trucks, City manpower, and dump fee). All other efforts are voluntary.

Funding: Neighborhood Clean-up Program (contact Deb Legge - 268-4481), donations, grants

3. Neighborhood Clean-Up

1. Neighborhood Clean-Up
2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances & Code Violations
3. Create a Public Recognition Award



3.2 Address Neighborhood Nuisances and Code Violations

Timeline: Short-Term

Work closely with inspectors from the Office of Central Inspection and the Department of Environmental Services to conduct monthly sweeps of the neighborhood for home and property code violations.

Training

- Neighborhood association representatives should contact the City Office of Central Inspection to set up a meeting to discuss possible solutions to area nuisance and code violations.
- Obtain training through the Office of Central Inspection's Neighbor-to-Neighbor and Neighborhood Patrol programs. These programs teach area residents about code violation identification, City procedures, committee structuring, and financial assistance programs available to property owners.

Identify Noncompliant Houses

- Partner with the Office of Central Inspection to develop a criteria or selection process by which substandard / noncompliant houses are identified.
- Survey the area and identify the substandard houses that could potentially be reported to the City according to the agreed upon criteria.

Report as Necessary

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should report the property address to the Wichita Office of Central Inspection and/or the Department of Environmental Services.
- Complaints should be submitted in writing, contain a designated contact name and phone number, and be signed by representatives of the neighborhood association, CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations and other potentially concerned residents.
- Create a standard form with check boxes that individuals can use to report code violations in the neighborhood, and make them available at the Neighborhood City Hall and other neighborhood locations.
- Provide an opportunity during neighborhood association meetings for residents to report or discuss neighborhood properties with code violations.

1. Neighborhood Clean-Up
2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances & Code Violations
3. Create a Public Recognition Award



- Ensure that the property owner of the property in violation receives information about programs that provide assistance for related housing improvements.
- Partner with the City Office of Central Inspection to report code violations during the annual neighborhood clean-up event (see Initiative 3.1 Neighborhood Clean-Up).
- If appropriate, have neighborhood association members personally explain the violation and necessary corrective measures to the property owner.
- When necessary, the neighborhood association may desire to contact the bank, mortgage company, or landlord to report code violations.
- If appropriate, do a search of tax records to determine if the property owner may have unresolved tax issues that might provide some leverage to ensure that they take action to resolve code violations.
- Be persistent.
- Neighborhood associations are encouraged to create a report or visual chart to keep track of code violations in their neighborhood. The chart should indicate, at minimum, the date the violation was reported and the earliest condemnation date.
- Follow-up on previous reports involving nuisance and blight issues.
- Encourage neighborhood residents to attend court hearings involving neighborhood code violations.
- Organize a time for the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations and the Office of Central Inspection to review City ordinances, to ensure that the regulations reflect the desires of the community.
- Encourage the City to hire more Office of Central Inspection inspectors to be assigned to the Central Northeast Area. Communicate your desires to your DAB members, City Council Member, and Mayor.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Office of Central Inspection (Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program), Department of Environmental Services, concerned residents
Capital Costs: N/A
Operating Cost: N/A
Funding: Voluntary effort

3. Neighborhood Clean-Up

1. Neighborhood Clean-Up
2. Address Neighborhood Nuisances & Code Violations
3. Create a Public Recognition Award



3.3 Create a Public Recognition Award

Timeline: Mid-Term

Implement monthly or seasonal public recognition awards for the best-kept and most improved properties in the Central Northeast Area.

Celebrate Pride in Ownership

- Develop criteria for selecting the best-kept property, with an emphasis on redevelopment of older homes. Awards might be rewarded for the best landscaping and/or seasonal decorations.
- Create awards (certificate, plaque, trophy) that can be awarded to the owners of the most improved and best-kept neighborhood properties.
- Announce the best-kept property at Neighborhood Association and CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations meetings, newsletters, websites, and local media sources, if able.
- Create a yard sign or window sign that can be used to highlight the award winning properties.
- Consider including award-winning homes in an annual neighborhood parade of homes or garden tour (see Initiative 1.3 Host an Annual Neighborhood Event).
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations and individual neighborhood associations may wish to encourage the City Council, their District Council Member, or the District Advisory Board to create a certificate or plaque to recognize award-winning property owners.

Lead Organization:	CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners:	Neighborhood Associations, local media, District Advisory Board, Wichita City Council
Capital Costs:	N/A
Operating Cost:	Awards production
Funding:	Donations, grants

4. Neighborhood Watch and Community Safety

1. Encourage Community Policing & Neighborhood Watch Activities
2. Improve Neighborhood Lighting



Source: Wichita Eagle; August 4, 2004; (1B)

4.1 Encourage Community Policing and Neighborhood Watch Activities

Timeline: Short-Term

Incorporate the Neighborhood Watch and community-policing programs into neighborhood and business association activities.

Neighborhood Watch Creation

- Contact the local Police Bureau substation to invite representatives of the Wichita Police Department to present information about the Neighborhood Watch program at a neighborhood meeting and to continue attending monthly neighborhood meetings to present status updates.
- Identify key leaders in existing neighborhood and business associations to become block leaders and coordinate the formation of Neighborhood Watch areas within their associations.
- Block leaders should recruit volunteers, promote the program, and keep residents involved.
- Neighborhood Associations and block leaders should coordinate with the Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Coordinator to setup meetings with Neighborhood Watch groups and community police officers. (Wichita Police Department, Community Affairs Section 268-4101)

Neighborhood Watch Duties

- Be familiar with assigned area.
- Promote and explain the Neighborhood Watch Program in assigned area.
- Canvas the area for active watch members to assist in performing watch duties.
- Encourage residents to have a free Home Security Survey done by community officers.

1. Encourage Community Policing & Neighborhood Watch Activities
2. Improve Neighborhood Lighting

- Encourage residents to participate in Operation Identification, a project that helps individuals to mark their property with identification tags in case it gets stolen.
- Attend organizational meetings.
- Organize and preside over Neighborhood Watch meetings and activities.
- Distribute leaflets and pass along information when necessary.
- Coordinate with other City departments and community organizations to confront neighborhood problems that are not directly related to crime.
- Instill enthusiasm and involvement among residents in neighborhood improvement projects.
- Organize an annual neighborhood patrol once a year. Walk the streets to identify crimes and code violations. Write down and report the tag numbers of vehicles involved in crimes.
- Coordinate with the area police bureau to create a neighborhood speed trap to catch drivers that speed through the neighborhood.
- Create a “welcome-wagon” group to greet new residents and to encourage their involvement in the neighborhood and Neighborhood Watch activities.

Neighborhood Watch Coordination

- Neighborhood associations gather information from block leaders and share information with the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations regarding incidences and noting any trends in crime and safety issues in the Central Northeast Area.
- Neighborhood Associations and the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should coordinate with Community Policing, Office of Central Inspection, Environmental Services and other City departments regarding incidences and trends.
- If appropriate, request permission to hold neighborhood association meetings at the local police station.

Neighborhood Watch Signs

- Contact the Wichita Police Department Community Policing Division to request information about the Neighborhood Watch signs.
- Encourage the City to develop grants for Neighborhood Watch signs.



1. Encourage Community Policing & Neighborhood Watch Activities
2. Improve Neighborhood Lighting



- Apply for grants, request donations, and host fundraising events to help pay for Neighborhood Watch signs.
- Coordinate with local property owners and City officials to install the Neighborhood Watch signs in appropriate locations (i.e. not in public easements).

Additional Resources

- City of Wichita Neighborhood Watch Newsletter
<http://www.wichitagov.org/CityOffices/Police/CommunityAffairs/Neighborhood+Watch+Newsletter.htm>

Lead Organization: Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, residents, Wichita Police Department and community police officers, Office of Central Inspection, Environmental Services, area businesses and business associations
Capital Costs: Sign purchase costs, post, installation
Operating Cost: N/A
Funding: Donations, fundraising events, grants

4. Neighborhood Watch and Community Safety

1. Encourage Community Policing & Neighborhood Watch Activities
2. Improve Neighborhood Lighting



4.2 Improve Neighborhood Lighting

Timeline: Short-Term

Start a “Neighborhood Bright’ campaign that creates additional, enhanced pedestrian-level lighting throughout the area, on a neighborhood block participation basis.

Light Up the Night

- Develop and distribute a brochure to encourage neighborhood residents to keep their porch lights on throughout the night.
- Solicit donations, from area hardware stores and individuals, to acquire long lasting compact fluorescent light bulbs or motion detecting fixtures to be distributed as porch lights for neighborhood residents (please note that compact fluorescent light bulbs should not be used with motion detecting fixtures because the repetitive on and off again will cause the compact fluorescent bulbs to burn out).

Identify Areas for Lighting Improvements

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should work with individual neighborhood associations to identify areas that are in need of additional lighting.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, in conjunction with consultation from the Wichita Police Department and Public Works Department, should develop a lighting plan for each neighborhood and set priorities for implementation. The plan should detail the location, fixtures, wattage, and type of bulbs.
- Survey residences on the block(s) or host neighborhood meetings to discuss and to receive feedback about the proposed lighting improvements.
- Prioritize the installation of lighting improvements on a block-by-block basis.

Request Improvements

- Submit a formal request letter with the project description and maps of proposed lighting improvements to the City Public Works Department Director and your City Council representatives.

1. Encourage Community Policing & Neighborhood Watch Activities
2. Improve Neighborhood Lighting

- Request that the City Police Department and City Public Works Department submit the proposed neighborhood lighting improvements for funding through the following programs:
 - Wichita Street Light Program
 - City Capital Improvement Program
 - Community Development Block Grant funding
- Inform your local City Council Member about the lighting improvement project and request their support.
- Search and apply for grants to finance the proposed lighting improvements.
- Contact the 4th District Congressional Representative to inquire about possible funding for lighting improvements. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.
- Contact the two Senators for Kansas to inquire about possible funding for lighting improvements. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.
- After installation, review to see if any areas require additional remediation.

New and Enhanced Programs

- Work with the City of Wichita and Westar Energy to install additional lighting where needed to improve area safety and help reduce crime. Include both both public and private properties.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should work with the City of Wichita to develop a program to install additional streetlights and provide payments for electricity, specifically for mid-block lights.
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should also work with the City of Wichita to develop a lighting improvement hardship deferral program. This program would provide assistance or pay the monthly electricity bill typically charged to adjacent property owners for additional street lighting improvements such as mid-block streetlights.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Area neighborhood associations, residents, Wichita Public Works, Westar Energy, Wichita Police Department
Capital Costs: Lighting poles in some situations
Operating Cost: Electricity costs
Funding: City of Wichita Street Light Program, CIP, CDBG, Donations, payments

5. Enhanced Neighborhood Shopping Opportunities

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. Market Potential Business Sites
3. Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign

5.1 Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator

Timeline: Mid-Term

Development a small business incubator program to encourage new neighborhood-serving businesses to locate in the Central Northeast Area. The Wichita area does not currently have an incubator to assist with small business development.

Do Your Homework

- Research what other communities are doing and how their incubators support local business development.
- Partner with local area economic development organizations, encourage, and support their efforts to create a local business incubator.
- Work with the Visioneering Wichita Vision Partners to develop and create a local business incubator (see page 16 of the Visioneering Wichita Final Draft for more information).

Make Your Case

- Contact the City of Wichita Economic Development Office to inquire about the City's ability to assist in the creation of a business incubator.
- Contact your area City Council member and the Mayor to gain support and request that the creation of the business incubator be a priority.
- Contact the 4th District Congressional Representative to inquire about possible funding to create a business incubator program. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.
- Contact the two Senators for Kansas to inquire about possible funding to create a business incubator program. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. Market Potential Business Sites
3. Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign

Possible Resources

- The following organizations provide a variety of assistance for local business development and may assist with efforts to develop a business incubator.
 - South Central Kansas Economic Development District
 - WSU Center for Entrepreneurship
 - WSU Small Business Economic Development Center (SBEDC)
 - Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
 - Wichita Technology Corporation
 - MidAmerican Manufacturing Technology Corporation (MAMTC)
 - Greater Wichita Economic Development Center
 - Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing
 - National Business Incubation Association (NBIA)
 - Wichita Small Business Association

Possible Locations

- Consider the use of the following sites as locations for the business incubator:
 - Boys and Girls Club structure at 2408 E. 21st Street;
 - The retail center at 2251 E. 21st Street.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: City of Wichita Economic Development Office, South Central Kansas Economic Development District, WSU Center for Entrepreneurship, WSU Small Business Economic Development Center (SBEDC), Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Wichita Technology Corporation, MidAmerican Manufacturing Technology Corporation (MAMTC), Greater Wichita Economic Development Center, Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing, National Business Incubation Association (NBIA), Wichita Small Business Association

Capital Costs: N/A

Operating Cost: N/A

Funding: CDBG, CIP (GO), grants, donations

5. Enhanced Neighborhood Shopping Opportunities

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. **Market Potential Business Sites**
3. Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign



5.2 Market Potential Business Sites

Timeline: Mid-Term

Market potential business sites within the target areas in partnership with agencies and non-profit organizations.

Target Areas

- 17th and Grove
- 13th and Grove
- 21st Street north between I-135 and Hillside, as described in the 21st Street North Corridor Plan with emphasis on the former Burger King site at 2020 E. 21st Street

Survey the Area

- Request that the MAPD produce a map and database of vacant sites that are recommended for business development.

Develop the District

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should encourage the 21st Street Business Association to appoint a committee (with neighborhood representation) to define the vision and purpose of the East End Multicultural District (see the 21st Street North Corridor Revitalization Plan for more information).
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations and 21st Street Business Association should review how other communities have created unique corridors that highlight local features to encourage redevelopment.
- Determine what measures are best for your community. If necessary, request that the MAPD host a presentation to educate area stakeholders about possible district features, including:
 - Design guidelines;
 - Unique public infrastructure;
 - Entryway features (identified in the 21st Street North Revitalization Plan).

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. **Market Potential Business Sites**
3. Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign



Collaborate With Others

- Work with local real estate agents to obtain a listing of retail / commercial sites currently on the market.
- Work with local economic development organizations, realtors, local governments, area community development corporations, and local education institutions to create a clearinghouse that lists the developable properties in the target area.
- Partner with local economic development organizations, realtors, local governments, area community development corporations, and local education institutions to create and distribute materials. The promotional materials should advertise the potential properties and advantages of locating in the East End Multicultural District.

Get the Word Out

- Partner with local organizations to develop a website or on-line database where potential buyers can get information about available properties.
- Provide a link to the database of vacant properties available for commercial development to the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations website and area realtors' websites.
- Create and distribute flyers to businesses that might find a market or supply niche in the area.
- Publish advertisements that list the vacant properties in local area newspapers.
- Present information to organizations and conferences where potential buyers might be in attendance.
- Make local representatives and government staff aware of efforts to market the properties and request that they promote the Initiative (see Appendix C for a list of local representatives).

Additional Resources

- 21st Street North Corridor Revitalization Plan
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/AdvancedPlans/21st/>

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. Market Potential Business Sites
3. Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign



Lead Organization:
Partners:

CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
 City of Wichita Economic Development Office,
 South Central Kansas Economic Development
 District, WSU Center for Entrepreneurship, WSU
 Small Business Economic Development Center
 (SBEDC), Service Corps of Retired Executives
 (SCORE), Wichita Technology Corporation,
 MidAmerican Manufacturing Technology
 Corporation (MAMTC), Greater Wichita Economic
 Development Center, Kansas Department of
 Commerce and Housing, Wichita Small Business
 Association, Wichita Area Realtors Association,
 area realtors, City of Wichita, Sedgwick County,
 POWER CDC
Capital Costs: Marketing materials
Operating Cost: N/A
Funding: CDBG

5. Enhanced Neighborhood Shopping Opportunities

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. Market Potential Business Sites
3. Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign

5.3 Start a “Shop Local” Campaign

Timeline: Mid-Term

Develop and promote a “Shop Local” campaign to raise awareness about the need to support area businesses.

Design the Campaign

- Work with your local business association to develop and fund a “shop local” campaign (see Initiative 6.1 Encourage the Growth and Development of Area Business Associations for more information about business associations).

Get a Logo and a Message

- Create a logo or use an existing logo that is easily identifiable, communicates a lot without many words, and is easily replicated.
- Local organizations may want to request assistance with creating a logo from neighborhood residents, area schools (including the Northeast magnet school), WSU, or City Arts.
- Host a contest for the design of the logo, have local artists submit works and local residents judge them.
- Create a campaign message that communicates the need and benefits of shopping locally.

Advertise

- Network with area businesses to create marketing materials:
 - buttons for area residents to wear to public events;
 - stickers;
 - posters;
 - signs that can be used in store windows to advertise the campaign;
 - maps of local businesses;
 - flyers to hand out to local residents.
- Be sure to incorporate the promotion's logo in all campaign materials.
- Create a list of local businesses that are participating in the campaign and incorporate their logos and names into advertising materials.

1. Support the Development of a Small Business Incubator
2. Market Potential Business Sites
3. **Start a 'Shop-Local' Campaign**

- Invite the press to observe a group of neighborhood residents on a local shopping trip.
- Advertise on neighborhood and area websites, in newspapers, neighborhood newsletters, and at local gathering places.
- Offer a prize (gift certificates or other incentives) for customers who shop locally. One example would be to create a randomly awarded prize of a \$100 gift certificate for an individual that shops locally during the holiday season.
- Celebrate the successes by sharing success stories with sponsors, community organizations, and local media sources.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Wichita Small Business Association, area realtors, City of Wichita, Sedgwick County
Capital Costs: Marketing materials
Operating Cost: N/A
Funding: Donations, campaign contributions from local stores, business association, grants

6. Retain and Attract New Businesses and Jobs

1. Encourage the Growth and Development of Area Business Associations
2. Promote and Encourage the Development of Business Assistance Programs

6.1 Encourage the Growth and Development of Area Business Associations

Timeline: Short-Term

Encourage the 21st Street Business Association to develop their membership east of I-135.

Promote the Business Association

- Develop a list of area businesses and employers.
- Partner with the 21st Street Business Association to distribute materials to area businesses that detail the advantages of being association members.
- Encourage the 21st Street Business Association to host “meet and greet” events for area business owners and workers, such as a barbeque lunch.
- Celebrate the successes by sharing success stories with sponsors, community organizations, and local media sources.

Establish Good Lines of Communication

- Encourage representatives of the 21st Street Business Association to attend CNE Council of Neighborhood Association meetings and neighborhood association meetings.

Credit is Key

- Encourage the representatives of credit counseling organizations and business assistance programs to offer clinics on the importance of credit in small business development and how to improve personal credit.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: 21st Street Business Association

Capital Cost: NA

Operating Cost: NA

Funding: NA

6. Retain and Attract New Businesses and Jobs

1. Encourage the Growth and Development of Area Business Associations
2. Promote and Encourage the Development of Business Assistance Programs

6.2 Promote and Encourage the Development of Business Assistance Programs

Timeline: Mid-Term

Discover existing assistance programs for local businesses and encourage area business owners to take advantage of them.

Learn About Existing Assistance Programs

- The 21st Street Business Association should contact local government, non-profit, and educational organizations to discover what economic development assistance is available.
- Invite representatives of organizations offering economic development assistance to present at business association and neighborhood association meetings. Associations may wish to request that a representative of a business that has utilized the assistance program also attend.

Encourage the Use of Existing Assistance Programs

- Distribute information about the local economic development organizations and updated programs to local businesses.
- The 21st Street Business Association should distribute information about local economic development organizations, promote updated assistance programs, and encourage better utilization of existing business assistance programs.
- Utilize the Neighborhood City Hall as a central depository for business development resource information with contact information for all area economic development centers (a simple notebook with program descriptions and contact information may suffice).

Develop New Programs and Adapt Existing Ones

- Request that assisting organizations develop new programs or strengthen existing programs when necessary. Your organization may wish to include examples where assistance is critical or would satisfy an unmet need.

Wichita Area Business Assistance Resources

- Possible resources include the following organizations:
 - South Central Kansas Economic Development District;
 - WSU Center for Entrepreneurship;

1. Encourage the Growth and Development of Area Business Associations
2. Promote and Encourage the Development of Business Assistance Programs

- WSU Small Business Economic Development Center (SBEDC);
- Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE);
- Wichita Technology Corporation;
- MidAmerican Manufacturing Technology Corporation (MAMTC);
- Greater Wichita Economic Development Center;
- Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing;
- National Business Incubation Association (NBIA);
- Wichita Small Business Association.

Lead Organization: 21st Street Business Association
Partners: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Capital Cost: Informational and promotional materials
Operating Cost: NA
Funding: grants, donations

7. Improve the Quality of Life for Area Children

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues
3. Promote Existing Youth Programs



7.1 Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement and Revitalization of the Area

Timeline: Short-Term

Actively involve the youth in the improvement and revitalization of the Central Northeast Area while providing them with training and educational opportunities.

Design Programs and Projects

- Develop neighborhood association projects that actively involve area youth and youth service organizations.
- Ask area parents and youth what projects they are interested in.
- Develop a list of potential summer projects and survey area students to discover which projects interest them. Partner with area schools to distribute the surveys.
- Apply for grants to provide funding for summer student employment with the neighborhood association. The following organizations currently offer grants for summer youth employment:
 - Family Services Institute (269-2744);
 - Wichita Indochinese Center (689-8729).
- Solicit for donations to fund youth programs. Also, consider charging a nominal fee for participants to help fund the activity.
- Be sure to include notices that the program requires that parents be present to supervise youth under 15 years of age and should not be used as a daycare operation.
- Be aware of possible liability issues that arise from using private property for child-oriented events. Inquire about using public park land for events, if necessary, to avoid being legally liable for accidents.
- Use the neighborhood skills survey identified in Initiative 1.5 Discover Neighborhood Strengths to help select possible youth mentors in the area. Contact the City Police and Fire Departments to request their assistance.

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues
3. Promote Existing Youth Programs



Examples of Programs and Projects

- Encourage organizations to offer local classes, clinics, or field trips, such as:
 - Sports (soccer, basketball, football, baseball, swimming);
 - Arts (dance, painting, crafts);
 - Dances (sock hops, etc. supervised by parents).
- During area festivals have booths and activities specifically set up to attract youth, such as: (refer to Initiative 1.3 Host an Annual Event).
 - Create a t-shirt;
 - A bounce house;
 - Beanbag toss;
 - Basketball free throw competition;
 - Trivia games;
 - Have a disc jockey at the event.
- Involve the youth in association business, such as:
 - Appoint a youth representative for the association;
 - Appoint a youth editor / reporter for the neighborhood newsletter and/or website.
- Develop and select neighborhood association projects that can actively involve area youth and youth service organizations, such as:
 - Neighborhood clean-up;
 - Neighborhood Watch;
 - Community garden;
 - Working with the Park Department on area park maintenance, development, and installation art works in the parks;
 - Area maintenance / minor home repair volunteer groups.
- Pair youth with mentors that have skills in the areas of youth interest, such as:
 - Car repairs / mechanics;
 - Airplanes / aircraft industry;
 - Business management;
 - Landscaping;
 - Art / music.
- Encourage association members to volunteer at area schools to promote interaction with area youth.

Engage Area Youth

- Invite families that participate in the neighborhood association to bring their children to association events.

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues
3. Promote Existing Youth Programs

- Partner with local schools to send flyers for neighborhood association events home with local students.
- Have neighborhood association members go door-to-door with information about association events that youth can participate in.
- Advertise neighborhood association activities with local youth groups and youth oriented service organizations.

Encourage Youth Successes in Education and Extra Curricular Activities

- Publish names, pictures, and/or stories about students that deserve positive recognition.
- Work with area businesses to create promotions that reward high grades or other achievements (i.e. free video rentals or candy if they present a report card showing a grade B or higher).
- Assist area youth to fill out employment applications and encourage association members to serve as references.
- Encourage area youth to take advantage of summer employment programs offered by Family Services Institute and the Wichita Indochinese Center.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood associations

Partners: parents, area youth, JROTC, residents, Police Department, Fire Department, City Park Department, USD 259, Wichita Boys and Girls Club, Little Early Childhood Education Center, local scouts

Capital Costs: N/A

Operating Cost: N/A

Funding: Grants, donations, CDBG

7. Improve the Quality of Life for Area Children

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues
3. Promote Existing Youth Programs



Source: Wichita Public Schools Website

7.2 Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues

Timeline: Short-Term

Work with area school and USD 259 representatives to help address the long-term social, emotional and educational needs of area youth (e.g., better utilization of school facilities for “after-hours” community sponsored youth programs, events and activities).

Meet with School Representatives

- Contact your local school board member to request that they attend a neighborhood association meeting.
- Contact local school principals to request that they attend a neighborhood association meeting.
- Inquire how the neighborhood association can assist local schools and USD 259 to help improve the educational attainment and scores of area youth.
- Encourage neighborhood representatives to serve on USD 259 boards and committees, including local school site committees.
- If warranted, appoint a neighborhood association committee that will be responsible for better interactions with USD 259 and area schools.
- Promote parent attendance at parent teacher conferences and involvement with area schools.

Be an Advocate

- Neighborhood associations should partner with other community groups and elected officials to advocate for better and stronger schools.
- Encourage the NAACP to be an advocate for the needs of area children.
- Encourage local businesses to adopt a local school.

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. **Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues**
3. Promote Existing Youth Programs

Award Outstanding Teachers and Principals

- Create and distribute neighborhood association or CNE Council of Neighborhood Association awards to area teachers and principals.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood associations
Partners: USD 259, NAACP
Capital Costs: N/A
Operating Cost: Teacher awards
Funding: Grants, donations, fund raising activities

7. Improve the Quality of Life for Area Children

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues
3. **Promote Existing Youth Programs**

7.3 Promote Existing Youth Programs

Timeline: Short-Term

Promote and encourage area youth to participate in existing programs, events, and activities that are available both after school and during the summer.

Partner with the Schools and Youth Organizations

- Collaborate efforts with area schools and youth organizations to connect area youth with existing programs.

Host an Event to Promote Programs

- Piggy-back with existing events / opportunities (End-of-Year School Fair, Annual Neighborhood Events, etc), or host an additional event / program to promote existing youth programs offered throughout the community.
- Hold at least two events, one at the beginning and one at the end of the school year, to promote both after-school programs and summer programs.
- Request each youth organization to have event booths to provide information about the organization, how to join, and associated fees.
- Provide some form of entertainment and/or food to attract youth to the event.
- Hold the event at the schools to ensure that all youth are exposed to and aware of the available programs.

Market Programs

- Utilize bulletin boards at schools, churches, and other community facilities to promote youth programs.
- Distribute organization brochures and/or booklets that list and describe existing programs, to schools and other appropriate locations.

1. Actively Involve Youth in the Improvement & Revitalization of the Area
2. Work with USD 259 to Address Local School Issues
3. Promote Existing Youth Programs

Develop an Adopt-A-Project Competition

- Encourage each youth organization to pick at least one project from a list, developed by the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, to sponsor and to assist with completing that year. (This should act to create a sense of pride and belonging among the area youth.)

Promote parent involvement in the organization

- Encourage parents to get involved with youth programs and to discuss the programs with other parents in the area.

Award Organizations

- Create an award system to recognize youth organizations that assist with neighborhood projects. (Examples - The Greatest Participation in Neighborhood Projects, The Greatest Achievement Award, Outstanding Leadership Award, etc.)
- Develop criteria for the award selection process.
- Announce awards via newsletters, websites, and local media sources, if able.
- Encourage the City Council, District City Council Member, or District Advisory Board to create a certificate or plaque to recognize award winners

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners:



Potential Organizations	Contact	Phone Number
Good Gang, Inc	Pastor Jeff Enlow	312-0909
Strong Family Ties Initiative (SFTI)	Ishaku Maikori or Wayne	262-2421
Hope Street Youth	Kathy Johnson	263-7325
Black Achievers - YMCA	Tyrone Baker	264-4066
Boys & Girls Club	Connie Franklin	687-5437
Kansas Kids @ Gear Up - WSU	Pat Grimmit	973-6697
Chess Champions	Anthony Winn	264-4889
Wichita Urban League	Brian Black	262-2463
Girl Scouts Golden Plains Council	Angie Walker	684-6531
Boy Scouts of America Quivira Council	Rick Reeve	264-3386
Atwater City Hall	Virdena Gilkey	303-8017

Capital Costs: N/A
Operating Cost: N/A
Funding: Donations & fund-raising activities, grants

8. Promote New Home Construction

1. Promote New Home Construction on Vacant Lots.
2. Ensure that Neighborhood Zoning is Consistent with the Neighborhood Vision



8.1 Promote New Home Construction on Vacant Lots

Timeline: Short-Term

To protect the neighborhood fabric by ensuring that the rate of new home construction exceeds the housing demolition rate in the Central Northeast Area.

Take Inventory

- Inventory vacant lots and identify those that may be available for redevelopment. Contact the Planning Department for assistance with creating maps and obtaining control numbers or key numbers for the parcels.

Market the Opportunities

- Publish the map of vacant lots in the neighborhood newsletter and/or website.
- Create an inventory of existing programs offered by the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, and other organizations; that can be used to assist new construction and purchases (see Initiative 2.7 Develop New Incentives to Increase Homeownership).
- Create brochures, flyers, and packets that can be used to promote construction opportunities and assistance programs available in the Central Northeast Area. Consider including related articles and personal testimonies.
- Advertise the findings to CDCs, CHDOs, developers, City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department, Wichita Area Builders Association, Wichita Area Realtors Association, and area newspapers.
- Contact various Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) and Community Development Corporations (CDC) in the Wichita area to inform them about development opportunities in the Central Northeast Area. Encourage the development of new homes in the areas where neighborhood associations exist.
- Meet with Housing and Community Services staff to discuss strategies to market and develop the Central Northeast Area.
- Communicate the desire to see new homes built in the area to your elected representatives and discuss options for seeing that goal realized (see Appendix C for a listing of elected and appointed officials).

1. Promote New Home Construction on Vacant Lots.
2. Ensure that Neighborhood Zoning is Consistent with the Neighborhood Vision

- Contact the 4th District Congressional Representative to inquire about possible funding assistance. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.
- Contact the two U.S. Senators for Kansas to inquire about possible funding assistance. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.
- Work with elected City officials and City staff to encourage the expansion of the HUD Local Investment Area, Redevelopment Incentive Area, and Neighborhood Revitalization Area boundaries to include all of the CNE area.

Additional Resources

- Wichita Area Builders' Association
<http://www.wabahome.com/>
- City of Wichita HOME program
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/HOME/default.htm>
- Map of Local Investment Areas and Neighborhood Reinvestment Areas as part of the Wichita Consolidated Plan
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Housing/CommunityInvestments/2004-2008HUDConsolidatedPlan.htm>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood associations

Partners: Residents, Wichita Area Builders Association, Wichita Area Realtors Association, CDCs, CHDOs, City Housing and Community Services

Capital Costs: Publication costs

Operating Cost: Research costs

Funding: Donations, grants, CDBG, HOME, CIP (GO)

8. Promote New Home Construction

1. Promote New Home Construction on Vacant Lots.
2. Ensure that Neighborhood Zoning is Consistent with the Neighborhood Vision

8.2 Ensure that Neighborhood Zoning is Consistent with the Neighborhood Vision

Timeline: Short-Term

In some areas of Wichita the zoning may not appropriately match what has been developed and/or how local residents would like to see it develop in the future. In cases like these, the neighborhood associations can utilize the MAPD to start a process to rezone their neighborhood. The rezoning process will involve the entire neighborhood and includes the development of a rezoning plan. An area-wide rezoning changes the zoning of an area to allow for uses that neighborhood residents want to see developed and can prevent uses that have negative impacts on the neighborhood.

Discover Zoning and the Rezoning Process

- Contact the MAPD to obtain a zoning map for the Central Northeast Area and a copy of the Wichita-Sedgwick County Unified Zoning Code to determine if the current zoning in your neighborhood allows uses that would have a positive or negative impact on the community.
- Schedule a session with MAPD staff to learn more about zoning and the impacts that zoning has on a neighborhood.

Adapt Your Zoning

- Contact your District City Council member and City Mayor to voice your desire to see changes to your neighborhood zoning.
- Partner with the MAPD to determine where housing, commercial uses, offices, industrial, recreational, and civic uses should be developed within the neighborhood.
- Determine the most appropriate zoning for the area that will allow the desired neighborhood uses. Planning staff will help to explain the rezoning process, develop a schedule, assist with public meetings, and assist with creating public notices.
- Contact your appointed Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission Members to voice your desire to see changes to your neighborhood zoning.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood associations

Partners: MAPD

Capital Costs: N/A

Operating Cost: N/A

Funding: N/A

9. Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign

1. Develop Community Gardens or Pocket Parks
2. Initiate Streetscape Renovation Projects
3. Encourage Landscaping at Individual Houses
4. Improve Neighborhood Signage
5. Improve Business Building Facades and Sites
6. Publicly Recognize Accomplishments



9.1 Develop Community Gardens or Pocket Parks

Timeline: Mid-Term

Target suitable sites within the Central Northeast Area to develop as community gardens or pocket parks to improve the quality of life for area residents.

Form a Planning Committee

- Determine if there is a desire for a garden or resident-maintained pocket park program.
- Determine what kind of garden / park -- vegetable, flower, trees, recreational, or a combination?
- Consider participating in the "Plant a Row for the Hungry (PAR)" - a locally managed program by the Kansas Foodbank Warehouse and the Sedgwick County Extension Master Gardeners - to provide produce to neighbors in need.
- Determine whom the garden / park will serve: youth, seniors, special populations, or people who just want an alternative to trash.
- Incorporate particular groups that will directly benefit from the project in all phases of the planning process.
- Organize a meeting of interested people.
- Choose a well-organized garden / park coordinator.
- Form committees to accomplish tasks: Funding & Resource Development; Youth Activities; Construction; and Communication.
- Approach a sponsor. (Site sponsorship can be a tremendous asset. Contributions of land, tools, seeds, fencing, soil improvements or money are all vital to a successful community garden / park.) Churches, schools, citizens groups, private businesses, and local parks and recreation departments are all potential supporters.
- Make a list of what needs to be done.
- Find a garden / park site. Consider the use of vacant lots.
- Obtain a lease or agreement from the property owner.

1. **Develop Community Gardens or Pocket Parks**
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- Decide on a mailing address and central telephone number(s). Try to have at least 3 people who are very familiar with all pertinent information. Form a telephone tree.
- If your community garden / park has a budget, keep administration in the hands of several people.
- Choose a name for the garden / park.

Choose a Site

- Identify the owner of the land.
- Verify that the site gets at least 6 full hours of sunlight daily (for vegetables).
- Conduct a soil test in the fall for nutrients & heavy metals.
- Consider availability of water.
- Obtain a lease or agreement, which allows the space to be used at least for 3 years.
- Research past uses of the land and identify potential contamination.
- Consider obtaining insurance and determine how to fund it.

Design, Prepare, and Develop the Site

- Clean the site.
- Develop your design – (decide on plot sizes, mark plots clearly with gardeners' names / determine design of recreational facilities).
- Gather your resources--try to gather free materials.
- Organize volunteer work crews.
- Include plans for a storage area for tools and other equipment, as well as, a compost area.
- Incorporate a rain-proof bulletin board into the design of the garden / park for announcing garden / park events and messages.
- Design the garden to place flower or shrub beds around the visible perimeter. This helps to promote good will with non-gardening neighbors, passers-by, and municipal authorities.

Determine How to Manage and Maintain the Site

- Develop conditions for membership (residence, dues, agreement with rules, etc.).

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- Determine how the garden plots will be assigned (by family size, by residency, by need, by group -- i.e., youth, elderly, etc.).
- Determine the standard plot size, or if varied plot sizes should be allowed, based on family size or other factors.
- Design the layout of the site.
- Make decisions such as: how future tenants will be chosen, how to deal with possible vandalism, if the gardeners will share equipment, etc.
- Develop schedule for meetings and events.
- Determine if written rules are necessary and how they will be enforced.

Seek Funding

- Seek sponsorship and/or funding to implement project.

Additional Resources

- American Community Garden Association publication, “*Starting a Community Garden*”
<http://www.communitygarden.org/starting.php>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Neighborhood Associations, Sedgwick County Extension Service – Master Gardeners and Plant a Row for the Hungary program, youth groups, service organizations
Capital Costs: N/A
Operating Costs: N/A
Funding Sources: City of Wichita Reforestation Program (\$100,000/year), CDBG, Capital Improvement Program, USDA (US Dept. of Agriculture), EPA Environmental Education Grants Program, American Horticulture Society, America the Beautiful Fund, National Tree Trust, Northrup-King & Co., Seeds of Change, CIP (GO), CDBG, donations, grants

9. Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign

1. Develop Community Gardens or Pocket Parks
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9.2 Initiate Streetscape Renovation Projects

Timeline: Mid-Term

Improve the streetscape of streets and arterials within the Central Northeast Area. Streetscape improvements may include installation of additional landscaping, benches, or distinct lighting fixtures.

Identify and Prioritize Streetscape Needs

- Individual neighborhood associations, the 21st Street Business Association and the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should identify and prioritize streets that are in need of streetscape improvements. (It is recommended that major entryways into the neighborhood be ranked as a high priority.)
- Determine the needs of each street with regard to pedestrian pathways, bike paths, wheelchair accessibility, benches and/or other rest areas, landscaping, trash receptacles, lighting, etc. (see Initiative 4.2 Improve Neighborhood Lighting for lighting strategies).
- Incorporate landscaping into any planned sidewalk renovation / restoration project (see Initiative 10.1 Improve Area Sidewalks).
- Develop a timeline for streetscape improvement plans.

Develop Plan-of-Action

- Seek assistance from the City of Wichita Arborist to assist the committee in developing design guidelines and other recommendations (keep in mind the sight-triangle rule of traffic safety).
- Develop design guidelines for the type of vegetation, spacing between trees, etc. in order to create an aesthetically pleasing flow throughout the neighborhood.
- Consider vegetation that is low-maintenance and preferably native to the Wichita area so that the vegetation has a greater chance of survival.

Encourage Participation

- Encourage individuals and/or organizations to help purchase, plant, and maintain street foliage.

1. Develop Community Gardens or Pocket Parks
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- Request assistance through the City of Wichita Park Department Reforestation Program (268-4222). The program provides free trees along street easements in selected areas of the City. If your area is not selected for that year, then contact the Park Department Director and your City Council representatives to request that your area be made a priority for reforestation efforts.
- Contact your City Council representatives to notify them that improved streetscapes are a priority for the community.

Seek Funding

- Seek sponsorship and/or funding (Adopt-A-Tree Program).
- Develop program for sponsors to provide trees to any property owner that wants vegetation in front of their home and agrees to maintain it.
- Encourage area youth groups and other community service organizations to participate in the Adopt-A-Tree Program.
- If appropriate, recognize sponsors with a visible plaque at the location of the improvement.

Additional Resources

- A list of recommended trees for Wichita Kansas provided by the Kansas State University Extension Office
http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/sedgwick/SGHort/preferred_trees/preferred_tree_list.pdf
- City of Wichita Park and Recreation Department tree recommendations
http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Park/ForestryAndCentralSupport/street_trees.htm

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Neighborhood Associations, 21st Street Business Association, community service groups, youth groups, and City of Wichita’s Arborist, Sedgwick County Extension Service – Master Gardeners, City of Wichita Park and Recreation
Capital Costs: Variable
Operating Costs: Maintenance
Funding Sources: City of Wichita Reforestation Program (\$100,000/year), CDBG, Capital Improvement Program, USDA (US Dept. of Agriculture), EPA Environmental Education Grants Program, American Horticulture Society, America the Beautiful Fund, National Tree Trust, Northrup-King & Co., Seeds of Change, donations, grants

9. Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign

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9.3 Encourage Landscaping at Individual Houses

Timeline: Short-Term

Encourage individuals to improve the landscaping on their private properties.

Create a Central Northeast Area Garden Club

- Create a Central Northeast Area garden club to support planning and implementation of greening projects area-wide.

Partner and Promote Participation

- Partner with the Sedgwick County Extension Service to encourage area residents to participate in landscaping improvement activities.
- Create opportunities for green space creation and enhancement.
- Collaborate with community-based organizations, cooperative residents, non-profit organizations, local, and state agencies.
- Partner with local gardening and landscaping businesses to gain access to local know-how and possible funding.

Advertise Gardening Programs

- Advertise the Sedgwick County Extension Service's gardening programs through the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood association newsletters, local media, and with local service organizations and businesses.
- Promote awareness of the importance of trees in the neighborhood.
- Develop an annual area-wide garden tour program.

Lead Organization:	CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners:	Neighborhood Associations, Sedgwick County Extension Service – Master Gardeners and Plant a Row for the Hungry program, community-based organizations, residents, non-profit organizations, local and state agencies
Capital Costs:	N/A
Operating Costs:	N/A
Funding Sources:	USDA (US Dept. of Agriculture), American Horticulture Society, America the Beautiful Fund, National Tree Trust, Northrup-King & Co., Seeds of Change, donations, grants

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9.4 Improve Neighborhood Signage

Timeline: Short-Term

Improve signage in the Central Northeast Area and create an Adopt-A-Sign program to assist with installation and maintenance.

Determine Needs

- Determine the type, style, and location of signs needed throughout the area, including neighborhood signs; entryway features; direction signs to area attractions; Neighborhood Watch signs; monuments; recreational signage; etc.
- Coordinate with the City of Wichita Public Works Department and Office of Central Inspection to obtain a copy of the rules and regulations pertaining to sign placement.

Obtain Sponsors

- Find individuals, non-profits, civic organizations, businesses, business associations, and/or neighborhood associations to donate funds or assistance to the Adopt-a-Sign Program.
- Develop a method to recognize donors / sponsors at each sign location.
- Create a binder or register with the contact information for each organization that has adopted a sign. Keep a copy of the binder at the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall.

Seek Funding

- Contact the MAPD, Public Works, and Park Department to inquire about having your signage improvement projects submitted for funding through the City Capital Improvement Program and/or Community Development Block Grant program.
- Inform your local City Council Member about the signage improvement project(s) and request their support.
- Search and apply for grants that will help to finance the signage improvements.
- Contact the 4th District Congressional Representative to inquire about possible funding. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.

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- Contact the two Senators for Kansas to inquire about possible funding. HUD Economic Development Incentive grants are an example of funding that may be available.

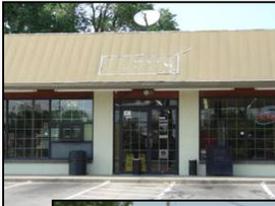
Additional Resources

- *“Conducting a Community Clean-up, Fix-up Campaign,”* by the Cooperative Extension Service, Manhattan, KS.
- Community Housing Services provides a leadership training course that includes possible funding for area signs.
- Tools for neighborhood projects are available for rent through Community Housing Services (685-2656).

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: neighborhood associations, area businesses, community service organizations, & youth groups, Wichita Neighborhood Assistants, MAPD, City Public Works Department, City Park and Recreation Department, Office of Central Inspection
Capital Costs: Signage, placement
Operating Costs: Sign maintenance
Funding Sources: CDBG, Capital Improvement Program, local sponsorship, donations, grants

9. Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign

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- 5. Improve Business Building Facades and Sites**
6. Publicly Recognize Accomplishments



9.5 Improve Business Building Facades and Sites

Timeline: Mid-Term

Work with area businesses, property owners, and City staff to improve the exterior appearances of area businesses.

Engage Business Owners

- Work with the 21st Street Business Association to encourage property owners and business owners to invest in renovating their building facades.
- Find an area expert and host a workshop to discuss tips on window arrangements, signage, economical landscaping ideas, etc.

Seek Funding

- Encourage the City to expand the geographic boundaries of the current façade program to assist with façade renovations or upgrades for businesses in the Central Northeast area.

Additional Resources

- City of Wichita Façade Improvement Program description http://www.wichita.gov/NR/rdonlyres/93F6BBF2-2AA3-4F59-BE49-615DDE052AD9/0/Facade_Improvement_Program_Policies_and_Procedures_19d.pdf

Lead Organization:	21 st Street Business Association
Partners:	Central NE Neighborhood Associations, City of Wichita's Public Works Department (Bill Morris 268-4548), MAPD, City Finance Department
Capital Costs:	N/A
Operating Costs:	Funding for the City of Wichita Façade Improvement Program
Funding Sources:	City of Wichita's Façade Improvement Program (currently restricted to specific geographic boundaries), private funding from business owners, grants, CDBG

9. Initiate a Neighborhood and Personal Pride Campaign

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6. **Publicly Recognize Accomplishments**

9.6 Publicly Recognize Accomplishments

Timeline: Short-Term

Establish a program to publicly recognize the efforts of local residents, businesses, and other organizations to improve the area through landscaping and stewardship.

Reward Hard Work

- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations should establish a recognition program or contests to encourage individuals, organizations, and/or businesses to assist in landscaping and maintenance of entryways, streetscape, community gardens, businesses, and other areas in the community.
- Conduct competitions by neighborhood and award prizes (i.e., from a local nursery) to the neighborhood with the best-maintained streetscape and best - maintained community garden. In addition, publicize through the websites, newsletters, and local media sources.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: Area residents, organizations, businesses, & neighborhood associations
Capital Costs: N/A
Operating Costs: N/A
Funding Sources: Grants, donations

10. Improve Neighborhood Infrastructure

1. Improve Area Sidewalks
2. Pave Dirt Streets
3. Improve Area Drainage



10.1 Improve Area Sidewalks

Timeline: Short-Term

Review the existing inventory of sidewalks in the Central Northeast Area. Determine where sidewalk improvements are needed, and see that the improvements are implemented.

Develop Plan of Action

- Identify and prioritize areas where new sidewalks or repairs to sidewalks are needed (see appendix A for a map indicating needed sidewalks in the Central Northeast Area).
- Determine needs of each street with regard to pedestrian routes, bike paths, and wheelchair accessibility. These factors may help to determine how wide the sidewalks should be.
- Incorporate landscaping into any planned sidewalk improvement projects (see Initiative 9.2 Initiate Streetscape Renovation Projects).
- Contact the City of Wichita Public Works Department to inquire about the process to get new sidewalks installed and how they are paid for. Also, request a representative from Public Works to attend a neighborhood meeting to explain the process to neighborhood residents.
- Learn about the Wichita Area Long Range Transportation Plan and submit comments and recommendations. Encourage neighborhood associations and residents to submit comments.

Seek Funding

- Notify your City Council representatives that sidewalk improvements are a priority for the community.
- Contact both Public Works and your City Council representatives to request that they submit the identified sidewalk improvements for funding through the following programs:
 - City Capital Improvement Program
 - One Year Action Plan - Community Development Block Grant funding
 - Streets, Curb, and Gutters Program (for repairs only)
- The CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, with assistance from the City of Wichita, should apply for funding through grant programs such as the Transportation Enhancement Program and Rails-to-Trails program to fund sidewalk and related trail improvements.

1. Improve Area Sidewalks
2. Pave Dirt Streets
3. Improve Area Drainage



- Contact the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (268-4421) to request that sidewalk improvements receive Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ) funding. CMAQ funding is eligible for projects that decrease emissions and help to improve the air quality of the Wichita Metropolitan Area.
- Another option is to contact the Public Works Department to request a petition form that property owners who own property adjacent to the proposed sidewalk improvements can sign to indicate their request for improved sidewalks. Once a majority of the property owners have signed the petition, submit it to the Public Works Department to request that the City improve area sidewalks and assess special taxes to the adjacent property owners to pay for the improvements.
- In addition to having the City do the improvements, property owners can also hire contractors that are licensed with the City to install / repair sidewalks. In this case the property owner would pay the cost of the repairs / installation up front and would not be subject to special assessment taxes.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood associations

Partners: Area residents, property owners, businesses, City Public Works Department

Capital Costs: Costs associated with sidewalk repairs and installation
 420,419 linear ft. per City estimates
 Costs
 4 ft. wide = \$3.75 per sq. ft.
 6 ft. wide = \$4.25 per sq. ft.

Total cost estimate
 420,419 * 4 * \$3.75 = \$6,306,285
 420,419 * 6 * \$4.25 = \$10,720,684
 \$6,306,285 - \$10,720,684

Additional costs
 \$300 per wheelchair ramps at corners

Operating Costs:

Funding Sources: CIP, CDBG, CDBG (Streets Curbs and Gutters Program), Congestion Mitigation Air Quality, Transportation Enhancement, special assessments

10. Improve Neighborhood Infrastructure

1. Improve Area Sidewalks
2. **Pave Dirt Streets**
3. Improve Area Drainage



10.2 Pave Dirt Streets

Timeline: Short-Term

Develop a more effective strategy and approach to see that dirt streets in the Central Northeast Area are paved. Work with the City Public Works Department to coordinate this effort.

Develop a Plan of Action

- See Appendix D for a map of dirt streets within the Central Northeast Area.
- Prioritize each street based on traffic, adjacent uses, number of connections, and significance to the area.
- Call for needed water, sewer, and drainage improvements to be implemented prior to the paving of the street.
- Incorporate landscaping and sidewalk improvements into any planned street paving projects (Initiative 9.2 Initiate Streetscape Renovation Projects and 10.1 Improve Area Sidewalks).

Review Current Policy

- Block residents can petition the City to have adjacent streets paved. The petition will need to be signed by over 50 percent of the adjacent property owners. Petitions can be obtained by contacting the City Public Works Department 268-4422. The City will then assess adjoining property owners special assessment taxes to pay for the cost of installing the street.
- The City Council can also order that a street be paved, known as an "Order-In." In this circumstance the street is paved and special taxes are assigned to the adjoining properties. An "Order-In" does not require the consent of adjoining property owners. Although, if 70% of the adjoining property owners protest the paving, then the paving will not occur. The only exception to this is in cases where the segment to be paved is one block long and the connections on either end are both paved. In this case, protesting street paving will not have an effect.

Develop New Policies

- Work with the City Public Works Department to develop an equity program to pave dirt streets in areas where people are not able to pay the associated special assessment. The new programs might include income-based subsidies or funding to pay the entire special assessment.

1. Improve Area Sidewalks
2. **Pave Dirt Streets**
3. Improve Area Drainage



Seek Funding

- Notify your City Council representatives that paving streets within the Central Northeast Area is a priority for the community.
- Contact both Public Works and your City Council representative to request that they submit your street paving improvements for funding through the following programs:
 - City Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
 - One Year Action Plan – Community Development Block Grant funding
 - Streets, Curbs, and Gutters

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: Neighborhood associations, area residents

Capital Costs: Depends on identified streets
 24,599 linear ft. per City estimates
 Average residential street width = 31 ft.
 \$150 per linear ft. to pave

Total cost estimate
 $24,599 * \$150 = \$3,689,850$

Additional costs
 \$300 per wheelchair ramps at corners

Operating Costs: General maintenance of paved streets

Funding Sources: CIP, CDBG, specials assigned to adjoining properties

10. Improve Neighborhood Infrastructure

1. Improve Area Sidewalks
2. Pave Dirt Streets
3. **Improve Area Drainage**

10.3 Improve Area Drainage

Timeline: Mid-Term

Support initiatives to make drainage improvements within the Central Northeast Area.

Identify and Prioritize Improvements

- Identify areas and/or homes where drainage issues are causing flooding following rain events, and forward the list to the City of Wichita Public Works Department.
- Request that a drainage study to be conducted in the Central Northeast Area.

Seek Funding

- Encourage and support City Council efforts to establish a permanent funding source to address Wichita's drainage problems.
- Request City Capital Improvement Program funding, CDBG funding, and/or apply for grants, as applicable, to fund drainage improvement projects in the Central Northeast Area.

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations

Partners: Neighborhood associations, area residents

Capital Costs: Depends on identified drainage projects

Operating Costs: General maintenance of drainage improvements

Funding Sources: CIP, CDBG, specials assigned to adjoining properties

11. Improve Area Recreational Opportunities

1. Enhance Existing Recreational Facilities
2. Acquire & Develop New Recreational Areas



11.1 Enhance Existing Recreational Activities and Facilities

Timeline: Short-Term

Evaluate the adequacy of existing recreational facilities, activities, and programs and enhance as necessary to serve the needs of the area residents.

Complete Existing Projects

- Complete the development of Grove Park as a regional City park.

Identify Needs

- Evaluate the adequacy of existing recreation facilities.
- Representatives of the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, Neighborhood Associations, and individual stakeholders should contact their local Park Board representative and City Council members to express the desire for improvements to the City park system. Offer to present the recommendations before the Wichita Park Board.

Partnership for Design

- Partner with area sport, recreation, or public space oriented organizations to build support for park improvements.
- Partner with Kansas State University landscape architecture students and park planners to assist with improvements.
- Utilize students to develop detailed designs and specifications in anticipation of possible project funding at a later date. Make sure to plan in accordance with accepted park planning guidelines.
- Check possible legal restrictions on park use from the original deeds.
- Incorporate signage regarding the history of the park or site, as appropriate.
- Upgrade open space, as resources allow, including playground equipment, game courts, benches, gardens, etc.

1. Enhance Existing Recreational Facilities
2. Acquire & Develop New Recreational Areas



Seek Funding

- Seek sponsorship and donations from local businesses.
- Apply for recreation facility improvement grants through national and local organizations.

Lead Organization:

Partners:

CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
 City of Wichita Parks and Recreation Department,
 Kansas Singletrack Society, Oz Bicycle Club, Run
 Wichita, Greenway Alliance, Sierra Club –
 Southwind Chapter, Prairie Travelers, local area
 bicycle stores, Kansas Department of Wildlife and
 Parks, Sedgwick County Extension Service –
 Master Gardeners

Capital Costs:

Depends on identified needs

Operating Costs:

N/A

Funding Sources:

City of Wichita Reforestation Program
 (\$100,000/year), Kansas Department of Wildlife
 and Parks, Transportation Enhancement Program,
 Rails-to-Trails, local foundations, The Trust for
 Public Land, CDBG, Capital Improvement
 Program, USDA (US Dept. of Agriculture), EPA
 Environmental Education Grants Program,
 American Horticulture Society, America the
 Beautiful Fund, National Tree Trust, Northrup-King
 & Co., Seeds of Change

11. Improve Area Recreational Opportunities

1. Enhance Existing Recreational Facilities
2. Acquire & Develop New Recreational Areas



11.2 Acquire and Develop New Recreational Areas

Timeline: Long-Term

Evaluate the need for new parkland, trails, and open space. Acquire and develop as appropriate.

Complete Existing Projects

- Complete the development of Grove Park as a regional City park.

Determine Needs and Evaluate Recommendations

- Review the Parks and Open Space Master Plan (1996) for information about recommended future parkland. (This plan is available from the Planning Department or on-line.)
- Determine where additional parkland and trails are needed in the area.
- Work with Kansas State University landscape architecture students and City Park and Recreation staff to evaluate the potential of using strategically located abandoned vacant properties to create an open space network.
- Evaluate 100-year floodplain areas to determine the potential of converting flood prone areas into parkland.
- Neighborhood associations and the CNE Area Council of Neighborhood Associations should consider supporting the development of a bike trail / pathway along the former BNSF rail corridor.

Partner and Obtain Procedures

- Partner with the Wichita Park and Recreation Department to discuss potential sites for additional park, trails, and open space areas. (Contact Park and Recreation Department Director – 268-4398)
- Request information from the City regarding the necessary procedures to acquire and develop additional City park, trail, and open space areas.

Contact Your Representatives

- Encourage and support efforts to see that newly acquired park properties / trails are placed under the control / stewardship of the Wichita Park Board.

- 1. Enhance Existing Recreational Facilities
- 2. Acquire & Develop New Recreational Areas

- Representatives of the CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations, Neighborhood Associations, and individual stakeholders should contact their local Park Board representative and City Council members to express the desire for additions to the City park system. Offer to present your recommendations before the Wichita Park Board.

Seek Funding

- Apply for grants, with assistance from the City of Wichita, to fund the acquisition and development of more parkland. Grant programs such as the Transportation Enhancement Program and Rails-to-Trails programs are examples of programs for multi-use trail development.
- Request that the Park Department, Public Works Department, and/or Planning Department submit park and trail improvements for CDBG funding and/or inclusion in the CIP.

Landscaping or Other Scenic Beautification

- Contact the Metropolitan Area Planning Department to obtain information about how to apply for transportation enhancement program funding (268-4421).

Additional Resources

- City of Wichita Parks and Open Space Master Plan (1996)
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/AdvancedPlans/>

Lead Organization: CNE Council of Neighborhood Associations
Partners: City of Wichita Parks and Recreation Department, Kansas Singletrack Society, Oz Bicycle Club, Run Wichita, Greenway Alliance, Sierra Club – Southwind Chapter, Prairie Travelers, local area bicycle stores, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Sedgwick County Extension Service – Master Gardeners
Capital Costs: Depends on identified needs
Operating Costs: N/A
Funding Sources: Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Transportation Enhancement Program, Rails-to-Trails, local foundations, The Trust for Public Land, Flood Mitigation Assistance, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, CDBG, Capital Improvement Program, USDA (US Dept. of Agriculture), EPA Environmental Education Grants Program, American Horticulture Society, America the Beautiful Fund, National Tree Trust, Northrup-King & Co., Seeds of Change

Sidewalk Improvements in the Central Northeast Area

Improving the Pedestrian Environment

The following map illustrates areas in the Central Northeast where sidewalk improvements may be needed. Sidewalk deficiencies were determined by viewing aerial photos of the Central Northeast Area. The lines on the map indicate portions where sidewalks were not visible. Site surveys are highly recommended in order to further identify problem areas, which should then be prioritized. Please refer to Initiative 10.1 Improve Area Sidewalks for additional information.

Definition of a Neighborhood Association

Cornerstones of the Community

A neighborhood association is a voluntary organization of residents and other stakeholders who work together to improve and maintain the quality of life in their neighborhood. Neighborhoods are generally smaller areas of a municipality or county and are defined by geographic boundaries. A neighborhood often consists of an area with similar features (architecture, demographics, and/or land use).

Elected and Appointed Officials

Representing the Community Interests in the Central Northeast Area

There are many elected and appointed officials that represent the residents of the Central Northeast area and play a role in many decisions that effect the quality of life for their constituents.

Wichita City Council

District I City Council Member

Wichita City Mayor

City Hall, 1st Floor
455 N. Main
Wichita, KS 67202
(316) 303-4331

<http://www.wichita.gov/Government/CityCouncil/>

Sedgwick County Commissioners

District I Commissioner

District IV Commissioner

Sedgwick County Board of
Commissioners
525 N. Main, #320
Wichita, KS 67203
(316) 660-9300
Fax: (316) 383-8275

<http://www.sedgwickcounty.org/commissioners/Index.html>

Wichita-Sedgwick County Planning Commissioners

City Council District I Appointee

City Mayor Appointee

Sedgwick County District I Appointee

Sedgwick County District IV Appointee

City Hall, 10th floor
455 N. Main
Wichita, Kansas 67202-1688
(316) 268-4421

http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/StaffAndBoardsListing/mapc_listing.htm

Wichita Park Board Members

City Council District I Appointee

City Mayor Appointee

City Hall, 11th floor
455 North Main
Wichita, KS 67202
(316) 268-4361

<http://www.wichita.gov/Government/MinutesAndAgendas/ParkBoard/>

Wichita Historic Preservation Board

City Council District I Appointee

City Mayor Appointee

City Hall, 10th floor
455 N. Main
Wichita, Kansas 67202-1688
(316) 268-4421

http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/StaffAndBoardsListing/hpb_listing.htm

Kansas Board of Education

District 8

<http://www.ksde.org/commiss/ksbe8.html>

Kansas State Senate

District 29

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-senate/searchSenate.do?rep=2821>

District 30

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-senate/searchSenate.do?rep=2372>

District 25

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-senate/searchSenate.do?rep=2365>

Kansas House

District 84

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-house/searchHouse.do?rep=2841>

District 86

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-house/searchHouse.do?rep=2600>

District 89

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-house/searchHouse.do?rep=3497>

District 103

<http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-house/searchHouse.do?rep=3486>

U.S. Senate

Sam Brownback

245 N. Waco
Suite 240
Wichita, KS 67202
Phone: (316) 264-8066
Fax: (316) 264-9078

<http://brownback.senate.gov>

Pat Roberts

Senator Pat Roberts
155 N Market Street
Suite 120
Wichita, KS 67202

<http://roberts.senate.gov>

US Congress

Kansas Congressional District IV

<http://www.house.gov/tiahr/>

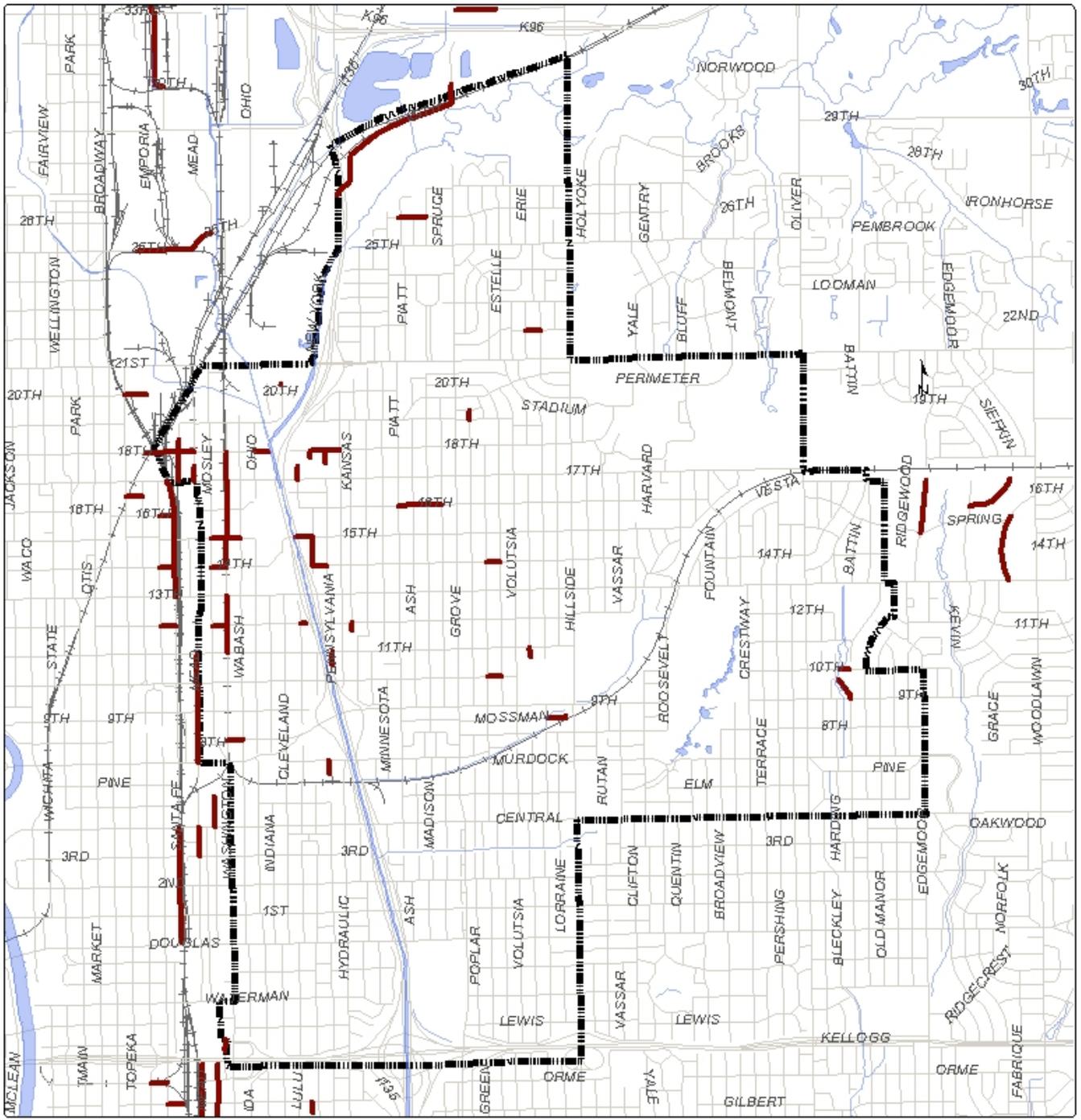
Dirt Streets

Identifying Area Streets for Paving

The following map illustrates dirt streets within the Central Northeast Area. This map was created with the assistance of the City Public Works Department Street Maintenance Division. Site surveys are highly recommended in order to further identify problem areas, which should then be prioritized. Please refer to Initiative 10.2 Pave Dirt Streets for additional information.

Central Northeast Area

Dirt Streets, Identified by Wichita Public Works



 NE Plan Boundary
 Dirt Streets



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Source: ArcGIS
 Map Data Sources:
 City of Wichita
 Sedgewick County
 Aerial photography from April 2003
 Prepared: 6/30/05

It is understood that while the City of Wichita Data Center Geographical Information Systems Department has made no indication and reason to believe that the data are accurate, the information incorporated in the base map, the Data Center GIS personnel make no warranty or representation, either expressed or implied, with respect to the information or data displayed.

Note: Public property represented on this map is not intended to be inclusive.

1995 NORTHEAST AREA PLAN, *REDISCOVERING COMMUNITY; EXPLORATION OF A PLACE AND ITS PROMISE*

A Foundation to Build On

The 1995 Northeast Area Plan is the foundation for the Central Northeast Area Plan Update, with the Plan Update expanding upon many of the relevant strategies identified in the 1995 Plan. The Plan Update provides more detailed steps to help accomplish the 1995 strategies to improve the Area. However the 1995 Plan is still very relevant to the Area and contains both strategies and suggested improvements that can be used to further assist and define future improvements in the Central Northeast Area.

Highlights from the Plan include the following:

- an **area description** containing a summary of area history, demographics, building activity and land use;
- an **issues and findings** section that details physical conditions, social conditions, economic conditions, field inventory results, and a community vision for the future;
- a section titled **Toward Community Revival** that identifies investment, homeownership, intervention, self-reliance, and small scale restoration as ways to address area issues;
- a list of **recommended strategies** that includes 90 strategies for improving the area;
- **Signs of change** that indicate improvements in the Central Northeast Area;
- An **action agenda**, that identifies nine strategies that the City can initiate to begin restoration of the area's physical, economic, and social well being.