



Mission Statement: To protect and preserve the East Central Neighborhood and its quality of life through planning, visionary leadership, accountability, and neighborhood volunteers working with City of Spokane departments, agencies, and neighbors for the benefit of current and future residents with the aid and assistance of Community Development Grants and other funding sources.

2010 Neighborhood Report

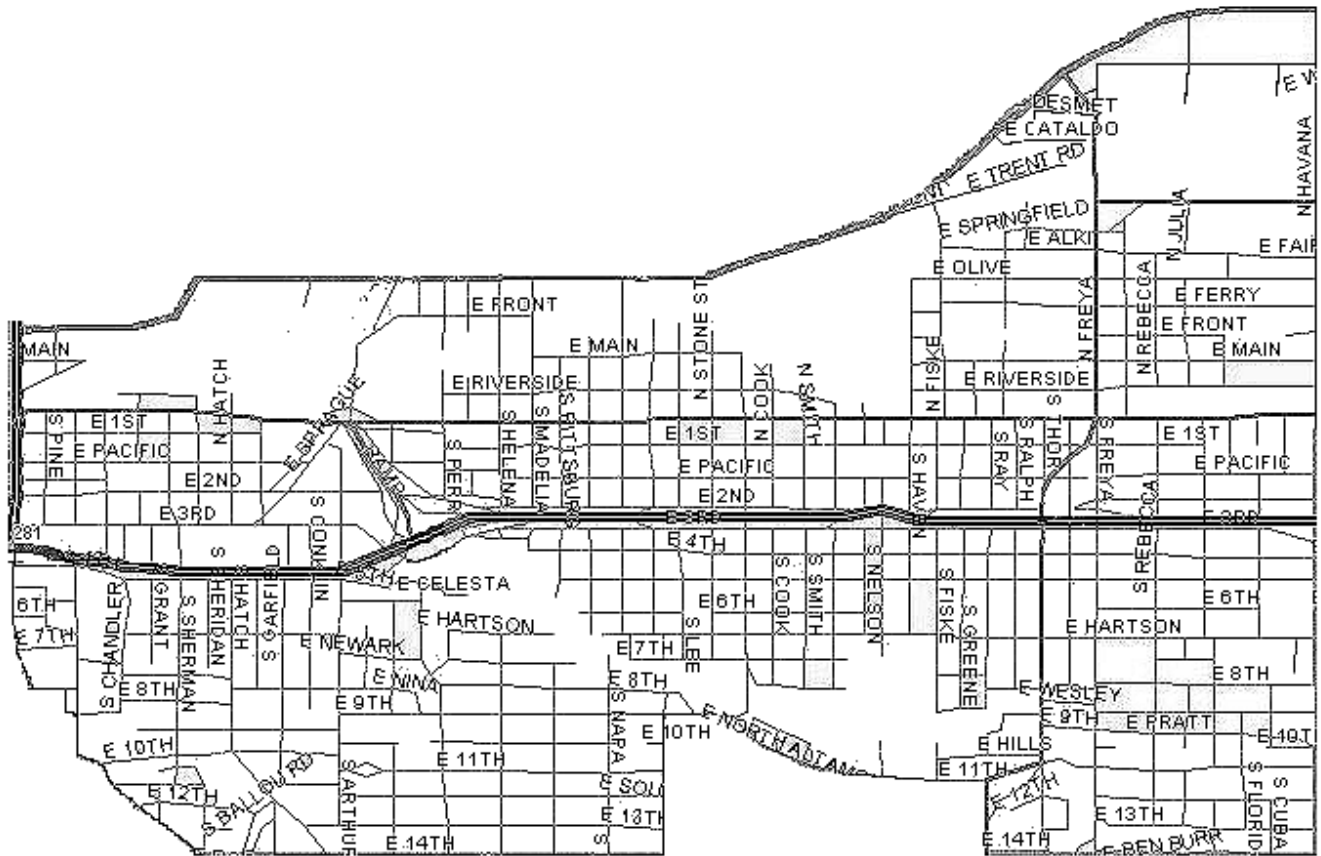
**East Central Neighborhood
December 2009**

TO: City of Spokane Community Development Board

FROM: Joy Hart, Steering Committee Chair
Keith Raschko, Steering Committee Vice Chair
Doug Schroeder, Treasurer
Lois Irwin; Secretary
Brenda Armstrong, CDNC

SUBJECT: East Central Neighborhood Steering Committee recommendations for the expenditure of Community Development Funds.

Boundaries: North: Trent and River East: Havana
South: 10th - 14th West: Division



East Central 2009-2010

The purpose of this report is to summarize the East Central Steering Committee's accomplishments in 2009 and articulate its allocations for 2010 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Since 1975, the East Central Neighborhood has been a Community Development Neighborhood. Through the CDBG program, the Steering Committee has recommended allocations that have benefited the neighborhood and its low to moderate-income residents. This effort will be continue in 2010.

The Steering Committee

The East Central Steering Committee met eleven times throughout 2009, the third Tuesday of every month except August. Prior to each of these meetings, the committee provided notice to residents by mailed agendas and previous meeting minutes to approximately 50 residents, property owners, and businesses. November 2009 use of U.S. mail was reduced with the bulk of the notices sent by e-mail. This year we held Stakeholder meeting, and we surveyed members at neighborhood meetings, to determine additional planning for the implementation of the Neighborhood Ben Bur Trail.

We also worked with East Spokane Business Association, Spokane International District, South Perry Neighborhood and Business Association, ECCO, SNAP, City Parks Department, City Water Department, Business & Development Services Department, District Councilmen, and Impact Capital to collaborate on the greater needs in the neighborhood. This resident, business, and City involvement guided the expenditure and allocation of CDBG funds and search for other funds through miscellaneous grants.

TOP PRIORITY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support business development including underutilized properties throughout the neighborhood.
- Support mixed-used development throughout the neighborhood and in the commercial areas.
- Support the planning for a bicycle/pedestrian route to the Playfair site.
- Continue revitalization and development of Spokane International District, South Perry, Thor/Freya, and Playfair business districts in East Central by fostering traffic planning, streetscapes, and façade improvements.
- Extend 5th Ave, the major East West arterial south of the freeway, to the City limits.
- Continue to promote construction of a bike and pedestrian bridge over the rail road tracks to connect the University District with East Sprague.

SECOND PRIORITY: HUMAN SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Help link ECCO housing survey results with potential investors in both public and private sectors including churches.
- Continue support of funding for East Central Programs:
 - a. COP Shop and Blockwatch programs.
 - b. Neighborhood Cleanup.
 - c. Youth programs i.e. ECCO, Boy/Girl Club, Bethel AME.
 - d. Support development of Community Gardens in East Central Neighborhood.

THIRD PRIORITY: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

- Link Ben Burr Trail, Underhill and Liberty Parks.
- Partner with the Parks Department to showcase the Liberty Ruins.
- Promote pedestrian and bicycle routes, with emphasis on traffic signs and street painting for turning lanes and pedestrian crosswalks at key locations by parks, schools, and in business corridors to include Playfair.
- Protect and enhance neighborhood parks, urban forest, and natural habitat.
- Continue monitoring of I-90 expansion so that adjacent residential and business areas are enhanced.
- Encourage community green buildings, conservation of water, and recycling.

2009 Accomplishments

The neighborhood used its 2009 CDBG allocations for several projects, including sidewalk paving, housing rehabilitation and public service programs.

The Ralph and Hartson Community Garden opened July 2009, with efforts from the CDNC, ECCO Board, Pat Munts, and the Water Department. EC participated in the May 2009 NUSA conference with members of ECNSC/C as volunteers, speakers, workshop presenters; a tour showcasing our neighborhood, and an organic dinner at the East Central Community Center. We provided furniture and trash pickup through collaboration with city departments on neighborhood cleanup.

East Spokane Business Association is working with Impact Capital, SNAP and the City of Spokane Business and Development Services to implement a Vibrant Communities Program in the newly created Spokane International District which includes a portion of the East Sprague Commercial Corridor and surrounding neighborhood. The Vibrant Communities program will be working towards designing sustainable projects in the areas of real estate, business development, urban design, public cleanliness and safety policies. Plans include East Sprague Business Association becoming a “Main Street” type entity, assistance with organizing a Business Improvement District (BID), the formulation of an Alcohol Impact Area, and working on loitering ordinance. The program officially began April 1, 2009, and has dedicated staff resources as well as an AmeriCorps Vista who will coordinate the storefront improvement project. SNAP also announced that they received a 3-year grant to identify and develop sustainable and “green” businesses in three areas of Spokane.

We appreciate the support and guidance offered to us by city staffing for the Spokane International District and East Sprague Corridor planning and the establishment of the Ralph and Hartson Community Garden.

2010 Allocations: See attached table.

East Central Neighborhood Steering Committee/Council

Meeting Place: East Central Community Center, 500 S. Stone

Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of the month (no August meeting)

Meeting Time: 6:45 p.m.

Stakeholder Time: 6:00 p.m. (these additional meeting are temporary until planning is completed)

Officers 2009

Chair - Joy Hart

Vice Chair - Keith Raschko

Secretary - Lois Irwin

Treasurer - Doug Schroeder

CDNC – Angie Dirscherl

CA Rep - Jim Hanley CA Alternate – Keith Raschko

Officers 2010

Chair – Joy Hart

Vice Chair – Jim Hanley

Secretary – Lois Irwin

Treasurer – Doug Schroeder

CDNC – Brenda Armstrong

Community Assembly Rep – Jim Hanley CA Alternate – Lois D'Ewart

East Central Neighborhood Current Voting Members (*) & Non -Voting

*Brenda Armstrong

*Al Bibbins

*Toni Butler

*Judith Campbell

*Dave Clack

*Deb Conklin

*Lois D'Ewart

*Angie Dirscherl

*Eileen Founts

*Joy Hart

*Jim Hanley

*Maxine Howard

*Lois Irwin

*Holly Martin

*Bob Mauk

*Ron Myers

*Jerry Numbers

*Jan Raschko

*Keith Raschko

*Doug Schroeder

*Darrel Smith

*Craig Sweat

*Terri Symbol

*Frank Tobie

*Victoria Vogt

Liza Bornasal

John Bowen

Sonya Ellis

Scott Emmerson

Bruce Gates

Spencer Grainger

Chris Green

Diane Jackson

Carolyn Jacobs

Bruce Katahira

Sue LaRue

Diane Lennard

Rhosea Rhoades

Carole Shook

Penny Sjodin

Rick Sjodin

Dan Strassenberg NRO

Larry Stuckart

Mel Silva

Lt. Toomes

Geoff White

Dick Winchell