



AIA Minneapolis

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects



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For Immediate Release

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Images available upon request

Five Minneapolis Neighborhoods Get Design Ideas for Reweaving

Minneapolis, Minnesota – Minneapolis’ initiative, titled, “Re-Weaving the Urban Fabric,” announced in February 2006 in collaboration with AIA Minneapolis and Mayor RT Rybak, will build the capacity of communities to engage effectively with the architecture, urban design and development community and reweave the urban fabric of Minneapolis. The Mayor’s Great City Design Teams through participation in community design workshops (charrettes) and case studies, education of the design process and an inventory of each site, all work to educate the community on the principles of livable communities (at left) and build better connections between the signature buildings that have recently put Minneapolis on the design map.

Ten Livability Principles

1. Design on a Human

Scale

2. Provide Choices

3. Encourage Mixed-Use

Development

4. Preserve Urban Centers

5. Vary Transportation

Options

6. Build Vibrant Public

Spaces

7. Create a Neighborhood

Identity

8. Protect Environmental

Resources

9. Conserve Landscapes

10. Design Matters

In December of 2006, five Minneapolis neighborhoods were chosen for some design makeover help from Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak’s Great City Design Teams. Teams of volunteer architects, landscape architects, urban designers and developers have geared up and are beginning to work with residents and community groups in five key neighborhoods to develop design visions for future possible changes. AIA Minneapolis and the city are pleased to announce the dates and locations of the upcoming charrettes.

Penn Avenue N. and N. Lowry Avenue

April 21 10:00am – 5:00pm: North Regional Library

Nicollet Avenue and 18th Street

May 11 6:30 - 9:30pm - VanDeusen Mansion

May 12 9:30am - 3:30pm VanDeusen Mansion

40th Street and Lyndale Avenue S.

May 14 6:00 – 8:00pm (exact time and place to be determined)

May 16 – 9:00am – 5:00pm (exact time and place to be determined)

The **46th Street S. and 46th Avenue E.**, set for the weekend of May 5 (exact time and place to be determined) and the **Central Avenue NE and NE Lowry Avenue** charrette (exact time and place to be determined), details will be announced this May.

AIA national, founded in New York in 1857, has provided grants to components nationwide to carryout legacy projects that enhance their cities. AIA Minnesota and its chapters AIA Minneapolis, AIA Saint Paul and AIA Northern, established in 1892, all received funding for ambitious programs that will tie into community and education efforts and use thousands of architect and citizen volunteer hours to benefit our communities. To learn more about events, go to www.aia-mn.org/AIA150 or contact Vicki Hooper, AIA, AIA Minneapolis’ AIA150 Champion at vhooper@hga.com.

The American Institute of Architects Minnesota, founded in 1892, is dedicated to strengthening our communities, improving our built environment and providing exceptional design. For more information on the organization and Minnesota architectural firms, reference our Web site at www.aia-mn.org and pick up a copy of Architecture Minnesota, the award-winning architectural magazine of the Midwest.