Strengthening Neighborhoods In Weak Markets Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis September 24-25, 2008

Fostering Neighborhood Recovery

Andriana Abariotes Executive Director, Twin Cities LISC 651.649-1109

aabariotes@lisc.org





Foreclosures in Minnesota:

Twin Cities is epicenter

- Anticipating 70,000 foreclosures in Minnesota between 2007-09
- Affecting 1 in 31 households in MN by end of 2008
- 2/3 of 2007 foreclosures occurred in the metro area
- High degree of foreclosures in inner-city have been investor-owned properties
- Have far surpassed the number of vacant properties previously experienced





Neighborhood Experience



Lower Payne Townhomes Dayton's Bluff NHS, St. Paul

Prior to 2005-06, core neighborhoods were experiencing gains in housing values, homeownership rates, and higher density housing.

 In 18 months, gains have been dismantled by subprime lending/ foreclosure crisis.





Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council

- Primarily consisting of government, nonprofit, and philanthropic interests.
- Initiated at the request of City of Minneapolis' development agency in 2007
- Early efforts focused on prevention counseling
- LISC invited to build out neighborhood recovery strategy





MFPC: Neighborhood Recovery Efforts

Early Actions:

- City of Saint Paul: \$15 million for strategic acquisition and rehabilitation, created new financing product pilots
- City of Minneapolis: Home Advantage Program
- Family Housing Fund: \$16 million Home Prosperity Fund
- Minnesota Housing investments
- Hennepin and Ramsey County initiatives
- Testing innovative methods to secure vacant properties.
- Employing aggressive and innovative code enforcement.



Foreclosure Recovery Planning:

- Foreclosures present an imminent and significant threat to Minnesota's economy:
 - The spillover of the loss of 39,000 (more) homes in 2008 and 2009 will impact values of 546,000 (one of every three) homes, which will decline \$2.3 billion.
- The only effective response at this scale is to activate and assist the private market to work in concert with the public and non-profit sectors.





Foreclosure Recovery Plan Principles:



- Provide incentives that reactivate and redirect the marketplace.
- Government and nonprofit institutions have instrumental roles.
- Commonly available set of tools and resources, which can be applied in partnership utilizing local knowledge.
- Look to the future— build on likely future economic and demographic trends.
- Urgent, yet sustained effort over the long run.





Foreclosure Recovery Plan Strategies:

DRAFT

- **Prevent Foreclosures**
 - Goal: prevent 10,000 foreclosures
- Reactivate and Guide Private Investment and **Home Purchases**
 - Goal: develop new products for a first round of 2,850 mortgages
- Assist Communities in Distress
 - Goal: acquire and rehab 4,500 properties







Foreclosure Recovery Plan Scale & Resources: DRAFT

- Estimated cost of gap financing: \$223 million over three years:
 - 10,000 homeowners assisted w/ private workout incentives to prevent foreclosure
 - 1,850 contract for deed/ lease purchase loans
 - 1,000 purchase rehab mortgages
 - 1,000 homeowners assisted by rehab advisors
 - 2,850 homeowners assisted w/ pre-and post counseling
 - 4,500 homes purchased/rehabbed through acquisition
 - 150 community stabilization grants
 - Misc. administrative and technical assistance







Foreclosure Recovery Plan Sources:

Acquisition Assistance:

National Community Stabilization Trust

Working capital:

- Federal legislation provides new authorizations and capital
- Existing programs: City Living, MURL, Fix-up Fund, revenue bonding authority
- Private capital

Gap funding:

- Federal legislation
- State
- Foundations







Foreclosure Recovery Plan Questions:

- What scale do these strategies need to operate at to achieve results?
- Where is the tipping point to spur private investment and involvement?
- Are there other cost effective strategies being used elsewhere?
- What are the critical next steps in advancing these strategies?
- How can other non-housing investment strategies be linked to neighborhood recovery?





For More Information:

Neighborhood Recovery Planning:

Andriana Abariotes
Twin Cities LISC
651-649-1109

Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council (MFPC):

- Family Housing Fund, <u>www.fhfund.org</u>
- Melissa Manderschied, MFPC Coordinator,
 612.337.9274 or

mmanderschied@kennedy-graven.com.



