

Hawthorne Zoning Disposition Project

December 2002

*A project of the
Minneapolis Neighborhood Information System (MNIS)
at the
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA)
University of Minnesota*

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2002

The Minneapolis Neighborhood Information System (MNIS) is a collaborative capacity-building effort intended to meet the needs of community-based organizations by providing access to property data that can inform community revitalization efforts and housing intervention and investment strategies. Partners in this project include the City of Minneapolis, the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, select Minneapolis neighborhood organizations, and CURA. Participating neighborhood groups receive training, project assistance, GIS expertise, and access to property information, as well as opportunities to share ideas about GIS projects and housing strategies with other neighborhoods.

Minneapolis Neighborhood Information System (MNIS)

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Hawthorne Zoning Disposition Project

Neighborhood: Hawthorne

Project Completion Date: December 2002

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Project Description: The Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA) proposed a change to its Lot Disposition Policy that appeared to affect only a handful of the neighborhoods in Minneapolis and limited their input in the decision making process. Hawthorne Area Community Council sought to demonstrate the impact on these neighborhoods through the use of demographic, crime, and housing data.

The project objectives were to:

- Improve communication between impacted communities
- Stop changes to current policy
- Get MCDA commissioners to meet with residents
- Give communities a say in the neighborhood development process

Progress: Demographic analysis has been completed and many of the maps have been created. Several presentations on this topic have been given including to the Mpls. City Council.

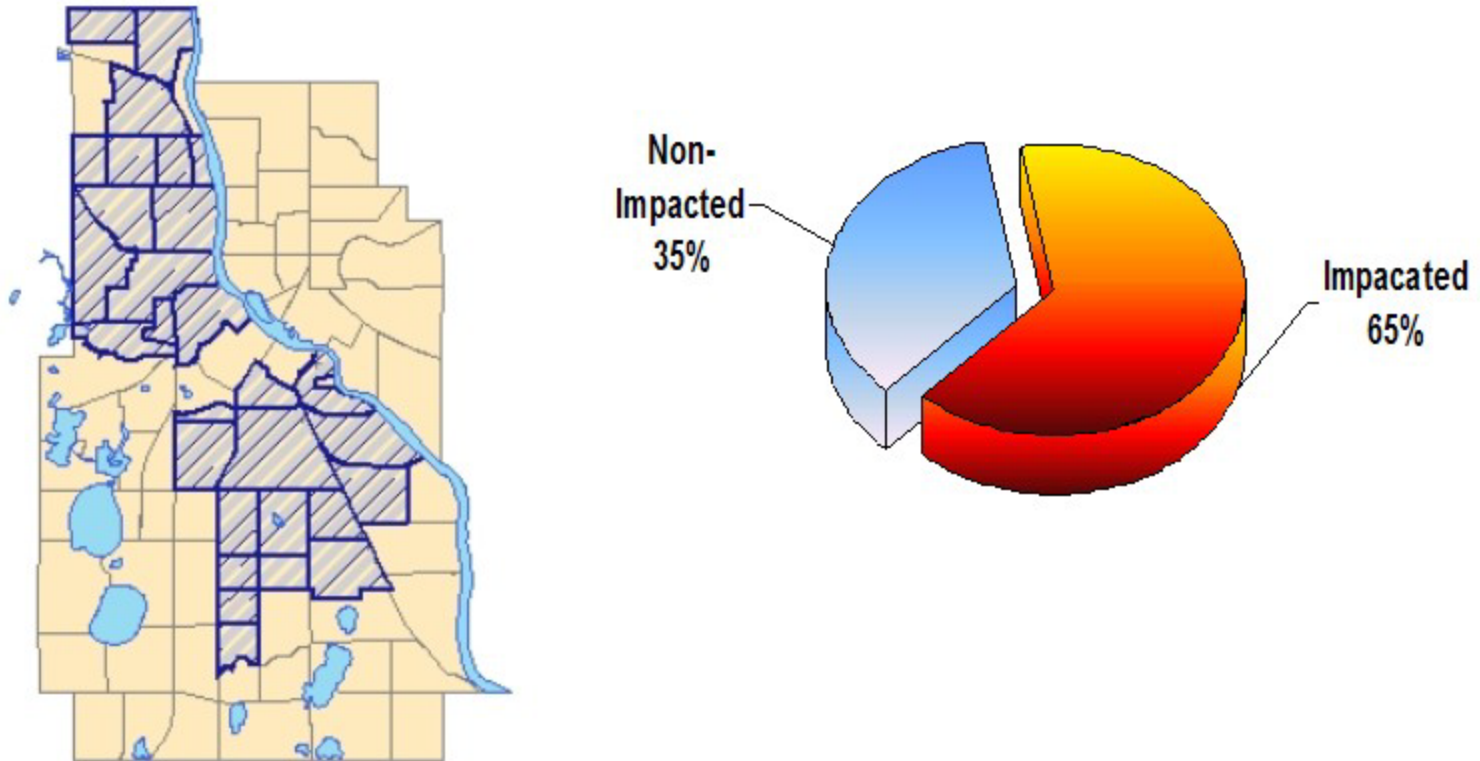
Process: Data collected from the Census Bureau, the City of Minneapolis, and the MCDA has been incorporated into charts and maps showing the characteristics of the impacted neighborhoods and how they compare with the rest of the City.

Outcomes: We showed that the neighborhoods most impacted by the proposed policy were centered on areas with a high minority population, high crime rate, high poverty and low parkland. In addition, the compilation of this data has prompted the impacted neighborhoods to become more vigilant in its collaborative efforts. There is commonality in the neighborhoods relating to the information obtained.

Future: The one thing that needs to be voiced is that the impacted neighborhoods view should not be misconstrued as an opposition to affordable housing, instead needs to be viewed as a plea to be involved in the decision making process regarding the usage of the MCDA vacant lots.

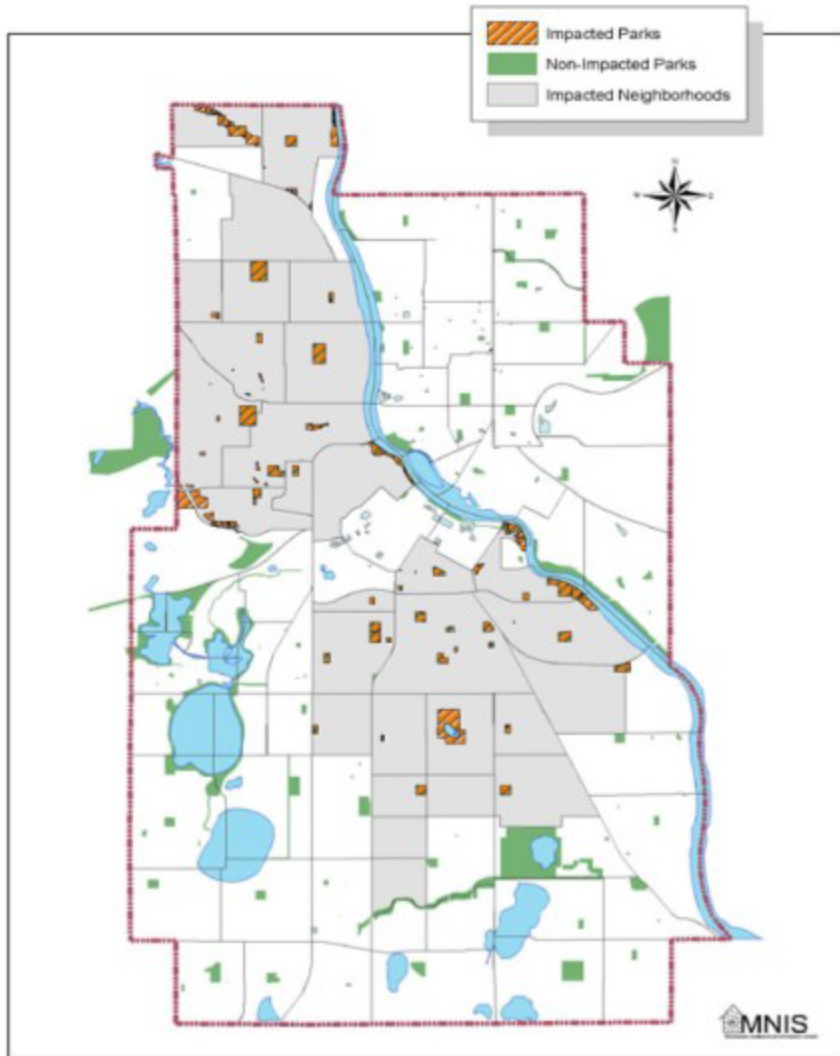
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA).

MINNEAPOLIS POVERTY LEVELS

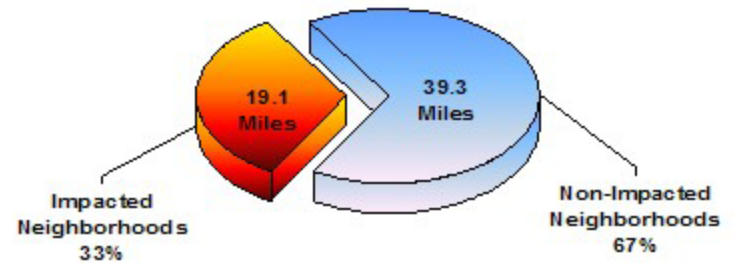


65% of all persons in poverty live in the 28 impacted neighborhoods.

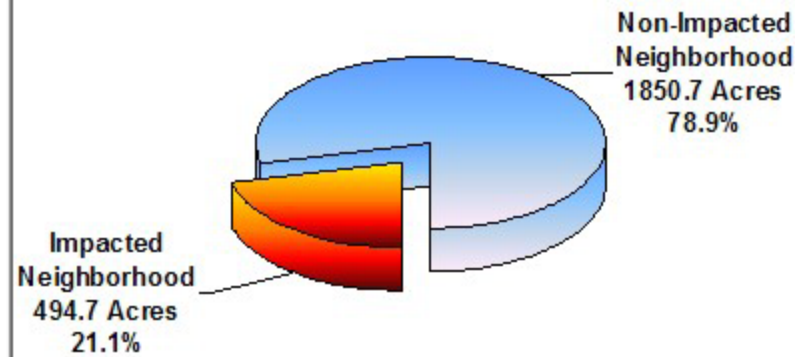
Impacted vs. Non-Impacted Neighborhood Parks



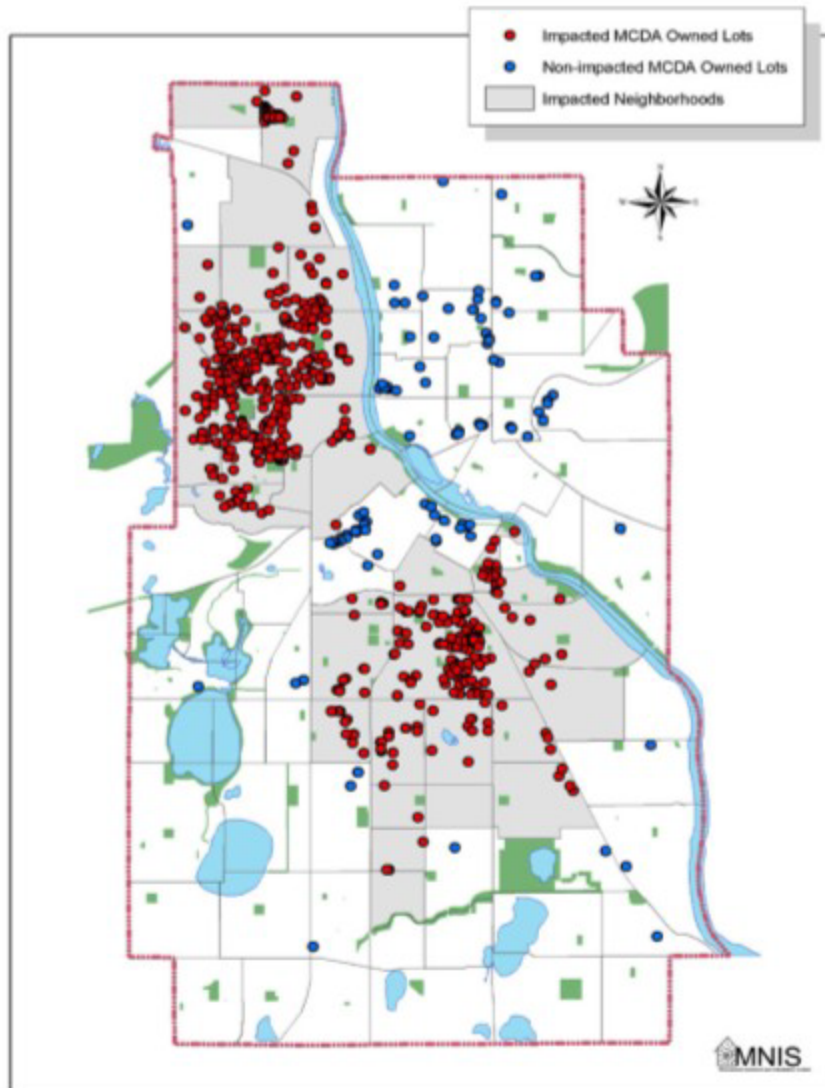
Minneapolis Area



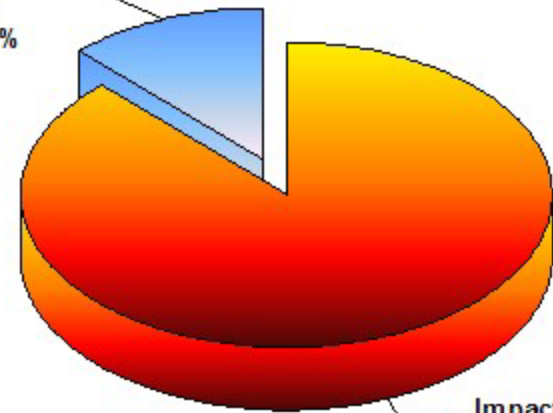
Minneapolis Parks



MCDA OWNED LOTS



Non-Impacted
Neighborhood
95
12.3%



Impacted
Neighborhood
675
87.7%