

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #28

ANNUAL REPORT

2009

GLASS REPLACEMENT: The BID has set up a \$7,000.00 fund to provide glass replacement assistance to several local businesses, paying up to 50% up to a maximum of \$750 for replacing glass as a result of vandalism in the district. There have been several requests so far for glass replacement claims.

TRASH/CLEANUP: The BID continues to focus on keeping the area clean of trash, including some problem residential neighborhoods. The BID partnering with the Ambassadors Program provided resources through cleaning crews which began in January.

SECURITY: The BID has determined that the installation of security cameras are necessary and has invested \$12,000 for a system this year with anticipated expansion next year.

LANDSCAPING: The BID focused on removing weeds, maintaining vacant lots, as part of the cleaning from NACDC and the Ambassadors Program resources.

2009 ROAD CONSTRUCTION: The District was scheduled to be re-paved in 2009 from 31st to Sherman Blvd. Although, road construction for sewer change-over was began early spring in 2008 and continues to cause traffic congestion and has become problematic for most business along the corridor. The District is working to coordinate the re-paving including beautification efforts with the DCD and the DPW to plan the 2009/2010 project and to ensure that the project has minimal affect on local businesses. The scope also includes bump-outs, and peripherals.

BUSINESS LOAN INITIATIVES: The District agreed to provide short-term business loans to five (5) businesses due to the re-pavement project. The road repaving has caused many businesses a reduction of up to 90% of their forecasted revenue. Some were on the verge of closure.

NEW BUSINESSES ATTRACTED TO AREA: The BID has attracted a number of new businesses to the area, including; North Avenue Furniture, Presch Ceramics, a ceramic arts & scrap booking memoirs; Luxurious Styles, women's bags, shoes and accessories; Cricket Wireless and PMG Tutoring.

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS: The Neighborhood Ambassador Program provides work crews that work along the corridor in clean ups, hot spot assessments; encourage business on keeping areas clean, litter free, and weed free landscaping; report on abandon cars, crime and prostitute loitering. Inform businesses on police department and aldermanic 15th district contacts. Pass out flyers and brochures of corridor businesses.

The Ambassadors provided 34 students of Mayor Barrett Initiative Summer Youth Program [ages 17 to 24], the largest single participating group in the City of Milwaukee. Placed students in businesses to assist business owners and job shadowing; thus being exposed to the operation of a business. The ambassadors worked in two BID's: 28, 32; LAND, and Washington Park. This is the third year partnering with UMOS for community ambassador [W2 participants]. Job training on janitorial and environmental services. Worked on five (5) Tax credit projects providing janitorial services; also worked with Help Keep Milwaukee Green Program.