zonning regulations, the planned unit
development (PUD) tool provides a
means to master plan at the project
scale to respond to unique site or
market conditions, promote a mix
of uses or densities, coordinate
infrastructure development, and
accomplish specific planning goals
such as conservation and affordable
housing. However, anecdotal evidence
suggests these outcomes are not
always achieved, and little research
has been conducted to determine
how successfully PUD approaches
are used. Carissa Schively Sloter
back (Humphrey Institute of
Public Affairs) will investigate the
use of PUDs in 65 municipalities in
the 11-county Twin Cities metro-
politan area by conducting a content
analysis of these communities’ PUD
ordinances, interviewing practitioners
involved in PUD implementation, and
assessing the outcomes of completed
PUD projects on the ground. For
practitioners in the Twin Cities region
and nationwide, this research has
potential to increase awareness and
understanding of PUD tools, how they
are used, whether they achieve their
intended goals, and best practices
for improving their use to encourage
positive development outcomes.

**Programs:** CGPAC and FIRP

■ Where Do They Go? Foreclosure
and Residential Mobility Patterns
in the Twin Cities. The foreclosure
crisis continues to weave a destruc-
tive path through the communities
of Minnesota. At the neighborhood
level, some of the impacts of fore-
closure are self-evident; abandoned
and boarded structures abound in
highly impacted neighborhoods,
and maps of foreclosures have given us an
understanding of the spatial distribu-
tion of the crisis in the Twin Cities
metropolitan area. Yet, the individuals
and households caught up in foreclo-
sure remain nearly invisible, and very
little is known about the mobility
patterns of those who have lost their
shelter due to foreclosure. Jeff Crump
(Design, Housing, and Apparel) will
undertake a study to determine the
mobility patterns of households in
Hennepin and Dakota Counties that
have gone through foreclosure. Using
housing mobility data available from
Excensus LLC, the study will examine
and analyze, at the census tract level,
patterns of residential mobility that
are linked to the foreclosure process
and compare them with the predomi-
nant movement patterns of nonfore-
closure households. This research
has the potential to suggest appro-
priate regional policy, investment,
and development recommendations
to address foreclosures. **Programs:**
CGPAC and New Initiatives

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**CURA Grant-Writing Workshop Draws a Crowd**

O n September 28, 2010, CURA
hosted a Grant Writing for
Neighborhoods workshop at the
offices of the Wilder Foundation that
attracted nearly 100 attendees repre-
senting 76 organizations. The turnout
was a welcome surprise for CURA
staff who organized the workshop.
“This overwhelming response shows
the pressing need among place-based
organizations for funding and grant
writing assistance,” said CURA com-
unity programs assistant Jeff Corn. “We
had planned for a few dozen, but soon
discovered that we had underestimated
the interest for a workshop of this kind.”
CURA designed the grant-writing
workshop with the specific needs of
neighborhood organizations in mind.
Fundraising for neighborhood organiza-
tions is an increasing challenge and city
financial support is on the wane because
of the end of the Neighborhood Revital-
ization Program (NRP).
The overall goal of the workshop
was to give neighborhood organiza-
tions concrete ways to write successful
grants to support their unique work.
The workshop included brainstorming
sessions, presentations from neighbor-
hood organizations that have written
successful grants, a panel of local
funders, and breakout groups. The
brainstorming sessions, facilitated by
CURA community organizer Jay Clark,
helped attendees focus on both the chal-
lenges they face in securing funding and
the unique value of neighborhood orga-
nizations that groups can highlight in
grant applications. These included
the ability to catalyze community strengths
and maintain relationships; the fact that
they are democratically elected; their
geographic focus; their strong legacy
of community engagement; and their
ability to organize residents around self-
declared issues to solve problems.
The panel of local funders included
Sarah Hernandez from the McKnight
Foundation and Monica Bryand from
Headwaters Foundation. Hernandez
and Bryand stressed the importance of
using both data and personal stories
to communicate impact and produce
compelling grant applications. Funders
also are interested in knowing how
neighborhood organizations engage
underrepresented residents, and how
this work helps to identify neighbor-
hood problems, produce solutions,
and result in action. Other suggestions
included making sure to respond to
all questions that are asked, counting
the value of volunteer time, preparing
a thorough and thoughtful budget,
expecting occasional rejections and
learning from them, and never being
afraid to contact program officers with
questions or to solicit feedback if your
application is rejected.
The workshop concluded with
breakout sessions that helped attendees
discuss their unique situations, gather
feedback from CURA staff and other
attendees, and further focus their tech-
niques for writing successful applica-
tions. Ishmael Israel, chairperson of the
Northside Residents Redevelopment
Council (NRRC), attended the workshop
and gave the sessions high marks: “This
was a great workshop. I got a grasp of
the ins and outs of seeking out grants
and [writing] grant applications.”
CURA also announced a special
mini-grant competition sponsored by
the Neighborhood Partnership Initia-
tive (see article on page 35) and open
to all workshop attendees. The purpose
of the grant is to fund a partnership
between a neighborhood organization
and a nonprofit group that works with
youth, immigrants, people of color, or
the arts, with the goal of organizing
underrepresented constituencies around
an issue. At press time applications
were still under review, but an announce-
ment will be made soon on the CURA
website at www.cura.umn.edu/NPI.php.