more susceptible to predatory lending schemes.

Third, cities should dedicate resources to programs that facilitate relocation following a foreclosure to complement existing programs that attempt to prevent foreclosures. Many foreclosures are extremely difficult to stop once they have begun. The evidence presented in this article suggests that large numbers of households move out of Minneapolis after experiencing a foreclosure. Evidence about this outmigration also suggests that these households are likely to be more economically secure than households that do not leave the city following a foreclosure. In other words, the most marginalized households experiencing foreclosures in Minneapolis are the ones most likely to remain in the city. Should this trend continue in the future, it could result in substantial challenges for Minneapolis that compound problems already associated with concentrated foreclosures.

Cities can more proactively approach the foreclosure crisis by providing relocation assistance for households forced to move following a foreclosure, similar to a rehousing grant program currently operated by the Minnesota Home Ownership Center. Ideally such a program would accomplish two goals. First, it would help households identify high-quality housing and reduce some of the difficulties associated with moving, regardless of where the households choose to move. Second, the program could reduce the outmigration of households by reserving funding for moving expenses and security deposits for households that choose to relocate locally.

Although many topics related to foreclosure deserve further exploration, I believe that two issues are especially critical. First, we know very little about where households move following a foreclosure. The research described in this article has made some headway in answering this question, but the limited geographic scope of the research provides policy makers and researchers with little purchase on understanding household mobility patterns in varied locations throughout the United States. Second, we do not yet understand how households cope with the financial challenges that accompany a foreclosure. This is a key question for future research given that foreclosures continue in communities around the country and the fragile, “jobless” recovery that has followed the recent economic recession.

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University Metropolitan Consortium–Twin Cities Public Television Documentaries Available

The University Metropolitan Consortium, in partnership with Twin Cities Public Television, has produced three half-hour documentaries that are available free from CURA on DVD. Shaping the Urban Environment explores the challenges and choices facing communities developing land in an environment of scarce and fragile natural resources. Roads, Rails, and Urban Change examines how transportation planning and design have transformed and defined the Twin Cities metropolitan area for 150 years. Mysteries of Public Financing explains the basics of how public funding works, including how governments raise money, how it is spent, who benefits, and who pays.

All three documentaries are useful resources for classrooms, community groups, or others interested in urban and metropolitan issues in the United States. To order a copy of the DVDs, contact CURA at cura@umn.edu or 612-625-1551. Be sure to include your name, telephone number, complete mailing address, and the title of the DVD(s) you would like to order. Please allow 2–3 weeks for delivery.