



concentrated implementation of existing programs geared toward low and moderate income families.

- Coordinate housing revitalization activities, commercial and economic development, and human services delivery to effectively address the total needs of neighborhood residents.

D. Recommendations

This section recommends planning and implementation activities which will assist the revitalization of the neighborhood.

- Complete utilization, by qualified residents, of the Community Development Block Grant housing programs (i.e., paint-up/fix-up, housing revolving fund, and home improvement loan programs, etc.) to deter blight and to provide safe and sanitary housing.
- Infill housing on the existing one hundred forty-eight (148) vacant lots in the area would improve and greatly impact Crown Hill and Center Township through renewed confidence in "inner city" living. This may best be accomplished through the use of aggressive marketing, innovative programs such as mortgage pooling to distribute risk and interest rates, and relocation of homes from outlying townships.
- Conduct home ownership workshops for prospective and current owners to fully explain available options such as: Urban Homesteading, HUD Section 203 Program, graduated payment mortgages, variable rate mortgage bonding and reverse annuity mortgages.
- Consolidation of surface parking lots to multi-level garages could provide twenty-one (21) acres of land for multi-family housing and commercial development along Meridian and Illinois Streets.
- Neighborhood beautification should include street trees and street/curb/sidewalk repairs.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

A. Assets

- There is a good thoroughfare system within the subarea.
- The neighborhood is well served by several bus routes enabling residents to reach any portion of the metropolitan area within a reasonable time period.
- Interstate access and major arterials attract a diversity of enterprises to the subarea.

B. Problems

- Deteriorated streets, curbs and sidewalks are prevalent in the neighborhood.
- Poor drainage throughout the neighborhood causes standing water which impedes both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Graceland Street and 27th Street are in need of grading and resurfacing.
- A lack of curb cuts and handicapped accessible transportation are hardships for senior citizens and the handicapped.
- There are no shelters for public transportation patrons in the neighborhood.

C. Goals and Objectives

- Maintain the current level of public transportation that exists within the neighborhood.
- Create an aesthetic thoroughfare background within the subarea by creating greenways and providing proper maintenance to all easements.
- Implement recommendations made by the Mayor's Bicycle Task Force (MBTF).
- Address the transportation needs of senior citizens.

D. Recommendations

- Street, curb, and sidewalk repairs should be made as identified by the neighborhood conditions survey. 1.5 miles of resurfacing, 16.12 blocks of curbs and sidewalks.
- Create an esplanade or greenway along 34th Street from Meridian Street to Crown Hill Cemetery.
- Implementation of the tree planting strategy proposed by the Mid-North Development Alliance (MNDA).
- Erect aesthetic and comfortable shelters at key bus stops.
- Placement of signage denoting the Indianapolis Bicycle Route.
- Planting of ground cover such as crown vetch along highway easements and banks of Fall Creek.
- Separation of storm and sanitary sewers in addition to corrective action on street drainage should be implemented.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Assets

- The subarea is a participant of the "Neighborhood Crime Watch Program."
- The United Northwest Area organization of which Crown Hill is a member, has become

a sponsor for "Project Respect." This is a program to facilitate and improve police/community relations.

- Crown Hill has one of the lowest crime rates in Center Township.

B. Problems

- Neighborhood residents believe that police rely too much on the "Neighborhood Crime Watch" program.
- Vandalism and juvenile delinquency are major problems in the area.
- Slow police response to citizen calls exists in the neighborhood due to a lack of manpower and equipment.

C. Goals

- Improve Police response time and patrol frequency.
- Promote "Project Respect" and "Neighborhood Crime Watch" programs to encourage citizen assistance to police.

D. Recommendations

- Expand and further implement "Project Respect" and "Neighborhood Crime Watch" programs.
- Improve the safety aspects of pedestrian ways and waiting areas (visibility, street lighting, etc.).
- Retain the current "walking beat" along the Meridian Street Corridor.

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. Assets

- The area contains many well established and respected business enterprises including hotels, lawyers' offices, insurance firms, doctors' offices, variety stores and shops, as well as a private hospital.
- The North Meridian Business Group, an organization created to address common community problems, exemplifies the concern and commitment expressed by the private sector in the neighborhood through their community projects and open donations to neighborhood community organizations.

B. Problems

- Many otherwise viable neighborhood stores will suffer as a result of the closing of Shortridge High School.
- A perception of poor quality goods or service exists in regard to many neighborhood commercial enterprises, based on a deteriorating physical appearance.
- Some establishments lack attractive buffering between non-related business enterprises.
- There have been difficulties in attracting new businesses to the area which would serve the needs of neighborhood residents.

C. Goals and Objectives

- Attract new investment to the community which addresses the current and projected needs of the neighborhood.
- Increase the economic viability of existing commercial nodes through storefront rehabilitation, beautification, landscaping, and reuse of vacant structures.

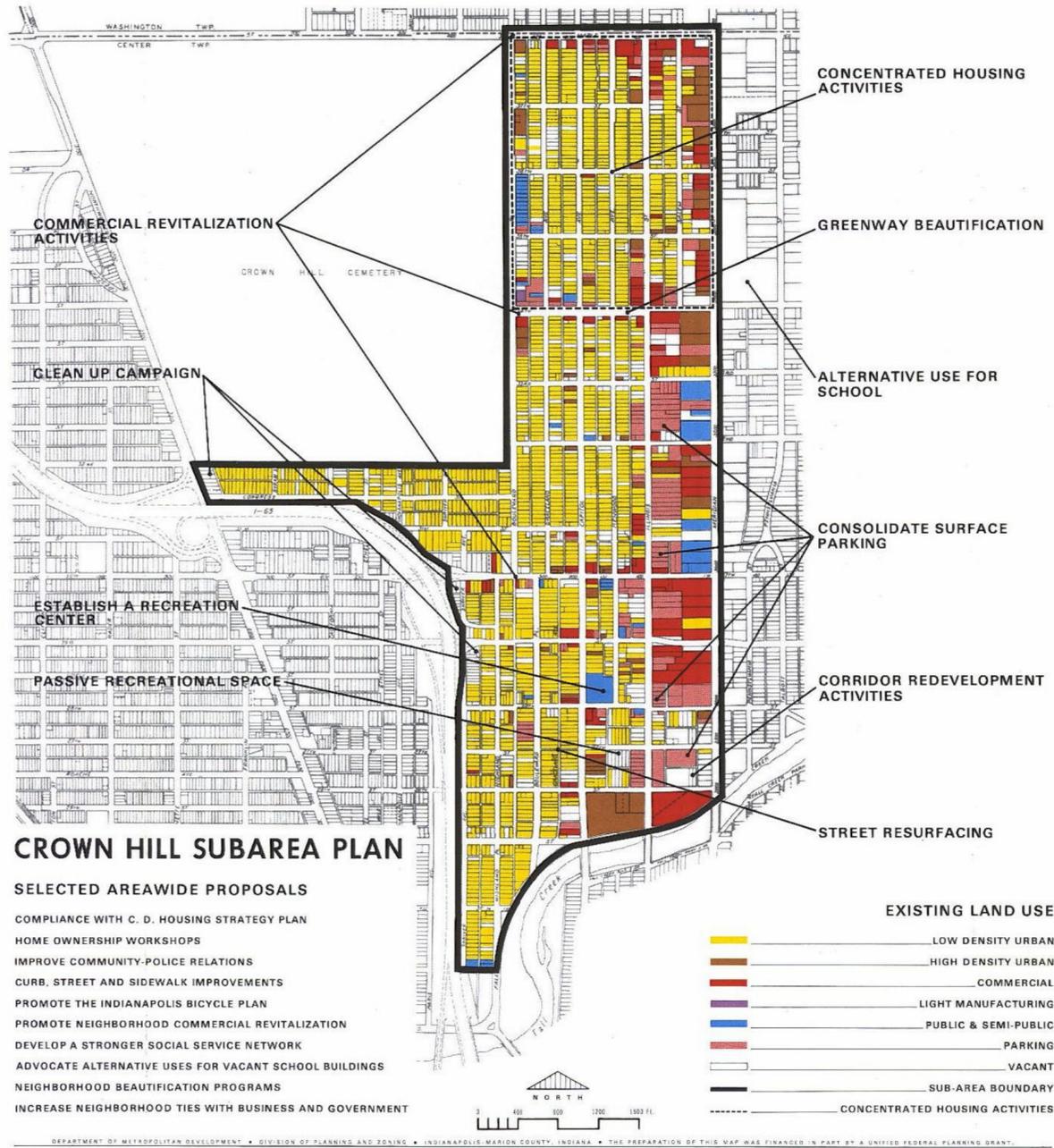
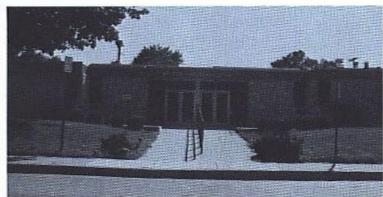
D. Recommendations

- Improve and expand the Maple Road commercial core (38th and Illinois). Consumer surveys conducted in the Crown Hill subarea denote the need for a larger selection of goods and services. New stores and concentrated marketing would have a spin-off effect facilitating expansion for existing stores and complementing housing activities in the neighborhood.
- Commercial revitalization activities (i.e., storefront beautification, parking lot improvements and landscaping), should be implemented along the 34th Street commercial strip to improve the economic stability of the commercial enterprises located there. Possible tools are: compatible sign and awning design, improvement rebates, and uniform landscape design.
- Develop better cooperation between public and private interests, through public discussions. Open exploration of alternative approaches in trying to fulfill a comprehensive economic plan, will greatly aid in the success of that venture.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

A. Assets

- The neighborhood is well served by Flanner House and Butler-Tarkington Multi-Service Centers both being located adjacent to the subarea boundaries.
- Winona Hospital, located in the center of the neighborhood, provides local and regional medical care.
- Fire Station #14 is located at 2960 North Kenwood with facilities of a rescue squad, aerial engine, and standard pumper. Fire Station #28 at 512 East 38th Street has one standard pumper. Both stations provide adequate service.
- The Children's Museum, which is a prominent and valuable asset to the Metropolitan area, is centrally located in the neighborhood. This facility combined with the Indianapolis Museum of Art immediately adjacent to the subarea provides the neighborhood with a very good source of cultural education and entertainment.
- There are eighteen (18) churches representing various faiths located in the subarea.
- Two geriatric centers are currently located in the neighborhood. Both are operating at one hundred (100) percent capacity.



B. Problems

- There are no community recreation centers in the area.
- There are limited open green spaces and no park facilities.
- There are no public health facilities such as a district health office.

C. Goals and Objectives

- Establish a neighborhood recreation center responsive to all age groups.
- Encourage neighborhood participation in the Children's Museum and Indianapolis Museum of Art's cultural activities.
- Institute a comprehensive social service program utilizing the Flanner House and Butler-Tarkington Multi-Service Centers delivery system.
- Construction of a neighborhood park to support the proposed recreation center.

D. Recommendations

- Establish a stronger social service network by improving the linkage between Butler-Tarkington, Flanner House, Mapleton-Fall Creek, (MSC's), Metropolitan Area Citizens Organization, and United Northwest Area.
- Expand neighborhood usage of the Indianapolis Preschool Centers main branch (former school #36) to include the use as a neighborhood recreation center.
- Alternative recreational resources such as roller skating, outside racquet ball, tether ball, etc., are recommended.
- Increase social service programs for youth and the elderly to fully serve resident needs.
- Construct a public health facility in the neighborhood.

EDUCATION

A. Problems

- There are no schools in the neighborhood at this time.
- Of the two schools immediately outside the neighborhood's boundaries, Shortridge High School (an important educational institution in Indianapolis for one hundred twenty years) has been closed effective June, 1981.

B. Goals and Objectives

- Replace the educational void caused by the closing of Shortridge High School through its use by other institutions such as Ivy Tech, IUPUI, and Herron School of Art for education, training or seminar activities.
- Retain Mapleton-Fall Creek Jr. High School for use by neighborhood children.

C. Recommendations

- Explore alternative uses for Shortridge High School. As a magnet school for the performing arts specializing in jazz, gospel music, and theatrical arts, it possesses many amenities such as an electronic music laboratory, acoustical rooms and theatre, and various other educational facilities.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

A. Assets

- There are many concerned citizens within the subarea. Their involvement is shown by the many block clubs and community organizations working in the neighborhood such as: the Crown Hill Neighborhood Association, Highland Vicinity Block Club, Mansuer Park Block Club, Mid-North Development Alliance, and the overall umbrella group of the United Northwest Area, Inc.

B. Problems

- With increased inflation, community organizations have a need for greater sophistication in the pursuit and administration of federal and private dollars.
- With the closing of schools throughout the area a very important community/institution forum, the P.T.A., has been lost.

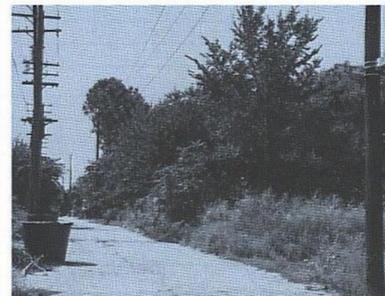
C. Goals

- Foster a closer working relationship between the Butler-Tarkington Civic Association, Crown Hill Neighborhood As-

sociation, Maple Road Development Association, MACO, Mid-North Development Alliance, Mapleton-Fall Creek Association, the United Northwest Area, Inc., and private as well as public agencies to accomplish revitalization in a coordinated positive progression.

D. Recommendations

- The Crown Hill Civic Association and Highland Vicinity Block Club are the primary citizen groups in the Crown Hill Subarea. A closer working relationship between these two groups as well as local and regional agencies is necessary to ensure that activities carried out in the subarea have neighborhood interests or concerns as a high priority. At the present time the Mid-North Development Alliance which is a consortium of community organizations, business representatives, public officials, and the clergy, is active in the subarea. This group has the foundation for a communication network capable of mustering a wide range of expertise and non-traditional sources of funding. The continued efforts of all involved participants will lead to a dynamic revitalized neighborhood.



ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY DIRECTION:
William H. Hudnut, III, Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT
John L. Krauss, Director

DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ZONING
J. Nicholas Shelley, Administrator
Harold W. Rominger, Assistant Administrator
Joretta J. White, Principal Planner

PLANNER IN CHARGE:
Anthony N. Strum

SECRETARIES:
Carole Evans Kim Mead

DRAFTING AND REPRODUCTION:
Phil Pettit, Superintendent
Victor Harris, Section Chief
Darrel Walton, Draftsman
Henry Gaines, Draftsman
Brochure Design:
John D. Chambers, Designer

CROWN HILL LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

William Carver	Landy William
Jessie Kennedy	Mary Poole
Dorasthea W. Wilson	Onia Lightfoot
Rellie West	Edna M. Crowe, Pres.
Rosa Wooden	Highland Vicinity Block Club
Diana Holly	Lillian W. Bruik
Earl L. Johnson	Fairley Whitney
James Griffin	Edna Wynn
Pauline Johnson	Edward E. Price, Pres.
Charles W. Wheeler	Crown Hill Neighborhood Association
Sister Lillian Bauman	Bobby Hale
Milton Manuel	
John Moore	

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