

Elmwood Disaster Recovery Plan 2010
Project Priority Survey

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following have been identified as potential projects for inclusion within the Elmwood Disaster Recovery Plan 2010. **Please review the attached project descriptions before** assigning a priority ranking based on the needs and wants of Elmwood residents. Please rank your top 10 priorities, with #1 being the project of most importance. A total of 10 out of the 19 projects should be selected. Page 1 of the completed survey should be returned to Jordan's Mobil by Sunday Evening. Thank you for your cooperation and input in this recovery process.

	Palace Movie Theatre
	Restaurant Opportunities
	Community Safe Room(s)
	Municipal Building/Complex
	Save the Historical Landmarks
	Explore Brick Repurposing Opportunities
	Explore Transportation Improvements
	Evaluate/Upgrade Utility Systems
	Pursue Formation of Elmwood Park District
	Establish Downtown TIF District
	Streetscaping
	Improve City Parking Lots
	Revitalize Downtown Business District
	Explore Community Activities
	Medical Complex
	Build & Repair Housing for Renters
	Explore Senior/Assisted Living
	Develop Business Incubator
	Formation of Downtown Elmwood Development Review Board

ELMWOOD DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN 2010

Palace Movie Theatre

Goal

Restore the local landmark which has been identified as one of the most recognizable structures within Elmwood.

Project Description

The Palace Theatre has been a local landmark regarded for its importance as a community gathering place and entertainment venue. Reopening the theatre will be instrumental in bringing vitality to downtown, drawing residents on nights and weekends and attracting people to Elmwood. In doing so, it will aid in bolstering the local economy.

Restaurant Opportunities

Goal

Explore the expansion of eateries located within Elmwood to meet the unmet demand as indicated by local residents.

Project Description

Resident survey response called for extended hours of operation and a variety of service levels and food options. More local establishments will lead to decreased travel time for evening and weekend dining thus resulting in money being spent within Elmwood.

Community Safe Room

Goal

Incorporate safe rooms into the construction of designated community locations to provide emergency shelter during severe weather events.

Project Description

Safe rooms are fully engineered structures designed to withstand the forces of high winds and debris impacts associated with severe weather events. The construction of a community safe room is dependent upon financial considerations.

Evaluate/Upgrade Utility Systems

Goal

Assess the need for utility system improvements or expansions.

Project Description

Elmwood's utility system is currently functional; however the rebuilding process should include an assessment of utility infrastructure condition, capacity and reliability to meet the expectations of current residents as well as future demands. Improvements to telecommunication services, availability of high speed internet, and underground rerouting of electrical wiring may be considered at this time to take advantage of rebuilding efforts.

Pursue Formation of Elmwood Park District

Goal

Create a local park district to manage and maintain community recreational opportunities.

Project Description

A local park district could oversee operation of the existing township community center and city parks. This new entity would be funded by a property tax levy. The park district would employ an individual who could focus their attention on the expansion of community facilities, programs, and leagues.

Establish Downtown TIF District

Goal

Establish a TIF District centered upon the intersection of Main and Magnolia to generate funding for downtown revitalization.

Project Description

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) helps local governments attract private development and new businesses. This revenue base allows the opportunity to make improvements and provide incentives within the district without tapping into general municipal funds or raising taxes.

Streetscaping

Goal

Beautify downtown Elmwood by adding streetscape and landscape elements to create an appealing and convenient destination for residents and visitors. Design a pedestrian-friendly, attractive downtown setting for comfortable shopping, walking, and enjoyment of historic and other attractions.

Project Description

Establish a uniform streetscape to encourage pedestrians to spend more time downtown and enhance the quality of their experience. Potential streetscape elements may include historic streetlights, trees, planters, public art, benches, sidewalk improvements, and signage.

Build & Repair Housing for Renters

Goal

Encourage rebuilding of rental units, including second story downtown units.

Project Description

Prior to the tornado, as many as 100 rental units were available within Elmwood including 16 affordable housing units. A variety of housing options is essential to inspire local youth to remain, to recruit new individuals and families to relocate, and meet the needs of seniors and families who may be downsizing.

Explore Senior/Assisted Living

Goal

Determine feasibility for creation of senior/assisted living facility.

Project Description

Aging citizens require additional care and accessible living arrangements. Demographics indicate the need for this type of housing and existing demand exceeds current conditions. This facility would create additional job opportunities for local residents, while retaining population.

Develop Business Incubator

Goal

Create a business incubator that would allow start-up or displaced businesses an opportunity to operate while they recover from the disaster. This is essential to keep small businesses functioning and/or prevent them from leaving Elmwood.

Project Description

A business incubator provides support for small, start-up or displaced businesses, including management guidance and technical assistance. Businesses typically stay in an incubator until they are stable enough to move into their own space and could generate long-term economic renewal for the City.

Formation of Downtown Elmwood Development Review Board

Goal

Preserve the historic and aesthetic appearance by regulating design and materials used in development of downtown district.

Project Description

The tornado destroyed much of the original facades within downtown Elmwood. As redevelopment occurs, the formation of a Downtown Elmwood Development Review Board allows the local community the opportunity to determine consistent design criteria. New structures should be designed to be compatible with existing historic appeal.