

2017 Annual Report



What is the Loring Greenway?

Activities: The Loring Greenway, a three-acre corridor connecting Nicollet Mall and Loring Park in downtown Minneapolis, is used daily by pedestrians, bikers, area residents, convention-goers and hotel guests and serves as a venue for special events such as weddings, photo shoots, neighborhood gatherings and picnic lunches.

Plants: Although countless at this point, the gardens include more than 10,000 shrubs, 10,000 perennials and 2,500 annuals, as well as 221 trees representing 26 species.

Amenities: The walkways that make up the Loring Greenway include 18 French bistro tables and 60 chairs; seven metal benches; a playground; two fountains; winter lighting on the trees near the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis; a dog area; and a Little Free Library.

Why is the Loring Greenway important?

Environment: Scientific evidence shows that experiencing nature makes people happier, healthier and more productive. Leaves on the plants and trees remove pollution from the air. Plants provide a home for pollinating birds and bees.

Community: Working together on volunteer days and participating in Loring Greenway events are opportunities for neighbors to get to know each other and make the Loring Greenway safer and more enjoyable. Providing a beautiful place for dog walkers further connects neighbors. Safety is supported by coordination with the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis and Citizens for a Loring Park Community.

Value: Recognizing the importance of the Loring Greenway to home values, real estate agents cite the Loring Greenway as an important neighborhood amenity.

How does the Loring Greenway Association work?

The Loring Greenway Association (LGA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, governed by a Board of Directors with representatives from the residences along the Loring Greenway. The Board of Directors recruits additional volunteers and donors to provide the resources needed to keep the Loring Greenway a beautiful and welcoming space.

Success depends on dedicated, hard-working neighbors and friends, who provided 4,219 volunteer hours and \$68,231 in contributions in 2017, and on partnerships with the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), the City of Minneapolis Public Works Department, and other area businesses.

Partners

Target Corporation and the Target Volunteer Council donated funds for perennials and native plants and provided 150 gardening volunteers on two days in May. The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis provided lunch and facilities for staging that event, and also sponsored the LGA annual meeting and recognition event for volunteers and donors.

City of Minneapolis Public Works employee Mark Clark mows, sweeps, clears leaves and snow, removes trash, replaces light bulbs, completes other City of Minneapolis tasks, and contributes assistance as requested by the LGA gardening team. In addition, he provides a positive presence and enhances security on the Loring Greenway. City of Minneapolis plumbers maintain the fountains and the irrigation system. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board provides tree removal and pruning services.

Landscape architect Guy Mueller prepared detailed planting and landscape designs. Rainbow Tree Care, contracted by LGA, fertilizes trees and treats the ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer. Outside contractors, contracted by LGA, provided mulch, boulders and other features.

2017 Accomplishments

Gardening. The Loring Greenway received a Downtown Improvement District Greening Award for the eighth year in a row, this time for Best Large Green Space in the City of Minneapolis. Some of the reasons for its recognition include the following:

• Implementation of new designs to attract pollinators, increased native plantings in the Loring Green West fence garden and Greenway Gables lane and dog area, and fountain pyramid and saucer gardens provided by a special contribution from Richard Anderson

- Enhancements to the native shade garden, aspen glade 110 Grant garden, Grant Street entrance, and coleus garden at the east end of the Nicollet lane that was designed and planted by Claire Selkurt
- Installation of hoop fencing to protect sensitive garden areas
- Monthly Saturday volunteer workdays
- · Development of the Adopt-a-Garden Program for maintenance throughout the summer
- Volunteers dedicated to watering and weeding gardens during the week all summer

Tree maintenance. A walkthrough of the Loring Greenway took place on September 11 with head of MPRB forestry Ralph Sievert, district urban forester Dana Hendricksen, and board member Dr. Lee Frelich, University of Minnesota. Tree maintenance activities to be carried out by MPRB forestry during winter 2017-2018 as a result of the walkthrough included the following:

- Remove dead branches on lower parts of locust crowns throughout the greenway
- Trim lower branches of lindens on north side of Loring Way (210 W. Grant) to let more light into the shade garden and keep branches away from the building
- Trim branches that hang downwards onto the pergola structures
- Trim branches of the Amur maples and others that may interfere with emergency and maintenance vehicle traffic
- Trim the river birches on the branch of the greenway going to Grant Street to lighten the weight of the ones with partially split trunks and for clearance for maintenance vehicles
- Remove the large locust with the big split in the shade garden on the north side of Loring Way
- Remove three ashes with girdling roots or no growing space
- Remove branches near the banner poles north of the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Memorial trees and plaques. A redbud planted four years ago was designated as a memorial to board member Mike Troje. A plaque for Archibald Leyasmeyer was installed near the rhododendrons along the fence between Loring Green West and Loring Green East. A plaque commemorating 25 years of volunteering by Richard Anderson was installed near the serviceberry tree on the small pyramid just south of the pyramid fountain.

Tree diversity. The LGA has increased tree diversity significantly. The total number of tree species present prior to the formation of the LGA was 15; as of 2017 there are 26 tree species.

Tree species present then and now (14 species): Green Ash, Honey Locust, European Linden, Austrian Pine, River Birch, Concolor Fir, Amur Maple, Northern Red Oak, Sugar Maple, Red Maple, Blue Spruce, Freeman Maple, Serviceberry, Flowering Crabapple

Species new to the Loring Greenway (12 species): Starr Magnolia, Callery Pear, White Cedar (Arborvitae), Kentucky Coffeetree, Ohio Buckeye, Redbud, Eastern Hemlock, American Elm (disease-resistant), Quaking Aspen, Sumac, Black Hills Spruce, and Red Mulberry

Species present then and not present now (1 species): Hackberry (died of unknown disease in 2015)

Native plants and the shade garden. The hoop fence was installed along the sidewalk sides of the shade garden during spring 2017. Several large-flowered trillium and three spikenards were donated and added to the garden. Due to the high rabbit population, some of the plant species in the shade garden were badly damaged. Temporary fencing was installed to protect individual plants. A more permanent solution to place a wire fence inside the hoop fence and keep rabbits out has been planned for spring 2018. The fence would be black wire and minimally visible so as not to detract from the design of the hoop fence. The garden should recover in the absence of rabbits. However, there is an open question about how the tuck-pointing and other building maintenance for Loring Way will impact the garden during the 2018 growing season.

Little Free Library. It was another banner year for strollers on the Loring Greenway stopping for a book at the new Little Free Library that replaced the original one, which was showing its weathered age. Thanks to generous donations from the Library Committee at Loring Green East, a wide array – mysteries, cookbooks, serious books, humorous books – was placed in the new Little Free Library and quickly snapped up. Volunteers stock it regularly and always find it interesting that there seems to be a reader for every title, no matter how esoteric.

Physical Enhancements. The following were accomplished in 2017:

- Added colorful, art bike racks along the Lasalle bridge
- Installed hoop fencing to protect gardens
- Worked with Public Works on fountain and masonry repairs

2017 Board Members

The following served at least a partial year on the board of directors in 2017:

Richard Anderson Karen Lund-Brust

Paula Buckner
Pat Davies
Nicholas Deacon
Lee Frelich
Steve Hillestad
Merry Keefe

Mary Alyce Krohnke

Susan Lasoff Linda Luksan Mary Maier Monica Marx Laura Mattson

Mark Ring Claire Selkurt Bill Snyder John Van Heel

Doug Wallace

2017 Officers

President: Merry Keefe

Vice President: Nicholas Deacon

Treasurer: Mark Ring Secretary: Linda Luksan

2017 Gardening Committee

Fred Aden Center Section Coordinator

Richard Anderson West Section Leader

Nicholas Deacon Center Section Coordinator

Lee Frelich Native Plants and Tree Advisor and Tree Donations

Janet Gendler Adopt-a-garden Program Merry Keefe Garden Coordinator

Mary Alyce Krohnke

Peggy MacRae Adopt-a-garden Program and Garden Coordinator

Mary Maier Gardening Committee Chair

Guy Mueller Landscape Designer

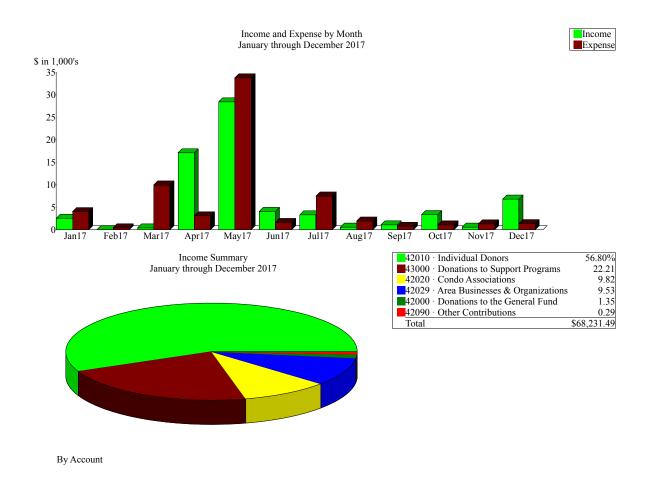
Jane Nevin

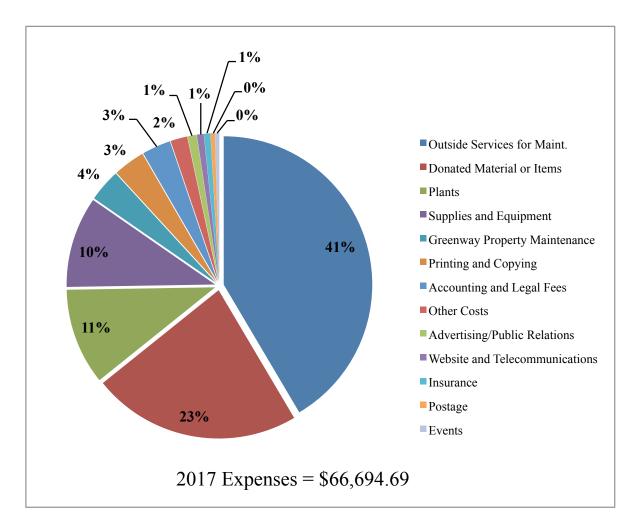
Claire Selkurt

Marsha Weidenhammer East Section Coordinator

2017 Financial Report

Income offset expenses in 2017, with income exceeding expenses by \$1,536.80.





2018 Goals

- · Install new storage unit for gardening tools and equipment
- · Add color to the berms
- · Increase pollinator- and hummingbird-attracting plants
- Install additional protective fencing for vulnerable gardens
- Reduce rabbit damage
- Expand the volunteer base with new residents and corporations

2017 Volunteers

220+ volunteers from the nine buildings along the Loring Greenway and from corporate volunteer groups contributed more than 4,200 hours to gardening, maintaining the Loring Greenway, administration and events. Not everyone who volunteered signed in, so only a partial list follows. The Loring Greenway Association thanks EVERYONE who helped make the Loring Greenway such a beautiful and welcoming space!

Fred Aden Richard Anderson **Nettie Andrews** John Berrigan Dean Born Donovan Brausen Paula Buckner Dennis Callahan Hal Chader Larry Clausen **Don Davies Pat Davies** Nick Deacon Katie Dickinson Pam Fechter Betsy Ford Maryfaith Fox Lee Frelich

Gillian Frothingham-Gordon

Joanitah Gilet
Elizabeth Goldberg
Betty Heefner
Hope Hensley
Donna Hill
Steve Hillestad
Janet Hughes
Peggy Hunter

Janet Gendler

Anna Kasinski Merry Keefe

Ellen Just

Mary Alyce Krohnke Susan Lasoff

Dianne Legg Linda Luksan

Tom Law

Karen Lund-Brust
Peggy MacRae
Nancy Maczka
Helmut Maier
Mary Maier
Sally Martineau
Monica Marx
Laura Mattson
Tim Miley
Guy Mueller
Jane Nelson
Jane Nevin
Dennis Nielsen
Laura Nolan
Connie Nowacki

Tom Slotnick
Bill Snyder
Bill Soth
Roxanne Soth
Diana Ursin
Tom Ursin
John Van Heel

Reino Paaso

Mark Ring

Don Rudrud

Alex Sierra

Claire Selkurt

Doug Wallace Hella Wartman Paul Wartman

Marsha Weidenhammer

Julia Weiler William Weiler Sally Westby Scott Wilkins

2017 Donors

\$1,000 or more

Nancy E. Anderson Richard Anderson

Bianca Fine/Fine Associates

Mark Gittleman

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Loring Green East Association Loring Green West Association

Loring Way Condominium Association

\$500 to \$999

1200 on the Mall Association Thomas and Mary Beaumont Larry and Susan Clausen

Henry Cousineau

Greenway Gables Association

Hope Hensley Steven Hillestad Peggy MacRae

Wally and Marilyn Small John and Marcia Stout

Paula Vesely

Peggy Hunter and Doug Wallace

\$250 to \$499

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Timothy and Monica Marx

Terence Fruth and Mary McEvoy

Steve Millikan

Judith Morgan

Bruce and Jane Nelson

Jane Nevin

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Norman Jensen and Joyce Sheffer

Bill and Roxanne Soth

Richard and Glenda Struthers

Judy and Mark Tucker

James Wickham

\$100 to \$249

Fred Aden

Winnie Anderson Karen Bachman Virginia Barzan

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Anita Bennett

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Tom and Diana Ursin
Ruth Spieg Usem

David and Greta Van Benschoten

John Van Heel

John and Elizabeth Verhoeven

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Paul and Hella Wartman

Patricia Weber William Weiler

Richard and Elizabeth Winga

Jane U. Young

\$1 to \$99

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Mickey Armstrong Elliot Arsoniadis

Helen Atcas

Vincent and Susan Barton

Charles Baxler

Richard and Nancy Beach

Beverly Benson Margaret Berget Leslie Berkshire Regina Birchem Suzanne Birnbaum

Naomi Black Matthew Blanco

Keith Boe Karen Bowen

Robert and Betsy Bradford

David Braslau Sharon Bredeson Judith Breuer

Paul and Jane Brissett

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Joel and Martha Brown Thomas and Patricia Bunch

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Diane Englund and Gerry Cucci

Corey Dahlstrand John Degner

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David and John Doty

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Bud Levinger and Sheila Field

Janet Flagel

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Michael and Maryfaith Fox

Cindy Frattallone Heidi Froseth

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Arthur Himmelman Tawnya Hopkins

Peter Truran and Sylvia Horwitz

Jane Howard Sally Howard

Kathleen Humphries

Bridget Hust Andrew Jellinger

Dennis and Carol Johnson Allan and Margaret Johnson

Roger Johnson

Kathryn McConnell and Sue Jones

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Tim and Millie Kosiek Carol Ann and Ray Kroll Duane and Susan Kullberg

Trish Simo Kush and Patrick Kush

Mary Jo Laakso La Vonne Landsverk Caroline Lappin DeAnn Lavalle Diane Lawrence

Grace Lee

Peter and Jane Lefferts

John Leonhard Bill and Gloria Levin Dean Lillestrand Robert Lindemeyer

Greg Boorsma and William Linmart

Jim and Lila Little Marjorie Loeffler Karen Lund-Brust Maureen MacDonald

Susan Mackay James MacKnick Nancy Maczka Michael Maher

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Richard Wall
Kurt and Marsha Weidenhammer
Jon and Sally Westby
Scott Wilkins

John and Jean Wolf John and Mary Zesbaugh

In Kind Gifts

Richard Anderson Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Target Corporation

Learn more about the LGA at <u>loringgreenway.org.</u> © Loring Greenway Association