



# ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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## **Elk River to receive \$593,820 grant to address foreclosures**

### **FUNDING TO ASSIST IN STABILIZING NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGHOUT COMMUNITY**

**ELK RIVER, Minn., March 9, 2009** – In January, the Elk River Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) made application to the MN Housing Finance agency for emergency foreclosure funds. These funds provide targeted assistance to the City to address foreclosed properties that may otherwise become sources of abandonment, blight or crime. The HRA intends to use the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds for the following:

- Down payment assistance to homebuyers for foreclosed homes
- Loans to buyers of foreclosed homes to assist with rehabilitation costs
- Acquisition and rehabilitation of foreclosed home; once rehabilitated, homes would be put back on the market in efforts to stabilize targeted neighborhoods

The following neighborhoods with a high occurrence of foreclosures over the past few years have been identified in the application to receive the NSP funds: The Bluffs of Elk River, Elk River Station, Park Pointe, Trott Brook (all subdivisions) and Windsor Oaks. Eligible recipients must meet 2008 area median income requirements set by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (available on City website). Additional details about the NSP funds will be made available to the community as they are received.

The HRA, along with City Staff, will be working with the Tri-County Action Program out of St. Cloud on the administration of these funds. Staff is planning a kick-off meeting with area realtors and lenders to launch the Neighborhood Stabilization Program in the spring.

If you are interested in receiving formal notification of NSP announcements, please send us an email with your contact information at [adeckert@ci.elk-river.mn.us](mailto:adeckert@ci.elk-river.mn.us) or continue to check back on our website. For more information about the NSP funding, foreclosure prevention or eligible income guidelines, please contact Annie Deckert, at 763-635-1042, or visit the housing section of the City's website at [www.ci.elk-river.mn.us](http://www.ci.elk-river.mn.us).