

Section 1: Introduction

East Buffalo is one of eleven Good Neighbors' Planning Alliance (GNPA) communities. Mayor Anthony Masiello passed the GNPA initiative in August 2001, as part of the City of Buffalo's ongoing efforts towards the creation of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Good Neighbors' Planning Alliance is a neighborhood-based planning process that seeks to actively involve citizens in the restructuring, rebuilding, and renewal of their community. This process culminates in the design of a community based action plan that outlines the vision of each GNPA community. Underlying this whole process is an avenue of empowerment provided by the GNPA, through which community members get an official voice in determining the future direction of their own neighborhoods.

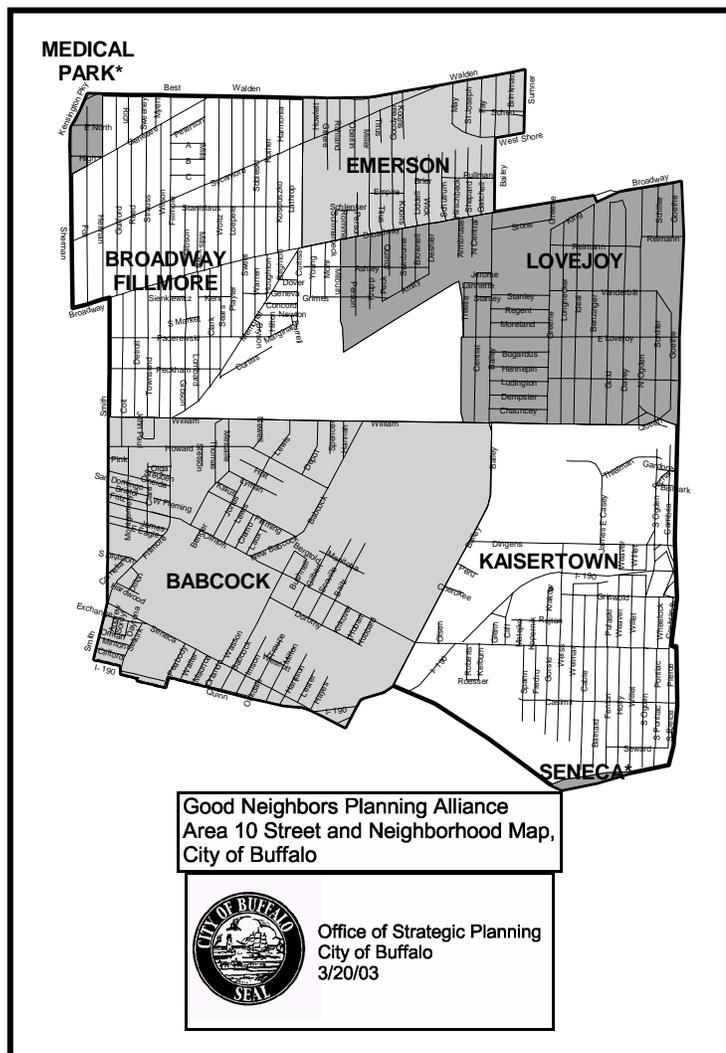
The mission of each Good Neighbors' Planning Alliance is to:

- Include diverse individuals and groups in the process of improving the community;
- Establish new partnerships within the community;
- Improve conditions such as housing, education, recreation and the physical environment;
- Improve public policies and services that impact the community; and
- Improve the quality of life for all.

The East Buffalo Good Neighbors' Planning Alliance (GNPA) is one of the most diverse planning communities. Crossing the threshold of several boundaries, this GNPA is able to plan for a number of interests and concerns. Many of these topics are relevant to a wider base of citizens across the City of Buffalo, thereby impacting a larger section of residents and taxpayers upon implementation in the Comprehensive Plan.

The East Buffalo GNPA is comprised of dedicated volunteer representatives, mostly residents and community stakeholders, from primarily each of the five neighborhoods as shown in the map at right: Broadway-Fillmore, Emerson, Lovejoy, Babcock, and Kaisertown. (See Appendix C for a larger map.)

Some participants are officers in various community organizations or represent church groups while others are local business leaders.



The East Buffalo GNPA has embraced the vision of “Preserving Our Heritage and Planning Our Future!” This vision has encouraged our diverse group to broach many important topics – issues which are important to us as a community. We trust that these issues will be implemented into “The Queen City in the 21st Century: Buffalo’s Comprehensive Plan.” Through the use of open summits, guest speakers, and community meetings, the East Buffalo GNPA has nurtured proactive ideas that if adopted by the City, will improve the quality of life for Buffalo’s residents and taxpayers.