



Creating Connections for Caring Communities

Why YOU should
support North Platte
Neighborhood Power

Neighbors can generate tremendous power when they come together as a community. They can influence the actions of government, developers, and other external forces. They can also mobilize their own assets—their passion, knowledge, skills, and relationships—in support of caring communities, revitalized neighborhoods, and a better world.

Jim Diers (Author of *Neighbor Power*)

All across America, communities are rediscovering the benefits of building strong neighborhoods:

- People still yearn for a sense of community.
- People want to contribute to the greater good.
- Neighbors are the best defense against crime. No amount of spending for law enforcement of public-safety can buy the security that comes from neighbors watching out for each other.
- People will commit to involvement in neighborhoods if they see results. In Seattle, between 1988 and 2002, thousands participated in more than 2000 community self-help projects like building parks and playgrounds, renovating community buildings, recording oral histories and creating public art.

Reasons people don't come to neighborhood gatherings:

- No driving force to get things started
- Poor organization
- People are tired of coming to meetings that only lead to more meetings

North Platte Neighborhood Power is the answer!

- An organized approach to planning neighborhood get-togethers complete with kits that will work for every type of neighborhood.
- Proclaiming a North Platte Neighborhood Power week or month helps to spur citizens to host events during this time period on a recurring basis every year.
- Coordinated support from city officials and local police could give this "official" status.
- Media support, incentives, prizes or other fun ideas make this activity a fun event that everyone looks forward to (like the Hoggie Doggie Splash).
- As neighbors get to know each other and reap the benefits of stronger neighborhoods, they are more likely to continue to plan gatherings or work together on beneficial projects.