



## **Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Neighborhood & Community Relations (NCR)**

**Date:** May 6, 2013

**To:** Committee of the Whole

**Referral to:** CITY COUNCIL

**Subject:** UPDATE REPORT ON PROGRESS OF MINNEAPOLIS FOR A LIFETIME STRATEGIC PLAN

**Recommendation:** Council will direct staff to continue with the planning process and provide a report on progress of the Minneapolis for a Lifetime Strategic Plan by September, 2013.

Prepared by: Christina Kendrick, Senior Community Specialist  
Approved by: Paul Aasen, City Coordinator  
David Rubedor, Director, Neighborhood and Community Relations

### **Financial Impact:**

- No financial impact

### **Background Information:**

Planning for an aging demographic in Minneapolis is aimed at achieving the Minneapolis City Goal - Many People, One Minneapolis: Seniors Stay, Talents are Tapped. The city has begun to take a closer look at the needs of our aging population and will create a Strategic Plan to make Minneapolis attractive place for seniors to age in place.

The City of Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support (currently the Minneapolis Department of Health) had an ombudsman model that provided direct services to seniors and the disabled. The position transitioned to NCR early 2012 where it was restructured to spearhead a citywide plan to address the opportunities and challenges Minneapolis would be facing with an aging demographic. The position evolved into the Senior Community Specialist whose role was to spearhead the planning and implementation of a strategy to create a city that supports this demographic change. In December 2012, the position was filled and the process for developing the strategic plan began in January 2013.

To date the current progress and timeline is as follows:

- December 2012, Senior Community Specialist position filled
- February 2013 the Strategic Plan Steering Committee with membership from city departments, community leaders, older adults, senior serving organizations and other partners was identified and commitment established.

- March 2013, NCR staff conducted research to identify current literature, best practices, themes, including a study by Wilder commissioned through NCR and released August 2012.
- March/April 2013 the Steering Committee reviewed the research, reports, statistics, studies, surveys and local, national, global community planning models for review prior to the first meeting and participated in a brainstorming exercise.
- The Steering Committee first meeting May 1, 2013 established the foundation of the plan with a vision, mission and four priority areas for goal setting. Next meeting date still to be determined.
- The plan draft will be brought to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee to the Mayor and Council as well as community groups for input by July, 2013.
- The progress report the Minneapolis for a Lifetime Strategic Plan will be brought to City Council by September, 2013.

Over the course of the next several months, the Steering Committee will continue their work to identify opportunities and address challenges so Minneapolis will not only meet the needs of the aging “Baby Boomer” generation but maximize the rich resource this population brings to Minneapolis communities. NCR staff will report back to the Council the committees planning progress and ultimately for approval of the plan.