



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Office of the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department

Date: February 11, 2014
To: Council Member Cam Gordon, Chair, Health, and Environment & Community Engagement Committee
Referral to: City Council
Subject: One Minneapolis Fund

Recommendation:

- 1) Authorize the NCR Director to issue a request for proposals for the One Minneapolis Fund and further authorize the NCR Director and other City officials to execute all necessary contracts associated with the One Minneapolis Fund.
- 2) Authorize the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission to review proposals for funding from the One Minneapolis Fund and make recommendations to the City Council on funding awards.

Previous Directives: The One Minneapolis Fund was approved in the 2014 NCR Budget.

Department Information

Prepared by: Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager

Approved by:

David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director _____

Paul Aasen, City Coordinator _____

Presenters in Committee: Howard Blin; Tessa Wetjen, NCEC; Ishmael Israel, NCEC

Financial Impact: Funding for the One Minneapolis Fund is included in the 2014 NCR Budget. No further authorization is necessary.

Community Impact

City Goal: *Many People, One Minneapolis.* The City has established the goal of reducing disparities in income, housing and education among racial and cultural communities in Minneapolis. One strategy for achieving this goal is to strengthen organizations working with racial and cultural communities. The One Minneapolis Fund is one means of providing resources to those organizations to promote leadership development and the promotion of civic engagement among the communities served by cultural organizations.

Supporting Information

The One Minneapolis Fund is a City funded grant program established to support organizations serving under represented communities in the city. The focus of the program is on leadership development and building engagement within those communities. Organizations eligible for the program are those which do not receive funding through the traditional neighborhood funding programs.

The first year of the program was 2013, when \$62,000 was available for projects. The Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) developed a request for proposal for the program, reviewed applications and made recommendations to the City Council on grant awards. Community organizations in Minneapolis submitted 24 proposals with requested funding for projects totaling \$499,624. Three projects were funded, all of which are underway and will conclude by the end of the year. These projects are:

Lao Leadership Institute, Lao Assistance Center - \$20,000. The program is providing leadership training for members of the Lao community to develop the skills necessary to serve on the governing boards of non-profit organizations and neighborhood associations as well as City of Minneapolis advisory boards and commissions.

Community Circles Project, Pillsbury United Communities, Waite House - \$20,000. The program is working with Latino residents of the Phillips neighborhood to increase involvement from the Latino community in neighborhood organizations and other civic groups.

At-Risk Youth Program, Conflict Resolution Center - \$22,000. This is a youth leadership development program designed for low income Minneapolis youth of color. The program serves at-risk students and those who have been in contact with the juvenile justice system. Specific activities include youth to youth and youth to adult mediation, leadership development, conflict resolution instruction, restorative justice mediation, and peacekeeping circles.

At the conclusion of these projects, a report will be presented to the City Council on the effectiveness of the program and potential areas for improvement.

For 2014, \$80,000 is available for the Fund. The Neighborhood and Community Development Commission has developed the attached request for proposals (RFP) for the second year of the program. The one significant change from the guidelines in the first year of the program is lowering the maximum grant amount from \$25,000 to \$15,000. Given the large number of applications received in the first year of the program, the Commission wished to fund more projects. It is believed that \$15,000 is sufficient to fund successful projects.

This RFP would be distributed widely among non-profit community organizations serving Minneapolis residents. It is recommended that the Commission be authorized to review proposals and determine the projects to be funded. Program administration is the responsibility of NCR and Development Finance staffs.