



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of City Coordinator

Date: April 15, 2014

To: Honorable Cam Gordon, Chair, Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee
Honorable John Quincy, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Subject: **Accept Grant Funds from US Conference of Mayors and Enter into Contract with Project Sweetie Pie for Urban Agriculture Related Activities**

Recommendations:

- Direct City Coordinator to accept up to \$40,000 and enter into agreement as needed with US Conference of Mayors for GRO1000 Garden and Green Spaces Award.
- Direct City Coordinator to manage the grant and enter into agreement(s) with community partners as needed.
- Increase both the revenue estimate in fund/department 01600-840020050700 and the 2014 appropriation in fund/department 01600-840020050700 by \$40,000.

Department Information

Prepared by: Jane Shey and Gayle Prest, Sustainability Office Approved by: Paul Aasen, City Coordinator _____ Presenters in Committee: Gayle Prest
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Financial Impact: Revenue neutral. Budget code: 01600 8400200507000

Community Impact: Provides a showcase garden in North Minneapolis which provides food for the neighborhood and training opportunities around gardening and healthy eating.

Supporting Information:

The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) and Scotts Miracle-Gro Company have selected the City of Minneapolis and Project Sweetie Pie's Karamu Garden (1600 Plymouth Ave N) as a participant in the *2014 GRO1000 Gardens and Green Spaces Grant Awards Program*. The grants focus on improving the nation's cities through the development of community gardens and green spaces. This is the third year of the program, and the City of Minneapolis joins Mesa, Arizona, Tallahassee, Florida, Houston Texas and Miramar, Florida as 2014 grant recipients.

Project Sweetie Pie's mission is to revitalize North Minneapolis using scattered gardens to seed community agricultural businesses. This three year, \$40,000 grant (\$30,000 cash and \$10,000 in-kind) will provide for raised beds, a tool shed and growing programs for the youth and other community members. The Karamu Gardens offer a highly visible location on a busy artery in North Minneapolis, the location will also provide visual beauty to the neighborhood. This garden hub will become a showcase of opportunity which includes:

- 1) Training local gardeners including youth.
- 2) Producing food which helps create a healthy local food system.
- 3) Educating North Minneapolis families about health and wellness.
- 4) Rebuilding the Northside community's food and economic landscape.