

# **BLUEPRINT FOR EQUITABLE ENGAGEMENT**

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Neighborhood and Community Relations Department  
Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission

Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee  
June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

# A Strategic Action Plan

The Blueprint for Equitable Engagement is a multi-year strategic action plan to ensure ***an equitable engagement system*** for the City of Minneapolis

- 1. Neighborhood Organizations:** Increased resident involvement and access to the decision making process.
- 2. City's Boards and Commissions:** Composition reflects the community
- 3. City Enterprise Engagement:** Informed department business plans, budgets and programs.

# Equitable Engagement Steering Committee

- **Brittany Lewis**, Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commissioner, Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association
- **David Rubedor**, Director - Neighborhood and Community Relations Department
- **Ishmael Israel**, Chair - Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commissioner, Northside Residents Redevelopment Council
- **Lance Knuckles**, Access and Outreach Manager - Neighborhood and Community Relations Department
- **Jeffrey Strand**, Chair - Neighborhood Revitalization Program Board, Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commissioner, Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association
- **Andy Hortillosa**, Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commissioner

# A Focused Approach

1. Change the name to reflect the work
2. Tell our story better
3. Summarize in a concept paper
4. Take Action
5. Provide flexible and effective leadership
6. Follow Principles of Engagement
7. Engage community and meet where they are at



# Work Completed

## Neighborhood Organizations

**One Minneapolis Fund:** As of May 2014, eight (8) people have been elected to neighborhood boards from this program.



**Neighborhood Priority Plans:** Supporting direct connections and alignment between neighborhood issues and priorities with enterprise programs. **28** neighborhoods have submitted **47** priorities.

**Neighborhood Guides:** Three (3) guides have been completed and four (4) are currently being developed.

**Community Connections Conference:** Nearly **500** people attended the 2014 conference.

# Work Completed

## Boards and Commissions

1. **Streamlined Appointment Process:** Applications for vacancies are sought twice (2x) per year.
2. **Increased Outreach:** Outreach efforts have significantly increased the number of applicants.
3. **City Academy:** The program has run for two (2) years with 55 graduates.



# Work Completed

## Boards and Commissions

4. **Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute:** In 2014, 12 people graduated from this program.
5. **Diversity Survey:** A performance measure, this survey will be conducted for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 2014. Greater participation is needed.
6. **Appointment Process:** Recommendations for new appointment processes and procedures were presented to the City Council in 2013 and are being further developed.

# Work Completed

## City Enterprise Engagement

1. **Equitable Solutions:** Coordinating the Blueprint for Equitable Engagement with Equitable Solutions.
2. **Neighborhood Priority Plans:** Supporting direct connections and alignment between neighborhood issues and priorities with enterprise programs. **28** neighborhoods have submitted **47** priorities.
3. **Community Connections Conference:** **21** Workshops run by City departments, **11** City Department exhibit booths and more than **80** City employees attended the event.



# Community Engagement

## Upcoming Focus Group Dialogues

- HECE Committee/NCEC community meetings – 2
- Intermedia Arts and Creative City Making
- OAP and Our Minneapolis
- Neighbors Organized for Change
- African American Leadership Forum
- Latino Engagement Task Force
- Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities, Senior Advisory Committee, Senior Skyway Center
- One Minneapolis Fund Grantees
- Neighborhood Organizations (3)
- Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors
- Lao Assistance Center, Hmong American Mutual Assistance Center, United Cambodian Association
- Somali Citizens League, Somali American Network, Somali Action Alliance
- LGBTQ
- Homeless
- Renters, Homeline
- Youth, Urban Scholars

# Timeline and Reporting

- Focus groups identified to be completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- Boards and Commission appointment process recommendations developed in summer 2014.
- Boards and Commission Diversity Survey completed in July, 2014.
- NCR staff and the NCEC to report back to the City Council by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 with a summary of the findings, draft recommendations and performance measures regarding the Blueprint for Equitable Engagement