



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

Date:

To: Council Member Cam Gordon, Chair, Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee

Referral to: None

Subject: Report on Neighborhood Priority Plans

Recommendation: Receive and File

Previous Directives:

On March 30, 2012, the City Council approved the guidelines for the Community Participation Program. The guidelines included requirements for neighborhood organizations to prepare Neighborhood Priority Plans.

On July 19, 2013, The City Council approved a policy for Preparation and Processing of Neighborhood Priority Plans and revisions to the existing policy on Changing Approved Neighborhood Plans.

On August 2, 2013, the City Council approved three-year allocations for the Community Participation Program for the years 2014 to 2016.

Department Information

Prepared by: Robert Thompson, Neighborhood Support Manager
Approved by:
David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director _____

City Coordinator _____

Presenters in Committee: Robert Thompson

Financial Impact

No financial impact. Funds necessary to implement were approved with the 2014-16 Community Participation Program allocation. Approval by City Council will make these expenses related to these programs eligible uses for these funds.

Community Impact

The Neighborhood Priority Plans were developed and approved through a neighborhood planning process, and were approved in accordance with the NRP policies for (1) Preparation and Processing of Neighborhood Priority Plans; and (2) Changing Approved Neighborhood Plans.

Report on Neighborhood Priority Plans

As of the end of May, 2014, 29 neighborhood organizations have identified 47 priorities that they have submitted to NCR for review and approval. All but three of the priorities are continuations of strategies identified in NRP Phase II plans.

Two Neighborhood Priority Plans represent multi-neighborhood collaborations. The first is from four neighborhoods in Southwest Minneapolis to work with Public Works on completing a streetscape plan for 54th and Lyndale. This is a continuation of a long term partnership of the four neighborhoods with the City of Minneapolis.

The second is a collaboration of seven neighborhoods in South Minneapolis to develop deeper connections with CPED's Multi-Housing staff, Regulatory Services, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to address issues in the neighborhoods.

NORTH MINNEAPOLIS:

Cleveland Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Cleveland Park - Expand Hours and Activities

Work with the Park Board to ensure that traditional services are maintained and set aside additional funds to improve the level and quality of staffing.

Community Garden

Develop and maintain a community garden.

Lot Redevelopment Program

Develop a lot redevelopment program or similar program to purchase substandard, blighted or non-conforming properties for appropriate reuse.

Recruit Targeted Business

Recruit targeted businesses (those most likely to succeed) to open a new store or relocate to Cleveland neighborhood or a nearby North Minneapolis area, such as Broadway.

McKinley Community (Approved)

Adopt-A-Spot Program

Expand the participation of the "Adopt-a-Spot" program and increase number of trashcans in the neighborhood.

Emergency Assistance Program

Continue the emergency assistance program for home repairs.

Employment Programs

Develop program or partnerships that employ residents and create visible improvements in McKinley.

Family Movie Nights

Establish a family movie night in a safe environment and other youth and family events in the neighborhood.

Homebuyer Assistance Program

Continue assistance program for homebuyers.

Homebuyer/Homeowner Education Programs

Offer both homebuyers education for new homebuyers and upkeep and repair training for all homeowners.

Monthly Notices

Continue to provide monthly notice to all households regarding neighborhood news and events.

Semi-Annual Special Events/News Mailings

Continue to provide semi-annual mailings to all addresses regarding special events and news items.

Support Youth Sports

Establish or partner with organizations supporting youth sports.

Teenage Baby Care and Parenting Program

Create or partner with other organizations in a teenage baby care and parents program.

Youth Summer Camps

Partner with other organizations to run or support youth summer camps.

Victory Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Local Businesses and ViNA Partnerships

Support small and home based business and make residents more aware of them by bringing them into one (or more) storefronts in a co-working space. Co-working spaces provide meeting areas, shared office support, a refreshing change of venue for people who work out of their home, an opportunity to share expertise and marketing between small business owners, and more visibility for them in the neighborhood.

NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS

Bottineau Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Bottineau Park Improvements

Support increased usage at Bottineau Park through the installation of benches around the park's tot lot sand playgrounds.

Crime Solutions

The BNA will implement crime prevention and crime avoidance strategies.

Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association (Approved)

Community Garden Irrigation

Install an irrigation system that uses metered water from a nearby hydrant to provide a reliable water source for the neighborhood's community gardens.

Fourth Street SE District Plan

Develop an implementation plan for 4th Street SE that advances a district approach to development, including water management, district energy and sustainability, traffic and parking studies and projections of future needs.

I-94 Land Bridge Study

Undertake a study to assess the feasibility of bridging the freeway through the development of a conceptual design and an estimate of the engineering construction costs related to the concept.

University Ave and Bedford Street Plan

Engage the multiple jurisdictions and entities who have a stake in the intersection to develop a plan to make the intersection safe and welcoming for all users.

Sheridan Neighborhood Organization (Approved)

Shared Parking Signage

SNO proposes using up to \$10,000 of our \$45,000 of designated Neighborhood Priority Funds for 2012 - 2013 on signage for shared parking for neighborhood businesses. The proposal was made on August 26th and voted on approved by the SNO board and Sheridan community at our September 23rd monthly community meeting. This proposal is further implementation of the Arts Avenue Business Opportunities strategy (Arts and Business 1.5, page 19) of the Sheridan NRP Phase II Plan.

St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization (Approved)

Emerald Ash Bore Mitigation

Carry out efforts with the Park Board to treat Emerald Ash Borer infected trees, after developing a plan for which to remove, which to replace and which to treat. Select approximately 20% of public ash trees to treat, focus on areas with highly dense ash population and Gateway or sentinel trees.

Waite Park Community Council (Approved)

Crime Prevention and Public Safety

Continue and expand efforts such as security rebate programs, support of block club organizations, National Night Out promotion, regular communication with the Second Precinct and Crime Prevention Specialists, crime activity awareness efforts, and safety education.

Improve Public Spaces

Bolster public spaces for families and the neighborhood overall through service or beautification projects in collaboration with those who have a natural connection to or expertise in these areas such as community gardeners, park and school users, etc..

Neighborhood Identity

Strengthen Waite Park identity and visibility by being present and distributing information at as many Northeast functions as possible, and continue promoting participation in events throughout Northeast Minneapolis.

Promote Homeownership and Upkeep

Promote owner-occupancy and home improvement through rebates, low- to no-interest loans, homeowner engagement, outreach to "problem properties," workshops that educate residents on home upkeep topics, or events in which experts are available to provide advice to homeowners.

SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS:

SUN Neighborhoods (In process of being approved)

This Neighborhood Priority Plan was developed collaboratively by the following seven neighborhood organizations: Bancroft Neighborhood Association, Bryant Neighborhood Organization, Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization, Corcoran Neighborhood Organization, Longfellow Community Council, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association and Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association.

Multi-Family Housing

Assess and improve multifamily housing and to equip and activate its tenants. Access governmental and nonprofit resources to improve the quality of housing in our neighborhoods

Programmatic Equity from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Address a decline in MPRB responsiveness to our community’s demographic changes and desires for programming as well as cutbacks to park hours, program offerings and maintenance

Property Inspections

Improve responsiveness of the City’s Property Inspections work and communication.

Bancroft Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Bancroft Meridian Garden

Bring the Meridian Garden back to a warm, welcoming, usable space for the community through: removal of debris and overgrown plants, repair of the retaining wall, stabilization and reclamation of soil, planting of ground cover, and installation of trash receptacles.

Phillips West Neighborhood Organization (Approved)

Safety Partnerships

Continue partnerships that were built during NRP Phase I and II with the Midtown Safety Center, Allina, 3rd precinct police and other organizations in the neighborhood.

SOUTHWEST MINNEAPOLIS

Armatage Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Community Safety and Noise Reduction Efforts

Work with existing city programs or create new neighborhood programs to provide information, training, and equipment to promote both public and personal safety.

Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Mitigate Adverse Impacts of Southwest LRT

CIDNA and its Transportation Committee will coordinate the neighborhood's response to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SW LRT) and other future SW LRT efforts to mitigate adverse impacts of the location of the SW LRT line through Cedar-Isles-Dean.

East Calhoun Community Organization (Approved)

Environmental Improvement Projects

Identify environmental organizations willing to pursue environmental improvement project in partnership with East Calhoun residents.

East Isles Residents Association (Approved)

Improve Parks and Green Spaces

Engage with the Park Board to explore opportunities and to discuss how the neighborhood can help leverage resources to support and protect the vibrancy of the neighborhood's local parks.

Fulton Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Fulton Farmers Market

Support the Fulton Farmers Market by assisting the market with promotion. Possible activities include, but are not limited to, marketing techniques such as banners, child-designed yard signs, interactive art projects, and a larger scale object that is an attention draw.

Hale, Page, Diamond Lake (In process of approval)

Building Community

HPDL plans and coordinates two significant events each year for the neighborhood. The Frost Fest event happens in January and is a family event that includes games, ice skating, sleigh rides, a DJ, and craft projects. The Hockey Association runs the concessions as a fundraiser for their program. In addition local businesses donate items for a door prize drawing. Average attendance for this event is 400. The second event of the year is Picnic in the Park. The event is on its 21st year and is a staple in the neighborhood.

Commercial Development

The HPDL board has worked hard to revitalize the business association in the neighborhood. They have done a rebrand and are now called the Diamond Lake Community Alliance. They have completed a website redesign and have elected officers to lead the group. They are continuing to grow and reach out to home based businesses in the area. HPDL is also going to have 3 Farmer's Markets in our neighborhood in the summer of 2014. We are working with Kingfield Farmer's Market to make this project happen.

Crime and Safety

The Crime and Safety Committee of HPDL is a group of 7 volunteers who work closely with the Minneapolis Police on crime issues in our neighborhood. HPDL is a low crime area and we work hard to get information out to residents when there is an issue. The Crime and Safety Committee is present at our events in the neighborhood and passes out safety items such as blinkies for bike riding and running at dusk, keychain flashlights, and safety whistles. They also hold an annual meeting in March to discuss the crime issues and preventative measures. The Minneapolis Police are in attendance at that meeting along with our City Councilmember. A major project completed in 2013 was the painting of the mural on Aqualand, a local business who has had problems with graffiti in the past. This mural project was collaboration with local high school art students, local businesses, and many others. In 2014 the crime and safety team will work on graffiti abatement and look to install wrappers on several electrical boxes in the neighborhood.

Environment

HPDL coordinates an Earth Day event each year at Pearl Park and Todd Park in cooperation with the City of Minneapolis and the Park Board. On average we have 60 people attend to help clean up the public green spaces in the neighborhood. We also financially support two community gardens in our neighborhood that are cultivated by 6 to 10 volunteers. In 2014, the HPDL Environmental group will be organizing a composting program for the neighborhood that will include education, a locked dumpster for compost, and working with local businesses to support the project.

Parks and Recreation

The center of our community is Pearl Park. HPDL has been very involved in the past through our NRP money in getting improvements made to the park. We work closely with the park staff and with PIRC to support the programs at the park and the improvements and needs they may have.

HPDL is very interesting in upgrading the main sign at Pearl Park in 2014 along with working with the Park Board to renovate Triangle Park.

Kenny Neighborhood Association (Approved)

Neighborhood Signage

Improve and expand neighborhood signage to identify the Kenny Neighborhood.

Kenwood Isles Area Association (Approved)

Neighborhood Livability Projects

Projects may be directed toward, but are not limited to, environmental improvements; increased neighborhood safety; increased pedestrian activity; strengthened neighborhood cohesiveness; improved neighborhood communications.

Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (Approved)

Maintain and Enhance our Urban Forest

Work with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) to to increase and enhance the urban forest at Linden Hills Park.

54th and Lyndale (In process of approval)

The following four neighborhoods participated in developing this Neighborhood Priority Plan: Kenny Neighborhood Association, Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association, Tangletown Neighborhood Association and Windom Community Council.

54th and Lyndale

NCR will work with neighborhoods and Public Works to facilitate communication on development of Special Service District at 54th and Lyndale.