Community Engagement Task Force

Dotmocracy Results 8/15/07 and 8/22/07

Minneapolis Core Principles of Community Engagement:

1. Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process. (17-0-0)

(vote of 8/15)

2. Community engagement should be a **fundamental value** and should be part of the regular culture of how things are done. (17-0-0)

(vote of 8/15)

3. Community engagement should be **consistent** regardless of who you are or who is in charge at any given time. (10-1-6)

(vote of 8/15)

4. Public participation includes the promise that the public's **contribution will influence the decision.** (7-1-8)

(vote of 8/15)

Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will be thoughtfully considered (13-1-0)

(vote of 8/22)

5. Engagement should happen as **early in the process** as possible - before momentum is difficult to redirect. (15-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

6. All participants should be humble and open to different viewpoints—**all views should be "thoughtfully considered."** (14-0-3)

(vote of 8/15)

All participants should be humble and open to different viewpoints—~~all views should be thoughtfully considered~~ (8-0-6)

(vote of 8/22)

7. Community engagement should include a **deliberative process** of weighing pros and cons. (17-0-0)

(vote of 8/15)

8. Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by **recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants,** including decision makers. (10-1-4)

(vote of 8/15)

Tracking

Line #1 approval – **100%**

Line #2 approval – **100%**

Line #3 approval – **59%**

Line #4 original approval 44% - replaced with new language on 8/22

Line #4 approval **- 93%**

Line #5 approval – **88%**

Line #6 original approval 82% - voted to remove "thoughtfully considered." on 8/22.

Line #6 approval **– 57%**

Line #7 approval – **100%**

Line #8 approval – **67%**

9. Engagement should be **about what the community needs** not only about what the city needs input on at any given time. (11-1-2)

Line #9 approval – **79%**

10. The process must be fair—not everyone gets their way, but **everyone has a place at the table.** (12-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #10 approval – **86%**

11. Communication must be **two-way**. (14-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #11 approval – **88%**

12. Notifications should be **broad**. (12-0-3)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #12 approval – **80%**

13. **Formal and informal** relationships should be identified, recognized and valued. (9-0-5)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #13 approval – **64%**

14. The city should **coordinate with other jurisdictions**, such as parks, schools and libraries, on community engagement. (15-0-1)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #14 approval – **94%**

15. Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision. (13-1-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #15 approval – **81%**

16. Potential community engagers should be **creative** in their techniques to gain participation. (14-2-0)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #16 approval – **88%**

17. Efforts should be made to identify barriers and **make the path to participation easier** for those who are least likely or able to participate. (13-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #17 approval – **87%**

18. Resources should be allocated or available to groups with community engagement mandates. (9-3-4)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #18 approval – **56%**

19. Groups that receive resources to provide participation should have **accountability and measurable outcomes** including how the group is representative. (13-0-3)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #19 approval – **81%**

20. Public participation seeks **input from participants in designing how they participate**. (10-0-6)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #20 approval – **63%**

21. There should be **established expectations and roles**. (14-0-3)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #21 approval – **82%**

22. There should be **clear expectations and mutual accountability** for core principles. (15-0-1)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #22 approval – **94%**

23. Public participation **provides participants with the information they need** to participate in a meaningful way. (14-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #23 approval – **88%**

24. There should be a **systematic way to regulate** community engagement—a clear understanding of what will be communicated and how. (6-0-11)

(vote of 8/15)

There should be a consistent and predictable system for sharing information needed for informed community engagement. (10-0-4)

(vote of 8/22)

Line #24 original approval 35% - replaced with new language on 8/22.

Line #24 approval **– 71%**

25. Communication should be **well-defined, timely, fair, clear and transparent**. (17-0-0)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #25 approval – **100%**

26. Communities should be **made aware of how decisions will affect them**. (16-0-1)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #26 approval – **94%**

27. **Legal requirement** for notice should be clearly stated and understood by all. (14-0-3)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #27 approval – **82%**

28. Public participation **communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.** (14-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #28 approval – **88%**

29. There should be two-way **follow-up to "close the loop"** about what happened and why. (17-0-0)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #29 approval – **100%**

Task Force Recommendations

30. Document the value of and commitment to community engagement by approving "Minneapolis Core Principals of Community Engagement." (14-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #30 approval – **88%**

31. Develop more formals way to include independent government boards in the community engagement system (ex. School Board, Park Board, County, etc.)(16-0-1)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #31 approval – **94%**

32. Informally connect with the County, schools, parks, and libraries by inviting them to community organization meetings. (7-1-9)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #32 approval – **41%**
Voted 8/15 to strike line #32

33. Develop a system for citywide engagement regarding citywide issues. (14-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #33 approval – **88%**

34. Develop a system to coordinate input from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program to City departments. (15-0-3)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #34 approval – **83%**

35. Develop a system to get increased citizen input into the planning process. (17-0-0)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #35 approval – **100%**

36. Develop a system to allocate resources to organizations that are asked to engage the community. (11-0-6)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #36 approval – **65%**

37. Approve "Characteristics of organizations that can receive funding to engage the community." (8-3-6)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #37 original approval 47% - reword vote on 8/22.

Line #37 approval – **71%**

Approve "Characteristics of organizations that can receive resources to engage the community." (10-0-4)

(vote of 8/22)

38. Develop a system of accountability for organizations that receive funding to engage the community. (16-0-2)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #38 approval – **89%**

39. Utilize and support current community engagement projects and initiatives including the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. (12-0-5)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #39 approval – **71%**

40. Formally integrate block clubs into the community engagement process and consider an outreach plan to new block residents – welcome packets, welcome teams/committees. (5-2-10)

~~Formally integrate block clubs into the community engagement process and~~ (vote of 8/15)

~~consider an outreach plan to new block residents – welcome packets, welcome~~

(vote of 8/22)

~~teams/committees.~~ (13-0-1)

Line #40 original approval 29% - vote on 8/22 to strike from report

Line #40 approval (to strike) – **93%**

41. Host an annual or biennieal gathering/celebration of the community that includes

community organizations, city departments, libraries, schools and parks. (5-2-9)

Line #41 approval – **31%**
Voted 8/15 to strike line #41

42. Implement a system of field hearings – hold more meetings at times and locations that are convenient to the affected community. (16-0-1)

Line #42 approval – **94%**

43. Identify or create locations around the city for meetings, etc. (17-0-0)

Line #43 approval – **100%**

44. Require all partners involved in the community engagement process to incorporate the Minneapolis Core Principles of Community Engagement in their work. (9-1-5)

Line #44 approval – **60%**

45. Seek input about and include community engagement partners in decisions regarding changes to the community engagement system. (17-0-0)

Line #45 approval – **100%**

46. Create a department or commission for public engagement within the City of Minneapolis with adequate staffing. (5-3-9)

Line #46 approval – **29%**
(identified as a discussion item for 8/22)

47. Provide more information "on demand" (more video recordings of meetings.) (7-1-9)

Line #47 approval – **41%**
(identified as a discussion item for 8/22)

48. Utilize technology, including the Web and WIFI, to provide information to encourage and increase informed community engagement. (12-1-4)

Line #48 approval – **71%**

49. Create a central location that informs people of the various avenues and resources available for participation. (10-1-6)

Line #49 approval – **59%**

49b.) Develop a system for utilizing existing community events and groups (such as neighborhood events and block clubs) to disseminate information. (5-1-8)

Line 49b vote on 8/22 to add line to report

Line 49b approval – **36 %**

50. Establish policies that require reporting the results of a decision, particularly to those who provide input. (14-1-2)

Line #50 approval – **82%**

Characteristics of organizations that can receive funding to engage the community

51. The City may provide resources including administrative funding, training or staff assistance to eligible groups that desire to work to engage the community. (11-1-5)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #51 approval – **65%**

52. Represent a **geographically defined neighborhood** (in its entirety) within Minneapolis as identified by the most current Minneapolis Communities and Neighborhoods Map as amended and approved by the City Council, *or be another type of organization that represents a community, but not necessarily geographically. (7-0-9)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #52 approval – **43%** (identified as a discussion item for 8/22)

53. Represent, and **provide for the participation of, the interests of all segments of the entire community**, including, but not limited to, homeowners, renters, property owners, business owners, immigrants, non-English speakers, low-income residents and communities of color. Groups that primarily represent the interests of one segment of the community or concentrate primarily on one issue are not eligible. (8-0-9)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #53 approval – **47%** (identified as a discussion item for 8/22)

54. The group must be able to demonstrate how it is representative. (9-1-6)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #54 approval – **56%**

55. The group must incorporate the Minneapolis Core Principles of Community Engagement in their work. (11-1-4)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #55 approval – **69%**

56. Ensure that membership is open with **no barriers to participation** or membership (such as membership dues, requiring attendance at a certain number of meetings before voting rights are conferred, etc.). (13-0-5)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #56 approval – **72%**

57. **Hold regular open meetings** and take positive steps to encourage all interested parties in any issue to attend and participate. Also, all written information of the organization (including books, minutes, membership lists, etc.) must be available for review by any member of the organization. A group may deviate from this rule only in case of labor and legal disputes. (8-0-9)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #57 approval – **47%** (identified as a discussion item for 8/22)

58. The group **must be incorporated** (or identify an appropriate fiscal agent) and have adopted by-laws. The group must also have a grievance procedure by which its members may have their concerns addressed by the organization, and a conflict of interest policy and procedures. (15-0-1)

(vote of 8/15)

Line #58 approval – **94%**

59. The group **must have a board of directors** elected annually by the membership of the organization. The board must represent a fair cross-section of the community; neighborhood residents must comprise no less than 60% of the organization's board. An elected board must be in place for a minimum of one year prior to the beginning of the

(vote of 8/15)

(vote of 8/15)

contract year to be considered eligible for funding. (10-0-7)

60. The group must have the **ability to properly manage and account for grant funds**. This includes, but is not limited to, being current on all reporting on previous grants.

(vote of 8/15)

(10-0-5)

Line #59 approval – **59%**

Line #60 approval – **67%**

Note: square voting dots, for example ■, indicate an absentee vote after the 8/15 meeting.