

Request for City Council Committee Action

Date: January 18, 2011

To: Community Development Committee
Referral to: Ways & Means / Budget Committee

Prepared by: Carsten Slostad (Phone 673-5150)

Approved by: Robert D. Miller, Director _____

Subject: CARAG NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Summary of the Request:

The CARAG neighborhood has completed their NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. It has been review by staff and external counsel and adopted by the NRP Policy Board. Final approval and funding is now being requested.

Recommendation:

1. Approve the CARAG NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, specifically those parts of the Plan that fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$636,557
2. Amend the 2011 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund 01 CNR 8900-800 (the NRP fund) by \$636,557 from existing fund balance;
3. Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement this request

January 18, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Goodman, Chair
Community Development Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Re: CARAG NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Dear Chairpersons Goodman and Hodges:

At its meeting on December 20, 2010 the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved the McKinley NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan and authorized \$636,557 in NRP Program Funds to implement this plan.

A draft of the CARAG Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan was circulated electronically to public staff on June 1, 2010, and their comments and suggestions have been received and incorporated.

During the course of implementing the CARAG NRP Phase I Plan, approved in 1999, the neighborhood initiated many innovative programs, including a successful revolving home loan program, safety programs and police bike patrols, the Jefferson School Technology Center and auditorium, and pedestrian lighting. Lowry Hill East also made significant investments in collaborative projects such as streetscape improvements on Hennepin Avenue and restoration of Lake of the Isles.

The CARAG Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan devotes 78% of its Phase II allocation to housing. In addition to funding for home improvements and other housing projects, the neighborhood is allocating NRP resources towards improved neighborhood safety and livability, alternative transportation, economic development, resident participation, reforestation and gardening, and initiatives to improve Bryant Square Park and support services for senior citizens.

On December 20, 2010 the Policy Board passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS: On April 19, 2004 the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved a Phase II allocation for the CARAG neighborhood of \$636,557 based on the Phase II revenues projected for NRP;

WHEREAS: The neighborhood conducted a Phase II neighborhood planning process that began in 2009 and has submitted a CARAG Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan that requests a Phase II allocation of \$636,557;

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WHEREAS: The CARAG neighborhood has allocated at 78.4% (\$499,000) of their Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan to housing programs, projects, services and activities;

RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board hereby accepts and adopts the CARAG Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board hereby authorizes the Director to request that the City Council and Mayor [a] approve the CARAG NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, and specifically those parts of the Plan that fall under City jurisdiction, for their Phase II allocation of \$636,557; [b] amend the 2011 General Appropriation Resolution to increase the Fund CNR0 (NRP Fund) by \$636,557 from existing fund balance for implementation of the approved Plan; and [c] authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement the activities above.

Pursuant to this resolution, I make the following recommendations for consideration by your committees:

Recommendation:

1. Approve the CARAG NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, specifically those parts of the Plan that fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$636,557;
2. Amend the 2011 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund 01 CNR 8900-800 (the NRP fund) by \$636,557 from existing fund balance;
3. Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement this request

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller
Director