

Request for City Council Committee Action

Date: July 24, 2007

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

Prepared by: Carsten Slostad (Phone 673-5150)

Approved by: Robert D. Miller, Director _____

Subject: Hennepin County “Second 7.5%” NRP Funds for Bryant

Summary of the Request:

Approve the use of up to \$10,000 of the County’s “Second 7.5%” NRP funds which have been allocated for the Bryant Neighborhood to provide funding for the Urban Arts Academy. Make this approval retroactive to January 1, 2006.

Recommendation:

1. Approve the use of \$10,000 of the County’s “Second 7.5%” NRP funds to support the Urban Arts Academy programs in the Bryant Neighborhood retroactive to January 1, 2006.
2. Amend the City of Minneapolis 2007 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund CRN-NRP Program Fund (CNRO-890-3350) appropriation by \$10,000;
3. Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

July 24, 2007

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

The Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Re: Hennepin County "Second 7.5%" NRP Funds for Bryant

Dear Chairpersons Goodman and Ostrow:

At its meeting on June 25, 2007 the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved the use of up to \$10,000 of Hennepin County "Second 7.5% NRP funds to support programs provided by the Urban Arts Academy in the Bryant Neighborhood and made their approval retroactive to January 1, 2006.

On December 13, 2005 the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, at the request of the Bryant Neighborhood Organization, approved the use of up to \$10,000 of the County's "Second 7.5%" NRP funds which had been allocated for the Bryant Neighborhood to provide funding for the Urban Arts Academy. The Academy provides programs serving children and families to Bryant residents.

The funds were spent in 2006, as contracted, on programs offered as part of the Family and Community Arts program of the Academy and more than 200 residents participated in the offered programs. Unfortunately, the Policy Board was never asked to act on this appropriation of the County's "Second 7.5%" funds and Policy Board and City Council approval is required for these funds to be expended. The issue is now before us because the Urban Arts Academy has submitted their invoice for reimbursement of the expenses associated with providing these activities for Bryant. No payment can be made on this contract until the Policy Board and City Council approves the use of the funds.

The activities and services provided by the Academy were priorities of the Bryant Neighborhood and this expenditure is an appropriate use of these funds. The failure to provide approval prior to the execution of the contract with the Urban Arts Academy was an unfortunate oversight that must now be corrected.

On June 25, 2007 the Policy Board passed the following resolution:

The Honorable Lisa Goodman
The Honorable Paul Ostrow
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BE IT RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board (Board) approves the use of up to \$10,000 of Hennepin County "Second 7.5%" NRP Funds to provide funding for the Urban Arts Academy in support of children and family programs offered by the Academy in the Bryant Neighborhood,

RESOLVED FURTHER: That this approval is retroactive to January 1, 2006 based on the action taken by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners on December 13, 2005.

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

Recommendation:

1. Approve the use of \$10,000 of the County's "Second 7.5%" NRP funds to support the Urban Arts Academy programs in the Bryant Neighborhood retroactive to January 1, 2006.
2. Amend the City of Minneapolis 2007 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund CRN-NRP Program Fund (CNRO-890-3350) appropriation by \$10,000;
3. Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller
Director