

## **Request for City Council Committee Action**

Date: June 19, 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: Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan**

### **Summary of the Request:**

The Audubon Park Neighborhood has completed their NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. It has been reviewed by NRP's legal counsel and city staff, reviewed by staff of participating jurisdictions and adopted by the NRP Policy Board. The plan requests a total NRP appropriation of \$630,862.

### **Recommendation:**

- 1) Approve the Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan ("Plan") attached to this report, specifically those parts of the Plan which fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$630,862;
- 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 \$215,552;
- 3) Refer \$404,810 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within CNR0 for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% of the amount approved for the Plan shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan;
- 4) Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

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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: Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan**

Dear Chairpersons Goodman and Ostrow:

At its meeting on May 21, 2007 the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved and authorized funding for the Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan for a total appropriation of \$266,533.

In August 2002 the ANA began planning for Phase II using the information from the Phase I review and preliminary data collected through survey's, focus groups, and interviews. In the summer of 2003 the NRP Task Force reviewed results from the outreach and information gathering strategies. At the 2003 fall annual meeting the NRP Task Force reviewed their progress in developing the Phase II NAP with the neighborhood. Each resident completed a report card grading the Task Force's progress and additional resident input was generated. ANA conducted group meetings with recent immigrants and in-person surveys with adult English as a Second Language (ESL) students, sent a survey to a sampling of neighborhood renters and contacted Block Clubs for their input. At the June 2004 monthly meeting residents discussed how to distribute their NRP Phase II allocation among the developing goal areas. Neighborhood priorities were considered and funding levels were assigned

The Policy Board approved the Audubon Neighborhood Participation Agreement on May 7, 2004 and authorized the use of \$10,500 from the Phase II Plan Development Fund for staff, printing and postage. ANA was then able to dedicate resources to continuing their Phase II planning efforts. Consultant services were secured to draft the Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan.

The major strategy in the Phase II Plan is the Home Improvement Program. The program will address immediate and future housing needs with the focus on properties that are or may become substandard, have health or safety issues, and other factors that may contribute to their deterioration. Commercial investment, Audubon Park improvements, NE Middle School clinic, and safety concerns are also addressed.

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On May 21, 2007 the Policy Board passed the following resolution:

**WHEREAS:** On April 19, 2004, the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board ("Board") approved a Phase II allocation for the Audubon Park neighborhood of \$630,862 based on the Phase II revenues projected for NRP; and

**WHEREAS:** The Audubon Park neighborhood conducted an extensive and inclusive Phase II neighborhood action plan development process; and

**WHEREAS:** The Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan requests a Phase II allocation at their guideline of \$630,862 and dedicates 70% of that allocation to housing programs, projects, services and activities.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board ("Board") hereby accepts and adopts the Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan dated October 2006; and

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That the Board hereby authorizes the Director to request that the City Council and Mayor [a] approve the Audubon Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, and specifically those parts of the Plan that fall under City jurisdiction, for their Phase II allocation of up to \$630,862; [b] amend the 2007 General Appropriation Resolution to increase the Fund CNR0 (NRP Fund) by \$215,552 from existing fund balance for implementation of the approved Plan; [c] and authorize the appropriate City officers to reserve the remaining \$404,810 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within Fund CNR0 for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% of the amount approved for the Plan (\$431,103) shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan; and [d] 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 Audubon Park Neighborhood NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan ("Plan") attached to this report, specifically those parts of the Plan which fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$630,862;

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- 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 \$215,552;
- 3) Refer \$404,810 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within CNR0 for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% of the amount approved for the Plan shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan;
- 4) Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller  
Director