



**Request for City Council Committee Action  
From the Department of Community Planning & Economic Development**

Date: December 15, 2005

TO: Council Member Barbara Johnson, Ways and Means/Budget Committee

Presenters in Committee: Jonathan Palmer, Director (612) 673-5016

Approved by Chuck Lutz, Director, Economic Policy \_\_\_\_\_

**Subject:** Empowerment Zone Board Appointment Recommendation

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Empowerment Zone Executive Committee recommends the Reappointment of Arlene El-Amin and the appointment of Alicia Phillips to the Empowerment Zone Governance Board for 3-year terms expiring 9-20-08; and that the City reopen the process for a resident youth representative.

**Previous Directives:** N/A

**Financial Impact** (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.  
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

**Community Impact** <use any categories that apply>

Ward:

Neighborhood Notification:

City Goals:

Comprehensive Plan:

Zoning Code:

Living Wage/Job Linkage:

Other

**Background/Supporting Information**

Please see the attached for a full listing of the Empowerment Zone Board members. There are seven resident and six business representative appointments made by the City Council and other appointments that are made by the Mayor, Council President and Agency Director. The positions open are two of the six business/organization representatives, and one of the seven resident representatives which is also a young person residing in the EZ who is under 21 years of age. Arlene El-Amin has applied to be reinstated leaving space for two others. Of the other applicants, only two work in the Empowerment Zone. One is also a former resident of the Empowerment Zone. Of the two, Staff would recommend Alicia Phillips for appointment. She lived in the Empowerment Zone for 3½ years and currently works there on the Abbott Northwestern campus at the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation. She is very civically engaged and intimately aware of the challenges of the Empowerment Zone from both a resident and organizational perspective. No applications were received which filled the Youth Resident representative criteria. The Executive Committee recommends that the appointment should reopen to look for someone who fits the criteria.