



**Request for City Council Committee Action  
From the Offices of Council Members  
Paul Zerby and Gary Schiff**

Date: May 14, 2002

To: Community Development Committee

Referral to: Ways and Means Committee

**Subject: Applications for the Metropolitan Council Livable Communities Demonstration Account "Opportunity Grants"**

**Recommendation: Authorize the appropriate City officials to endorse the attached resolution in support of the Seward-Longfellow Greenway Corridor grant application to be submitted to the Metropolitan Council, seeking an Opportunity Grant of \$75,000. The Metropolitan Council requires the City to be the fiscal agent for any grant awards.**

Previous Directives: At their May 3, 2001 meeting, the City Council approved the submission of six other applications from the city.

Prepared or Submitted by  
Approved by  
Presenters in Committee

<p><b>Financial Impact</b> (Check those that apply)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget. (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires use of contingency or reserves</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other financial impact (Explain):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator</p>
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**Background/Supporting Information Attached**

The Metropolitan Council provides opportunity grants to fund local initiatives to develop project-specific and site-specific land use plans. Current funding in the amount of \$500,000 is available with maximum awards of \$75,000. This grant requires a one to one local contribution. The Metropolitan Council wishes to be a funding partner in

proposals that:

- Plan to demonstrate compact and connected land use patterns that are linked to transit where available, or build capacity for transit service, and support walkable neighborhoods.
- Propose a mix of uses, including a mix of housing types and costs, and an economic mix near commercial, civic or other uses that facilitate daily needs and community activities.
- Plan to protect and enhance natural resources.
- Show potential for evolving to projects eligible to receive future LCDA funding in the development category.

The Metropolitan Council has provided the attached resolution language to demonstrate the City's knowledge and participation as funding agent for the proposed projects.

Six projects were submitted. This application was not ready in time for the earlier council committee approval cycle.

**Seward-Longfellow Greenway Corridor**-The Seward and Longfellow neighborhoods request \$75,000 to bring together a broad group of stakeholders to develop a set of land use guidelines for the project area with the following guidelines:

- Better integration of divergent uses, especially residential/industrial
- Integration of Greenway as transit corridor and amenity with current land uses
- Increased density and intensity of uses in the project area, especially near the Greenway
- More ecologically sustainable uses in the project area
- More mixed use developments, including residential with commercial and residential with industrial
- Enhanced linkage between the Mississippi river gorge and Greenway as a habitat corridor

These land use guides will then be applied to specific sites within the project area with the goal of producing development concepts for those sites.

**AUTHORIZING APPLICATION  
FOR AN OPPORTUNITY GRANT THROUGH  
THE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS** the City of Minneapolis is a participant in the Livable Communities Acts' Housing Incentives Program for 2002 as determined by the Metropolitan Council, and is therefore eligible to make application for funds under the Livable Communities Demonstration Account; and

**WHEREAS** the City has identified a proposed project within the City that meets the Demonstration Account's purpose/s and criteria; and

**WHEREAS** the City has the institutional, managerial and financial capability to ensure adequate project administration; and

**WHEREAS** The City certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the contract agreements; and

**WHEREAS** the City Council of Minneapolis, Minnesota agrees to act as legal sponsor for the project contained in the opportunity grant application submitted on May 15, 2002,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Coordinator is hereby authorized to apply to the Metropolitan Council for this funding on behalf of the City of Minneapolis and to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the applicant.

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Mayor

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Clerk