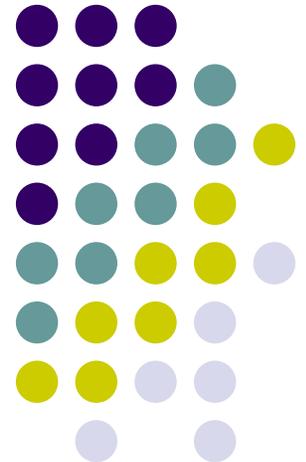


Community Engagement Report, Public Feedback & Next Steps



Summary presentation prepared by the
Office of the City Coordinator

April 2007



Introduction



- In May 2006, the City Council directed staff ***to summarize four years of previous community input, reports and recommendations*** on the subject of community engagement.
- When the report was completed in November 2006, the City Council and NRP Policy board decided to distribute the report, and ***to invite additional community input***, using a written survey and a series of public meetings.
- This presentation ***summarizes the November report, additional community input***, and ***proposed next steps*** for the Mayor and City Council to consider.

Definition of Community Engagement (CE)



- There are many possible definitions of community engagement, but there is broad agreement that our main objective is ***to empower people to influence decisions*** that shape their city and their lives.
- With that in mind, the definition that has been developed by the City and used in the CE Report is: ***community engagement always involves a city government decision.***
- Of course, ***community building, outreach and education activities*** are also important to the City.

Components of the City's Current CE System



Activities key to the City's current CE system:

- Activities of Elected Officials and their Offices
- Standing Committees of the City Council
- Formal Public Hearings of the City Council
- Official Advisory Boards and Commissions (over 50)
- Temporary Advisory Groups or Committees
- Citywide Communication and CE Activities
- Citywide and Small-Area Planning Activities
- Department-, Program- or Project-Specific Activities
- Neighborhood Citizen Participation Program Activities
- Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Activities

How Frequently Different CE Activities are Used



	<i>Citywide Decision</i>	<i>Community Decision</i>	<i>Local Decision</i>
Activities of Elected Officials	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes
Standing Council Committees	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently
Formal Public Hearings	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely
Standing Advisory Boards	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely
Temporary Advisory Groups	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely
Citywide Comm./CE Activities	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely
Citywide/Small-Area Planning	Sometimes	Frequently	Sometimes
Dept/Project-Specific Activities	Rarely	Sometimes	Sometimes
Citizen Participation Program	Rarely	Sometimes	Sometimes
NRP Program Activities	Rarely	Sometimes	Sometimes

Two Observations about the Current System



There is a general logic to the current system:

- Citywide decisions are ***more likely*** to involve public hearings, advisory groups and citywide activities, while local decisions are ***more likely*** to involve only project-specific and neighborhood-level engagement activities. ***That makes sense.***

Beyond this general logic, nothing is certain:

- Community engagement activities, particularly the type and frequency, are ***very difficult to predict*** creating a confusing system. ***That is a problem.***





Previous Community Input

The CE Report summarizes four years of previous input that the City has received from a variety of community stakeholders. It is organized according to eight principles of effective engagement identified at a City Council Study Session in July 2003:

- *Decision processes must be clear, open and predictable*
- *Roles and authority must be clear and well understood*
- *Communication must be two-way and consistent*
- *Representative participation is needed at all levels*
- *Participants at all levels must be held accountable*
- *Genuine engagement (not just input) is essential*
- *Local and citywide plans should be related, consistent*
- *Change must occur to build trust and participation*

Summary Recommendations



While there are conflicting views expressed in the report, there is widespread agreement about five broad recommendations.

In order to improve its community engagement system, most internal and external stakeholders agree the City of Minneapolis should:

- 1. Explain the decision-making authority for each type of decision.*
- 2. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of all official advisory groups.*
- 3. Establish “base-line” CE expectations for each type of decision.*
- 4. Develop accessible, consistent, two-way communication systems.*
- 5. Coordinate planning and priority-setting with other jurisdictions.*



Additional Community Input

City and NRP staff coordinated efforts to gather additional input from the community by:

- ***Distributing the report*** to neighborhood groups and other community stakeholders, and inviting written comments
- ***Conducting a community survey*** yielding **847 responses**
- ***Hosting eight public meetings*** with **390 participants**
 - Notices delivered to 60 agencies and businesses serving people of color and New American populations,
 - Flyers translated and three meetings interpreted simultaneously in Spanish, Somali, Oromo, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Lao
 - City of Minneapolis, NRP, and neighborhood organization websites
- ***Inviting written comments***, received from 59 individuals and groups





Summaries Available

- Community meetings

Received comments and feedback at the following community meetings:

- Van Dusen Conference
- Burroughs School
- Plaza Verde
- Minnehaha United Methodist
- Marcy Open School
- Firefighters Hall & Museum
- North Regional Library
- Mill City Museum

Community input in small group session transcriptions, summaries, and written comments can be viewed at:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement.asp

- Survey

Report of results

[Results of Community Engagement Survey](#)

- NRP Staff report to NRP Policy Board

4-page summary of additional community input

www.nrp.org/R2/AboutNRP/PB/PBAgenda2007/StaffReps/SR20070326_61.pdf

Full report of additional community input

www.nrp.org/R2/AboutNRP/PB/PBAgenda2007/StaffReps/SR20070326_62.pdf



Additional Recommendations

This additional community input **validated** the five summary recommendations in the CE Report and **identified** some new ones:

6. *Evaluate the effectiveness of the current system; build on the strengths and address the weaknesses (don't just start over).*
7. *Recognize the value of neighborhood groups and NRP, especially as a way for communities to create and implement ideas.*
8. *Recognize the changing context for this discussion, including demographic, technology, financial and tax considerations.*
9. *Address future funding, but also the roles and expectations of neighborhood groups and NRP, as parts of the CE system.*

Observations



- Fortunately, ***there is a lot of common ground*** among all of the recommendations the City has received about improving its community engagement system to date;
- However, there are also significant questions about the future role of ***geographic community organizations*** – including neighborhood groups and ***non-geographic community organizations***, including ethnic and cultural groups – as official partners in the community engagement system;
- And, there are significant questions about the ***focus, funding and governance of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program*** after the final year of authorized funding in 2009.

Next Steps :

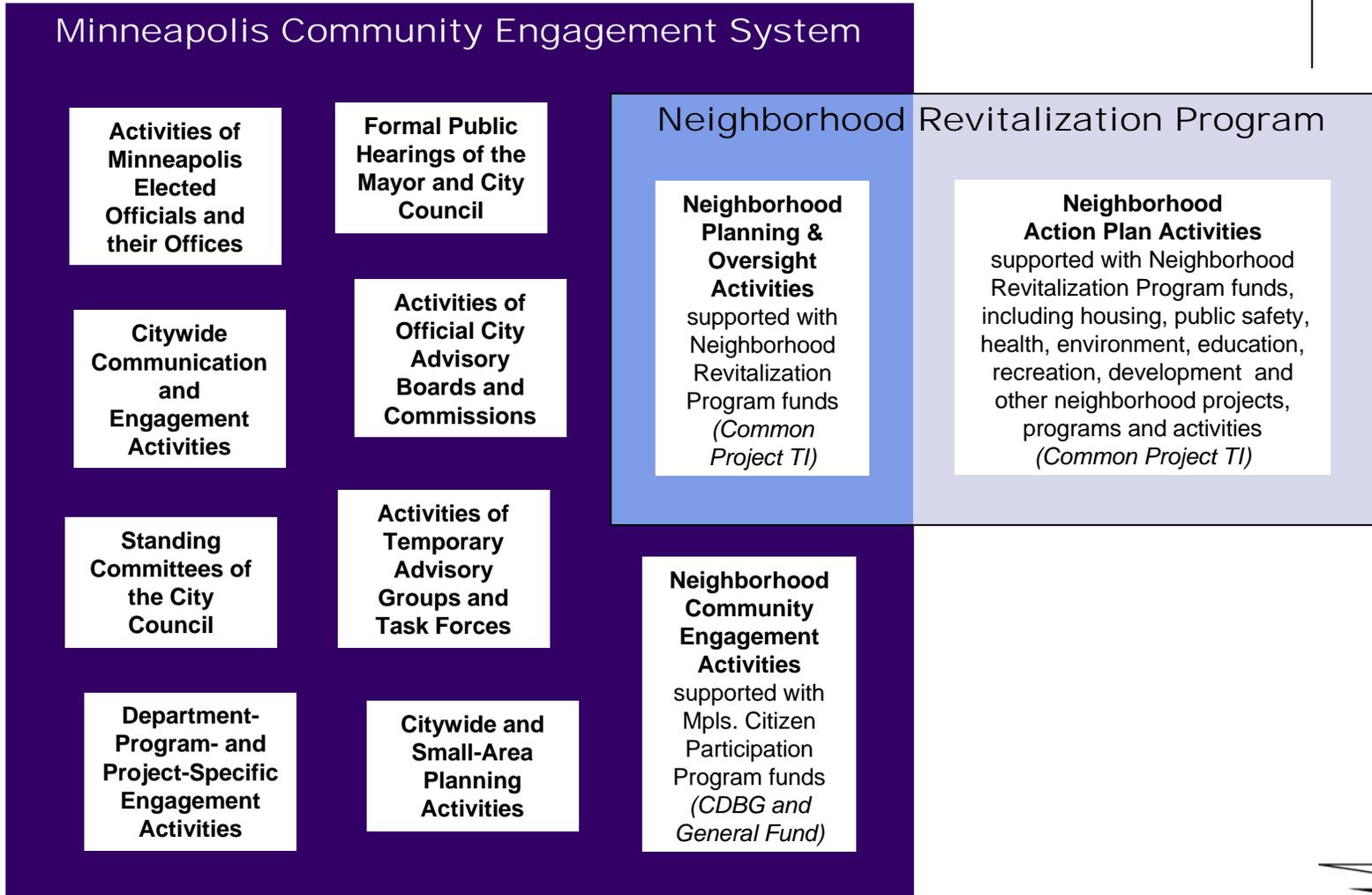
Proposed Three-Track Process



- In order to organize the next steps effectively, the City Coordinator has developed a three-track process that:
 - *Allows the City to proceed with “consensus recommendations” that reflect the common ground among all stakeholders;*
 - *Engages community organizations and other stakeholders in resolving questions around their roles in the CE system; and*
 - *Engages stakeholders and policy makers in resolving questions about the future focus, funding and governance of the NRP.*
- This process reflects the relationship of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) to the community engagement system as a whole, as illustrated on the following slide.



Relationship of the NRP to the CE System



**Track 1: Implementation of CE
Consensus Recommendations**

**Track 2: Role of
Community Orgs.**

**Track 3: NRP Action Plan
Activities after 2009**

Minneapolis Community Engagement System

**Activities of
Minneapolis
Elected
Officials and
their Offices**

**Formal Public
Hearings of the
Mayor and City
Council**

**Citywide
Communication
and
Engagement
Activities**

**Activities of
Official City
Advisory
Boards and
Commissions**

**Standing
Committees of
the City
Council**

**Activities of
Temporary
Advisory
Groups and
Task Forces**

**Department-
Program- and
Project-Specific
Engagement
Activities**

**Citywide and
Small-Area
Planning
Activities**

Neighborhood Revitalization Program

**Neighborhood
Planning &
Oversight
Activities**

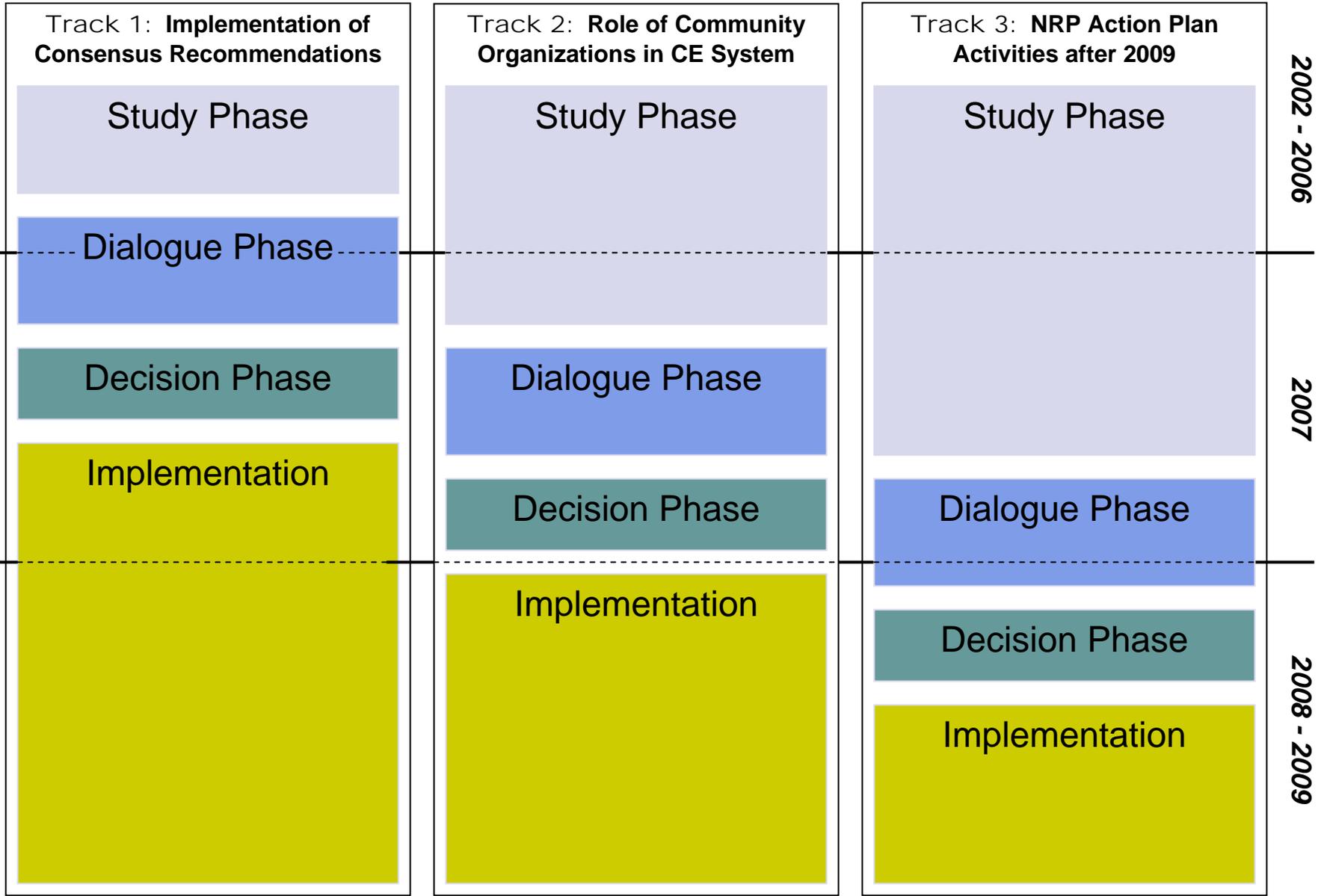
supported with
Neighborhood
Revitalization
Program funds
*(Common
Project TI)*

**Neighborhood
Action Plan Activities**

supported with Neighborhood
Revitalization Program funds,
including housing, public safety,
health, environment, education,
recreation, development and
other neighborhood projects,
programs and activities
(Common Project TI)

**Neighborhood
Community
Engagement
Activities**

supported with
Mpls. Citizen
Participation
Program funds
*(CDBG and
General Fund)*





Discussion & Action Items

- ***Approval of proposed work plan*** for CE system improvements and related NRP decisions
- ***Track 1: Committee action on specific recommendations*** and related staff direction
- *Track 2: Preliminary discussion of charge and membership of Task Force (for action on 5/10)*
- *Track 3: Preliminary discussion of scope and content of background information (for action on 5/10)*

Proposed Action Today:

Approve the proposed work plan



Track 1: <i>Implement Consensus Recommendations for Immediate Improvements to CE System</i>	Track 2: <i>Define Roles and Funding of Neighborhood, Community and Cultural Organizations as parts of CE System</i>	Track 3: <i>Determine the Focus, Funding and Governance of NRP Program and Action Plan Activities after 2009</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Committee of the Whole (CW) recommends which consensus recommendations to implement and gives related staff direction [CW 4/26] ▪ City Council (CC) approves selected consensus recommendations and staff direction [CC 5/11] ▪ Assigned staff begins work with internal and external stakeholders to implement consensus recommendations approved by CC ▪ Staff informs the Mayor and the Ways and Means/Budget Committee of implementation activities related to consensus recommendations that might affect the 2008 budget [WM/B 6/25] ▪ Mayor considers CE elements that may be included in recommended 2008 budget, and presents recommended budget to CC [CC 8/9?] ▪ Staff continues to work with stakeholders to implement consensus recommendations that are possible within scope of the 2007 budget ▪ CC considers and adopts 2008 budget, including approved CE elements [CC 12/21?] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CW recommends charge and membership of Task Force and related staff direction [CW 5/10] ▪ CC approves three-track work plan [CC 5/11] ▪ CC approves charge and membership of CE Task Force [CC 5/25] ▪ CE Task Force begins work and makes regular progress reports at CW [CW 5/24, 6/14, 6/28] ▪ Task Force presents report of preliminary recommendations [CW 7/19] and circulates report for public comment ▪ CE Task Force designs and facilitates community engagement process to present and gather community feedback about its preliminary recommendations ▪ Task Force considers feedback from community engagement process, finalizes recommendations and presents its final report to CC [CW 10/18] ▪ City considers Task Force recommendations as it begins development of 2009 budget in 2008 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CW recommends background information scope and gives related staff direction [CW 5/10] ▪ CC approves three-track work plan [CC 5/11] ▪ CC approves scope of background information to request and related staff direction [CC 5/25] ▪ Staff begins work preparing background information requested by CC ▪ Staff completes requested background information, presents final report to CC and makes information public [CW 10/18] ▪ CC convenes policy discussion with joint-powers partners to determine the focus, funding and governance of NRP after 2009 ▪ CC and partners jointly frame and adopt 2008 NRP legislative strategy [CC 12/21?]

Reference & Contact Information



- All of the reports and materials referenced in this presentation are available online at:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement.asp

- For additional information about community engagement activities of the City of Minneapolis, please contact:

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