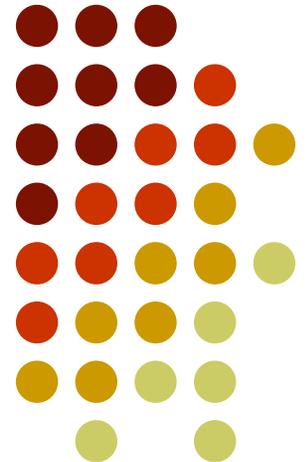


# Community Engagement Task Force (CETF)

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## Report and Recommendations

November 2007



# Three-Track Work Plan



**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*)

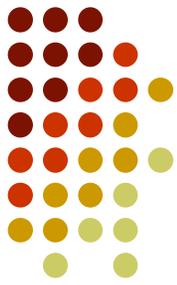
**Neighborhood  
Community  
Engagement  
Activities**  
supported with  
Mpls. Citizen  
Participation  
Program funds  
(*CDBG and  
General Fund*)



## Track 2 of a three-track process

- Define Roles and Funding (Support) of Neighborhood, Community & Cultural Organizations as parts of a CE System
- Engage community organizations and other stakeholders in resolving questions around their roles in the CE system

# Task Force Participants



Representatives from:

**6 Neighborhood organizations**

**2 Block clubs**

**3 Ethnic/cultural organizations\***

**2 Issue-focused organizations**

**2 Business associations**

**2 Community development corporations**

**1 Community engagement innovator**

**1 Civic participation advocate**

**2 At-large residents**

**21 *Voting participants***

**3 Council Members**

**1 Mayoral representative**

**5 City staff resources (various departments)**

**3 Task force staff support**

**2 Facilitators**

**14 *Non-voting participants***

*\* Due to personal circumstances, one member was unable to fulfill task force duties and respectfully withdrew his name.*



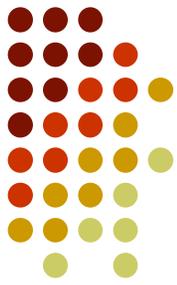
# Development of recommendations

## The Task Force:

- ***Met 12 times*** (June 27 – Sept. 12, 2007; 10/29 & 11/8)
  - The task force chose to extend their original commitment with four additional meetings
- ***Sought community input on a draft report*** as a second phase of creating recommendations
  - Initial draft creation and community comment were viewed as two equally important components
- Reconvened to determine ***how community input was incorporated*** into the final CETF report
  - Deliberations of the final 2 meetings were dedicated only to responding to community input

# Development of recommendations

*continued*



- City Staff captured ***comments from all task force members*** to formulate the language of each recommendation
- ***Voting participants***, through discussions and votes, selected recommendations that reflected ***majority viewpoints***

# Community outreach on *draft* CETF report



CETF members, City staff, & elected officials sought input through various strategies:

- Regional community forums
- Email
- City boards & commissions
- Business groups
- Neighborhood groups
- Roundtable discussions
- One-on-one discussions
- Existing community activities such as health fairs

***All community input was treated equally whether it was through a community forum or an email.***

# In response to what we have heard



- **City departments should collaborate (on outreach)**
  - Held a community forum in the same location with staggered times
- **Meet people where they are already meeting**
  - CETF members & City staff attended already scheduled meetings (neighborhood meetings, business association meetings)
  - CETF members and City Multicultural Services staff sought input through conversations with people in the Somali, Latino, and Hmong communities
  - Sought input from specific City boards & commissions
- **Word of mouth is a valuable communication tool**
  - Interview in Somali on Cable TV (MTN channel16)

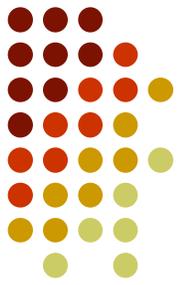
# CETF Report



The CETF report contains:

- ***Core principles*** of community engagement
  - Includes a recommendation to formally adopt
- ***Definition*** of community engagement
  - Includes a recommendation to formally adopt
  - Builds on current city definitions and incorporates Core Principals of community engagement
- ***Characteristics of organizations*** eligible to receive City resources for community engagement activities
  - Includes a recommendation to formally adopt
  - Built on the current Citizen Participation Program guidelines
- ***Almost three dozen other recommendations*** related to the seven core principles of community engagement

# Task Force Assumptions



Assumptions that ground these recommendations:

- **Build** on what we have
- Priority was given to **what** improvements to make over **how** to implement them.
- **Resident involvement** in improving the community engagement process is necessary.
- Good community engagement requires **dedicated resources** within the City and community organizations
- **Political commitment and leadership** is essential to making improvements to community engagement
- The CETF report is a **first step** in a much more extensive effort
- Community Engagement with **community organizations** is an **essential part** of a healthy city

# Core Principles of Community Engagement



- Right to be involved
- Contributions will be thoughtfully considered
- Recognize the needs of all
- Seek out involvement
- Participants design participation
- Adequate information
- Known effect of participation

# CETF Recommendation

## *Highlights:*

- ***Broaden the types of organizations*** eligible for CE resources to include other community groups.
- Require ***increased accountability*** when resources are allocated.
- Create a ***resident-based commission*** on community engagement.
- ***Allocate resources*** and staff for administration of ***adopted NRP action plans*** and contracts beyond 2009.
- Support ***increased communication*** that includes ***reporting results of a decision***, particularly those who provided input.
- ***Follow up work*** on funding and implementation should involve ample and diverse community input



# Input from the community

## *Highlights:*

Of the 36 recommendations in the final report, 15 were directly influenced by community input

- The City should incorporate ***quantifiable and measurable goals*** in its community engagement system to ***encourage and promote community engagement*** from department level to the individual employee level.
- The city should promote more collaboration and ***improved communication*** between ***community organizations and block clubs*** where their respective goals in community engagement align.
- The City should provide a forum where ***best practices*** can be shared... ***Peer support*** by those demonstrating best practices should be utilized.
- Provide the resources to support a ***variety of communication strategies*** known to reach residents directly.



# CETF Recommendation



## Adopt “Characteristics of organizations that can receive resources to engage the community”

- Built on the current Citizen Participation Program guidelines
- Identifies characteristics of organizations that would be eligible for resources *specifically to engage their community*
  - Emphasis on accountability, representation, & good communication



# CETF Recommendation

## Characteristics of organizations that can receive resources...

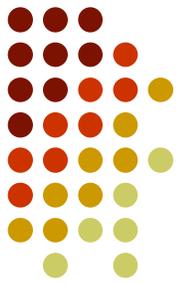
- Incorporate Core Principles
- Demonstrate how representative
- Ensure no barriers to participation
- Comply with all applicable laws, including open meetings
- Be incorporated with a representative board of directors
- Periodically inform City of constituency's priorities
- Have ability to manage and account for resources
- Inform community about how to participate
- Use inclusive deliberations

# Proposed Action Today

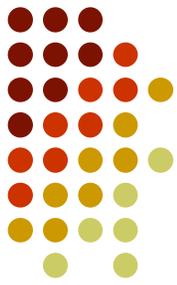


- Document the value of and commitment to community engagement by adopting the Minneapolis Core Principles of Community Engagement.

# Minneapolis Core Principles of Community Engagement



- 1) Right to be involved** – Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- 2) Contribution will be thoughtfully considered** - Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will be thoughtfully considered.
- 3) Recognize the needs of all** - Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision-makers.
- 4) Seek out involvement** - Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
- 5) Participants design participation** - Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
- 6) Adequate information** - Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- 7) Known effect of participation** - Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.



# Questions?

For more about community engagement in the City:

- Visit the City's website

[www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement.asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement.asp)

- Contact

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