

**Community Engagement Meeting
Comments
From Comment Cards**

Question: What can the City do to help you (and your community) better participate in decisions? What is working now? What needs to change?

January 30: Plaza Verde

- 1. Funding neighborhood organizations.**
- 2. _____ funding, empowerment**
- 3. Where do neighborhood policing plans, community policing block clubs and neighborhood crime & safety communities fit in? & precinct advisory committees. Community policing reports/study should have also been included.**
- 4. Empower & fund neighborhoods organizations**
- 5. Accountability & communication for all needs to improve, as does follow through & follow up.**
- 6. The city has skills & resources that can be helpful & applied citywide but those should be resources for neighborhood associations.**
- 7. City needs to understand if you want people to be empowered & engaged, you need to have real authority & real authority & final decision power & money.**
- 8. Since I'm new to Mpls., I would like to see better representation of community members that are most disenfranchised. What are their needs & wants & how can neighborhoods & the city better help? When community members are empowered to help themselves & to have more involvement in the process they will feel greater ownership. Pride & ownership!**
- 9. Give us the power to make some of those decisions. NRP is working now. The city's attitude toward neighborhood organizations needs to change.**
- 10. Our SAFE/CCP officer is spread too thin & overworked due to decision several yrs ago to give each CCP Specialist more areas to cover. Not acceptable but our ideas & protests were overlooked.**
- 11. It seems that a very small slice of Mpls population has the ability to contribute to decisions – ability limited/defined as – language barriers – citizens too busy to take a lot of time to understand these processes – all of the hoops to jump through to actually see action. Mostly, it is hard for me – a Mpls resident (w/a four yr. Degree) to understand all the different agencies – committees – city council – who I need to contact to get an action to happen.**
- 12. Why was there no American sign language interpreter present?**
- 13. Why don't the city & the county seem to communicate with one another? I call agency A about a problem but am told to call Agency B, who tell me to call agency A. ARGH!!!**

14. Help us ____ all the boarded up houses! There are 4 on any street & block, & others that are vacant or for sale. What's wrong?
15. Help me, to help my neighbor, to understand, they are a part of the decisions and without their input, we might miss their needs.
16. Encourage community initiatives that dove-tail with city activities (i.e. n'hood comp. Plans & crime prevention plans). Continue to build on the community capacity we have built. What works now? Neighborhood organizations.
17. (1) What works - \$\$ allocated to neighborhood recognized as citizen participation recognized groups contracting with the city. (2) What needs to change – how these studies are initiated. (3) What can city do? Many projects initiated by neighborhoods successfully need to be duplicated – the process of how they succeeded.
18. Figure out how to financially support *Highly effective neighborhood organizations that have been successful in areas that need it the most.
19. (1) Better explain the decision –making structure. What body makes what decisions and why? (2) Better electronic outreach (via the web) about impending decisions.
20. NRP is working – small is good. City listens to NRP – there's input from neighborhood to city it works. It empowers people when they have the opportunity to make decisions on how to spend money.
21. Continue the process that has worked in the past. Keep the neighborhoods small – not regional areas. Better communication between neighborhoods and city.
22. Provide a flow chart of decision making process was. ____ ____ ____ _____. A list of activities/programs/org. that are involved in CE. Do these activities equal representation in decision making/recommendation.
23. Invite us to the table not the committee table but a true table that allows \$ for n'hoods for true participation.
24. Continue NRP & keep neighborhoods strong! The city should use existing networks to communicate w/citizens. Citizens shouldn't have to travel to city hall to give feedback on neigh. Issues. Engagement should not be top down, it should be driven by the people. "The power of government is derived from the people."
25. Empower & Fund Neighborhood.
26. More communication with community & NRP and community organizations.