



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

**Neighborhood and
Community Relations**

David Rubedor
Director

Tri Tech Center Suite 220
331 2nd Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Office 612 673-3737
TTY Line 612 673-2626

ncr@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Thursday, September 29, 2011

Neighborhood Leaders,

I want to let you know about some very important changes that will be coming up for neighborhood programs over the next several months, including changes to the Community Participation Program (CPP) and the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). Between now and early next year, you will see:

- The sunset of the NRP Joint Powers Agreement, which means NRP as a separate administrative entity will conclude at the end of this year;
- Transfer of NRP administration into the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department;
- Revisions to the Community Participation Program;
- Sunset of the existing NRP Policy Board and formation of a new NRP Policy Board; and
- A reorganized Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission.

We are working hard to ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible for neighborhoods. Here are some basic questions and answers about what these changes are and what will they mean for your neighborhood organizations:

What does this mean for my neighborhood organization?

- (1) Current Community Participation Program Contracts will be extended for 6 months until June 30, 2012 (see [note 1](#), below). An additional 50% funding allocation will be added to your contract to cover the extension period.
- (2) A draft version of the revised Community Participation Program guidelines will be sent out for a 45 day review period in October/November, 2011.
- (3) A new NRP Policy Board will be seated in January, 2012.
- (4) 2011 Community Participation Program Year-End reports will still be due by the end of February, 2012. We will be sending out a template you can use near the end of this year.
- (5) The new Community Participation Program guidelines will be sent out to neighborhoods in February, 2012.

- (6) Submissions for the new Community Participation Program will be due June 30, 2012.

How will this impact neighborhood NRP planning and implementation?

We do not anticipate any significant changes to your NRP activities. New Phase II plans, and any Phase I and Phase II plan modifications, may be brought to the new Policy Board starting January 1, 2012. We are working towards a smooth handoff of NRP contracts from NRP to the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department by the end of the year. We are also working to ensure a timely and orderly transfer of support services traditionally provided by NRP, including continuation of Directors and Officers insurance, audit services, and other services.

What changes are anticipated to the Community Participation Program?

Because the Community Participation Program will be supported with NRP funds in 2012 and 2013, the CPP Guidelines will be changed in order to meet NRP statutory requirements.

The substantive revisions will likely be:

- (1) The Guidelines will provide for development of Neighborhood Priority Plans;
- (2) The Guidelines will allow funding of projects identified in Neighborhood Priority Plans
- (3) Authority for review and approval of CPP submissions will fall under the new NRP Policy Board;
- (4) Appeals for denied funding will be directed to Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) rather than City Council.

Please note, however, that the core program purposes remain the same, and, as with the 2011 Guidelines, development of a neighborhood-based plan is still an essential component of the program.

We expect to send out the draft Community Participation Program guidelines to neighborhood organizations in early October for your review and feedback. We would like you to tell us what worked well for you, and what didn't, with the 2011 program. We will also hold informational meetings in early October to provide some background and context for your community and Board members.

What to expect over the next few months:

Oct. 2011	Informational meetings to discuss CPP guidelines changes.
Oct./Nov. 2011	45-day review and comment period: Neighborhood organization review of CPP revisions prior to NCEC approval.
Nov. 2011	City Council will review revisions to NRP ordinance and NRP consolidation process, with approval anticipated by the end of the year.
Dec/Jan, 11/12	NRP administration transfer to NCR department

Jan. 2012	New NRP Policy Board forms. Adopts present NRP Policy, reviews and approves CPP Guidelines.
Jan. 2012	City Council approval of new CPP Guidelines.
Feb./Mar. 2012	Rollout of new CPP Guidelines.
Feb. 2012	Neighborhood Conference: Better Communities through Neighborhoods.
Mar. 2012	Approval of first 2012 CPP submissions
June 30, 2012	Neighborhood CPP Submissions Due

Again, in order to provide a smooth transition and allow neighborhoods time to submit under the revised Community Participation Program guidelines, **current Community Participation Program contracts will be extended for 6 months until June 30, 2012 (see [note 1](#), below). An additional 50% funding allocation will be added to your contract to cover the extension period.**

What if you have further questions?

You may contact one of our neighborhood specialists:

Robert Thompson
(612) 673-2523

robert.thompson@minneapolisismn.gov

Carrie Aspinwall-Day
(612) 673-2243

Carrie.Aspinwall@minneapolisismn.gov

Stacy Sorenson
(612) 673-2241

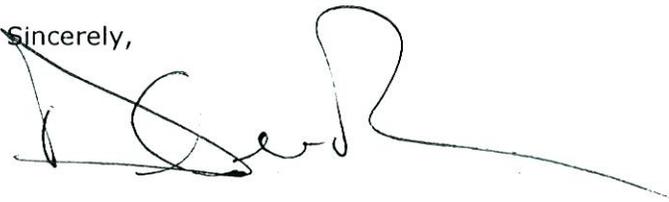
Stacy.Sorenson@minneapolisismn.gov

You can also visit our website for further details:

<http://www.minneapolisismn.gov/ncr/changes.asp>.

We look forward to hearing from you, and to continuing our work with you through this important transition.

Sincerely,



David Rubedor
Director, Neighborhood and Community Relations Department
331 2nd Avenue South, Suite 220
Minneapolis, Minnesota
612.673.3129
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr

Note ¹: Pending City Council approval on October 7, 2011. The City Council's Committee of the Whole unanimously approved this recommendation on September 22, 2011.