

Hello NCR Staff:

In addition to affirming the comments from my neighborhood group, Kenwood-Isles Area Association (KIAA), submitted to NCR on Monday morning November 21, 2011, I am sending this email to provide several additional comments of my own. These are my opinions.

1. In general, these Guidelines imply that Mpls Neighborhood Groups are all starting “from scratch”! This is not only NOT the case, but this sort of unfortunate and instructive approach basically demeans the NRP work that has been ongoing in Mpls neighborhoods since the 1990’s!!
2. Regarding the appeal path for any funding denial: I strongly urge assigning those appeals to the NRP Policy Board, NOT assigning them to the NCEC or to the City Council. It seems much more appropriate for the Policy Board to have direct interactions with the neighborhood/s involved. Obviously, NCR staff would be very involved in any such process, as well.
3. It is very difficult/virtually impossible to envision how all this will work when the future composition of these various bodies (NRP Policy Board; NCEC) is unknown at this time.
4. How can NCR staff suggest to neighborhoods that they should be planning on a 3-year funding cycle for the active period of these Guidelines (which will not be effective until sometime in 2012), when no funding source is available after the frozen NRP dollars are allocated in 2012 and 2013?
5. What is meant by “annual” contracting? If a neighborhood, or a community collaboration of several neighborhoods embarks on a 2-year project, how can that work?
6. The Guidelines processes need to be streamlined. The amounts of funding will be minimal for many neighborhoods.
7. Somehow, these Guidelines should encourage neighborhoods to band together to work collaboratively on community improvement/investment projects. Communications networks have changed radically since the early/mid 1990’s when NRP began; more affluent neighborhoods should be encouraged to consider partnering with less affluent neighborhoods to accomplish needed improvements that will benefit the City as a whole.

I appreciate having the opportunity to provide comments.

Pat Scott  
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