

## Report to the NRP Policy Board

FROM: Jack Whitehurst  
DATE: April 10, 2012  
SUBJECT: Windom Park Phase II Plan

### Action Requested:

Approve the NRP Phase II Action Plan and Transmit the Plan for Approval and Appropriation by the Minneapolis City Council

Attached is the Windom Park Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan (NAP) for Policy Board review and action. Pursuant to the April 19, 2004 Policy Board resolution the proposed NAP includes a Housing Allocation over seventy percent (70.4%).

Located in northeast Minneapolis, Windom Park is named for William Windom (1827-1891), a congressman and Secretary of Treasury from Winona, MN. The neighborhood contains about 80 blocks and is bordered by Lowry Ave. on the north, 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. on the south, Central Ave. to the west and New Brighton Blvd. (Highway 88) to the east. Windom Park has a diverse but aging mix of housing – split about evenly between owner-occupied and rental units. 42% of Windom Park residents live in rental housing. Most housing stock in the western half of the neighborhood was built between 1895 and 1910. Most housing stock in the eastern half was built after World War II.

In May 2011, a Steering Committee of nine volunteers – including some new to neighborhood activities – held the first of many meetings to ensure broad participation in Phase II planning. One key outreach method was a survey in English and Spanish – both online via SurveyMonkey and on paper for use at the annual Community Carnival in June 2011, National Night Out in August 2011, outreach to businesses and targeted door-knocking. Follow-up outreach was targeted to renters and Spanish-speakers. Based on results of the surveys and “dot-mocracy” exercises at neighborhood meetings, priority needs of the neighborhood were focused on four areas:

- Safety
- Housing
- Transportation
- Parks

The Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan allocates \$563,421.00 in the following manner.

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Safety         | \$ 52,622.11  |
| Housing        | \$ 375,394.70 |
| Transportation | \$ 28,171.05  |
| Parks          | \$ 84,513.15  |
| Administration | \$ 22,719.99  |

The Phase II Plan continues the neighborhood's commitment to improve the quality of housing by investing \$375,394.70 of these funds into home improvement loan programs. Medium and long term planning along with sustainable housing loan programs will provide future stability to the neighborhood and ensure that development does not end once NRP funds are depleted. Increased collaboration with surrounding neighborhoods, City and State departments, and partnering non-profit organizations will improve the efficiency of these initiatives.

Based on my review of the Plan, I recommend that the Policy Board adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS:** On April 19, 2004, the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board (Board) established the Phase II allocation available for the Windom Park neighborhood at \$563,421.00 based on the Phase II revenues projected for NRP,

**WHEREAS:** The Windom Park neighborhood has conducted a Phase II plan development process,

**WHEREAS:** The submitted Windom Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan requests an allocation of \$563,421.00 and dedicates eighty percent (70.40%) of that allocation to housing programs, projects, services and activities,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board (Board) hereby accepts and adopts the Windom Park Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan,

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board hereby authorizes the Director to request that the City Council and Mayor [a] approve the Windom Park NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, and specifically those parts of the Plan that fall under City jurisdiction, for their Phase II allocation of up to \$563,421.00; [b] consistent with the staff direction set out in footnote "p" of the 2011 General Appropriation Resolution adopted by the Council on December 13, 2010, as later amended, to amend the 2012 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund 01 CNR 8900-800 (the NRP fund) by \$371,955.06 from existing fund balance; and [c] authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement the activities above.