

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM  
Application Template.

Please feel free to use this template as a guide to developing your submission for funding from the Community Participation Program. The level of detail should be appropriate to your organization's proposed activities, and to the level of funding allocated for your organization.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Organization Name:	Logan Park Neighborhood Association(LPNA)
Address:	1330 Van Buren St NE Minneapolis, MN 55413
Website url:	loganparkneighborhood.org
Organization email:	<a href="mailto:loganparkna@aol.com">loganparkna@aol.com</a>
Federal EIN:	41-1725550
Board Contact:	Name: Paula Allan, Board President
Staff Contact:	Name: (Contractor) Nancy Przymus

FUNDING ACTIVITIES.

Use the following questions as a guide for your submission.

- 1. After this first funding year, neighborhood organizations will submit proposals for three years of funding from the Community Participation Program. How will your organization engage residents and other stakeholders in 2011 to develop your three-year proposal?**

LPNA holds a community meeting on the third Wednesday of the month where the residents and stakeholders are invited to share their input and ideas. The LPNA board and contractor developed an interview tool that is currently being used to gather data from key leaders in the community and from residents. The open-ended survey/interview tool was published on the website and generated 3 responses in the first 5 days it was available. The survey has been published in the newsletter that was hand delivered to every address in Logan Park Neighborhood the week of July 26th. Further, the contractor will phone each person who answers the survey and ask follow up questions. Most of the residents and key leaders in the neighborhood are interviewed in person. So far, the contractor has conducted 25 interviews. Interviews include: board members, 5 public housing residents, 2 artists who are building ambassadors for the Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association(NEMAA), representing the Northrup King Building artists and the Casket Arts Building artists. Both buildings are located in Logan Park Neighborhood. The owner of the Northrup King Building was also interviewed and other business owners will be included in further discussions and interviews. Contact

with the Madison Lofts building association has occurred and the contractor is scheduled to meet with the Madison Lofts group August 17<sup>th</sup>. One church leadership interview has occurred. The Strong Tower Parish is a largely Nigerian congregation. The LPNA contractor met with the assistant executive director and the office manager for a two hour interview. There are three more churches in Logan Park in need of contact. The St. Mary's Orthodox farmer's market site on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE has proved a good place to connect with neighborhood residents buying vegetables. Many Spanish speakers come to the farmers market from the neighborhood but the contractor's inability to speak with the Ecuadorian families poses a challenge. LPNA will need to find an interpreter to reach these residents adequately. The Ecuadorian families along Monroe Street NE have volleyball nets set up in their back yards and have large friendly tournaments many weekends where outreach would be easy with an interpreter. Finally, engagement gaps include absentee owners of rental property, renters of absentee properties and youth. While the LPNA does a good job of including youth in the neighborhood Clean Sweep and assists the MPRB with funding for children's programming at Logan Park the youth have not yet been asked for their opinions.

**2. What regular outreach and engagement activities will your organization carry out in 2011?**

LPNA held a neighborhood wide Clean Sweep April 30<sup>th</sup> 2011. It was very successful and included residents of all ages and races with tenants and homeowners pitching in to help. This will be continued in the future. The first ever Human Chess Game was scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> at Logan Park but got rained out. The chess club in the neighborhood is an impetus for this event. The pancake breakfast fundraiser went on, however, as scheduled in the Park building that day. Next year the Human Chess Game will be held again on the same May weekend as Art-A-Whirl in conjunction with the pancake breakfast fundraiser. For over 15 years LPNA has sponsored a holiday lighting contest called, "Lights of Logan" and this will be held again in 2011. The judging is done by people in the arts not a resident or associated with LPNA. In every newsletter, LPNA publishes the Delivery Team Award, where improvements visible from the street are acknowledged by listing the address and description of the work done, thanking them for benefitting the whole neighborhood by their actions. Award winners may be homes, churches, or businesses. LPNA will continue to sponsor the Delivery Team Awards as this long-time tradition builds good will and community pride by focusing on the positive. The distinctive yellow newsletter is hand delivered to every residence 6 times per year and includes City of Minneapolis meetings and information vital to the community involvement. The website is updated frequently and is a great source of information to the residents. Areas of improvement call for Spanish translation on the website and for key articles in the newsletter to be offered in Spanish upon request as was the case in early NRP publications and special events. The interview/survey should be completed and used as a basis for the three year submission due this October 2011.

**3. How will your organization reach out to under-represented groups in your community? Who are these groups?**

LPNA will reach out to the Ecuadorians and other Spanish speakers via the website and by having an interpreter go with the contractor to the volleyball matches to get input from that community.

The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) resident interviews revealed the contact persons in the building and LPNA has been invited to attend a resident council meeting at the MPHA high rise.

Absentee landlords will be contacted and a meeting held to see if there is interest in attending training for tenant screening, loans available for exterior property improvements and other issues the absentee owners identify.

The outreach to the artists in the neighborhood will continue.

Business owners and residents alike will be recruited to Adopt-a-Litter Container via the City of Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling Division of the Department of Public Works. Already one litter container has been placed on Monroe Avenue NE and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and the Madison Lofts resident association is considering placement and maintenance of another at 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and Madison. LPNA will expand this effort to other businesses and residences to expand the Clean Sweep event and to beautify the neighborhood while lowering the potential for blight.

Outreach to and engagement of a stressed population of youth can occur by visiting the Strong Tower Parish "Lord's Kitchen" free dinner service. Church leaders have experienced a threefold increase over last year's attendance. Children as young as 6 show up alone for the weekly free dinner served there. The Strong Tower Parish is opening a food shelf to meet hunger needs of the community. A nearby food shelf called, The Little Kitchen, at 1500 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE, ran out of food a few weeks ago. Interviews suggest that there has been a dramatic increase in child hunger with as many as 118 children showing up for free lunches at Logan Park on any given week day.

LPNA supports many efforts of the Logan Park Community Center to reach out to youth in the neighborhood with small cash infusions, advertising of events and posting tournament wins and awards. Youth are experiencing greater hunger and fewer recreational opportunities in Northeast Minneapolis since the loss of the Northeast Park Community Center gymnasium to a charter school in 2009. Logan Park gym therefore has responded with longer hours and is very crowded.

LPNA is sponsoring a Minnesota Community Sing at Logan Park this fall 2011. Logan Park has a long history of community singing and this event promises to appeal to seniors, renters, homeowners, neighborhood churches and youth.

Overall LPNA supports many of the events other Northeast neighborhoods promote including, but not limited to, Northeast Parade, Hotdish Revolution, Pushcart Derby, Windom Carnival, and the 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Farmer's Market.

Tenants of owner occupied residencies tend to be more involved in neighborhood affairs. The real gap in outreach is to tenants in absentee owned properties.

Underrepresented groups so far identified: Spanish speakers (primarily Ecuadorians), Absentee Landlords, Youth, Tenants, Church groups, MPHA residents, Business Owners, Parents of Young Children.

**4. What planning activities would your organization like to carry out in 2011? (This could include strategic planning, land use planning, NRP planning, etc.).**

LPNA has contracted all of their NRP II funds and used it to greatly improve the housing stock and protect the unique architecture in the neighborhood from demise. Logan Park Neighborhood has been recognized nationally for this success.

These are development and land use challenges so far identified for LPNA:

- 1) LPNA is a founder of the Arts District in Northeast Minneapolis and continues to support the arts. A key planning effort is the development of Jac Flats a multi-family, mixed-income rental space for 35 artists/artist families. The Northeast CDC, Artspace, Springboard for the Arts, VSA (Very Special Artists-Minnesota) and NEMAA (Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association) are all collaborating with LPNA to see this development take shape.
- 2) The 807 Broadway Street NE building, that currently houses the District 1 School Board administrative offices, will be vacated in 2012. Interviews suggest that a green energy clean manufacturing use, that creates jobs in the neighborhood or a small business incubator space, or a health clinic for all, and/or an anchor tenant, would be welcome uses.
- 3) Logan Park Neighborhood has the ignominious distinction of having 2 of the 4 miles of streets in the City of Minneapolis that have never been paved with proper sewer and storm water separation. These streets are around the Northrup King Building (NRK) and behind the District 1 School Board Administration building at 807 Broadway Street NE. The NRK building has been an economic driver for the neighborhood and area. Along with the School Administrative building vacancy, the lack of paving and sewer means the neighborhood must have infrastructure attention to keep it from tipping into blight in this area.
- 4) The Central – Nicollet Street Car line (if constructed) will pass along the eastern boundary of the neighborhood and the LPNA board is very excited to see this development planned and executed well in Northeast Minneapolis.

- 5) The Mississippi Riverfront Development currently being designed is of great interest to the Neighborhood as the river is within a ½ mile of the neighborhood and no boating, swimming, or other natural water recreation has been available to the neighborhood since the river swimming beach closed in the 1940s. LPNA does not have the resources to be much involved but none-the-less interest is keen.

The LPNA board of directors has many new board members and LPNA welcomes new people to serve on the board in various capacities but new leadership development and succession planning need occur in the next few years. LPNA has been on the cutting edge of many trends in Northeast Minneapolis and has a clear sense of mission and vision for the neighborhood as a whole.

**5. How does your organization provide information to the community? How do you gather information from the community?**

A good website is available and volunteers answer the neighborhood email, comment sections and contact requests. The newsletter is delivered to each household six times yearly. The newsletter is filled with event information and requests for action from the City of Minneapolis, MPRB, NEMAA, NECDC and LPNA and others. Community meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at Logan Park Community Center where attendance is issue driven. Information is gathered informally by neighbor-to-neighbor conversations, via the website and at meetings. Recently, an interview/survey process has been initiated by the LPNA board to broaden the scope of the information gathering effort.

The survey/interview tool will be used to develop an email blast contact list to reach out to those electronically connected. This will also allow for text messages and tweets to reach a greater audience.

**6. What festivals and events will your organization host or support in 2011?**

- A. Clean Sweep April 30<sup>th</sup> 2011
- B. Delivery Team Awards – all year long
- C. Human Chess Game May 2011
- D. Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser May 2011
- E. Northeast Parade June 2011
- F. Movies in the Park July 30, 2011
- G. Community Sing Fall 2011
- H. “Lights of Logan” Holiday lighting contest December 2011

**7. What else would you like the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission know about your organization?**

LPNA prides itself on frugality and self-reliance, having a history of an effective and talented Board of Directors and pool of volunteers. Only limited, short term contractors have been hired to help implement NRP programs. LPNA has worked without regular paid staff. That being said, with the current economic issues facing the neighborhood and with all the development challenges that are about to happen, the LPNA board is considering hiring staff or a contractor to assist with these demands in the next few years.

**8. Besides funding, what are some other ways that the NCR and NCEC can help your neighborhood organization?**

Spanish translation services for articles on website and Spanish interpretation for interviews of residents would be a great help. As LPNA goes further into neighborhood engagement other language services may become necessary.

Leadership succession strategy and planning help would be welcomed.

**ESTIMATED BUDGET**

Staff Expenses	\$ 17,724.07
Employee Benefits	\$ 0
Professional Services	\$ 0
Occupancy	\$ 1772.41
Communications/Outreach	\$ 3731.38
Supplies and Materials	\$ 1865.69
Festivals and events	\$ 932.85
Food and refreshments	\$ 233.21
Development	\$ 1865.69
Fundraising	\$ 1632.48
Web Hosting	\$ 233.32
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 29,991.11</b>

Notes: Development means board education and training. Fundraising money will support the second annual neighborhood pancake breakfast for Art-A-Whirl on 5-19-12.

- Staff expenses should include payroll, FICA, and withholding, or staff contractors.
- Employee benefits should include any health insurance, retirement, or other benefits.
- Professional services should include the cost of temporary contractors, bookkeepers, accountants, etc.
- Occupancy should reflect costs related to rent, utilities, phone, websites and email expenses, and other similar expenses.

- Communications/Outreach should include costs of publications, printing, postage, delivery, flyers, etc.
- Supplies and materials should include office supplies as well as expenses for supplies related to ongoing programs such as block patrols, etc.
- Festivals and events can include any costs related to community events and festivals.
- Food and refreshments can include the cost of any food or refreshments related to your organization's community engagement efforts (may not exceed 5% of your organization's CPP allocation).
- Development expenses could include costs related to training, education, recognition, or orientation for board, staff and volunteers.
- Fundraising could include any costs related to fundraising for your organization (hiring of consultants, costs of materials, postage, events, etc).