

**Fulton Neighborhood Association
Community Participation Program
2011 Annual Report**

1. Accomplishments

What were your organization's major accomplishments in 2011? How were individuals in your community directly impacted by your work?

Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA) had several major accomplishments in 2011:

- New Fulton's Farmers Market- The existing Kingfield Farmers Market opened a satellite location in Fulton Neighborhood. FNA sponsored the new location with a \$6,000 start-up grant. The market was open every Saturday morning from mid-May to the end of October. Each week the market brought together several hundred residents from Fulton neighborhood, as well as surrounding neighborhoods, to support local farming, the purchase of sustainable resources and a time to engage with friends/neighbors. FNA had an informational table at the market each week.
- 5th Annual BLEND Awards- In September, FNA celebrated the fifth year of its innovative BLEND Awards with a community celebration/award presentation attended by approximately 100 people. The BLEND Award rewards builders, architects and home owners whose newly remodeled or constructed homes and businesses blend into the existing neighborhood design aesthetics. A jury of industry professionals reviews and selects the winners. Although originally developed by FNA, this award now reaches beyond the boundaries of Fulton neighborhood and celebrates responsible building practices in all of Minneapolis.
- Fulton Fall Festival-The annual Fall Festival was held in conjunction with the Fulton Farmer's Market in order to reach an even broader segment of the neighborhood. 1,500 people attended the festival and celebrated Fulton neighborhood with good fun, fun activities, a Silent Auction and great music.

2. 2011 CPP Submission

Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, what outreach and engagement activities did you carry out? What worked well, and what did not work so well? Why?

In addition to the activities listed in #1 (above), FNA also sponsored or supported:

- 6th Annual Fabulous Fulton Plant Sale (1,000 customers)
- Friends of Fulton Awards
- FNA Annual Meeting
- Bi-monthly newsletter delivered to 2600 residents and businesses
- Monthly E-newsletter delivered to 625+ subscribers
- FNA website
- FNA Information Sign
- FNA Block Contact List

- Welcome Packet Distribution
- Dedicated information table each week at the Fulton Farmers Market for outreach and volunteer recruitment

These activities were well received and attended as they have become standard and expected annual events. The Information Sign and Block Contact list are somewhat difficult to keep updated, but our commitment to these activities remains high.

3. Stakeholder Involvement

Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, how did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities? Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful?

Underrepresented populations in Fulton neighborhood continue to be people of color and renters. We have continued reaching out to these populations through our website, E-news and paper newsletter. With the addition of the Fulton Farmers Market, we feel our reach has extended even further. Furthermore, although not originally listed as an underrepresented population, FNA has reached out to provide future services to its senior citizens. FNA worked closely with a developer through a potentially contentious process and was successful in brokering agreement within the neighborhood for support of an assisted living facility to begin construction in 2012.

Please also provide the following:

A. How many people currently serve on your board? Are there vacancies?

At the end of 2011 there were 11 people serving on the FNA Board. There were no vacancies.

B. Approximately how many individuals have participated in committee meetings in the last year?

Approximately 25 people participated in various FNA committees.

C. How many people attended your annual meeting?

25-50 people attended the annual meeting.

D. How many households regularly receive your publications (such as newsletters or newspapers)?

Approximately 2600 households and businesses receive the bi-monthly newsletter.

E. Approximately how many people participate in other activities of the organization?

Approximately 5000 people participated in and/or volunteered for other activities of the organization (this includes the Farmers Market, Plant Sale, Festival and other smaller activities).

4. Financial Reports

Please provide an income and expense report for your organization for the year. (Please include all funding sources).

Please see attached report.

In addition to your annual report, please take time to describe your interactions with City departments and other jurisdictions.

1. *Impact*

What interactions occupied a major part of your time? What worked well, what could be improved?

It is difficult to find out who you need to speak to in any given department. A great deal of time is spent just working your way through the levels of any given department until you finally reach the correct person. The 3-1-1 system can delay this as they make the initial referral and, often times, it is incorrect.

We have received exceptional communication from the Minneapolis Police Department. We find their communications to be very important to the neighborhood and appreciate the partnership they offer Fulton. In particular, CPS Amy Lavender and Inspector Matt Clark have been instrumental in sharing valuable time and resources with Fulton neighborhood.

City Communications – effectiveness

Is the information that you receive from the City understandable and useful?

Yes, but many times it is more information than we need in certain areas and less than we need in others. For example, if a Planning Application has been filed for a property address within our boundaries, it would be helpful to automatically be provided the supporting documentation. Instead, if we need it, we have to look for it and make follow-up calls and contacts.

Again, the effectiveness of communications from CPS Amy Lavender and Inspector Matt Clark is quite high. They provide us with useful information and community resources and respond quickly to requests for further information.

2. *City Communications – timeliness*

Do you receive adequate notice of City activities in your neighborhood? If not, did your organization inform somebody at the City of this? Did the City respond in a positive manner? Please explain.

This is difficult to answer as there aren't a great number of City activities in Fulton. We do receive good notice of any Minneapolis Police meetings, etc. We also receive timely notices from Public Works in regard to road and/or utility projects and from CPED in regard to variance and permit requests.

3. *City Departments*

How can City departments improve the way in which they function in your neighborhood?

Increased communication on neighborhood specific issues would be appreciated and a quicker response time when we do call on a question/issue.

4. *City Assistance*

How can the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department improve the assistance it provides to your organization as a citizen participation group?

Although we understand that the department is new and still developing programming, it would be helpful to streamline some of the requests for information. Also, a longer preparation period for required documents/plans would be appreciated. Most neighborhood organizations meet on a monthly basis and it is difficult to time the preparation, review and approval of documents with a short preparation time frame.

5. *Other comments?*

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Financial Summary**

	NRP Account	CPP Account	Grants
Opening Balance On 1/1/2011	\$14,758.86	\$0	\$0
Income/Inflows	\$24,837.64	\$29,839.41	\$0
Expenses/Outflows	\$21,711.42	\$17,429.02	\$0
Ending Balance On 12/31/2011	\$17,885.08	\$12,410.39	\$0