

Hello Robert,

I appreciate having a little extra time to get NENA's comments to you on the proposed "Changing Approved Neighborhood Plans" and "Preparation and Processing of Neighborhood Priority Plans Policy."

The NENA Board of Directors discussed both documents at its April 25 meeting, and requests that the following changes be made:

The "Preparation and Processing of Neighborhood Priority Plans Policy" should be considered guidelines, as in part of the overall CPP guidelines. "Policy" is a stronger word that implies strict adherence to all the details. The CPP guidelines outline goals to work toward, but do not imply that all organizations must accomplish all those goals in order to receive funding. We ask that the word "Policy" in the title be changed to "Guidelines."

"Changing Approved Neighborhood Plans"

The lack of an appeals option in this process if the NCR Director denies a change is troubling. There should always be an appeals option to a staff decision. We ask that neighborhoods be able to appeal a denial of a Plan change to the NRP Policy Board.

Under "Requesting the Change" the last sentence that has been removed from the first paragraph should be left in. Removing the sentence, "All Requests for Action Plan Modification must be submitted to [NCR] by the neighborhood organization board," creates confusion. The same paragraph says that an individual, organization or any group in the neighborhood may request a Plan Modification. Although it says in paragraph 6 that Plan Mods may be submitted only after a neighborhood board approves it, nowhere does it say that ONLY a neighborhood board (which is responsible for implementation of approved plans and any changes) can submit the request to NCR. Leaving in the last sentence of paragraph 1 keeps the process clear and logical.

Under paragraph 7, the added language “with populations representative of the neighborhood” should be removed and re-inserted in 7b, where it makes much more sense: “At least three focus groups (with populations representative of the neighborhood). It is more realistic to organize focus groups that represent different demographic groups, but to do the same for all neighborhood support options is not a realistic requirement. How can an organization guarantee that people responding to a survey will be populations representative of the neighborhood?”

Thank you for considering these changes!

One more note: There appears to be an incorrect word in paragraph 3b: “The section(s), goal(s), objective(s) and strategy(ies), as appropriate, of the” This reads better if “as appropriate” is changed to “as applicable.”

Thanks again,

Rlta

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