

Report to the NRP Policy Board

FROM: Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager
Robert Thompson, Neighborhood Support Manager

DATE: September 17, 2013

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 7 – Neighborhood Priority Plan Update

Action Requested:

No action is requested. This item is for informational purposes only.

Background:

With the Community Participation Program (CPP) funding cycle which began in July 2012, neighborhood organizations were required to prepare Neighborhood Priority Plans. As described in the CPP Guidelines, the purpose of the plans are:

The goal of Neighborhood Priority Plans is to identify major initiatives for the neighborhood organization, and to communicate neighborhood priorities to the City and other jurisdictional partners. There is no specific deadline for submission of Neighborhood Priority Plans, but each neighborhood organization must participate in developing at least one Neighborhood Priority Plan during each funding cycle.

Neighborhood Priority Plans must be developed and adopted through a thorough neighborhood participation process. A plan identifies preliminary neighborhood priorities (as identified by the neighborhood) and potential partners. The plan can identify, preserve, and build on the existing assets and positive qualities of a neighborhood, or identify opportunities or problems to be addressed. The plan may identify possible actions. It can be as simple or as comprehensive as the neighborhood organization desires, covering a single issue, or several. A Neighborhood Priority Plan may also be submitted jointly by more than one neighborhood. These plans can be used as a way to focus discussion and marshal resources to deal with neighborhood issues or plan for improvements.

To date, nine neighborhoods have submitted Neighborhood Priority Plans for approval, committing a total of \$96,220 in CPP funds to 19 strategies. Of these, funds for 12 of these priorities have been contracted, for a total of \$54,390. A description of each is shown in the attachment.

There are at least four neighborhood priority plans in process of neighborhood approval:

Bottineau – Bottineau Park Improvements - \$13,000

Work with the Park Board to implement improvements to Bottineau Park – specifically installing park benches near the children’s play area

Marshall Terrace – 27th Ave NE Greenway - \$8,586 + \$22,000 Phase I rollover funds
Part of Marshall Terrace NRP Phase II plan – expected approval by Marshall Terrace in October and NRP Policy Board in November.

Support the development of a 27th Avenue Greenway. This proposed greenway was included in Marshall Terrace’s NRP Phase I plan, and is currently part of the City’s Bicycle Master Plan. The proposed greenway begins at the River, travels along 27th Ave NE, and crosses the railroad tracks.

Sheridan – 13th Avenue NE shared parking signage - \$10,000
Expected approval by SNO on September 23.

Work with area businesses and Public Works to cooperate on parking issues along 13th Avenue and in the Arts District.

Southwest neighborhoods – South Lyndale Streetscape – Funding to be determined

Four neighborhoods are working collaboratively on a plan for and implement streetscape improvements at Lyndale Ave S and W 54th St.

In addition, 48 neighborhood organizations have set aside funding for Neighborhood Priorities, for a total of \$821,674.