

Request for City Council Committee Action

Date: April 22, 2008

To: Community Development Committee
Referral to: Ways & Means / Budget Committee

Prepared by: Carsten Slostad (Phone 673-5150)

Approved by: Robert D. Miller, Director _____

Subject: Lowry Hill East NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Summary of the Request:

The Lowry Hill East Neighborhood has completed their NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. It has been reviewed by NRP's legal counsel and city staff, reviewed by staff of participating jurisdictions and adopted by the NRP Policy Board. The plan requests a total NRP appropriation of \$747,852.

Recommendation:

- 1) Approve the Lowry Hill East Neighborhood NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan ("Plan") attached to this report, specifically those parts of the Plan which fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$747,852;
- 2) Amend the City of Minneapolis 2008 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund 01CNR by \$252,480;
- 3) Refer \$495,372 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within 01CNR for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% of the amount approved for the Plan (\$523,496) shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan;
- 4) Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

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The Honorable Lisa Goodman, Chair
Community Development Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

The Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Minneapolis City Council
315 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Re: Lowry Hill East NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan

Dear Chairpersons Goodman and Ostrow:

At its meeting on March 24, 2008 the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved and authorized funding for the Lowry Hill East NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan for a total appropriation of \$747,852.

The NRP Policy Board approved the Lowry Hill East NRP Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan on May 17, 1999. During the course of implementing the Phase I Plan, the neighborhood initiated many innovative programs, including a successful revolving home loan program, safety programs and police bike patrols, the Jefferson School Technology Center and auditorium, and pedestrian lighting. Lowry Hill East also made significant investments in collaborative projects such as streetscape improvements on Hennepin Avenue and restoration of Lake of the Isles.

The Lowry Hill East NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan devotes 70% of its allocation to housing. In addition to funding for home improvements and other housing projects, the neighborhood is allocating NRP resources towards improved neighborhood safety and livability, protection of the environment, economic development, and resident participation. The Lowry Hill East Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan builds on the previous success of the neighborhood in leveraging additional resources, such as volunteer time, support from local businesses, or grants from national foundations.

On March 24, 2008 the Policy Board passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS: On April 19, 2004 the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board approved a Phase II allocation for the Lowry Hill East neighborhood of \$747,852 based on the Phase II revenues projected for NRP;

WHEREAS: The neighborhood conducted a Phase II neighborhood planning process that began in 2007 and has submitted a Lowry Hill East NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan that requests a Phase II allocation of \$747,852;

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WHEREAS: The Lowry Hill East neighborhood has allocated at 73% (\$496,000) of their Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan to housing programs, projects, services and activities;

RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board hereby accepts and adopts the Lowry Hill East NRP 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 Lowry Hill East 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 \$747,852; [b] amend the 2008 General Appropriation Resolution to increase the Fund 01CNR (NRP Fund) by \$252,480 from existing fund balance for implementation of the approved Plan; [c] and authorize the appropriate City officers to reserve the remaining \$495,372 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within Fund 01CNR for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% (\$523,496) of the amount approved for the Plan shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan; and [d] authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement the activities above.

Pursuant to this resolution, I make the following recommendations for consideration by your committees:

Recommendation:

- 1) Approve the Lowry Hill East Neighborhood NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan ("Plan") attached to this report, specifically those parts of the Plan which fall under City jurisdiction, in an amount not to exceed \$747,852;
- 2) Amend the City of Minneapolis 2008 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED) agency Fund 01CNR by \$252,480;
- 3) Refer \$495,372 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within 01CNR for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% of the amount approved for the Plan (\$523,496) shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan;

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- 4) Authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements needed to implement this request.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller
Director