

Resolution – NCEC Roles

~~By Commissioners Perry, Anastasia, Beamon, Finlayson, Johnson, Sarabia and Warsame~~

~~October 30~~ November 7, 2011

Whereas, the Minneapolis City Council considers the relationship between residents and the City of vital importance to the health of the city; and

Whereas, a new Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board will be created with responsibilities that include reviewing-administering NRP Phase I and Phase II Plans, ~~reviewing Neighborhood Priority Plans and approving Community Participation Program (CPP) funding~~; and

Whereas, the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department (NCR) has been successfully established and is poised to continue the work of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program; and

Whereas, the City Council is committed to providing an organizational structure to manage and oversee the City's community participation activities through its creation of a resident based community engagement commission and a community engagement department; and

Whereas, local elections have seen decreasing voter turnout since 2001, especially among populations of color; and

Whereas, there has been an increased emphasis placed on courageous discussions about diversity among residents, which has been underscored by City Council action; and

Whereas, the population of the City as a whole is becoming progressively more diverse;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission of the City of Minneapolis;

The Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission envisions a City and community engagement process that increases inclusiveness, empowerment and greater opportunities for participation by all community members of the City of Minneapolis.

In light of the previously stated Vision, the roles that the Commission will assume, going forward, shall be:

1. ***Partner*** In collaboration with NCR, study issues, courses of action, policies, and programs that affect the quality of life for City residents and make recommendations for improvements to City departments and the City Council as they pertain to community participation policies and delivery of services while integrating the voice of residents into the City's decision-making processes; and

2. **Appeals, Grievances and Designation** Consider appeals from neighborhood organizations regarding funding decisions involving the City funded programs administered by NCR, including the Community Participation Program (CPP) but excluding any NRP [Phase I or Phase II](#) Plans. The Commission will hear grievances of actions taken by neighborhood organizations and recommend to the City Council any necessary corrective remedies. The Commission will designate the recognized neighborhood organizations in the city; and

3. **Create Policy** Establish community engagement policies for the City's neighborhood programs, excluding Phase I and Phase II of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, which promote more representative neighborhood organizations; and

4. **Cultivate Relationships** Serve as liaisons between the City of Minneapolis and community and neighborhood organizations. In this role the commission shall make every effort to ensure that the concerns represented reflect the diverse viewpoints and interests of the residents of Minneapolis; and

5. **Increase Participation** Advise the City Council on policy matters to build the capacity of under-represented groups in order to increase their participation in the civic governance of the City, expand the ability of neighborhood organizations to engage diverse neighbors, and assist in building partnerships with communities and groups that often do not participate in the formal neighborhood system, such as communities of color, new Americans and refugees as well as low income residents; and

6. **Broaden Representation** Develop a five-year community engagement policy plan to increase the number and diversity of people involved in their communities and seated to City boards and Commissions. This participation contributes to and strengthens the vitality of community capacity and increases the impact of the community on public decisions; and

7. **Give Voice** Promote broader engagement, increase inclusion, and identify/remove barriers of participation by fostering a sense of community and helping all residents address specific concerns via the NCR department and the Commission.