

2013 Voter's Guide For District 1 Neighborhoods

Cleveland
Folwell
Hawthorne
Jordan
Lind-Bohanon
McKinley
Shingle Creek
Victory
Webber- Camden

[See the NCEC District Map](#) (pdf)

For Neighborhood Representative Members on the City's Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission

Candidate information and questionnaire responses

Compiled by the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department

Voter's Guides are available online at the City's Web site:
<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/boards/ncec/WCMS1P-106113>.

The City of Minneapolis invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event within our city. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or should you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting 612-673-3737, TTY: 612-673-2157, at least 5 days prior to the meeting.

English: Attention. If you want help understanding this information, call 612-673-3129. **Spanish:** Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame al 612-673-2700 **Somali:** Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500 **Hmong:** Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab dawb txhais cov xov no, hu 612-673-2800

Voter's Guide District 1

As part of the neighborhood election process to elect 4 neighborhood representatives on to the City's Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC), applicants interested in serving were asked to respond to the following statements on their applications to be used in the Voter's Guide:

- ❖ How have your life/work/cultural experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative on the NCEC?
- ❖ How have you participated in your neighborhood organization?
- ❖ Describe why you want to serve on the NCEC.
- ❖ How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent, if elected?
- ❖ How do you plan to engage with under-represented groups within your district?
- ❖ Please list any community-based organization(s) with which you are currently involved.
- ❖ Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Candidates for District 1:

(To quickly navigate to a candidate's information, hold Ctrl and left click on candidate's name)

[Jeffrey Strand](#)

The City-wide meeting to elect five neighborhood Commissioners will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2013:

City-Wide Election for Districts 1, 3, 5 & 7

Thursday, June 13, 2013

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Eastside Neighborhood Services

1700 2nd Street NE

Minneapolis, MN 55413

[\(Click here for a MAP and DIRECTIONS\)](#)

The building is ADA accessible. If any special accommodations are needed, please contact 612-673-3136.

All votes must be cast on June 13, 2013.

If you have any questions about the elections for Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 or the Voter's Guide, please feel free to call Cheyenne Erickson at (612) 673-2052 or Howard Blin at (612) 673-3163. You can also find more information on our website at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/boards/ncec/WCMS1P-106113>.

1. How have your life/work/cultural experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative on the NCEC?

In Minneapolis, we find ourselves in a time of change and transition in which the 2013 will bring the election of a new mayor and potentially dramatic changes to the city council. The departure of Mayor Rybak and advent of a new city administration likely will bring significant changes, even if most candidates are liberal progressives. I bring to the position of NCEC neighborhood representative professional experience as a manager, over 20 years experience serving on a neighborhood organization board, strong organizational skills, and the ability and willingness to actively engage with colleagues in District 1 neighborhoods and their organizations.

My professional experience has included work with individuals, business persons, neighborhood organizations, elected officials, and governmental agencies. I have some training in project management and ToP facilitation methods. I have in the past decades seen North Minneapolis become increasingly diverse; we need to ensure that the neighborhood organizations are representative of this diversity and inclusive of all residents. My life, work, and cultural experiences have given me a high degree of empathy, a desire to seek reasonable compromises and consensus, and the ability to listen to diverse viewpoints and craft policy recommendations.

2. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization?

I was among the founding resident members of the Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association when in 1992 the Neighborhood Revitalization Program came to the neighborhoods in the Camden community. Because SCNA has flexible bylaws and no term limits, I have been able to serve on the board continuously from 1992-2013, including nearly a decade as board chair. I have been elected by board colleagues to serve as chair, vice chair, and secretary.

I have had the pleasure to work with fine, dedicated staff such as the late Fran Guminga, and Amy Luesebrink. The SCNA has participated in several cross-neighborhood efforts such as the Mississippi Corridor Neighborhoods Coalition, the Northside Neighborhoods Alliance, the Penn Lowry Lyndale Implementation Council, the Camden Alliance of Neighborhoods, and I have been involved in those efforts. Through work with the SCNA, I have been involved over the years in efforts such as the Shingle Creek watershed clean-up, the Tour de Camden, the Camden Winterfest and Shingle Creek Sliding Hill event, Shingle Creek Renters' Forum, the redevelopment of a contaminated site to develop Humboldt Industrial by Real Estate Recycling, the efforts to keep open Shingle Creek Elementary School, community engagement and planning for the Shingle Creek Regional Ponds and Trails, and the Humboldt Greenway project. I have served several years on the community housing boards at CommonBond Communities' Shingle Creek Commons, and later Kingsley Commons, and currently serve as the community housing board president for each.

3. Describe why you want to serve on the NCEC.

I am seeking election from District 1 because I think the neighborhood organizations in District 1 need stronger, more visible, and more engaged representation on the NCEC. I consulted with some community members and colleagues before deciding to take this step, and received favorable responses and encouragement to take this action. My intention if elected to the District 1 seat is to coordinate with the NCEC chair and NCR director to resign the appointed seat in order to make way for the City Council to appoint another person to fill that seat effective July 1, 2013.

I currently serve on the NCEC as a City Council appointee. I have been an active member, was a member of the former facilitation committee that was responsible for agenda setting, and was elected secretary when the new bylaws established an executive committee leadership model in 2013. I was elected by neighborhoods to serve as a neighborhood representative or alternate to the former NRP Policy Board in 2001-2002 and 2004-2011, and also was elected for 2012, but the city did not recognize that NRP election. I moved and supported a June 2009 NRP resolution that led to a legal opinion (NRP/PR#2009-08) that led to obtaining legal clarity on the future of the former NRP program, and the legal impact of the City's 2008 legislation on that program. I worked on the Policy Board to ensure that there was an orderly transition from the former NRP to the City's new neighborhood and community engagement system.

I believe my personal knowledge and experience from serving on the NRP Policy Board and Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association board has contributed to successful work on the NCEC. I was chosen by my NCEC colleagues to serve on the reconstituted NRP Policy Board, and was elected chair of the Policy Board for 2012 and 2013. The Policy Board has a direct relationship and role working with NCR Department staff and neighborhoods through approval of Phase II NRP Action Plans and Neighborhood Priority Plans.

While serving on the NCEC, I participated in 17 of 64 listening sessions with neighborhood organizations held PRIOR TO development of the Community Participation Program "CPP" guidelines. I also served on the Transition/Bridge Funds task force, the Diversity and Inclusion task force, the City Department Engagement task force, the Boards and Commissions Diversity task force, the committee planning the NCEC's role for NUSA 2013, and the One Minneapolis Fund task force. My intention is to work closely with District 1 neighborhood organizations to listen to their needs, and to maintain stronger two-way communication and understanding among the NCEC, the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, and all of the District 1 neighborhood organizations.

I have strong working relationships with NCEC colleagues, both appointed and elected, and have demonstrated the ability to work as part of the NCEC "team" in delivering important policy recommendations such as the CPP Guidelines, recommendations on increasing diversity among volunteers to the City's boards and commissions, and developing groundbreaking programs such as the One Minneapolis Fund grants awarded in 2013. Among the challenges and opportunities in 2014-2015 will be the funding for neighborhood

programming under the Minneapolis Consolidated TIF scheduled to “turn on” again in 2014, and development of guidelines for other programs that were outlined in the Framework for the Future (e.g. Community Innovation Fund).

4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent, if elected?

The NCEC is currently working with NCR Department and consultants to develop a work plan for the “Blueprint for Equity” outreach to conduct stakeholder engagement and listening sessions with 80% (57) of the neighborhood organizations and at least 20 of Minneapolis' cultural organizations by August 2013. If elected as District 1 representative, I would take a primary role working with NCR staff and NCEC colleagues on this extensive outreach. Following the “Blueprint for Equity” outreach, to avoid over-engagement and duplicative meetings, my intention is to request brief agenda time on each of the neighborhood boards on a regular, recurring basis (e.g. quarterly) in order to formalize the process of two-way communication going forward. I value collaboration and cooperation across neighborhood boundaries, and would discuss with District 1 neighborhoods their interest in establishing district-wide information sharing sessions, but again seeking to avoid redundancy or duplication out of respect for the valuable time of volunteer neighborhood residents and board members.

Personally, I am digitally connected and actively engaged in social media. I think the District 1 neighborhoods can explore the potential benefits of expanded communications using social media to stay connected through our commonly shared interests. I also would anticipate sending out regular E-mail updates to the District 1 neighborhoods. The NCEC has used a Google Groups page to discuss policy recommendations, so there may be ways to increase transparency and inclusion to stakeholders. The NCR Department publishes “Minneapolis Connects” newsletter, and the NCR Director regularly communicates via the “Minneapolis inTouch” electronic newsletters. I would not duplicate existing communications being handled by the paid city staff. I recognize that District 1 residents face challenges with the digital divide, so I do not assume that everyone is digitally connected. I have and will continue to urge City elected officials, NCR Department and Information Technology to develop and implement strategies to overcome these challenges.

5. How do you plan to engage with under-represented groups within your district?

As noted above, the NCEC is currently working with NCR Department and consultants to develop a work plan for the “Blueprint for Equity” outreach to conduct stakeholder engagement and listening sessions with 80% (57) of the neighborhood organizations and at least 20 of Minneapolis' cultural organizations by August 2013. The consultants are Nexus

and Lissa Jones. If elected as District 1 representative, I would work closely with NCR Department staff, the consultants, and NCEC colleagues on this extensive outreach. The outreach to cultural communities through the Blueprint can be expanded upon going out into the future.

As a member of the NCEC, I am open to meeting and talking with all residents of the community about issues of concern. Neighborhood organizations in District 1 have identified the under-represented or under-engaged residents or communities within their Community Participation Program plans. I would consult with those plans and work in partnership with the neighborhoods to improve engagement with these groups. I have several years of experience as community housing board member, and currently president, at Shingle Creek Commons and Kingsley Commons in working with and serving senior citizens and people with disabilities. I worked with Brittany Lewis and others on the Shingle Creek board to organize outreach for tenants. The NCR Access and Outreach staff are excellent resources for planning and implementing targeted outreach to under-engaged community residents.

I am a strong advocate for diversity and inclusion in my neighborhood, in my workplace, and in organizations such as the Minneapolis DFL party. I try to lead by example. In my workplace, I volunteered and served as a ToP facilitator for focused conversations as part of the diversity and inclusion efforts of the county. The One Minneapolis Fund process has identified gaps, such as youth and southeast Asian residents as examples, where additional equity is required.

6. Please list any community-based organization(s) with which you are currently involved.

Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (Secretary; City Council appointee 2009-2013)

NRP Policy Board (Neighborhood Representative; Chair 2012, 2013)

Capital Long-range Improvement Committee (Vice Chair; 4th Ward appointee)

Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association (Board Member 1992-2013; past board president)

Minneapolis DFL Party (4th Ward Representative; Ward Committee chair 2013)

Senate District 59 DFL Party (Associate Chair)

Shingle Creek Commons (CommonBond Communities) and Kingsley Commons Community Housing Board (Board member, board president)

Cardinal Stritch University Alumni Association

Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business Administration

Twin Cities Public Radio (member)

Twin Cities Public TV (member)

Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus (donor, season ticket holder)

Minnesota's Machinery Museum, Hanley Falls (life member)

South Dakota State Agricultural Heritage Museum (donor)

Stonewall DFL Caucus

7. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Hennepin County, MN (Employer; Administrative Manager)

Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council, Hennepin County alternate