

**RESOLUTION**  
**By Jenkins and Gordon**

**Approving the Neighborhoods 2020 framework recommendations.**

Whereas, the Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations department has presented a neighborhoods 2020 recommended framework for approval of the City Council;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That funding for neighborhood programs instills a sense of community and builds connections to local government by supporting the following public purposes:

1. Identifying and Acting on Neighborhood Priorities
2. Influencing City Decisions on Plans, Policies, Programs and Services
3. Increasing Involvement in Civic and Community Life
4. **Creating A Sense of Place and Celebrating Community**

That NCR will encourage collaboration between neighborhood organizations and/or community organizations to pool common services and will develop criteria by which bonus points or other incentives will be awarded on funding proposals for organizations that are seeking to pool services.

That community engagement funding will be provided in 3-year cycles to neighborhood and community organizations to best support the organizations' ability to plan. Of the total amount allocated for community engagement programming, 25% will be set aside for community-based organizations (CBOs), and 75% will be available to Minneapolis neighborhood organizations.

1. Neighborhood organization funding will be an "opt-in" system. That is, neighborhood organizations will be eligible to receive city funding if they agree to follow program guidelines and requirements. Yearly acknowledgement of program guidelines and requirements will be part of the annual contracting process. If a neighborhood chooses not to participate, it will be removed from the funding formula and resources will be re-distributed accordingly.
2. Funding for neighborhood organizations will be distributed as follows:
  - a. Base Funding: 50% of the amount allocated to neighborhood organizations will be available for neighborhood organization expenses such as staff, rent, phones, mailers and newsletters. Additionally, eligible funding will include access to food, childcare, and interpretation services at community events and meetings that serve the public purposes of the program. **The minimum neighborhood base funding allocation will be \$25,000.**

Neighborhood organizations will provide a Diversity Action Plan identifying how their organization leadership diversity currently reflects or intends to improve to reflect the diversity within the neighborhood, including race, gender, age, income, and homeowner or renter status. The plan will outline procedures, meetings, and events that will reach out to a wider demographic base. This Action Plan will be provided as part of the application process.

- b. Impact Funding: 25% of the amount allocated to neighborhood organizations will be available for increasing their engagement activities of underrepresented communities in their area. Neighborhood organizations will be encouraged to explore new activities that increase resident participation within their geographic area and combine activities with other neighborhood, community or non-profit organizations. Impact funding will be awarded annually based on intended outcomes.

Neighborhood organizations may request Impact Funding to meet the *Diversity Action Plan goals*. The allocation will be authorized on an annual basis and will be evaluated annually with neighborhood organizations to determine if goals were met. Each annual allocation will be approved based on prior year's goals met.

- c. Discretionary Funding: 25% of the amount allocated to neighborhood organizations will be available for one-time projects or projects that could be potentially self-sustaining in the future and/or are unique to the neighborhood or the area. Discretionary funding will be available to a single entity, a partnership or sponsorship to address these priorities. Examples of the areas in which discretionary funds could be used include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Outreach staff
- (2) Planning for future projects
- (3) Capital projects
- (4) Farmers markets
- (5) Community gardens
- (6) Increased community engagement activities
- (7) Housing/business development
- (8) Environmental projects
- (9) Park/school/library projects
- (10) Traffic/infrastructure projects
- (11) Other specialized projects

- 3. CBO-based funding will be to address city- identified priorities through existing Community Based Organizations (CBOs). Funding proposals from CBOs will fall under one of two funding groups.

- a. Projects that develop and prepare leaders to serve on city boards and commissions, meaningful work groups and task forces or on one of the Minneapolis neighborhood organization boards.
- b. Projects that connect diverse residents to the city and engage specific targeted audiences beyond neighborhood borders. These programs may be either established programs or new programs.

**Community Based Organizations that receive funding from this program must partner with a neighborhood organization. Preference will be given to projects that work directly in collaboration with neighborhood organizations to accomplish neighborhood goals, including diversity goals. The requirement to partner with neighborhood organizations may be waived by the City Coordinator if the Coordinator determines that a suitable neighborhood organization cannot be found, and that the funding will support work that meets our City's racial equity goals.**

4. Improvements to the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) shall be identified and implemented by staff to simplify access and create flexibility in how neighborhood organizations can use funds. NRP Funds will continue to be dedicated to specific neighborhoods.

That to ensure fiscal transparency and stewardship in public dollars, funded organizations will agree to follow City-approved audit policies and staff will support neighborhood organizations through training, monitoring, and other technical assistance.

That NCR will provide neighborhood organizations general expectations and minimum standards to satisfy organizational requirements including:

1. A minimum standard set of bylaw requirements;
2. Guidance on best practices and minimum requirement;
3. Assistance from a non-profit attorney;
4. Guidance on how to amend bylaws;
5. Support to ensure that neighborhood organizations remain eligible for funding;
6. Information and instructions on how to opt-in to a **voluntary** citywide Neighborhood Election Day (a single day for all neighborhood board elections) to be established by NCR;
7. Board membership requirements that align with the City's principles of equity and diversity, including:
  - a. Ensuring that no more than 25% of the board membership serve more than 6 years.
  - b. Requiring board officer term limits.
  - c. Allowing ex-officio non-voting board members as an option.
  - d. Supported and assisted by NCR, requiring a "Diversity Action Plan" that will include processes and practices to actively encourage new membership that reflects the diversity within the neighborhood including, race, gender, age, income, and homeowner and renter status. The plan will outline procedures, meetings and events that will reach out to a wider demographic base.
  - e. Supported and assisted by NCR, requiring an outreach plan to be submitted in conjunction with the Diversity Action Plan.

That NCR will work with a consultant(s) to develop program guidelines, including a logic model with inputs, activities, outcomes, metrics for evaluation and monitoring. Working with the consultant(s), NCR will develop templates for the Diversity Action Plan and Outreach Plan, ensure a racial equity focus and alignment with the City's Strategic Racial Equity Action Plan. NCR will complete this work by October 28, 2019.

That in partnership with neighborhood organizations and working with the consultant(s), NCR will conduct an internal review of its services and support to neighborhood organizations, with a focus on budget neutral options. NCR will develop a suite of support services including training, technical assistance and tools and resources to neighborhood organizations based on neighborhood needs. NCR will complete this work by October 28, 2019.

That NCR shall develop an enabling resolution for a new Community Engagement Commission by August 26, 2019 aimed at implementing, monitoring and supporting a City-wide Engagement Policy.

That to ensure consistency and alignment with funding currently provided under the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), NCR shall identify and implement improvements to the NRP Policy Board, including:

1. Expanding the membership size of the current NRP Policy board to include:
  - a. Mayor or Mayoral designee (current);
  - b. Minneapolis City Council Member (current);
  - c. Representative from the State Senate (current);
  - d. Representative from the State House of Representatives (current);
  - e. Minneapolis School Board Member (current);
  - f. Hennepin County Commissioner (current); and
  - g. Eight (8) neighborhood representatives (new).
  
2. Expanding the scope of authority as follows to more broadly focus on all neighborhood organization efforts:
  - a. Advise the NCR department on activities, policies and research dedicated to neighborhood organizations;
  - b. Oversee and make recommendations regarding funding programs, including plan amendments, policy changes and other items relating to the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, the Community Participation Program and the new funding program;
  - c. Fulfil the statutory requirements of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program;
  - d. Promote broader engagement, increase inclusion and equity, and remove barriers to participation within neighborhood organizations;
  - e. Increase participation of Community Based Organizations into the work of neighborhood organizations;
  - f. Consider appeals and grievances, and recommend corrective remedies (including a budgetary reduction) to appropriate City authorities, related to the City's neighborhood organizations;
  - g. Recommendations of program funding to City Council;
  - h. Identify potential funding formulas for neighborhood organizations to City Council.
  - i. Advertise, advise and promote a Citywide Neighborhood Election day in coordination with other City departments and neighborhood organizations; and

- j. Review, develop and approve recommendations to NCR for neighborhood organizations engagement plans.

NCR will update the NRP Policy Board enabling resolution base by August 26, 2019.