

West Calhoun Neighborhood Council 2011 Annual Report

1. *Accomplishments*

What were your organization's major accomplishments in 2011? How were individuals in your community directly impacted by your work?

- Coordinated Earth Day Clean-up site at West Calhoun (20+ residents).
- Represented West Calhoun on Southwest LRT Advisory Committees.
- Created Stakeholders Group to engage the businesses of Calhoun Village, Calhoun Commons and other businesses within the WCNC boundaries. Held regular meetings with group to develop plans for shopping guide, event and formation of business association.
- West Calhoun Neighborhood Council, in response to future SW LRT and present day traffic issues, commissioned a University of Minnesota senior Capstone Project to focus on West Calhoun's huge landmark intersection and the immediately adjacent area. Four students from the Civil Engineering Department at the U of M assembled existing data and background information from the city, county and state, and have conducted extensive traffic counts and other observations, including using digital video.

The results show particularly severe problems during the afternoon peak period, especially on eastbound Excelsior Blvd. Presently the student team is doing further data analysis and outlining a range of options, both short and long term. The options are aimed at not only improving traffic flow and safety, but also enhancing the pedestrian and bicycle environment in the area. There were presentations at the WCNC Annual Meeting on May 10, 2011 and on December 13, 2011.

2. *2011 CPP Submission*

Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, what outreach and engagement activities did you carry out? What worked well, and what did not work so well? Why? WCNC outreach in 2011 included:

- Monthly e-news and meeting notices
- A Spring *Wavelength* newsletter mailed to every resident
- Regular updates to www.westcalhoun.org website

3. *Stakeholder Involvement*

Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, how did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities? Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful? Through mailings, email notices and posting notices in building lobbies, WCNC has reached more renters. Especially with the imminent development along the Greenway, the WCNC has heard from and engaged more renters at meetings.

WCNC also successfully engaged more businesses owners through business visits and an improved email list. The Council created a Stakeholders group which meets regularly to address issues important to the businesses and neighborhood.

Please also provide the following:

A. How many people currently serve on your board? Are there vacancies?

In 2011, there were six board members with three vacancies.

B. Approximately how many individuals have participated in committee meetings in the last year?

Other than the Stakeholder's group, the WCNC does not have any active committees at this time.

C. How many people attended your annual meeting?

In 2011, there were over 20 people at the WCNC annual meeting.

D. How many households regularly receive your publications (such as newsletters or newspapers)?

There are 1,540 addresses that receive the West Calhoun Wavelength newsletter.

E. Approximately how many people participate in other activities of the organization?

There are 100 members of the Stakeholder's group, about 12 residents who participate in the Earth Day clean up each year, and over 30 residents who attend neighborhood meetings throughout the year.

4. Financial Reports

Please provide an income and expense report for your organization for the year. (Please include all funding sources).

Statement of Income & Expenses

1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011

Revenues

CPP Reimbursement	\$4,040
Total Revenue	<u>\$4,040</u>

Expenses

Neighborhood Coordinator	\$6,989.96
Insurance	\$219
Newsletter Expense	\$666.78
Post Office Box Expense	\$245
Constant Contact Subscription	\$126
Website Hosting Fee	\$23.94
Copying Expense	\$44.16
Bank Fees	\$16.00
Neighborhood Business Group Brochure Design	\$240
Neighborhood Business Group Consultant	\$800
Neighborhood Business Group Meeting Supplies	\$78.26
Bakken Museum Donation	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$9,949.10</u>

In addition to your annual report, please take time to describe your interactions with City departments and other jurisdictions.

1. *Impact*

What interactions occupied a major part of your time? What worked well, what could be improved?

The majority of interactions were with the NRP and NCR departments to extend and organize contracts for the neighborhood. City staff were very helpful in answering questions for the board and new neighborhood staff.

2. *City Communications – effectiveness*

Is the information that you receive from the City understandable and useful?

Yes.

3. *City Communications – timeliness*

Do you receive adequate notice of City activities in your neighborhood? If not, did your organization inform somebody at the City of this? Did the City respond in a positive manner? Please explain.

The only notices the neighborhood receives are for Planning Applications which are always timely.

4. *City Departments*

How can City departments improve the way in which they function in your neighborhood?

Continue communication about issues that affect West Calhoun.

5. *City Assistance*

How can the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department improve the assistance it provides to your organization as a citizen participation group?

Continue with communication and NCR staff attendance at one neighborhood meeting per year.

6. *Other comments?*

None