
**2014-2016 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM SUBMISSION
LOWRY HILL EAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Organization Name:	Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association
Address:	1200 W. 26th Street, Suite 127 Minneapolis, MN 55405
Website url:	thewedge.org
Organization email:	wedgecoordinator@gmail.com
Federal EIN:	41-1673702
Board Contact:	Name: William Bornstein
Staff Contact:	Name: N/A Phone: Email: Address:

Who should be the primary contact for this submission? William Bornstein

Date of Board review and approval: October 16, 2013

FUNDING ACTIVITIES.

Use the following questions as a guide for your submission. For questions 1-8, please limit each response to no more than 3 paragraphs.

- 1. Eligibility. If your organization has not previously been funded through the Community Participation Program, please provide evidence of the organization's eligibility, as identified in Section II.A of the Guidelines.**

The Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (LHENA) has previously been funded and meets the criteria for eligibility. Note that LHENA has not amended or changed its bylaws since its last submission for CPP funding.

- 2. Community participation efforts. Describe proposed outreach activity in the neighborhood, and methods to involve residents and other stakeholders in one or more of the three key program purposes. How will you engage residents and other stakeholders of their neighborhood in developing a Neighborhood Priority Plan?**

LHENA uses and plans to use several methods to engage neighborhood residents to advance program purposes and develop neighborhood priority plans.

First, LHENA has and will continue to use its traditional meeting structure. LHENA's committees meet monthly, as does its Board of Directors. All residents are invited to attend all meetings to discuss issues of importance and to assist the Board in crafting the priorities of the future. The annual meeting is particularly well attended and useful for this purpose. This traditional structure is familiar to and useful for many neighborhood residents.

LHENA will also use other means to increase neighborhood involvement and advance neighborhood priorities. Specifically, LHENA will publicize meetings, events, and initiatives through community newspapers, online resources (LHENA website, Facebook, Twitter, email blasts), flier drops, direct mail campaigns, and postings at businesses, community locations.

Finally, LHENA will maintain close working relationships with the elected councilmember for the area, and work with that member to identify and advance neighborhood priorities.

LHENA has held several public meetings this year dedicated exclusively to identifying neighborhood priorities and focusing longer-term strategic planning around a few core issues. These meetings have been attended by members of the public, and pertinent discussions have continued informally outside traditional meeting times. As a result of these ongoing efforts, LHENA has identified two major neighborhood priorities for the 2014-2016 budget cycle: (1) public space improvements (both aesthetic and infrastructure-related) and (2) environmental sustainability initiatives.

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- 3. Building organizational capacity. How will you work to: (1) provide opportunities for the direct involvement of members, (2) build your membership and volunteer base, (3) encourage and develop new leadership, and (4) expand the organization's capacity through self-assessment and other activities.**

LHENA has addressed this issue in depth during our several long-term strategic planning meetings held this year. LHENA will provide opportunities for the direct involvement of members by planning out all major initiatives at the beginning of each calendar year, with the idea of completing approximately ten to twelve major initiatives per year. LHENA will then assign primary responsibility for each initiative to one or more different members. Those members are then free to use organization resources to recruit others to lead and execute the initiative. By delegating responsibility and vesting members with some degree of control, LHENA will maximize the involvement of organization members in ongoing projects.

LHENA will build membership by increasing our marketing budget and targeting recruitment and organization publicity toward new residents and underrepresented populations, such as renters. LHENA will continue to develop new leaders by recruiting talented new board members, delegating authority to members and committee chairs, and setting high expectations for individual initiatives. Organizational capacity will be increased through talent recruitment, delegation of responsibility, and an expanded, more focused presence in the neighborhood.

- 4. Building neighborhood relationships. Describe your outreach, networking, and inclusivity efforts to: (1) build a sense of a whole neighborhood among residents, (2) build bridges among neighbors and diverse communities within the neighborhood, (3) work with other neighborhoods and organizations on issues of common interest, (4) build partnerships with private and public entities, and (5) benefit the neighborhood as a whole.**

The two answers address part of this question. Please see answers above regarding LHENA's outreach efforts and renewed focus on recruiting members and participants, and delegating authority over discrete neighborhood initiatives or projects.

However, it's worth adding that LHENA will make deliberate efforts to coordinate initiatives with our elected councilmember, city staff, business associations, private business owners, developers, and other neighborhood groups with similar interests and priorities. Expanded outreach and recruitment, as well as cooperation with these aforementioned parties will allow LHENA to advance issues of common interest and forge lasting partnerships within the neighborhood and city at large.

- 5. Involvement of under-engaged stakeholders. Organizations should discuss which stakeholder groups are typically un-engaged or under-engaged in their work, and how they will work to involve those groups. Organizations should also discuss how the NCR Department can help with this work.**

The two populations that tend to be less engaged in neighborhood issues are (1) renters and (2) residents under the age of 30. Oftentimes, less engaged residents tend to fall into both of these categories. LHENA will directly target these groups through its normal communication channels as well as with targeted marketing initiatives. LHENA will also deliberately try to recruit new members from these demographics.

6. Housing Activities. Neighborhood organizations should discuss their work on housing and housing related activities. Organizations should estimate the percentage of time to be spent on these issues.

The LHENA Zoning & Planning Committee works to preserve historic housing stock and promote smart growth and development, while engaging the public in the process. The committee reviews all projects, developments, zoning or variance change requests, and other housing-related proposals that occur within the neighborhood. The committee makes recommendations to the Board, and the Board's ultimate recommendations prove to be persuasive at the city level in many planning decisions.

LHENA has also embarked on an initiative to iron out some discrepancies in the zoning code for the neighborhood. LHENA has a strong working relationship with city planning staff, and has made significant progress on this initiative. Work will continue on this project until neighborhood zoning is more sensible and reflects the city's long term goals of preserving historic homes while allowing for new, smart growth and added density where appropriate. Ideally, this project will create a zoning map that is less a patchwork of inconsistent parts and more a clear plan that lays out a strong future vision for development in this part of the city, and provides certainty to homeowners and developers.

LHENA also implements Neighborhood Revitalization (NRP) housing programs, which include resources for historic preservation and restoration, facade improvements, and some green home initiatives.

Collectively, housing-related initiative probably consume approximately 40 percent of LHENA's time.

7. Unused funds. Organizations should discuss how they plan to use unused funds from the previous cycle for community engagement or implementation of neighborhood priorities.

LHENA anticipates that some funds from the previous CPP funding cycle will remain unused due to some cost-cutting measures implemented in the latter half of 2013, as well as the resignation of LHENA's long-time, full-time staff person. LHENA has refrained from hiring staff for the last several months, resulting in a savings from funds previously dedicated to staff expenses and benefits. LHENA plans to repurpose these funds and use them to advance the neighborhood priorities of: (1) public space improvements and (2) environmental sustainability initiatives. Specifically, LHENA plans to submit neighborhood priority plans for both these issues, and repurpose rollover funds to expand the budget for these priorities.

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8. **Budgets. Submissions should include a budget showing how Community Participation Program funds will support the organization’s community participation work and an amount set-aside for implementation of Neighborhood Priority Plans. An annual budget for the organization should also be provided.**

ESTIMATED BUDGET

CPP Budget	2014	2015	2016
Staff Expenses	\$19,200	\$20,000	\$20,000
Employee Benefits	--	--	--
Professional Services	\$5,400	\$4,600	\$4,600
Occupancy	\$1,850	\$1,850	\$1,850
Communications/Outreach	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Supplies and Materials	\$550	\$550	\$550
Meetings/community building events	--	\$	\$
Development	--	\$	\$
Fundraising	--	\$	\$
Other Services	--	\$	\$
Total for contract:	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Neighborhood Priorities	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$22,669
TOTAL:	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$52,669

Note: Estimated funds have not been budgeted for a number of line items above. This is because LHENA believes staff and materials expenditures likely cover the activity that might be required to raise funds, develop skills, and hold community events. LHENA holds many meetings and community-building events each year, and they do not require significant expenditures. Of course, the need to incur discrete expenditures can arise. But in LHENA’s historical experience, the organization can successfully carry out most of its initiatives and community events by spending on staff, materials, and independent contractors.