
2014-2016 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM



Windom Community Council - (WCC)

5843 Wentworth Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN. 55419

www.windomcommunity.org

Federal EIN: 41-1791271

Board President - Pat Soulak

PJSoulak@msn.com

Primary Contact Staff - Amanda Vallone

(612)695-2831 AmandaVallone@live.com

Windom's Vision Statement

Windom seeks to be recognized, locally and beyond, as an attractive, active, supportive and involved neighborhood that takes pride in its cultural diversity and rich history. We are a community of people who strive to provide a safe, clean, educational and prosperous haven for all our residents and businesses.

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 Windom Community Council is currently funded through the Community Participation Program.

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?

The Windom Community Council will continue outreach activities by utilizing resources we currently have available to communicate with residents. WCC will communicate with residents and other stakeholders by creating outreach efforts that include:

1. Publishing the Windom Newsletter quarterly with community happenings, business profiles, personal interest articles by residents, City updates and community engagement opportunities about neighborhood concerns.
2. Encouraging feedback through our social media facebook neighborhood page, NEXTDOOR site and our newly rebranded website at www.windommpls.org
3. Open invitation to all residents to attend our monthly board meetings that take place on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Windom Community Center.
4. The WCC also values community gatherings and events as a way to share information on a face-to-face basis. At each of our annual events a Windom Community Council table will be represented by board members to answer any questions or listen to any concerns, ideas and feedback residents have to what the goals and priorities are of the Windom neighborhood. WCC annual events include:
 - Windom Reads (A partnership with the Windom Spanish Dual Immersion School that encourages literacy)
 - TOTS ROCK (A partnership with the Mpls Park Board/Windom South Community Center that brings families with young children together for a family fun rockin' experience)
 - Annual Meeting & Social Hour at the Museum of Russian Art (Our largest attended meeting of the year in which survey cards are distributed as well as a Year In Review for residents. Guest speakers include city representatives that provide valuable information and relevant updates to the neighborhood.
 - Windom's Ice Cream Social & Movies in the Park (A partnership with local businesses and the Mpls Park Board, Windom Community Center and the Windom Spanish Dual Immersion School)
 - WCC Community Garden Potluck Picnic (A seasonal celebration hosted by the Windom Community Garden Committee and open to all Windom residents)
 - Holiday Stop & Shop on Small Business Saturday (A partnership with NEHBA and participating Windom businesses to encourage residents to shop local for the holiday season.)

The WCC will engage residents and other stakeholders of their neighborhood in developing a Neighborhood Priority Plan by:

- Offering Survey Cards at the Annual Meeting and Windom Ice Cream Social.
 - Creating a survey online through the new and updated website.
 - Continue to work with Kenny, Lynhurst and Tangletown in the development of the multi neighborhood NPP in progress to enhance our 54th & Lyndale Avenue business corridor with a streetscape plan.
 - Postcard invitation to property owners on Nicollet Avenue to form a Nicollet Streetscape Enhancement committee.
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.
- 1.) **Communications** – Windom Community News will provide timely articles with information on the Community Participation Program that will include how residents may engage, volunteer and gain important information. The newly updates and redesigned website will have timely information on the goals and priorities of Windom’s neighborhood planning process. The Windom Neighborhood facebook page will continue to act as a forum for discussions while encouraging feedback from residents.
- 2.) **WCC & NEHBA**– The Windom Community Council has been very successful in the last few years in our outreach to engage neighborhood businesses in community events and by building good relationships we can continue to communicate concerns and ways to address issues as they arise. Partnering with NEHBA (Nicollet East Harriet Business Association) has been a great asset in helping with façade improvement grants and offering monthly meetings that present speakers to talk to business owners on topics that are relevant to their concerns.
Partnerships with other organizations with Annual Events These events celebrate our community by bringing together residents, businesses and community organizations together to help meet our vision statement. These partnerships mentioned above in Community Participation efforts will hopefully produce new volunteers for these events that will later want to engage in other community efforts.
- 3.) **Development & Leadership** – WCC plans to invest in future board member & volunteer trainings, community engagement workshops. WCC will become an affiliate member of the Neighborhoods, USA and participate in the annual conference.
- 4.) **Self-Assessment** – WCC plans to continue to have an annual Board Retreat that looks back upon the year, discuss what worked what didn’t and set new goals for the upcoming year.
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.

-
- 1.) WCC as outlined above will continue with its primary printed communication Windom Community Newsletter which provides information on upcoming community events, updated construction announcements, neighborhood school news, safety updates and reports, new business profiles, Community Center programs, and seasonal articles contributed by residents. Advertising in the Windom Newsletter helps support and sustain this valued neighborhood resource. This newsletter is mailed to all residents and hand delivered to Windom businesses and community organizations which increases its viewings.
 - 2.) Actively seek partnerships in creating community engagement efforts with the community school's families, informing the many rental property owners and management about community happenings and purposefully connecting the residents, school, park and businesses to work together to accomplish the Windom Vision for our community.
 - 3.) Collaborate on developing the Streetscape Plan for 54th & Lyndale Ave. with Kenny, Lynhurst and Tangletown neighborhoods to create a more pedestrian friendly business corridor.
 - 4.) Build our partnership with Bobby & Steve's Youth Foundation who's specific purpose is to guide local youth into actions and activities that will provide positive outcomes in their lives.
 - 5.) The WCC continues to as an organization discuss, share and proactively look for ways to include all residents in their planning, strategies and partnerships to benefit the whole community. In the next three years, the WCC and its part time staff will work on ways to recruit new and diverse volunteers and board members to share their ideas, engage them in the planning processes of future Neighborhood Priority Plans and ensure that our WCC Board is filled with faces of varied cultures, races, ages, genders as well as home owners, renters and business owners in the Windom community.
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.

Windom houses four large apartment complexes with many renters. In the next three years we will work towards having better communications with property management of these rental complexes to inform residents of upcoming community events in their common places such as community bulletin boards.

The Windom Community Garden now ending its 2nd full season at the corner of 62nd and Nicollet Ave. has been a wonderful addition to the Windom community. The garden location is directly next to the Windom Gables Townhomes, which houses many families. The addition of the garden has brought together many of these families in working together towards a common goal of growing fresh produce. In the first season 13 raised beds were built and in the 2nd season 9 more were built. All plots were rented and so there are plans to expand the garden next season as well. This site is also a gateway project site for MNDOT so the WCC looks forward to collaborating and working with MNDOT, our local gardening businesses and interested Windom residents as we create the Garden Gateway to Minneapolis from Richfield.

The Windom neighborhood is home to many Hispanic families and to one of the city's Spanish Immersion Elementary Schools. WCC collaborates with the Windom Spanish Dual Immersion School to translate event fliers that are bilingual and can go home with Spanish speaking families. The WCC will continue to engage these families by providing events that encompass their culture through the arts. The Windom Community Council will also seek to recruit bilingual community members to host and lead bi monthly book, craft and cooking clubs to meet at the Windom South Community Center.

The Windom neighborhood also takes pride in having seniors that are active and involved. The WCC engages seniors by inviting them to volunteer at our annual festival and volunteer appreciation dinner. We plan to survey the senior community of Windom to find out what other interest activities they would like to see offered. In collaboration with Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and the Senior Nutrition Program through Volunteers of America a very successful senior dining program has been established at the Windom Community Center in which seniors enjoy social time together to share meals, play card games, and discuss relevant health and well-being information. This senior program takes place Monday-Thursday starting at noon.

NCR could continue to provide workshops, neighborhood specialist assistance and guidance in reaching out to these under engaged groups within our communities.

- 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.

WCC spends 10% of staff and volunteer time on housing related activities. As of right now the only work on housing is the occasional variance requests we get from the community, however we look towards better communicating and promoting our revolving housing loans in the coming year.

WCC updated its contract with CEE to better clarify the revolving loan programs and will be proactively promoting these programs throughout the community by hosting informative workshops regarding programs available, energy savings and solar financing.

- 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.

The Windom Community Council anticipates that we will have \$ of unused CPP funds that we would like to carry over to the upcoming cycle to assist in funding a future NPP.

- 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.

Please use this budget template when submitting your Community Participation Plan for approval.

Please note that not all expenses are eligible for reimbursement. Expenses related to neighborhood celebrations and events are only eligible if the event’s purpose is to increase neighborhood awareness and involvement in the organization’s planning and implementation efforts. Expenses such as pony rides, food, and entertainment are not eligible for funding and will not be reimbursed.

Expenses related to projects may only be eligible if they are related to implementation of an approved Neighborhood Priority Plan, and are identified in a CPP contract or an NRP contract or MoU.

Contact your Neighborhood Support Specialist at NCR for further details.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

CPP Budget	2014	2015	2016
Staff Expenses	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Employee Benefits	\$	\$	\$
Professional Services	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Occupancy	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Communications/Outreach	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Supplies and Materials	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Meetings/community building events	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500
Development	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500
Fundraising	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Other Services	\$	\$	\$
Total for contract:	\$47,286.00	\$47,285.00	\$47,285.00
Neighborhood Priorities	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL:	\$	\$	\$

Notes:

- Staff expenses should include payroll, FICA, and withholding, and contract staff.
- Employee benefits should include any health insurance, retirement, or other benefits.
- Professional services should include the cost of temporary contractors, bookkeepers, accountants, etc.
- Occupancy should reflect costs related to rent, utilities, phone, websites and email expenses, and other similar expenses.
- Communications/Outreach should include costs of publications, printing, postage, delivery, flyers, etc.
- Supplies and materials should include office supplies as well as expenses for supplies related to ongoing programs such as block patrols, etc.
- Meetings and community building events can include those costs related to community meetings and events (excluding food and entertainment).
- Development expenses could include costs related to training, education, recognition, or orientation for board, staff and volunteers.
- Fundraising could include any costs related to fundraising for your organization (hiring of consultants, costs of materials, postage, events, etc.).