



Community Participation Program Funding Application 2017-2020

Submitted by:
Citizens for a Loring Park Community
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1. Eligibility. Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC) is presently under contract and implementing the prior year's WorkPlan.

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?

Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC) is working to implement several planning documents which were developed to provide a focus and direction to the Organization and its Committees. They are described below.

- Neighborhood Revitalization Phase II Plan - This plan was developed through an intensive 2.5 year planning process. NRP Phase II plan was approved in October 2008 by the Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board, in November by the Ways & Means and Community Development Committees, and in December by a Unanimous vote of the Minneapolis City Council. This was written and noted as a 10-year plan, so we continue with its implementation through 2018. Implementation involves prioritization, organizing community input to evaluate current status of need, and then implementation.
- The Loring Park Neighborhood Master Plan was a 3 year Community Engagement Strategy. The full plan and the detailed Community Engagement approach can be found on our website - www.loringpark.org. This

plan went through the Minneapolis Planning Commission, City Council Community Development Committee, and unanimously approved by the full City Council in 2013. Then, the Metropolitan Council reviewed and approved it in 2015. This approved Small Area Plan was then amended to the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan.

Neighborhood Priority Plans will come from Implementation Items from this Plan not identified in our NRP Phase II plan, but prioritized for Implementation. There may also be new initiatives which rise out of our many Committees and Workgroups.

The current projects being implemented which will continue into 2017-2020 are:

- Neighborhood Tree Project - CLPC is working to monitor & inoculate their large and mature Ash Trees along Nicollet Avenue. Future Tasks are 1) to work with MPRB Forestry on replacing missing trees, and 2) identifying new areas for trees to expand our Urban Canopy.
- 'Pathways to Places' Future Public Realm & Parks 20 year plan. We actively organized participation for the Parks portion of this plan. Moving forward we will monitor and participate with the Plan Implementation. We also will be monitoring the City's portion of this plan, as well as the evolving Minneapolis Tourism study.
- The Loring Park ReZoning Study was conducted in 2015. Only the eastern half of the proposed ReZoning was passed. CLPC will continue to pursue the completion and approval of the entire ReZoning study. This was Step 1 in the implementation of the Loring Park Master Plan.
- Hennepin / Lyndale Public Improvement Project is a partnership of all property owners along this corridor from Franklin to the Basilica, Lowry Hill Neighborhood, MPRB Forestry, Loring Business Association, MNDOT, City of Minneapolis Public Works, and CLPC. CLPC received a Community Innovation Fund for this initiative. The project goals are to 1) Confirm a landscape plan 2) Monitor the installation of the Plan, 3) and most importantly create a partnership whereby plantings will be cared for, maintained, and monitored sustainably. This Team is projected to run through 2017.
- Harmon Ave Public Realm Improvements is a priority from our Master Plan. We began a partnership with MPRB Forestry, City of Minneapolis Traffic and Public Works, and impacted businesses, colleges, and organizations. Personal 1:1 outreach was done to develop a workteam. We were requested by the Planning Department to suspend our work until the Pathways to Places 20 year plan was completed. So we did. Through a Board planning exercise it was determined that this Project would start again after the Hennepin/Lyndale Project concluded. This Timeline could always change per volunteer involvement increasing the organization's capacity.
- Berger Fountain Workgroup is a Team comprised of representatives from Loring Greenway Association, Friends of Loring Park, and CLPC. This project has been supported by MPRB staffer Jennifer Ringold and her team. Designs were developed through the 'Pathways to Places' City/MPRB 20 year planning process. We will organize folks to the Public Hearing at the Park Board and as soon as this plan is approved move into a fundraising and Implementation mode for Berger Fountain.

Community Notification & Outreach mechanisms for 2017-2020 will be:

- Community monthly Meetings & Forums on specific issues (Safety, Events, Land Use, Re Development, Urban Planning, Public Realm Transportation, Small Business Needs)
- Continue to organize & support the Nicollet Safety Coalition
- Continue to host quarterly 'Meet & Greets' between residents, property owners, businesses, Police and City/County/Park staff.
- Social Media; Facebook, Next Door, Website, Email blasts
- Advertising in the Downtown Journal, Lavender News, Citywide Event Programs
- Monthly Electronic Newsletter; presently this is distributed to 2,700 individuals. We hope to increase that mailing list to 4,000.
- Continue to utilize Community Events for Outreach and partner with Friends of Loring Park to host Neighborhood Information Booths.

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

What has worked in Loring Park are Events and Forum on Special Interest topics. We can get folks to sign up for our newsletter, have individual 1:1 with new residents and learn about issues and ideas at our Neighborhood Booth, build networks and connections within our buildings. Organizing in a vertical neighborhood is challenging. Buildings do not allow doorknocking or solicitation, so it is imperative that connections with residents and building managers are made.

The Coordinator and Committee chair meets with newly interested residents or emails and calls them. Personal invitations to Community Meetings and Events get folks out. Recently we have also utilized the Next Door social media. And once folks come to a CLPC gathering it is on us to welcome someone new and make certain they know we want them to come back - be involved.

We network with training through the U of M/ CURA or the NCR Department, as well as set up Board & Volunteer Planning sessions. We also set up ways to get feedback from our participants at community meetings and our Annual Meeting.

An evaluation of each event is completed based upon feedback from participants, Volunteers, and those hired to be a part of each event. We especially seek out suggestions for future events.

We have not put together a Process to evaluate our Projects or Committee Meetings other than informally. That may be a task to look into.

New Outreach Initiatives from community discussions and our Board Planning sessions have generated new ways to build capacity:

- Develop a plan to get into 4-6 buildings a year and present about CLPC, listen to ideas and concerns. Participate at Annual Mtgs of Condos, have boards call a Special Meeting, work with Resident Councils, partner with CPP/SAFE on personal safety trainings.
- Create a Loring Park 365 photography project. Modeled after the Powderhorn Park project, this could be a great way for meeting new neighbors and new participation with out organization. Collections would be turned into a book and sold as a fundraising effort for CLPC.
- The Loring Park Memory Project came out of a Board Planning session. The goal is to document stories in and of the neighborhood especially focused on Community Elders.
- Continue to Host 'Meet & Greets' to build Community Policing, Safety, and meet new neighbors
- Do a mailing to every household at least 1x per year
- Host 2-3 Educational Panels as we did during our Master Plan development process on Topics of Interest.
- Neighborhood Nite Outs would be set up quarterly. Partnering with businesses and restaurants, we would host a neighborhood gathering. This could also serve as a fundraiser for Events in the Park. It is also a way to informally meet new people.

CLPC continues to promote a philosophy of 'Each One, Reach One' acknowledging that most people get involved because of a personal invite. It is the responsibility of all to Spread the Word, Bring a Friend or Neighbor and then mentor folks new to any projects, Committees, or Community Events.

It would be great to restart the Community Leadership Institute with St Thomas which supported training of staff and volunteers citywide.

We continue to Evaluate and Review our NRP Phase II plan and Loring Park Master Plan. In 2013 the CLPC Board went through a planning session with U of M staff Jay Clark. A number of Items were identified to expand outreach and then the top four were prioritized: 1) Create a Better Awareness of CLPC, 2) Develop Sustainability Projects, 3) Develop Welcome Packets, 4) Park Issues/ Removal of Cattails, Renovation of Berger Fountain, and More Programming in the Park. As these were Items identified in our 2014-2016 CPP narrative, we will review these past priorities.

4. Building Neighborhood Relationships. Describe your outreach, networking, and inclusivity efforts to: a) build a sense of a whole neighborhood among residents, b) build bridges, c) work with other neighborhoods and

organizations on issues of common interest, d) build partnerships with private and public entities, and e) benefit the neighborhood as a whole.

We partner with Friends of Loring Park on six (6) events per year. We co host an Information Table at the annual PRIDE Festival and at the Loring Park Art Festival.

CLPC takes the lead on the Loring Music Festival with the Park and Friends as Sponsors. We all coordinate and sponsor the Aquatennial Pre-Parade Event. The Park takes the Lead on WinterFest, an event started by CLPC but now sustained by MPRB. We have begun to explore extending these partnerships to the Downtown Council.

We also have a Task Force of Friends of Loring Park, CLPC, and Loring Greenway. Each organization appoints two (2) representatives. This group is working with MPRB on the renovation of the Berger Fountain.

Monthly, the Downtown Neighborhood Group meets and informally discusses projects in each of their neighborhoods and city-wide issues. This coalition includes the North Loop Neighborhood, Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association, Elliot Park Improvement Coalition, and CLPC.

There are two (2) very important community Building Activities which are organized by community partners. The annual Neighborhood Holiday Party was started by the World Mission Prayer League and featured a Curry Dinner. Last year it transitioned to our neighborhood Bed & Breakfast - 300 Clifton - and the Event was hosted there. Food was catered by Jerusalem's, an Eat Street, Nicollet Avenue local business.

The second Event we do is 'Love Loring' our neighborhood fundraiser and Silent Auction. This is a ticketed event, but we get Sponsors tickets and recruit Volunteers so that everyone who wants to come, can. This fundraiser raises the money we need for community events. Businesses donate refreshments, supplies, decorations, and Silent Auction Items. It is an amazing event.

In 2016, we pulled together all of our faith based partners so they could meet each other and learn about programs available at each place. We also discussed safety, homeless, and panhandling and had St Stephens Street Outreach staff and the ED for the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness there. We do not yet know how this Team may be further utilized.

In 2017, we hope to be a part of a larger, multi neighborhood collaborative which will focus on the Value and Purpose of Neighborhood Organizations.

Finally, out of our Community Engagement processes for the Loring Park Neighborhood Master Plan came a community call for a monthly newsletter. Folks wanted one place to look, and not hundreds of emails, to know about Events in the churches, Theatres, Pubs, Loring Park as well as City wide Items of interest, neighborhood projects and meetings. So, we started the monthly CLPC Newsletter.

5. Work with City Departments and other Jurisdictions - Discuss your efforts to connect with the City or Minneapolis departments and other jurisdictions on behalf of community and in support of your neighborhood priorities. Please discuss how NCR Dept can help.

The NCR Department / NCEC can help by training, educating, and rolling out the City Council approved Principles of Community Engagement. When City Staff are asked about this document they say 'well, I may have heard something about this.' Minneapolis Planning Commission, not at all. It is crucial that when neighborhoods organize, they do not waste volunteer time. If their work is ignored, if they are not listened too or worked with - they become cynical, tainted, and frustrated. When this continues, they stop coming. They stop participating. Then no one is successful.

If the City doesn't believe in these Principles anymore, put them back up for a public vote. Take language out of these guidelines if it is not happening and not true. With this language remaining, it builds false hope and expectations for all involved with neighborhoods. NCR needs to be implementing these Principles with City Departments. This is a Huge Gap in Service.

Minneapolis Police Department - Excellent working relationship. They (Beat Cops or Sgt., or Lt., or Inspector depending on need - our Community Crime Specialist and our Community Prosecutor) attend our monthly community meeting, our monthly Nicollet Safety Coalition meeting, the participate in our Downtown Court Watch Project, they develop strategies with us and follow through - put them in place! We do quarterly 'Meet

& Greets', hosted by a business where the community comes together with Police to build relationships, know folks, the first step in Community Policing.

Park Police - Park Police attend our monthly community meeting. The Chief and Lt keep in regular communication with the CLPC Coordinator and Loring Park Director.

Minneapolis City Attorney's office has been invaluable in helping to create solutions to Livability Crime which can destroy a community. They have worked on a Housing First approach and a HOMES court, evaluating and addressing root cause needs to stabilize folks who have committed an Offense and get them connected and in a place where they offend no more. The Community Prosecutor attends our

Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling - Michelle Howard has been fabulous. She is available to problem solve, work with us on Nicollet Avenue trash needs, and do Community Education thru Events. She is also extremely responsive with Grafitti Reports.

Minneapolis Parks and Recreation - Working thru the 20 year 'Pathways to Places' 20 year park plan was challenging. Lots of differing opinions. They worked with us to organize extra community meetings and smaller discussion meetings. Staff partnered with us on our Berger Fountain renovation project and thru this planning effort we were able to use their Architect to draw up renovation design options. We came out of the Planning process with ideas to move ahead on and a solid partnership with MPRB staff.

Public Works Street & Parking & Traffic -

We had some serious lack of communication issues with the hooding of meters and street/sidewalk closures with no communication. Ward 7 Policy Aide Patrick Sadler and CM Goodman took this on and now do a weekly email on traffic closures and when meters are being hooded, city staff informs Patrick, he calls the CLPC Coordinator, and Jana spreads the word to the impacted area.

CPED Development Staff Hilary Dvorak has been Fabulous to work with. On Issues of development she provides excellent information, provides a timely response to our questions, and is very helpful.

The Minneapolis Planning Department appears to no longer partner with neighborhoods or believe that they are a partner to them. This is very present in the Community Engagement Plan for the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan. After 25 years of planning and development done together, it is unfortunate that this Department does not see or believe in the Value Neighborhoods can bring to a project or how connected to community neighborhoods are. It also appears that Place based development is an approach from the past, which is unfortunate since engaged impacted community increases the future sustainability of any project. We are concerned that the NCR Department may play a role in this lack of partnership with neighborhoods and are beginning to ask questions about structure, advisory committees and representation on those committees.

We have also had less than favorable encounters with the Minneapolis Planning Commission at times. Feedback received from residents is that they feel their time is wasted, their opinions are neither wanted nor respected, and that no Commissioner has read or knows that the Principles of Community Engagement exist.

6. Involvement of under-engaged stakeholder. Organizations should discuss which stakeholder groups are typically un engaged or under engaged in their work, and how they will work to engage these groups. Organizations should also discuss how the NCR Department could help with this work.

In 2017 we plan to reach out to the Jewish Community Council and explore ways that we can work together to learn more from our Russian Speaking Elders.

We have been very successful in the last three (3) years to build strong relationships with businesses.

Finally, we will:

- Continue to build partnerships with MCTC;
- Outreach and build a relationship with Emerson School; and as stated above -
- Explore ways to have conversations with our Russian Community;
- Outreach to Residents of new Apartment buildings in Loring Park, specifically LPM Apartments, Booth Manor, Eitel Apartments, 430 Oak Grove, and Loring City Apartments. Work with the Board to create Engagement strategies and activities and organize teams to implements; and

- Outreach to Loring Park's large Senior population done through a new Project - The Loring Park Memory Project.

6. Housing Activities. Housing & Housing Related Activities. Organizations should estimate the percentage of time to be spent on these issues.

A General breakdown of Organizational Focus and Staff Time is as follows below. Of course this can change if there is an issue like a neighborhood shooting or serious constituent concern.

50-60% Housing & Housing related to include - review of proposed housing development, following thru Council, organizing & notifying Loring Park Folks, Master Plan, ReZoning Study, LEED/ND activities in the future, protecting historic assets, staffing the Land Use Committee & Historic Action Resource Team

10-15% Admin - Contract Management, Bills, working with Accountant, monitoring City Council Committee agendas, Contract implementation & reports, Email/ Mail/ Social Media/Phone calls, Agendas/Minutes

30% Safety Issues - Staffing Livability Community Forum, Nicollet Safety Coalition and responding to individual constituent needs / concerns; participation in Community Events - lots of discussions and problem solving occurs at our Information Booth!

5-10 % Public Realm - Pathways to Places planning process, Berger Fountain Renovation, Safe Crossings to the Park, HN/Lyndale Public Realm, and Harmon Public Realm Project.

7. Unused Funds. CLPC set aside 2012 Community Participation Funds to be available for Neighborhood Priority Plan Implementation.

Please roll over any remaining Funds into the new 2017-2020 contract.

The Neighborhood Community Relations Department can help us by rebuilding relationships and developing mutual respect between the Minneapolis Planning Department and Neighborhoods. Neighborhoods came out of Planning Districts and should be an outreach arm and support for the Planning department. Fostering discussions on the value and logic of Placed Based Organizing would be extremely helpful. Reviewing the City Council approved Principles of Community Engagement with all Planning staff, the Planning Commission and Councilmembers is crucial. If Neighborhood Organization input is not welcome or wanted, this should be publicly stated. When we organize folks to a Planning Commission meeting and they are not listened to, it deters any future involvement or empowerment of that neighborhood resident. The experience with the City is soured and future involvement with the neighborhood organization threatened.

We could use help and resources to engage with our Spanish speaking Elementary School and Pre School.

Additionally, we hope to work with NCR on the Future of Neighborhoods 2020.

Contract Budget:	2017	2018	2019
Staff Expenses	\$54,000.00	\$54,000.00	\$54,000.00
Employee Benefits	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Professional Services	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Occupancy	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Communications/Outreach	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
Supplies & Materials	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Events	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
subtotal by year	\$71,800.00	\$71,800.00	\$71,800.00
Plus D&O allocation	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
subtotal with D&O	\$72,700.00	\$72,700.00	\$72,700.00
Total contract			\$218,100.00
NPP reserve:			\$9,750.00
Total application:			\$227,850.00

** Set aside fund to be carried over and utilized for future Neighborhood Priority Plans.

City Notes:

- Staff expenses should include payroll, FICA, and withholding, and Contract staff.
- Employee benefits should include health insurance, retirement, or other benefits.
- Professional services should include cost of temporary contractors, bookkeepers, accountants, etc.
- Occupancy should reflect costs related to rent, utilities, phone, websites, etc.
- 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 as block patrol, 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, cost of materials, postage, etc.).