

December 27, 2016

Gary Simpson, Chair
Jana Metge, Coordinator
Citizens for a Loring Park Community
1645 Hennepin Ave S, Ste 204
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Dear Gary and Jana,

Thank you for sending in the 2017-19 Community Participation Program (CPP) application for the Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC). The application describes the community engagement work that CLPC will carry out in the three years from 2017 to 2019, and how CPP funds will be used to support that work.

Based on my review I find that:

1. CLPC has developed a plan that details outreach activities for the 2017-19 CPP funding cycle and the community input processes leading to the development of its Neighborhood Priority Plans.
2. CLPC is requesting that the entire three year allocation of \$215,400 is contracted for community engagement activities over three years. CLPC will receive an additional \$900 annual allocation to cover the cost of Directors and Officers Insurance premiums. These funds will be added to CLPC's 2017-19 CPP contract.
3. CLPC is requesting that the current NPP reserve of \$9,750 be rolled over to the 2017-2019 funding cycle for future neighborhood priorities.
4. The CLPC Board approved this CPP application on November 14, 2016.
5. NCR staff has reviewed the proposed CPP application based on the guidelines approved by the Minneapolis City Council on August 5, 2016, and finds that it is consistent with those guidelines.

CLPC's CPP application is complete with the exception of your most recent organizational budget, your personnel policy and any job descriptions.

These documents should be submitted by June 30, 2017. CPP eligible expenses after that date will not be reimbursed until these documents are received by your Neighborhood Support Specialist at NCR. NCR staff is available to help with developing these documents.

Based on these findings, I have approved the CLPC CPP application and the three-year allocation of \$215,400 for this plan. One-third of these funds (\$71,800) will become available for contracting at the beginning of each year of the 2017-19 funding cycle.

Through the [Blueprint for Equitable Engagement](#), NCR has committed to *Support Strong Vibrant and Functional Neighborhood Organizations*, with the aim to "ensure that the department and neighborhoods organizations are working together to find creative ways to engage cultural communities." With this goal in mind, I have directed NCR staff to meet with each neighborhood organization by June 30, 2017 to discuss how we can further support your outreach goals.

Our review of demographic data for the Loring Park neighborhood shows that more than 25% of neighborhood residents are people of color, including 13.3% of residents who are African-American. The neighborhood also has a considerable population of Seniors (17.2%), persons with disabilities (15.4%), and foreign born (15.6%). Nearly 80% of the neighborhood's housing units are renter occupied. NCR Access and Outreach staff Ayianna Kennerly noted that the application did not specify outreach methods targeted to reach African-American residents. Some possible strategies include:

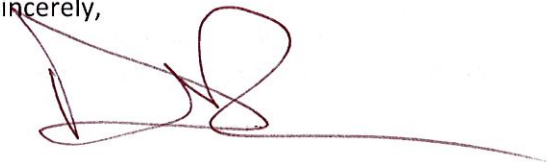
- Connect with landlords and explore Meet & Greet meetings with tenants
- Don't rely on door knocking alone to connect with renters—work with several staff or volunteers to make meaningful connections (meet with landlord, find a tenant in the building who is open to recruiting other tenants to be engaged)
- Consider issue specific meetings at local eateries
- Identify the 12% of African Americans in Loring Park—are they African American or African born. Once that's identified NCR staff can provide additional ideas on how to engage
- Consider surveying renters to identify issues they care most about and consider holding quarterly meetings on the topic or subcommittees
- Consider recruiting residents to participate in service learning or cultural heritage focused events. There are a number of organization's who serve less fortunate individuals in the Loring Park area—explore partnering to build rapport with residents
- Explore celebrating the various cultures in Loring Park. Ask the Russian/African/African American community to work together to hold an informal informational meeting on different cultures, cuisines, practices etc.

Please remember that donations and grants to other nonprofits are ineligible CPP expenses, and that expenses related to events and placemaking activities are eligible only if the activity's purpose is specifically to increase neighborhood awareness and involvement in the organization's planning and implementation efforts, and to develop new leadership and participation from under-represented communities. Ineligible activities cannot be reimbursed – even if they are listed in your CPP application. For further information, see NCR's guide to [Festivals and Community-Building Events](#) or contact our office. Additionally, please note that a separate NCR approval is required for neighborhood priorities.

Your Neighborhood Support Specialist at NCR will contact you soon to further discuss your outreach strategies. This meeting will include our Neighborhood and Access and Outreach staff, and occur by June 30, 2017. This effort is consistent with the [Blueprint for Equitable Engagement](#) strategy *Support Strong Vibrant and Functional Neighborhood Organizations* that aims to “ensure that the department and neighborhood organizations are working together to find creative ways to engage cultural communities”.

Please contact your Neighborhood Support Specialist Robert Thompson at (612) 673-2523 with any questions about your CPP funding. Best wishes for continued progress on all your community participation efforts.

Sincerely,



David M. Rubedor
Director

cc: Bob Cooper, DFD
Robert Thompson, NCR