

## Neighborhoods 2020 Lunch Conversation

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October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
City Departments

### BACKGROUND

As part of NCR's robust engagement surrounding the Neighborhoods 2020 project, there were two lunch conversations held in City Hall in October. The first conversation was on October 17<sup>th</sup> with City Council and Mayor staff. The second conversation was on October 30<sup>th</sup> from various City staff who work with Neighborhood Organizations on a regular basis. This is a summary of the October 30<sup>th</sup> Conversations.

### Question #1 - How do you interact with Neighborhoods?

- We send out notices about our programs to put in their newsletters and send to their email lists
- Public art permits – A lot of neighborhoods send artists to the CPED Public Art Program and are using art to wrap Utility Boxes.
- Outreach via programs @MPD – attend events and meetings. Bike Cops for Kids are in high demand at neighborhood events in the summer.
- Small area plans – attend meetings and get feedback
- Open Streets and Open Houses
- We do go outside neighborhoods but they are one part of helping us get the word out
- Neighborhoods are co-sponsoring the Comprehensive Plan (Mpls 2040) engagement this winter
- We send them RFP notices from CPED and they will help us hold meetings for RFPs for land use.
- They are a conduit for getting the word out about our job programs such as STEP UP
- NCR can help in streamlining the information that goes to neighborhoods and act as a way finder for getting information out.

### Question #2 - How do Neighborhood Orgs add value to your work?

- They are a key connector to residents and provide two way communication channel
- They help us Co-sponsor events and get people to come out on a week night
- Each group has a different thing going on. It can help inform what is happening in the City of Minneapolis In higher crime areas we try and get positive interactions with residents. Board members of neighborhood groups are a good way to help us do our jobs (MPD).
- Bike Cops for Kids are super popular with Neighborhoods. We give away Brand New Helmets, food, ice cream and much more. We did a group bike ride w/ the Cleveland neighborhood. We've worked with JACC also.
- Local arts connect with the City through neighborhoods
- They can help us connect to various business districts and also take advantage of our façade improvement grants
- Many of the neighborhoods do community Clean Sweeps and are taking advantage of Hennepin County Environmental grants. They help SW and R with door to door outreach and with Organics.
- Midtown helped us reach many other orgs. in the neighborhood also.

- Seward helped us get the word out on the APA award and helped us reach other agencies in the neighborhood
- They help facilitate two way communication. Help us get information into their newsletter, web site, etc.
- People want localized information and news. We can use the neighborhoods and next door for this.

**Question #3 - What would you change to improve the value of your relationship and / or the current neighborhood system?**

- Add resources to cultural organizations to help us spread the message
- Add more resources to different types of organizations that are not just geographically based
- Neighborhoods are not the perfect connector for all
- Apartments and Renters. We need to get more outreach to them. They are 51% of Minneapolis population.
- Is there a way we can streamline all the “asks” from City. The amount of demands and asks for neighborhood help is like a “firehose.”