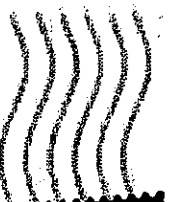


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via US Mail.

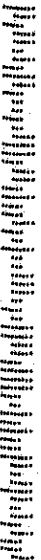
109 duplicate postcards

MINNEAPOLIS MN 554



Neighborhood & Community
Relations

105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401



55401-253800

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the **Neighborhoods 2020** plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

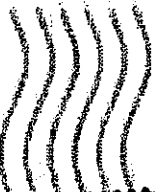
COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to **all** community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communication that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

MINNEAPOLIS MN 554

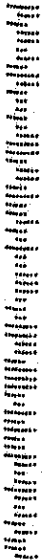
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Neighborhood & Community Relations

105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

55401-253800



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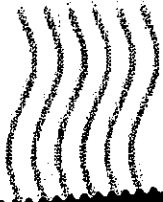
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MINNEAPOLIS MN 554

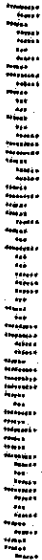
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Neighborhood & Community Relations

105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

55401-253800



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Sincerely,

What NENA Means to Me!

It's close
to my house
is having alot
of staff I
need.

109 Duplicate Postcards received
via US Mail.

109 duplicate postcards

My Name

Thank you
Sheri Han

What NENA Means to Me!

Es necesario
porque es de mucha
ayuda para el
soporte alimenticio
mio y de mi
familia .

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

mean help
with food
& supplies
when low
and have
no way to
other food
shops

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

Porque
sirve de
Mucho
La Comida
que dan!!

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

¡ Porque
son utiles
los Alimentos
Para nosotros.

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

Se necesita
la comida
Aqui

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

it help us plot

My Name

PEARL Battles

What NENA Means to Me!

I really need
help with these
hard items

food, laundry
stuff, food.

help will help
me and my kids

My Name

Aaron JD caulier

What NENA Means to Me!

el Programa
nos ayuda mucho
con los alimentos
Para nuestra fam.
es un excelente
Programa
Para la
comunidad.

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

En estos
tiempos, no tenemos
trabajo y los
niños están en
casa, es de mucha
ayuda. y nos
beneficiamos,
porque solo una
persona trabaja
en mi familia,
Me agrada mucho
saber que tenemos
un gran apoyo
de ustedes

My Name

Muchas
gracias.

What NENA Means to Me!

Nena para mí
Significa no
preocuparme por
algunas cosas

la comida es
vital y para mí
y mi familia

es una bendición
que tengamos

My Name

esta distribución
de comida

adulta
mayoría

What NENA Means to Me!

es muy importante
los fondos del
gobierno para
Seguir ayudando
con comida
ya que muchos
no tenemos
trabajo

My Name

Teresa V.L

What NENA Means to Me!

Did you ever

STAVE?

Maybe you would

consider

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

It's a
blessing!

My Name

Marilyn
Stamos

What NENA Means to Me!

It means being
able to feed my family.
Having convenient
location to pick up
food for my children
& I.

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

We need
our community
organizations
for service &
info.

My Name

Ellie

What NENA Means to Me!

I have been laid
off since March.

We ~~need~~ need more
help than what
the government is
doing.

My Name

Marie H.

What NENA Means to Me!

I count on
the help
and very
MUCH
appreciate
it all!

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

You are
messed up
for cutting
funding for this
community.
I hope you rot in

HELL!!

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

It means
everything
I have NO
food!
THANKS

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

help me to
get food to
my family

My Name **Gloria Morecho**

What NENA Means to Me!

Keep funding
Please because
~~we~~ we need the
Community to be
Strong.

My Name

Kaltuma

What NENA Means to Me!

NENA has helped
us a lot because
we were layed
of and it helps
us because they
provide us with
stuff that we
need at home

My Name

Estefania

What NENA Means to Me!

Help with food
before my
EBT card
arrives- so
my kids can
eat!

My Name

Laura

What NENA Means to Me!

They help us
because of this
whole pandemic
and we were
laid off work

My Name

Yesenia

What NENA Means to Me!

The things
that they
give helps
us because
the money that
could've been used
for that can be
use for other
Flor bills.

My Name

What NENA Means to Me!

It's the
Biggest
help I have
received
since COVID

My Name

Endy

What NENA Means to Me!

It comes in
handy at
the right time
for some or
most ppl.

My Name

Nene.

What NENA Means to Me!

Means alot
food!

My Name

Jasmin

What NENA Means to Me!

There's a solid
line all day.

Going to community
where they are.

My Name

Very popular
Now!

What NENA Means to Me!

Don't cut
the funding.
Our area still
needs help.

My Name

Angel

What NENA Means to Me!

I think quitting
the funding would
be cruel because
there is a lot of
people not receiving
any government
assistance that
need the help for
food or household
good!

My Name

Rosa Salazar

What NENA Means to Me!

It's great
for my family.
Thank you

My Name

Sadia

What NENA Means to Me!

It's helpful

It's appreciated

Well needed.

Thanks

My Name

Marvin

From: agiesen@usinternet.com
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood funding
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 12:02:49 PM

Hello

I heard from my neighborhood association today that their funding is apt to get cut by two-thirds! No doubt the City has incurred more than normal expense this year, but cutting neighborhoods is a terrible way to do it.

My association is excellent at keeping us informed of looming events and issues. And it is a wonderful way of connecting neighbors.

Let the neighborhoods share some of the budget pain, but do not try to balance the budget on the neighborhood's back.

Al Giesen
45 E Minnehaha Parkway

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Weinmann, Karlee](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: FW: Neighborhood Association funding
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 7:53:11 AM

Good morning,

Please add the below comments received by Council Member Schroeder to the public record on Neighborhoods 2020.

Thanks,
Karlee

Karlee Weinmann

Policy Aide

[Council Member Jeremy Schroeder, Ward 11](#)

City of Minneapolis – City Council

350 S. Fifth St. -- Room 307
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Office: (612) 673-2211

Cell: (612) 240-2129

karlee.weinmann@minneapolismn.gov

she/her/hers

Subscribe to the Ward 11 email newsletter [here](#).

From: agiesen@usinternet.com <agiesen@usinternet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 12:19 PM
To: Schroeder, Jeremy <jeremy.schroeder@minneapolismn.gov>
Subject: Neighborhood Association funding

Hello Jeremy

I heard from my Tangletown Neighborhood Association that their funding is apt to get cut by two-thirds! No doubt the City has incurred more than normal expense this year, but cutting neighborhoods is a terrible way to do it. It will essentially mute the local voice. While your informative newsletters are helpful – they are not everything residents need to know.

My association is excellent at keeping us informed of looming events and issues. And it is also a wonderful way of connecting neighbors.

Case in point – it was the Association that first brought the Park Board’s plan about the limiting access to the Parkway to my attention. Whether or not you agree with me on that issue, there are plenty of your constituents who were pleased that I found out and pulled together with others to protect their interests.

Let the neighborhoods share some of the budget pain, but please do not try to balance the budget on the neighborhood's back. The practical effect of that would be the Council stifling community input. (I know at least some Council members would prefer that based on the sneaky way 2040 gathered momentum with limited community knowledge about the magnitude of the change.)

Al Giesen
45 E Minnehaha Parkway

From: [Alice Lubeck](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Sunday, September 27, 2020 3:08:33 PM

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that many Southside neighborhood organizations face a drastic cut in funding with the Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines. I ask that you revise the guidelines and keep funding at the current level with any adjustments needed for inflation. It is vital that neighborhood organizations be able to maintain their current funding to foster vitality and connectedness within the neighborhoods. I live in the Corcoran neighborhood, and just moved to Minneapolis two years ago. The events and discussions the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization put on helped me connect to my community in a way no other organization could have.

Thank you,
Alice

--

Alice Lubeck
she/her/hers
M.S. Resource Conservation
cell: 605-940-2385

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Alina Trukhina](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 public comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:20:03 PM

Hi, I wanted to make a comment for the neighborhood association funding changes proposed. The equitable funding proposal is a great one, and would really help the neighborhoods that need it most. Please, I encourage the council to pass this plan. I was surprised that council Members Anderea Jenkins and Cam Gordon voted against it. I live in Midtown Phillips, and there are many things that this could fund that other neighborhoods do not need. Sharps containers program, for example, so that people doing drugs outside don't throw their used needles everywhere. I got stabbed with one while gardening in the back yard. How about some grants for community gardens? Many people are poor and healthy food is expensive. How about violence prevention? These issues are pretty unique to the neighborhoods, and city money should go to where it is really needed, not to putting up a fountain while blocking affordable housing.

-Alina

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Allison Hunt](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Cut Funding for Tangletown Neighborhood
Date: Friday, June 12, 2020 1:49:47 PM

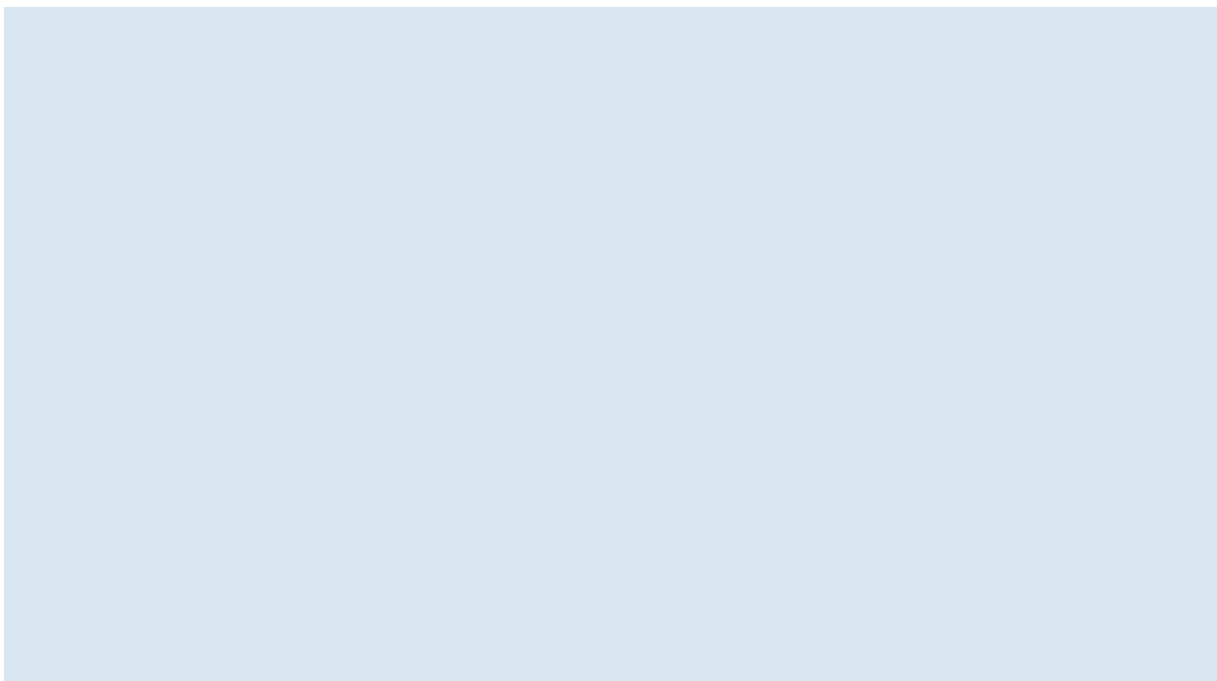
Hello, I was recently asked by my neighborhood association to speak out against a proposed funding cut to Tangletown. (See Below.) This is my public comment.

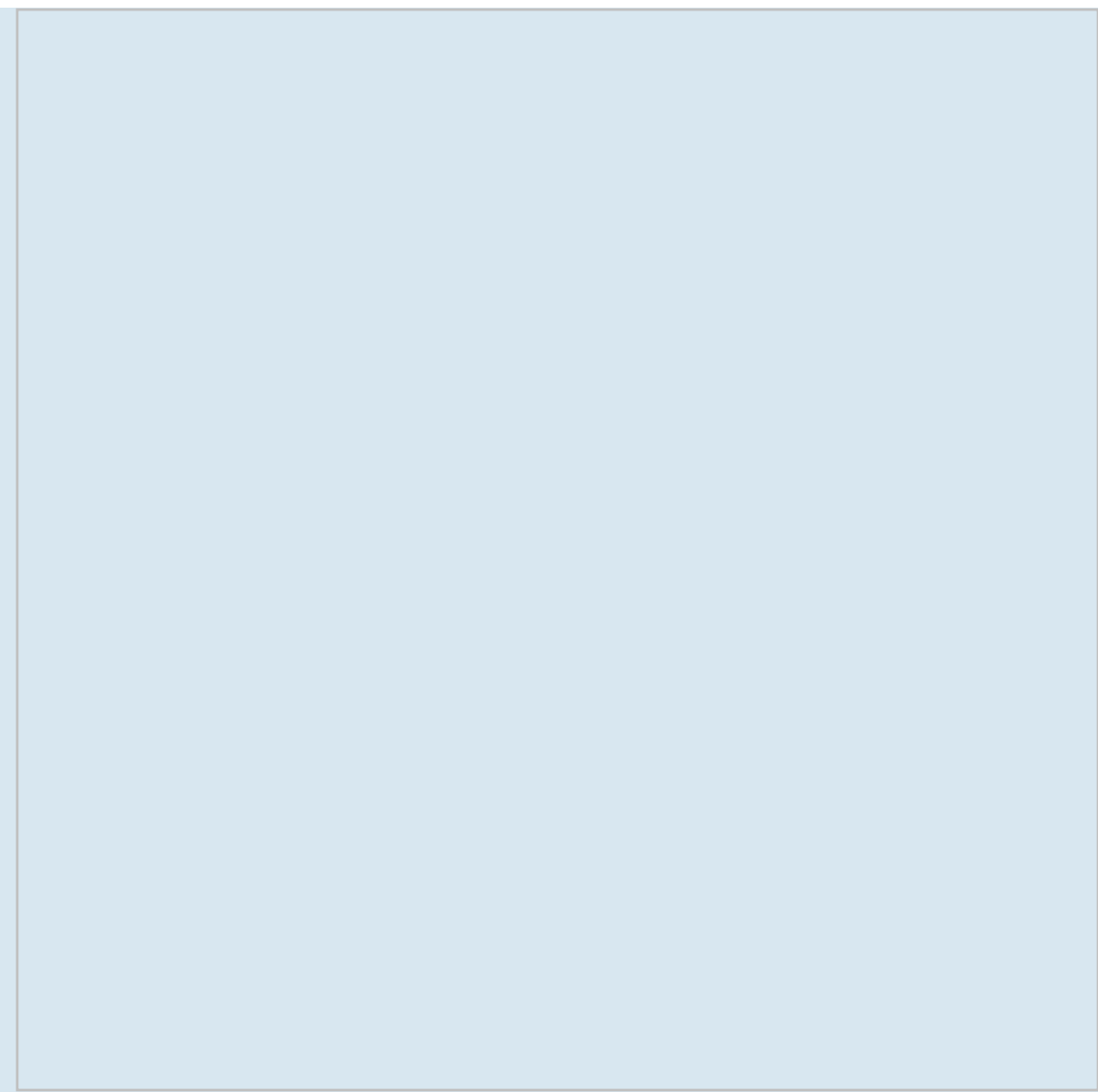
As a resident of Tangletown, I am frankly appalled at the Tangletown Neighborhood Association's request that we speak out against this proposed change in neighborhood funding. The casual disregard of the “focus on equity” in favor of this affluent neighborhood receiving funds is abhorrent, given the blatant and deadly inequality our city is attempting to rectify. I do not need a free churro on the 4th of July. I need my neighbors in Southeast and North Minneapolis—and in underfunded neighborhoods throughout the city—to feel safe in their homes. To have food on the table for their families. To have thriving libraries and community spirit. To breathe. To live. I have no doubt that there are residents of Tangletown who are facing hardships right now. But I have walked these beautiful streets full of its beautiful homes and I know in my bones that this neighborhood could support itself and its residents without any city funding whatsoever. An institution has no right to funding. Human beings have a right to survive. And if this funding change will help more of our Black and Indigenous neighbors not just survive but thrive, it is a human rights violation to oppose it.

Sincerely, and with the heartbroken acknowledgement of my city’s suffering,
Allison Hunt

----- Forwarded message -----

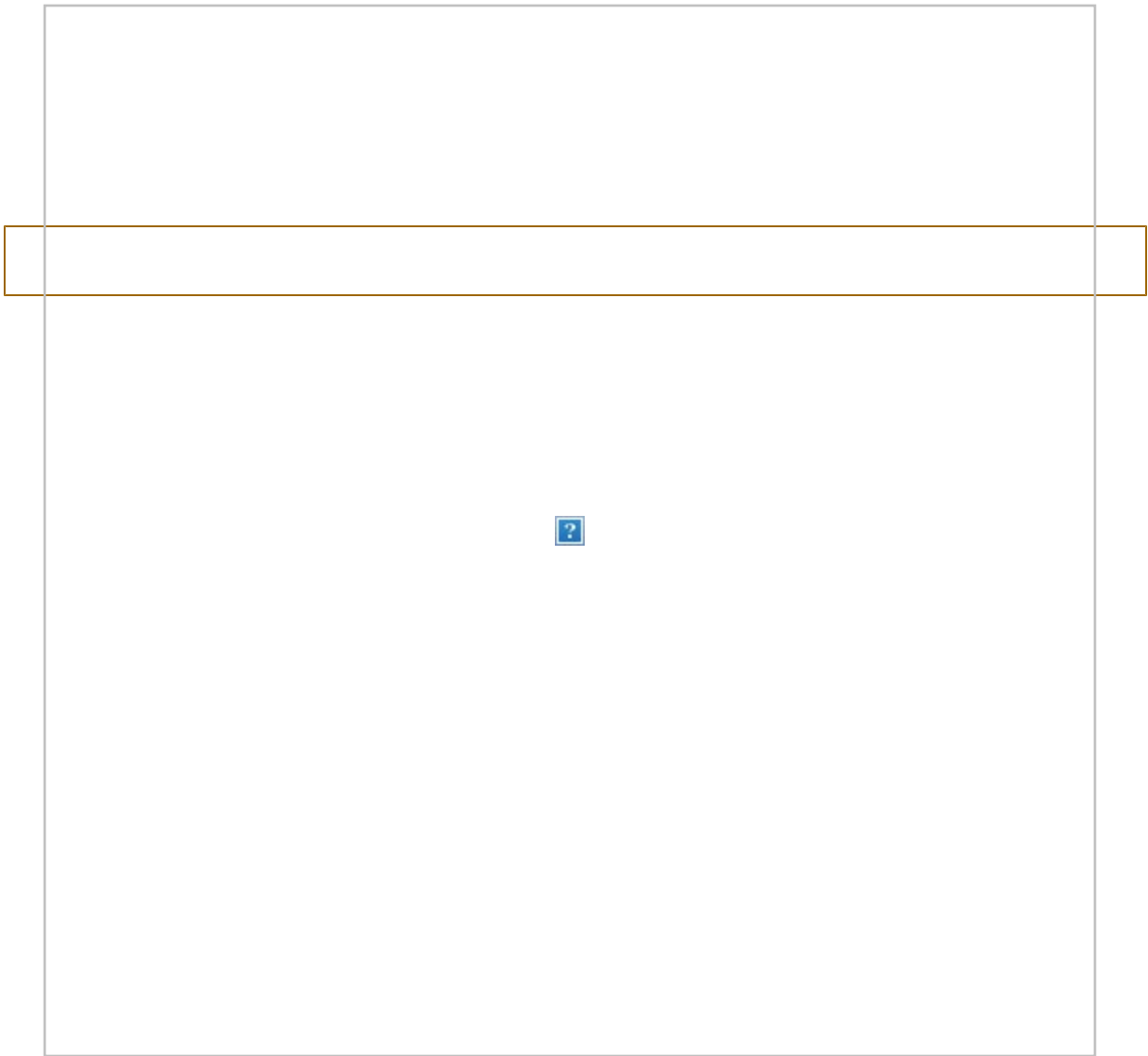
From: **Tangletown Neighborhood Association** <info@tangletown.org>
Date: Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 3:24 PM
Subject: Tangletown June E-News -Fourth of July Updates
To: <allisonjoneshunt@gmail.com>





It's been a VERY hard several weeks. We acknowledge the isolation, struggle, anger, and heartache our residents have felt through the pandemic and more recently through the murder of George Floyd and the resulting protests and destruction. Please stay tuned for updates related to actions our neighborhood may take after our upcoming board discussion on June 15 (see below for more details).

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



Fourth of July Plans

For years, Tangletown has celebrated the Fourth of July in community at Fuller Park. And while we can't do that this year, we do want to offer an opportunity for our neighborhood to honor this annual tradition in a new way this year.

Last year was one of our largest Fourth of July celebrations yet, so we're proud to dedicate revenue from last year's event towards supporting our local businesses this year. By participating in this year's events, the first 50 entries will receive a voucher for churro donuts at El Jefe and all entries will be entered to win \$400 worth of gift cards to local business favorites like Sun Street Breads, The Foundry Home Goods, Simply Jane, Órale, Cafe Ena, and more.

There are multiple ways for all ages and abilities to participate:

- Decorate your sidewalk/window/yard/home

Complete our neighborhood scavenger hunt (we'll provide both easier clues for our young friends and more challenging ones for adults)

- Walk the neighborhood to enjoy the decorations (a map of registered locations will be provided)

[Please register here by July 1](#) to participate and receive additional information.

In order to enter to win the voucher for churro donuts and \$400 worth of gift cards, participants must submit photos of their decorations or scavenger hunt by July 7.

[Register Here](#)

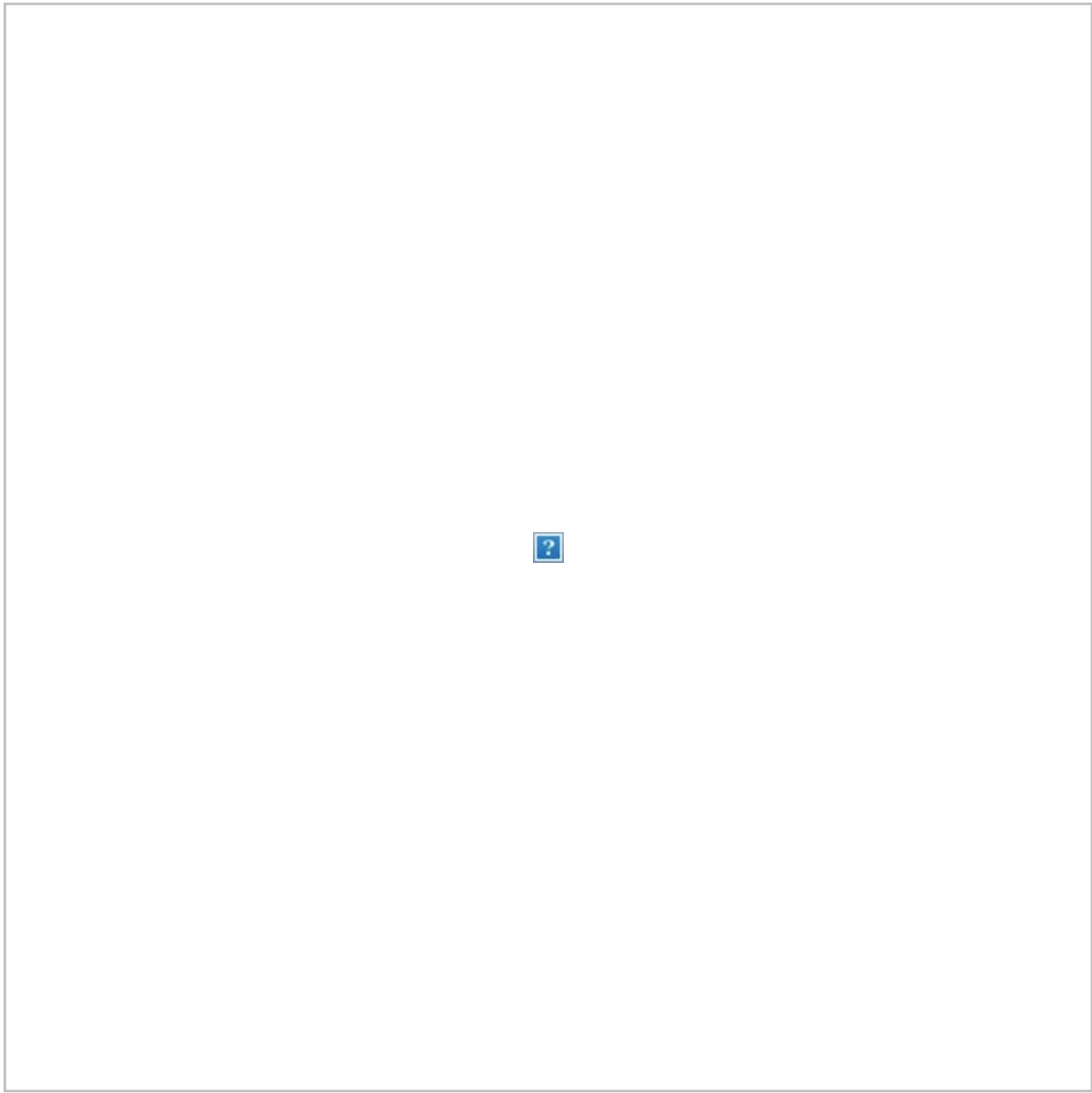
CALL TO ACTION:

You could lose your neighborhood association. We need your help.

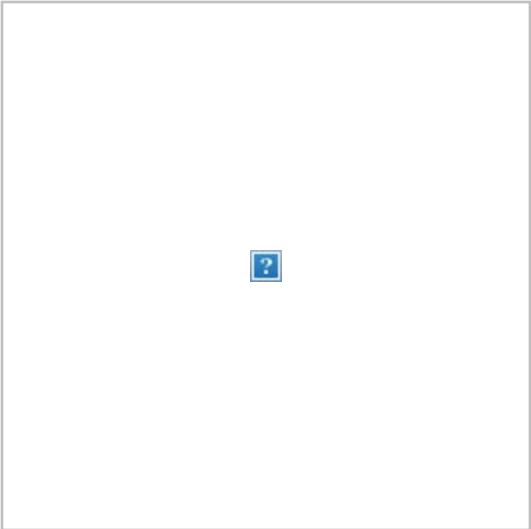
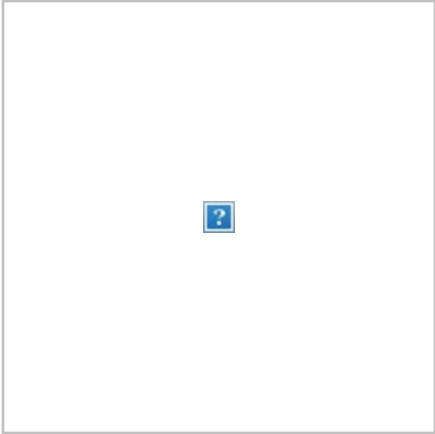
The way neighborhoods are funded is changing in 2021. Under the proposed neighborhood funding plan (ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/2020), many neighborhoods in Southwest Minneapolis would drop to just 1/3 of their current funding level. For Tangletown, we would decrease from our current \$31,708 in annual funding to a \$10,000 base plus a possible \$3,477 in equity funding which is not guaranteed. We support the focus on equity in this plan, however, neighborhoods like Tangletown will see a dramatic cut in programs and services if our funding is cut this drastically.

We're asking Tangletown residents to submit public comment in support of our neighborhood association. We've even put together a template email you can copy and paste to keep things simple for you. Click below to learn more and submit your public comment.

[Learn More and Submit Your Public Comment](#)

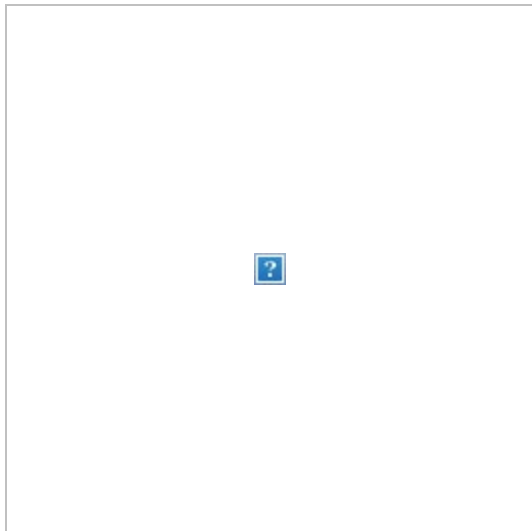


**Tangletown Board Meeting
June 15 7:00pm**

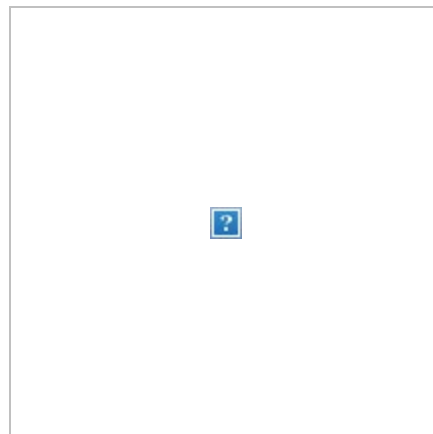


A primary agenda item for our June

board meeting will include how we as a neighborhood association can best support Minneapolis businesses and neighbors impacted by the recent destruction. We will also discuss what advocacy role we can play in advancing racial justice in our city. Additionally, we'll get to know our new board members, host officer elections, and review our annual work plan. We will meet virtually on Monday June 15 at 7:00pm. All neighbors are invited to join us by [clicking on this link](#).



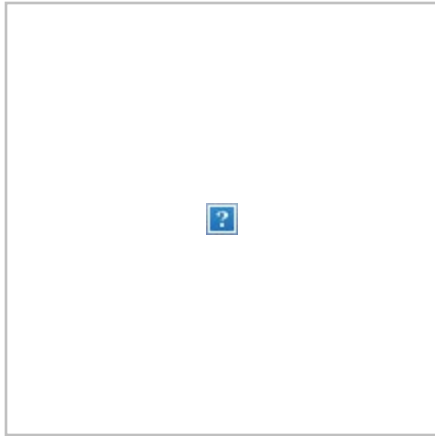
Volunteer at the Water Tower



If you appreciate the beauty of our local landmark or appreciate a good afternoon in the mud, we'd sure love your help! Over the summer months, we partner volunteers to water and weed the landscaping at the base of the Washburn Water Tower. Will you sign up for a shift? [Sign up here.](#)

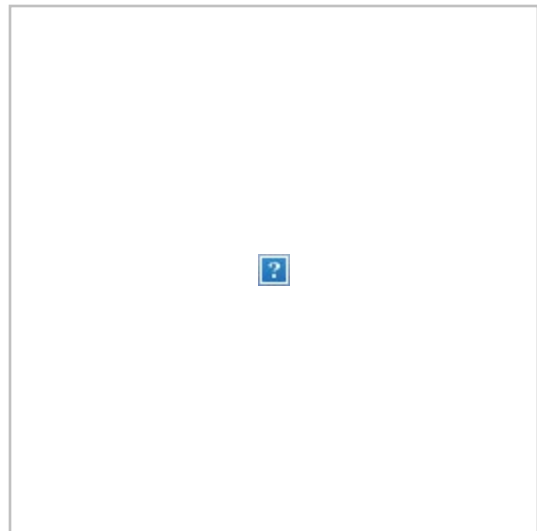
[LEARN MORE >](#)

Adopt a Storm Drain

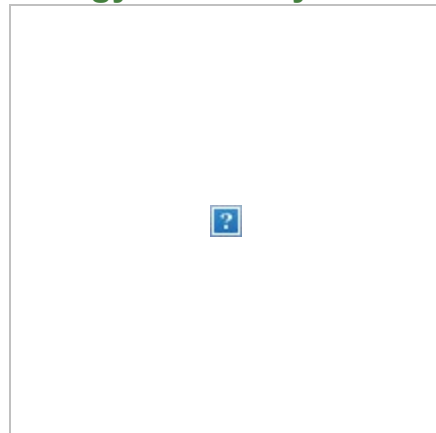
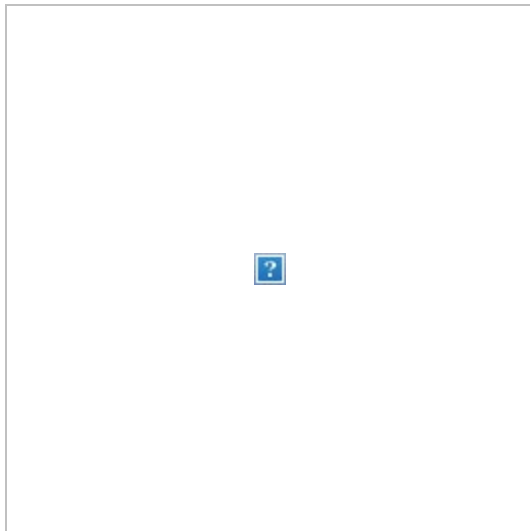


Did you know that 56 households have adopted 117 storm drains in Tangle town? While that's amazing, that represents only 1/4 of the total storm drains in Tangle town, leaving literally hundreds of storm drains ready to be adopted by YOU! We offer free tools/supplies to help you take care of your drain(s). Adopt a drain today to protect your local waterways.

[LEARN MORE >](#)



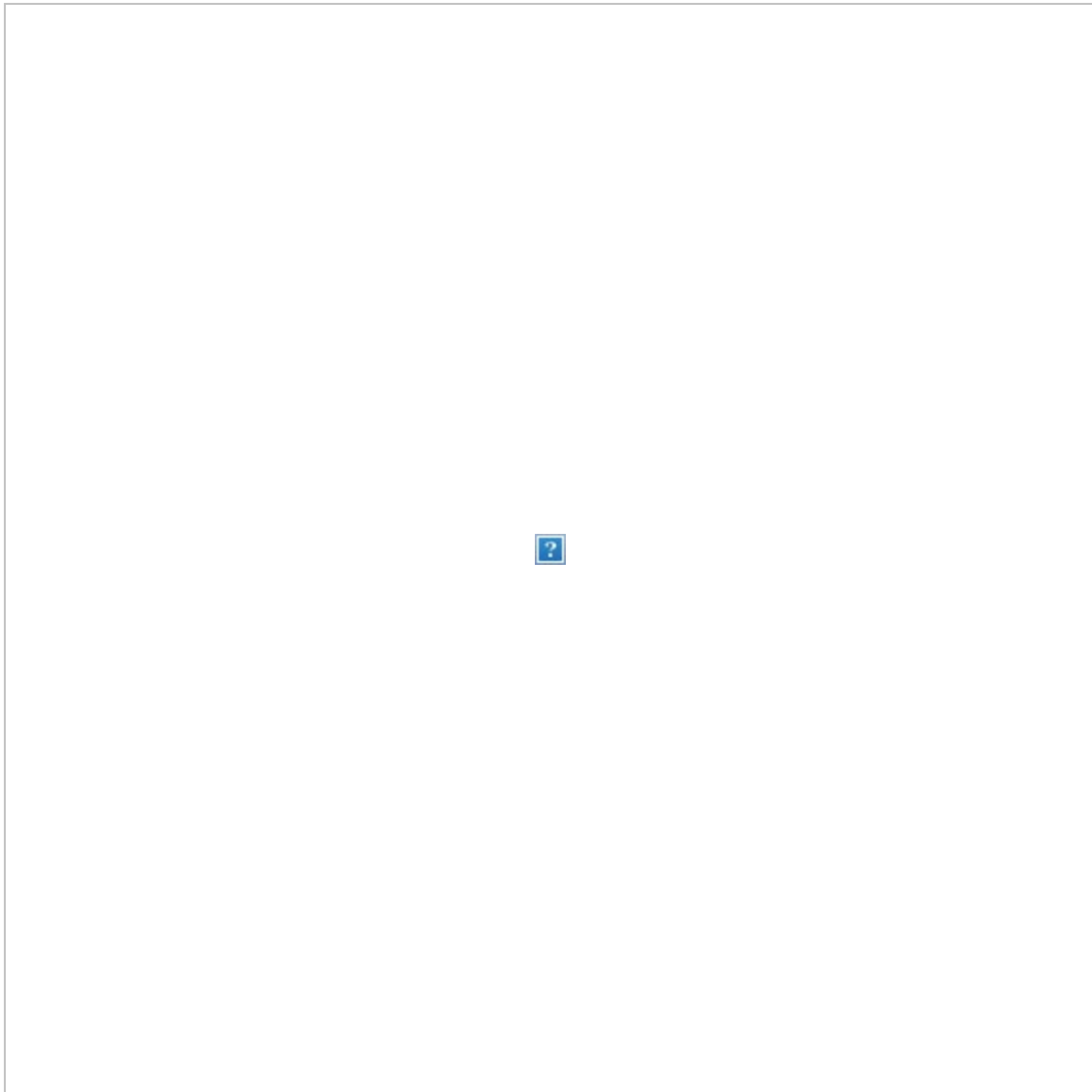
Energy Efficiency Rebate



As temperatures start to rise for the summer, it's a great time to consider how to make your home more energy efficient. Insulation and attic sealing helps your home stay cooler

in the summer months and save money on those expensive AC costs. We offer a \$500 rebate match of CenterPoint's rebate meaning you can save up to \$1,500 on your project!

[LEARN MORE >](#)

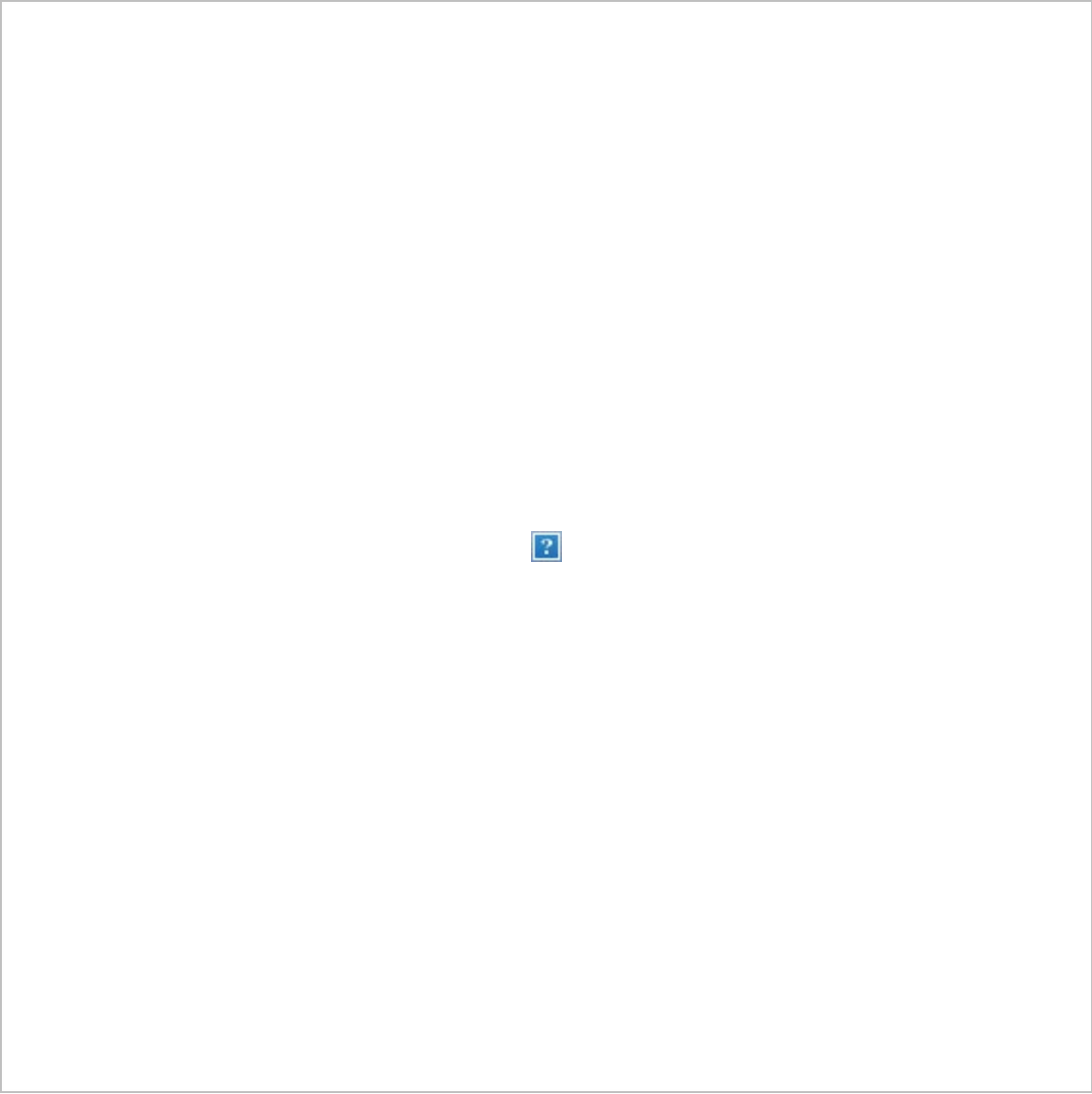
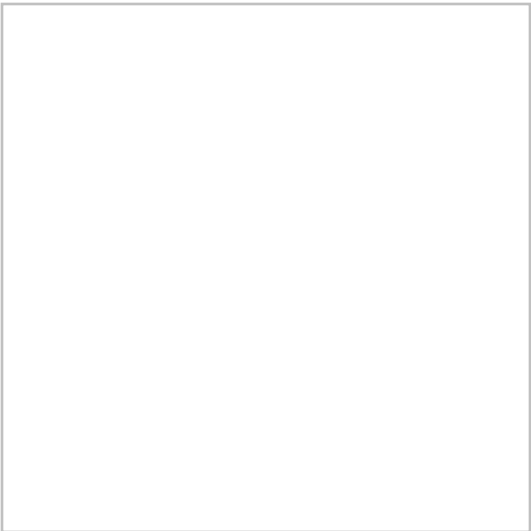


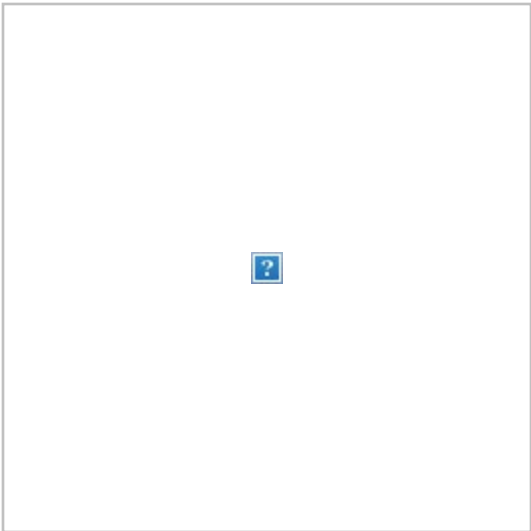
Sustainability Sam's Foray into Gardening

Hello Tangletowners! We didn't receive a new sustainability question this month, so we thought we would share with you Keri's

(one of the voices behind Sustainability Sam) very first adventure in vegetable gardening as a follow up to [last month's post](#).

[READ MORE >](#)



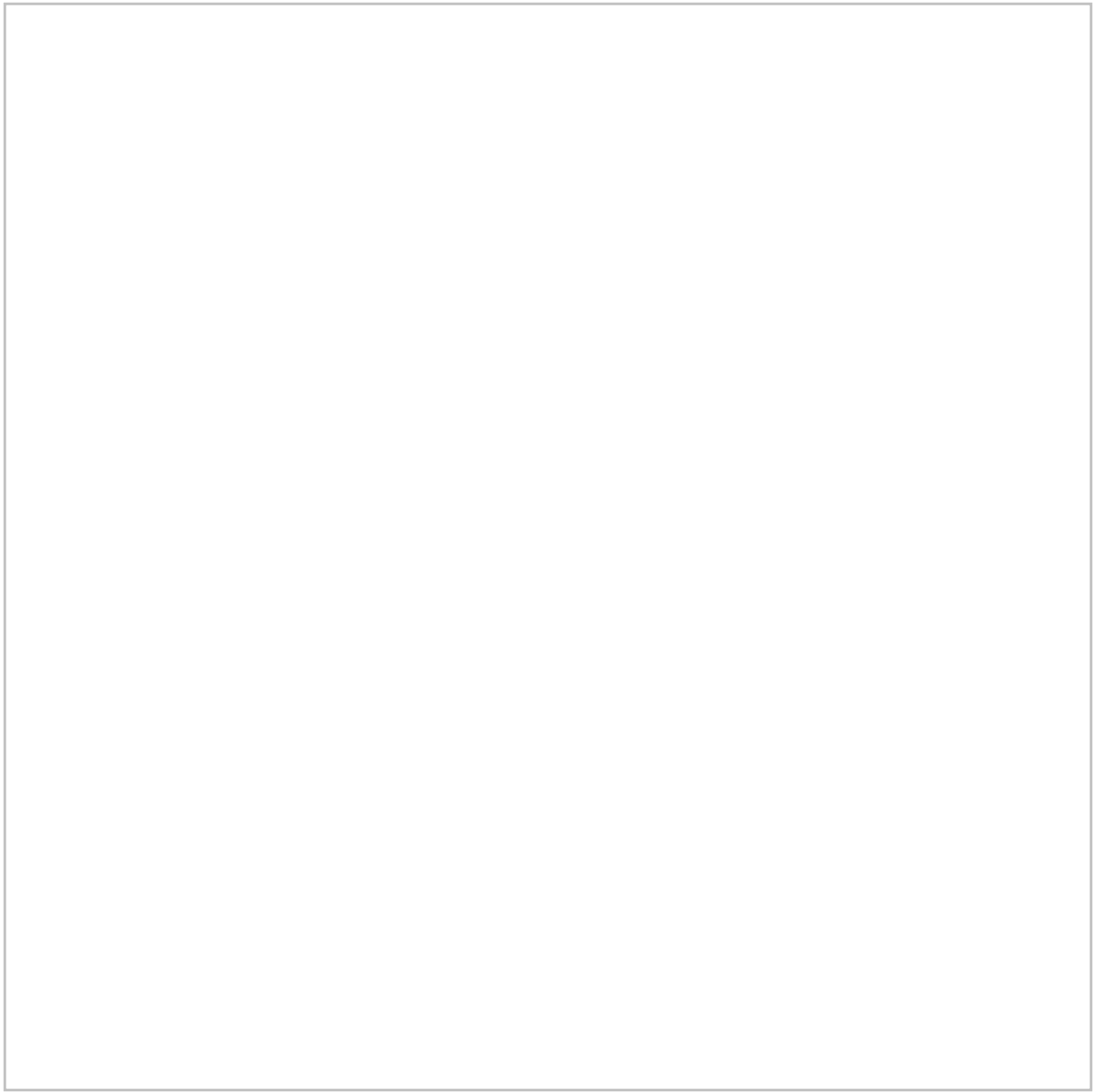


We continue to offer support to our neighbors and businesses during the pandemic. If you are a neighbor in need of support or willing to offer your support, [learn more here](#).

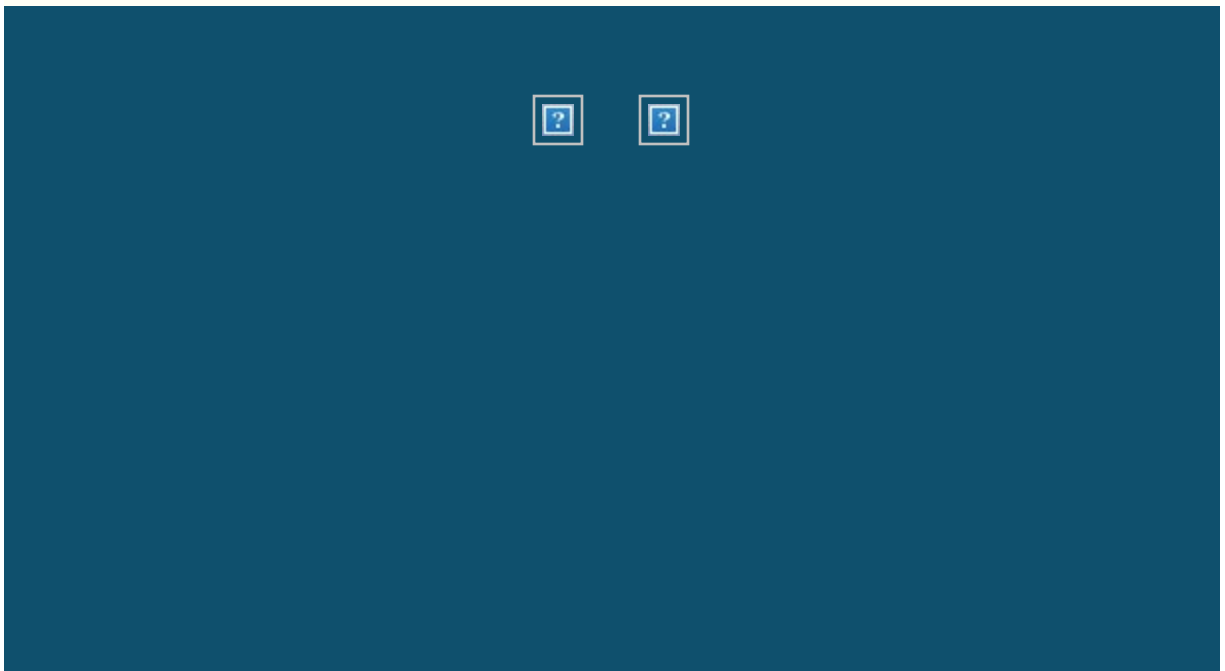
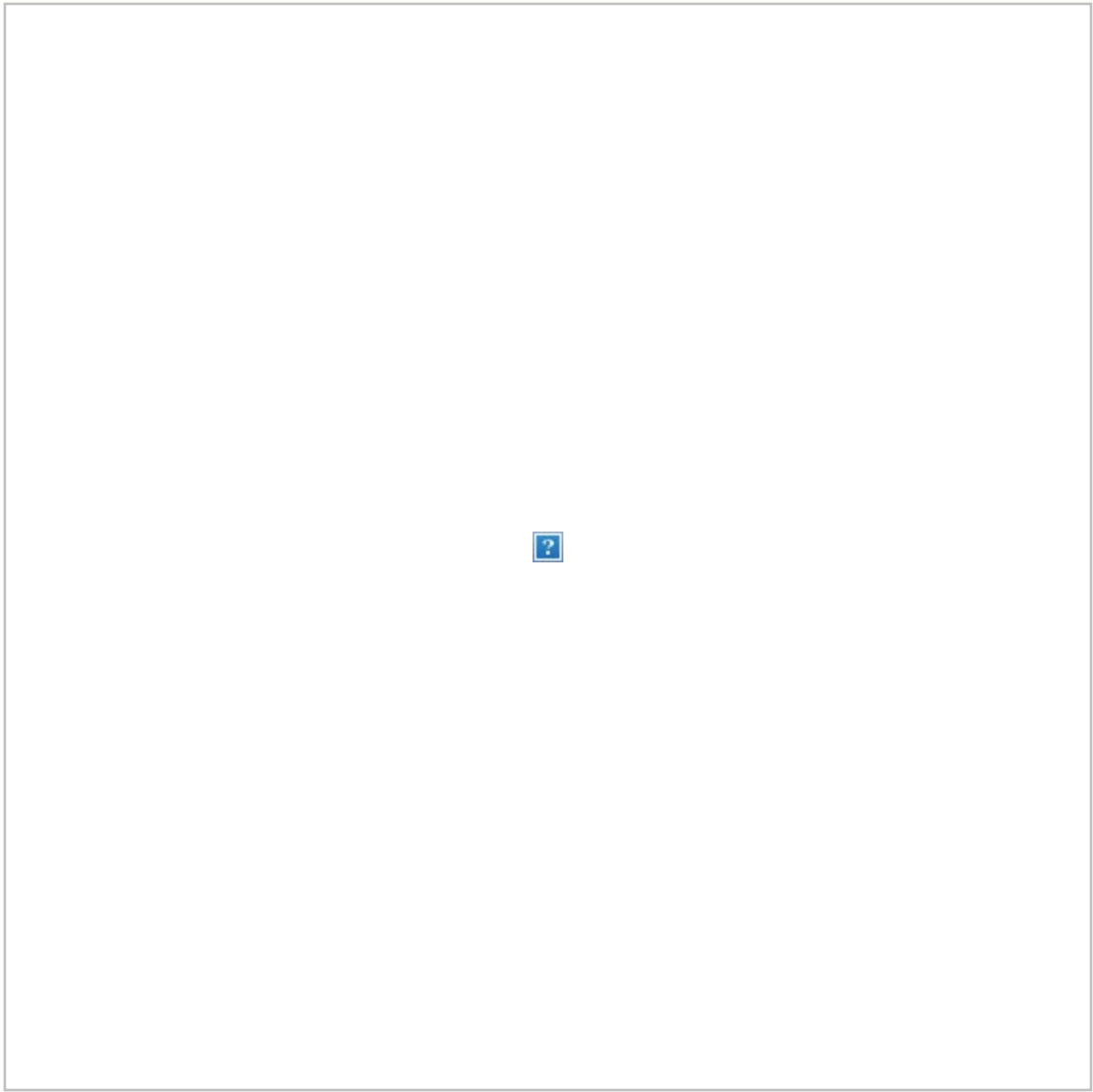
We're also keeping our business listing regularly updated which includes up to date operations and hours of service. There have been lots of updates so far in June. [You can find our business listing here](#).

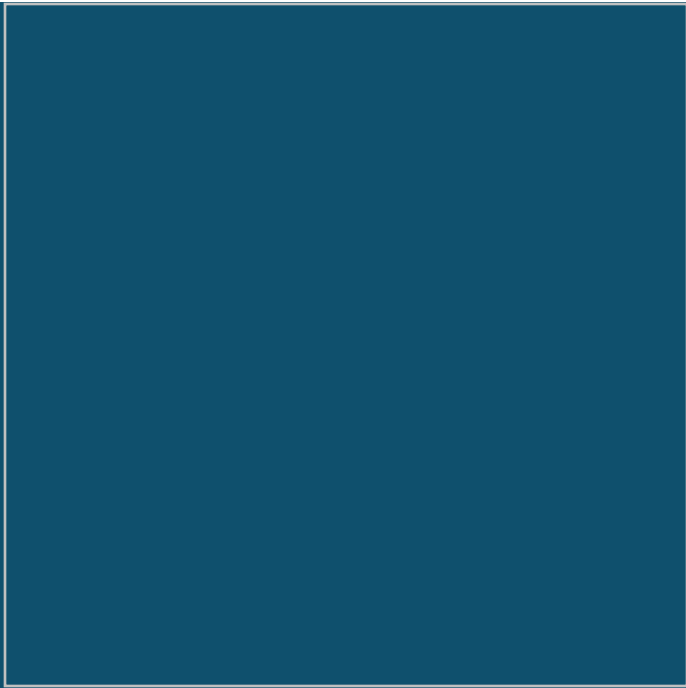
The City of Minneapolis sends a weekly email with updates that we recommend subscribing to for the latest information. You can sign up on [the City website](#) which also has comprehensive information and resources.

[READ MORE >](#)



TANGLETOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO
THANK ITS GENEROUS SPONSORS



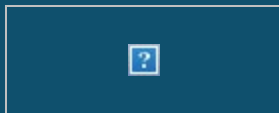


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Tangletown Neighborhood Association
PO Box 19347
Minneapolis, Mn 55419

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From: [Allison Hunt](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Cut Funding for Tangletown Neighborhood
Date: Friday, June 12, 2020 1:49:47 PM

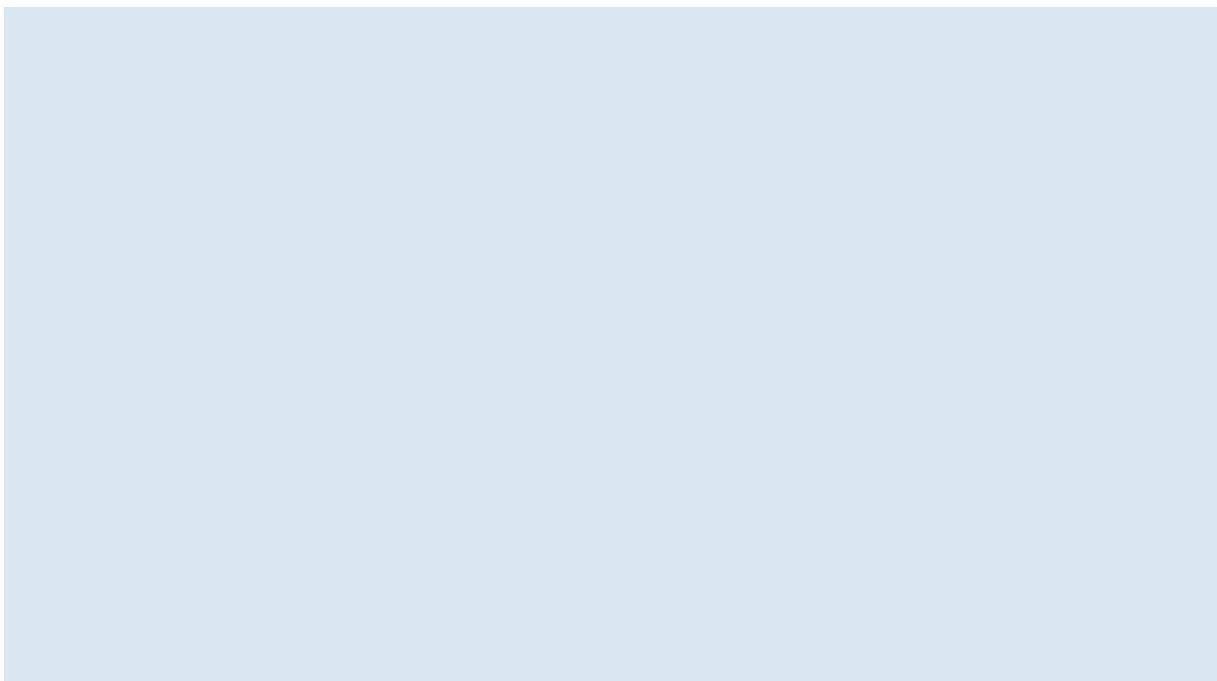
Hello, I was recently asked by my neighborhood association to speak out against a proposed funding cut to Tangletown. (See Below.) This is my public comment.

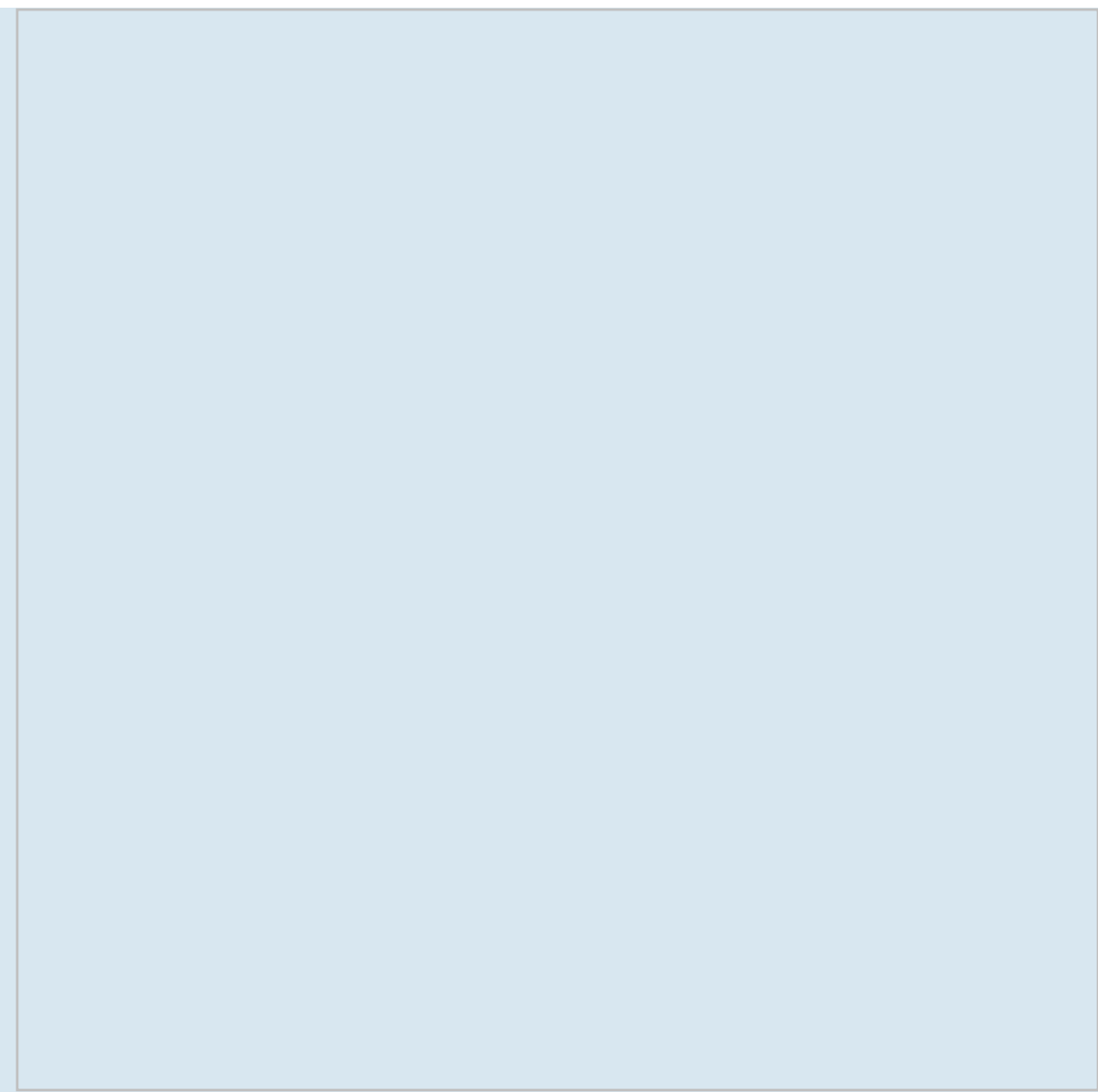
As a resident of Tangletown, I am frankly appalled at the Tangletown Neighborhood Association's request that we speak out against this proposed change in neighborhood funding. The casual disregard of the “focus on equity” in favor of this affluent neighborhood receiving funds is abhorrent, given the blatant and deadly inequality our city is attempting to rectify. I do not need a free churro on the 4th of July. I need my neighbors in Southeast and North Minneapolis—and in underfunded neighborhoods throughout the city—to feel safe in their homes. To have food on the table for their families. To have thriving libraries and community spirit. To breathe. To live. I have no doubt that there are residents of Tangletown who are facing hardships right now. But I have walked these beautiful streets full of its beautiful homes and I know in my bones that this neighborhood could support itself and its residents without any city funding whatsoever. An institution has no right to funding. Human beings have a right to survive. And if this funding change will help more of our Black and Indigenous neighbors not just survive but thrive, it is a human rights violation to oppose it.

Sincerely, and with the heartbroken acknowledgement of my city’s suffering,
Allison Hunt

----- Forwarded message -----

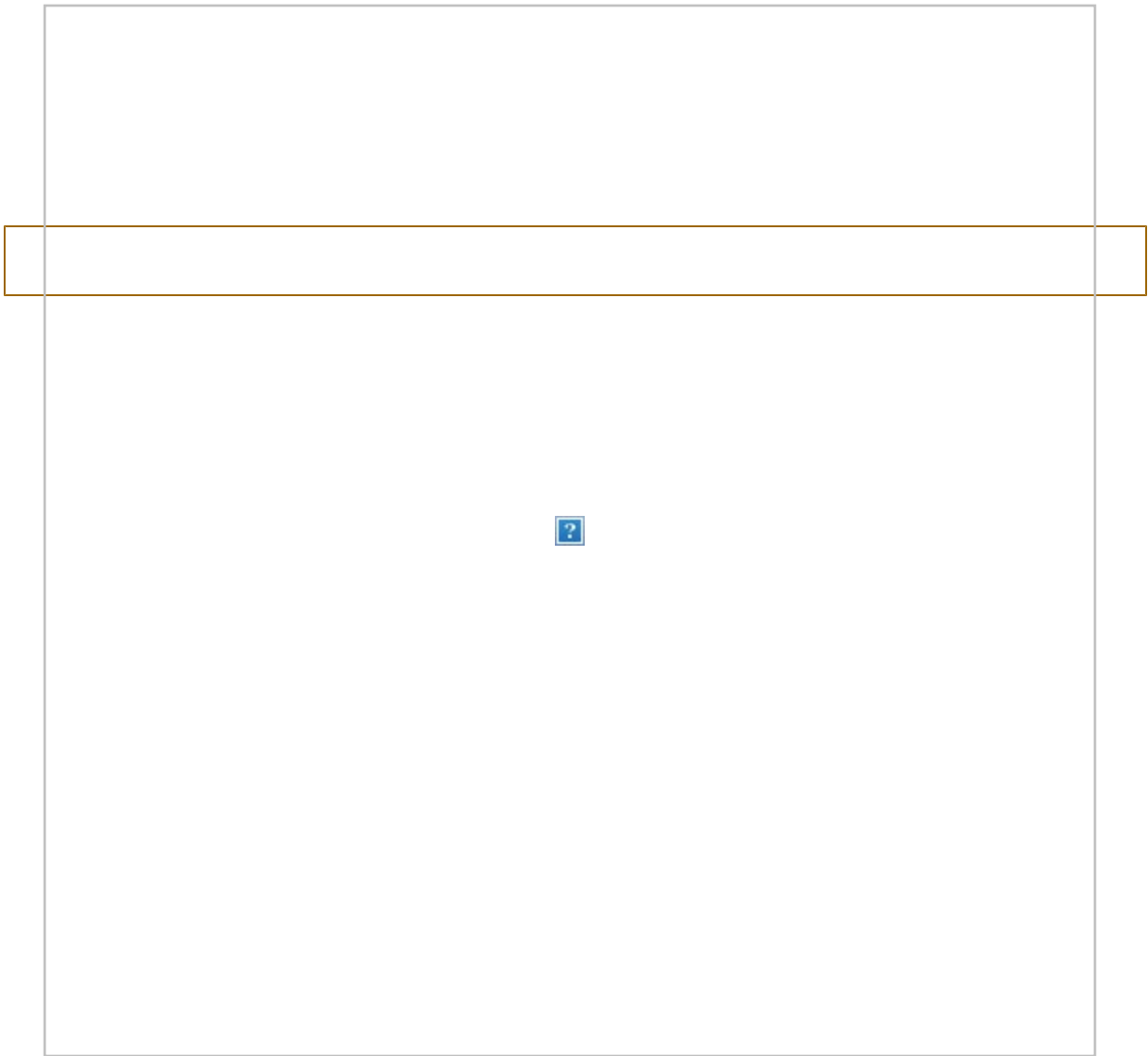
From: **Tangletown Neighborhood Association** <info@tangletown.org>
Date: Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 3:24 PM
Subject: Tangletown June E-News -Fourth of July Updates
To: <allisonjoneshunt@gmail.com>





It's been a VERY hard several weeks. We acknowledge the isolation, struggle, anger, and heartache our residents have felt through the pandemic and more recently through the murder of George Floyd and the resulting protests and destruction. Please stay tuned for updates related to actions our neighborhood may take after our upcoming board discussion on June 15 (see below for more details).

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



Fourth of July Plans

For years, Tangletown has celebrated the Fourth of July in community at Fuller Park. And while we can't do that this year, we do want to offer an opportunity for our neighborhood to honor this annual tradition in a new way this year.

Last year was one of our largest Fourth of July celebrations yet, so we're proud to dedicate revenue from last year's event towards supporting our local businesses this year. By participating in this year's events, the first 50 entries will receive a voucher for churro donuts at El Jefe and all entries will be entered to win \$400 worth of gift cards to local business favorites like Sun Street Breads, The Foundry Home Goods, Simply Jane, Órale, Cafe Ena, and more.

There are multiple ways for all ages and abilities to participate:

- Decorate your sidewalk/window/yard/home

Complete our neighborhood scavenger hunt (we'll provide both easier clues for our young friends and more challenging ones for adults)

- Walk the neighborhood to enjoy the decorations (a map of registered locations will be provided)

[Please register here by July 1](#) to participate and receive additional information.

In order to enter to win the voucher for churro donuts and \$400 worth of gift cards, participants must submit photos of their decorations or scavenger hunt by July 7.

[Register Here](#)

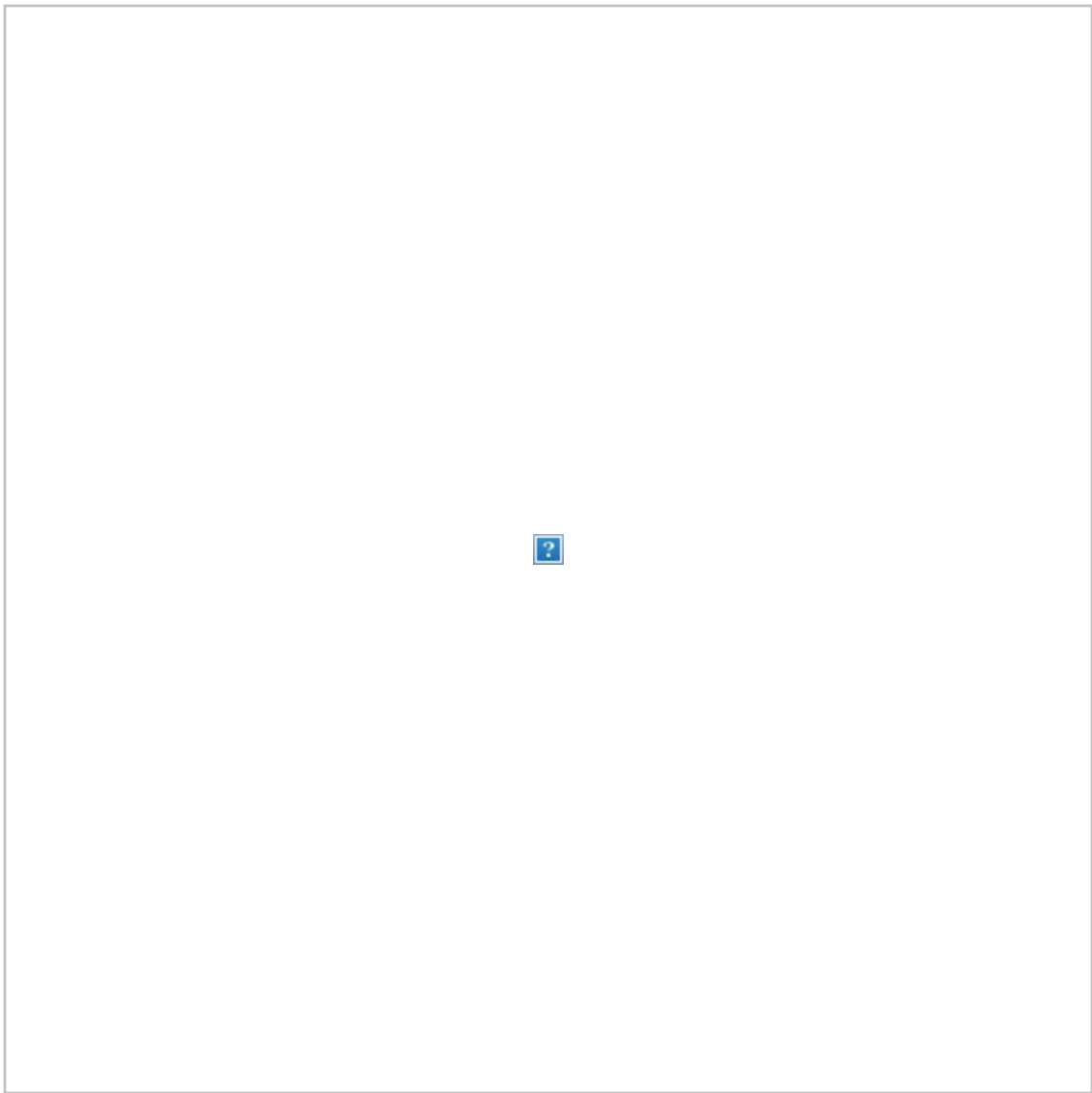
CALL TO ACTION:

You could lose your neighborhood association. We need your help.

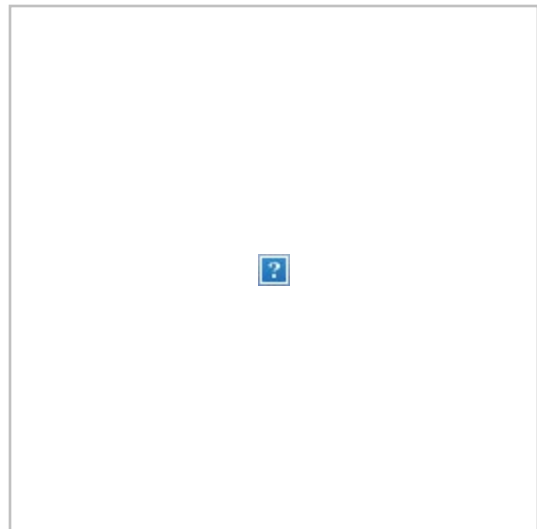
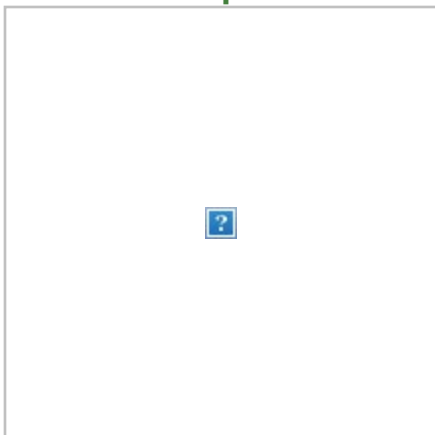
The way neighborhoods are funded is changing in 2021. Under the proposed neighborhood funding plan (ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/2020), many neighborhoods in Southwest Minneapolis would drop to just 1/3 of their current funding level. For Tangletown, we would decrease from our current \$31,708 in annual funding to a \$10,000 base plus a possible \$3,477 in equity funding which is not guaranteed. We support the focus on equity in this plan, however, neighborhoods like Tangletown will see a dramatic cut in programs and services if our funding is cut this drastically.

We're asking Tangletown residents to submit public comment in support of our neighborhood association. We've even put together a template email you can copy and paste to keep things simple for you. Click below to learn more and submit your public comment.

[Learn More and Submit Your Public Comment](#)

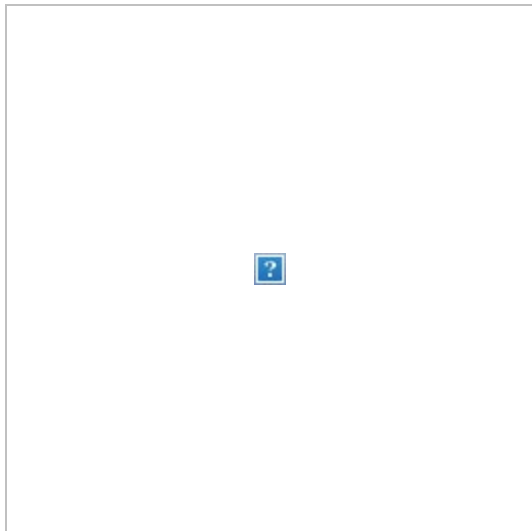


**Tangletown Board Meeting
June 15 7:00pm**

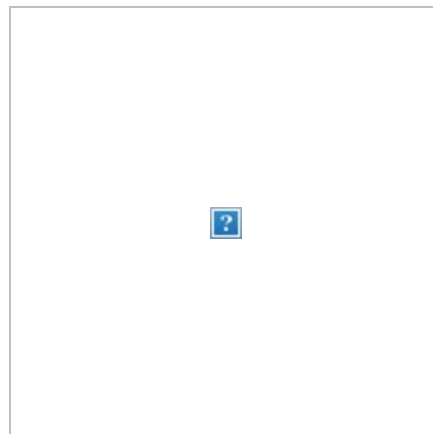


A primary agenda item for our June

board meeting will include how we as a neighborhood association can best support Minneapolis businesses and neighbors impacted by the recent destruction. We will also discuss what advocacy role we can play in advancing racial justice in our city. Additionally, we'll get to know our new board members, host officer elections, and review our annual work plan. We will meet virtually on Monday June 15 at 7:00pm. All neighbors are invited to join us by [clicking on this link](#).



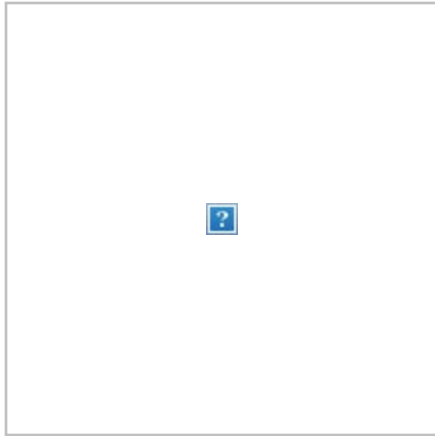
Volunteer at the Water Tower



If you appreciate the beauty of our local landmark or appreciate a good afternoon in the mud, we'd sure love your help! Over the summer months, we partner volunteers to water and weed the landscaping at the base of the Washburn Water Tower. Will you sign up for a shift? [Sign up here.](#)

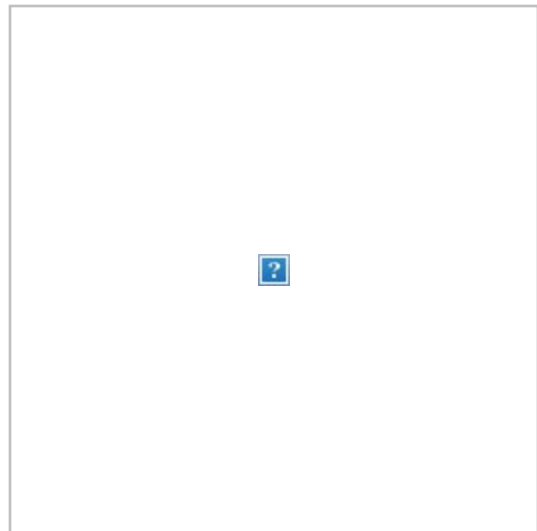
[LEARN MORE >](#)

Adopt a Storm Drain

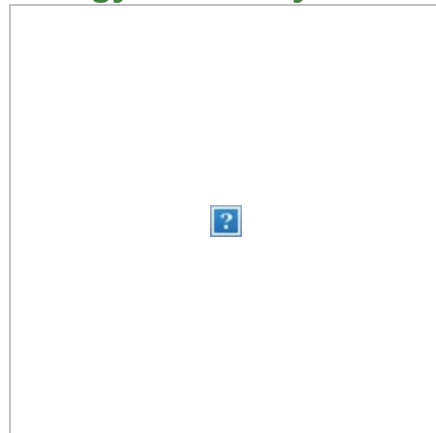
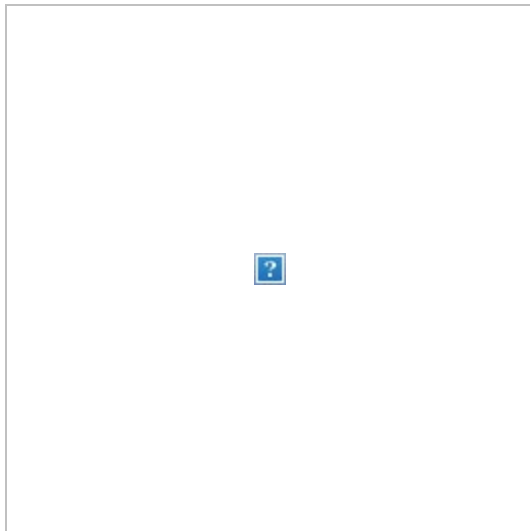


Did you know that 56 households have adopted 117 storm drains in Tangle town? While that's amazing, that represents only 1/4 of the total storm drains in Tangle town, leaving literally hundreds of storm drains ready to be adopted by YOU! We offer free tools/supplies to help you take care of your drain(s). Adopt a drain today to protect your local waterways.

[LEARN MORE >](#)



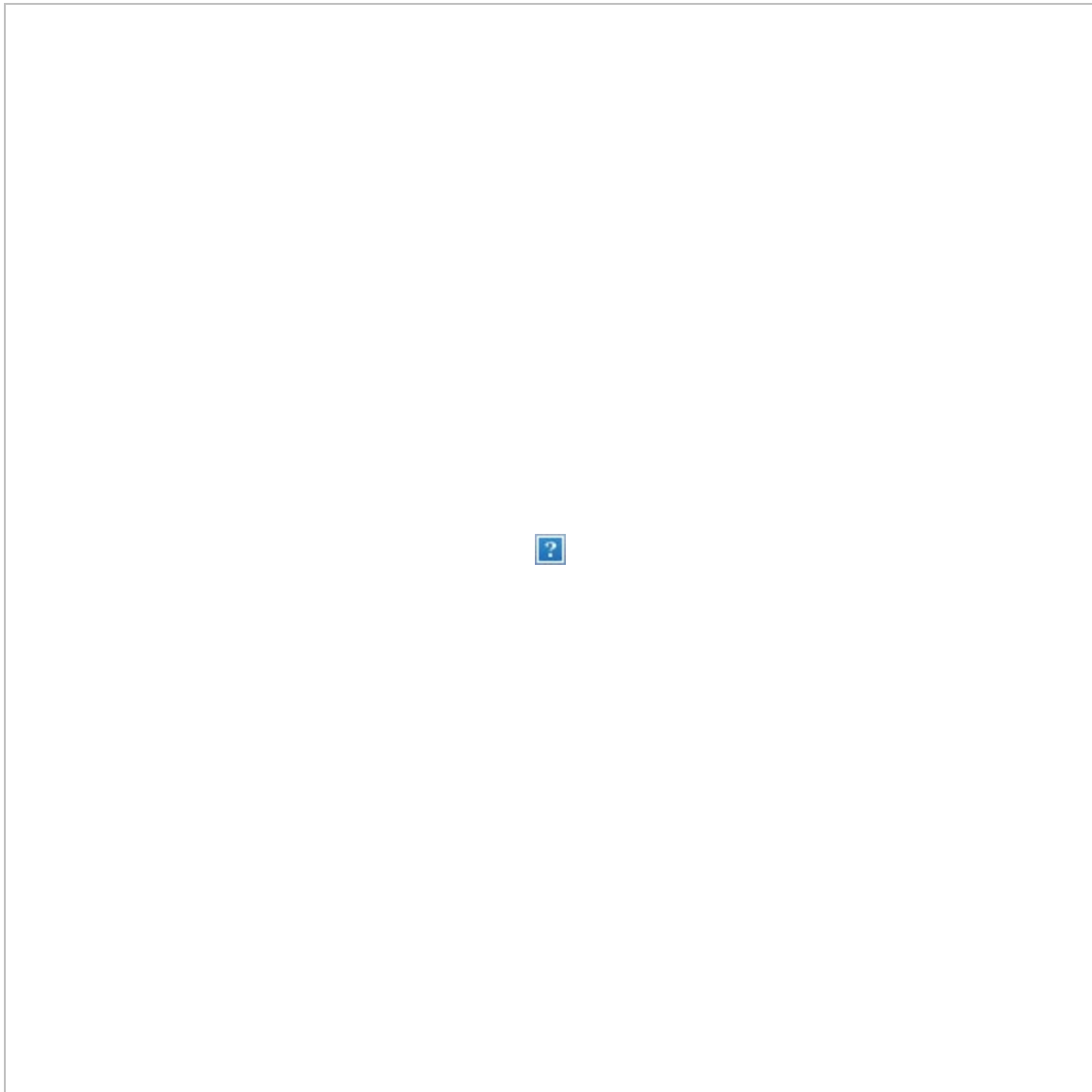
Energy Efficiency Rebate



As temperatures start to rise for the summer, it's a great time to consider how to make your home more energy efficient. Insulation and attic sealing helps your home stay cooler

in the summer months and save money on those expensive AC costs. We offer a \$500 rebate match of CenterPoint's rebate meaning you can save up to \$1,500 on your project!

[LEARN MORE >](#)

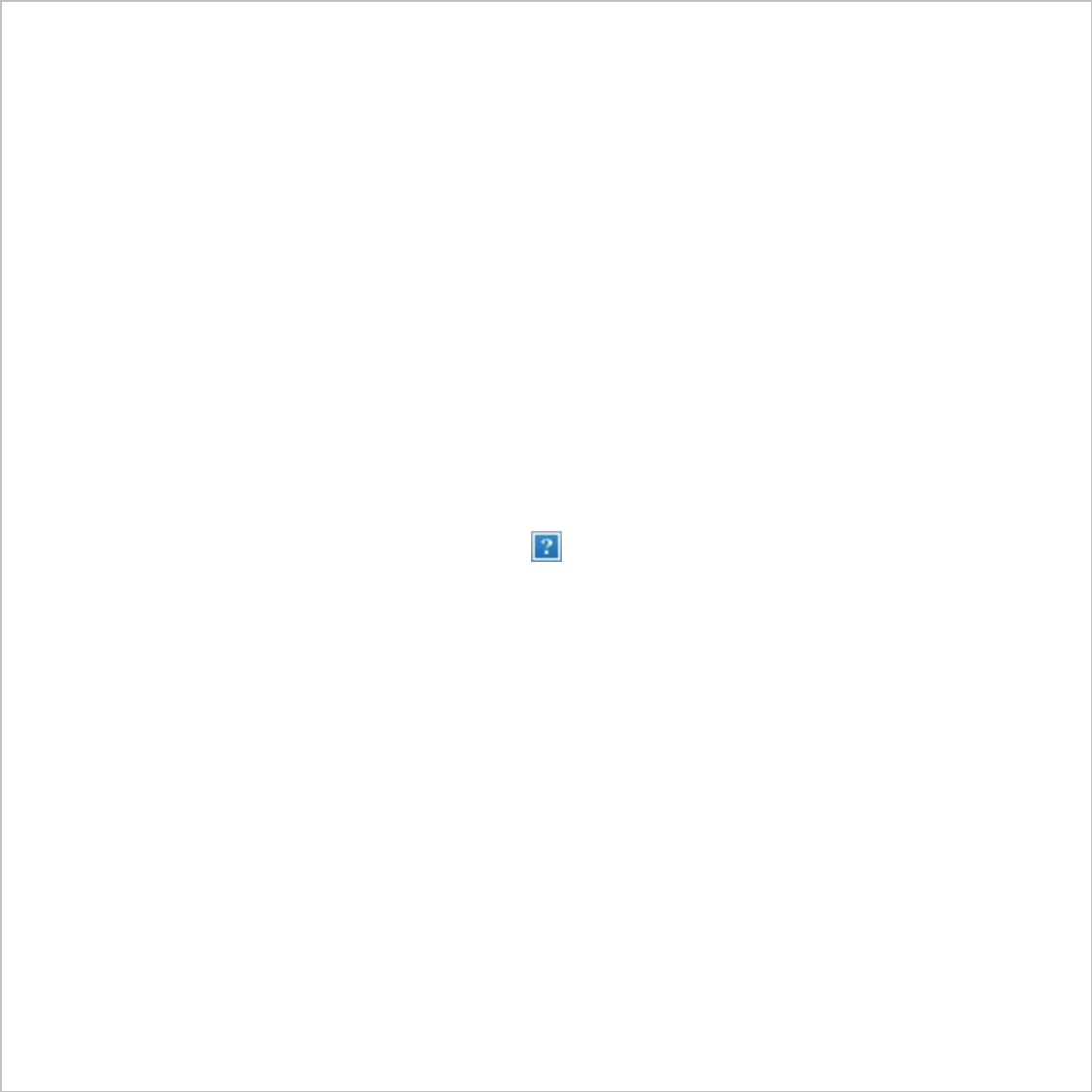
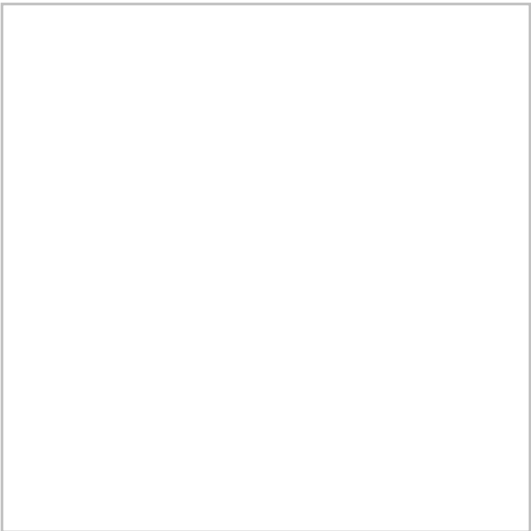


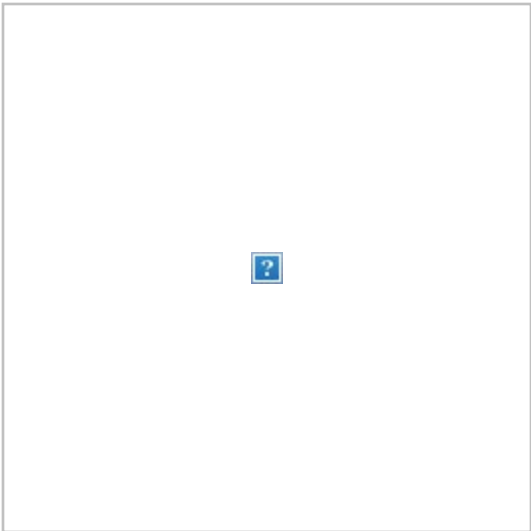
Sustainability Sam's Foray into Gardening

Hello Tangletowners! We didn't receive a new sustainability question this month, so we thought we would share with you Keri's

(one of the voices behind Sustainability Sam) very first adventure in vegetable gardening as a follow up to [last month's post](#).

[READ MORE >](#)



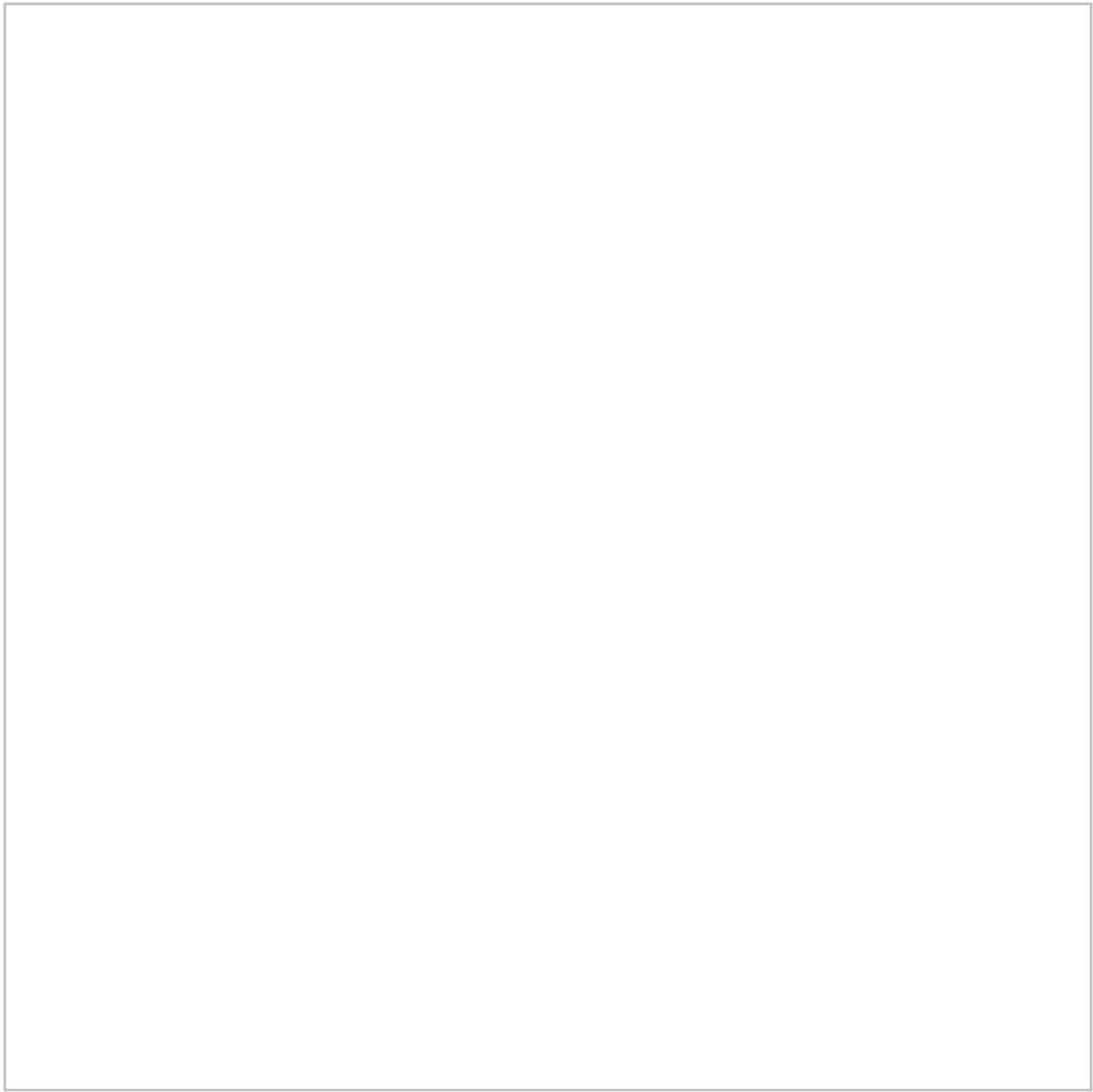


We continue to offer support to our neighbors and businesses during the pandemic. If you are a neighbor in need of support or willing to offer your support, [learn more here](#).

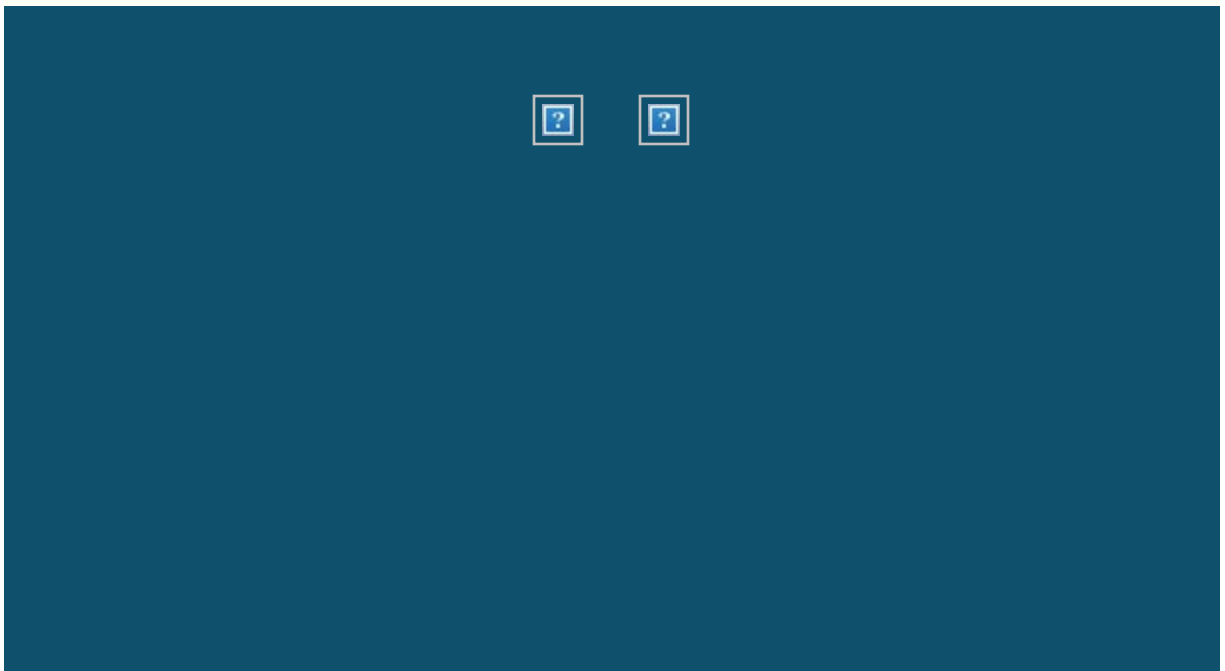
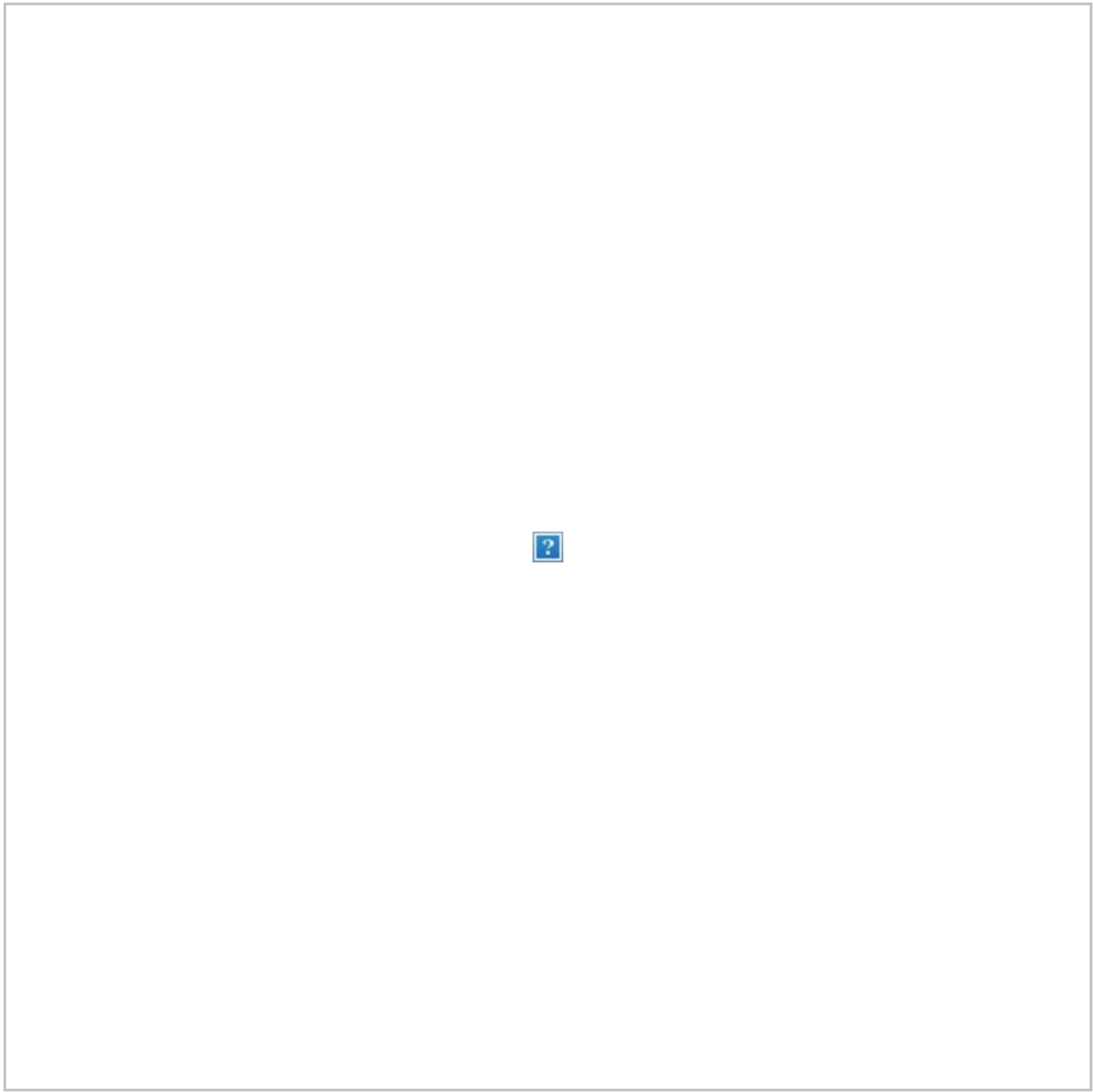
We're also keeping our business listing regularly updated which includes up to date operations and hours of service. There have been lots of updates so far in June. [You can find our business listing here](#).

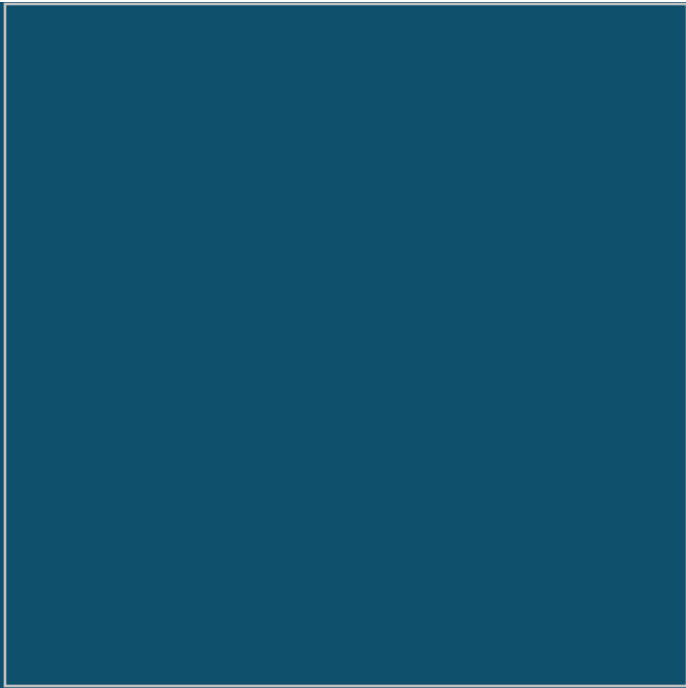
The City of Minneapolis sends a weekly email with updates that we recommend subscribing to for the latest information. You can sign up on [the City website](#) which also has comprehensive information and resources.

[READ MORE >](#)



TANGLETOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO
THANK ITS GENEROUS SPONSORS



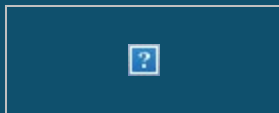


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From: [Anita DaHinten](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Nena funding
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2020 8:33:30 AM

I support Nenas continued funding at current levels. This is the kind of grassroots organization that the city needs to promote services and safety and has been an immense support to our Neighborhood in which I have lived in for 35 Years at 48 th and Nokomis. Thanks for support!

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ann Grose](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VICTORY YOUTH CORPS FUNDING
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 11:23:16 AM

News of the possible demise of the Victory Youth Corps funding has disheartened me. As a senior member of this community I have come to rely on help with mowing and shoveling. But perhaps as important is the growing relationship I've developed with my Youth Corps worker. I've been grateful to receive the help but also grateful to learn more about a teenager's life. While balancing family and school activities my Youth Corps worker always arrived with a willingness to work and to take a little time to talk.

I see the Youth Corps program as a major gift to seniors in our neighborhood. I hope its importance is not lost in the funding debate especially now when we are all seeking a stronger community connection. With the advent of a COVID 19 vaccine, 2020 will bring us some semblance of normalcy. Please continue funding for this program.

Ann Grose
4231 Queen Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN. 55412

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ann Grose](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YOUTH CORPS FUNDING
Date: Saturday, April 25, 2020 9:24:45 AM

Recent news of the Youth Corps program being "paused" has disheartened me. I have come to depend on help shoveling and mowing. Perhaps as important is the growing relationship I've developed with my Youth Corps worker. I've been grateful to receive the help but also to learn more about a teenager's life. While balancing family and school activities he has always arrived with a willingness to work and to take a little time to talk.

I see the Youth Corps program as a major gift to seniors in our neighborhood. I hope that its importance is not lost in the funding discussion especially now when we are all seeking a stronger community connection. Please continue funding support for this program.

Ann Grose
4231 Queen Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Anna Kottkamp](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fund Neighborhood Organizations for Equity and Safety
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 3:10:18 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Frey,

I am writing to you today as an educator and a member of a church in the Harrison neighborhood in Minneapolis. Neighborhood Organizations play a critical role in building community and taking care of neighbors, so I'm asking you to increase overall funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all Neighborhood Organizations in Minneapolis.

To undo racism, build community solutions to public safety, advance equity in schools, support small businesses, and organize tenants, we need to fund organizations at the neighborhood block level. Advocating for the systemic change our city begins with neighbors coming together to work for change within their communities.

As a community member and educator, I deeply value and need Neighborhood Organizations. Again, I am asking you to support racial equity and increase overall funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all Neighborhood Organizations in Minneapolis.

Thank you,
Anna Kottkamp

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



armatage neighborhood association

2500 West 57th Street • Minneapolis, MN 55410 • 612.466.0296
www.armatage.org • anacoordinator@armatage.org • EIN 41-1834093

September 24, 2020

City of Minneapolis
Neighborhood and Community Relations
105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As a neighborhood organization, we, the Armatage Neighborhood Association (ANA), support the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis on engaging historically underrepresented residents. However, we believe strongly that neighborhoods such as Armatage will not be able to succeed in engaging underrepresented residents, nor the rest of its residents without additional base funding.

ANA base funding pays for the required and core neighborhood organization expenses. This includes: accounting services; insurance; communications such as mailings, and a neighborhood coordinator. These expenses of running a neighborhood association far exceed the proposed base amount of \$10,000, especially for neighborhoods that have a larger resident base like Armatage (over 5,100 residents).

The table below shows the total of these core expenses for ANA and also projects those same expenses in the event of merging with another neighborhood that would also receive \$10,000 in base funding (e.g. our neighbor to the east, Kenny). **Neither scenario provides enough funding to carry out the basic functions of the neighborhood organization.**

	Core ANA Expenses	Core Expenses with two Neighborhoods Merging
Insurance	\$1,000	\$1,000
Mailings - Quarterly Newsletter	\$5,000	\$10,000
Accounting Services	\$1,500	\$1,500
Coordinator (16 hours per week at \$31/hour* for 50 weeks per year)	\$24,800	\$24,800
Total	\$32,300	\$37,300
Proposed Base Funding	\$10,000	\$20,000
Shortfall	-\$22,300	-\$17,300

*Hourly rate based on current Coordinator contract. NCR reports an average of \$35/hour with a range of \$25-\$60/hour.

These estimates do not account for the funding required to offer the community-driven programs that have broad appeal and provide a vehicle for neighborhoods to reach more residents, particularly those from underrepresented communities (renters, seniors, people who identify as BIPOC or LGBTQIA+). With or without merging, neighborhood coordinators will have to significantly cut hours and volunteer board and committee members will have to do a lot more of the administration to keep doors open.

However, even if that is the case, the insurance, mailing, and accounting services alone account for about \$7,500 which leaves just \$2,500 for all remaining expenses – program expenses, a contract Coordinator, etc. To illustrate this, that remaining \$2,500 would only pay for a Coordinator making the minimum wage of \$15/hour for 3 hours per week, which would, of course, be too little income for any skilled coordinator and too little support for any all-volunteer board.

Equitable engagement funding of \$4,131 would be available for each neighborhood (Armatage and Kenny); however, that funding would need to be used to engage underrepresented residents, not to cover basic neighborhood operating costs. Even if one counts the addition of the available equitable engagement funding of \$4,131, or \$8,262 for the two merged neighborhoods, it slightly narrows but does not eliminate the above shortfalls.

With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still supporting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, we urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

The proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. The ANA has recently scheduled an Anti-Racism conversation in partnership with Danger Boat Productions to help residents begin to grapple personally and as a community with the challenging work still to be done on equity. And while Armatage does not have nearly as many cost burdened households nor as much racial or rental diversity as other neighborhoods there are still 15% residents of color (nearly 800 people), 22% cost burdened households (nearly 450 households), and 13% renters (nearly 300 households).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. The City of Minneapolis is doing so much during this time, but it can't do everything, in every community. **There is a critical role for neighborhood organizations to help amplify these efforts, organize neighbors, and keep community members informed and supporting one another.** This is evidenced by the recent increase in requests from City departments for even greater outreach in objectives such as the census, voter registration, parks updates, 2040 planning, and more, all while discussions of funding cuts continue. Neighborhood organizations leverage hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours every year that goes toward benefiting Minneapolis residents. In Armatage this work cannot be done with \$10,000 or even \$14,131 in annual funding.

Sincerely,

The Armatage Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

Approved September 22, 2020

From: [Aryn Lill](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Association budget cuts
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 1:02:31 PM

Dear Andrew Johnson and Jeremy Schroeder,

- I support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. Make resources available to strengthen the **neighborhood organizational network AND racial equity**.
- I have found NENA to be valuable in our community through its grant funding for small businesses like mine (The Blue Fox) and curb appeal grant funding for local businesses that has made it possible for me to paint a mural in the Nokomis East Neighborhood. Both of these grants greatly improved my life, family's life and helped me make a difference in my community. Please do not cut their funding.

Sincerely,
Aryn Lill

3744 20th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Ward 12

218-234-5663

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Becky Timm](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Cunningham, Phillippe M](#)
Cc: [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments about N2020
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 2:54:52 PM

I am a resident of Ward 4.

I have been involved in the Neighborhoods 2020 process for many years in my professional role as the executive director for the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) and then for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) since 2015.

1. Please add \$3 million to the \$4.1 allocation. This will allow neighborhoods like Victory in which I live and the 4 Nokomis East neighborhoods to continue to be strong organizations and NOT at the expense of the critical racial equity work that neighborhood organizations must do.
2. Most more detail is needed for the last three sections of the guidelines. Right now it is more of a vision document rather than the needed guide to implementation.
3. The guidelines need the amended to include the Role and Responsibilities of the NCR Department in making these new programs a reality. In Section 1 alone, neighborhood organizations are required to do so much more in terms of administration and there is not and outlined role for the NCR to support this additional burden.

I do not think the requirements are onerous IF an organization has a baseline funding of at least \$25k. If the funding moves forward with the \$20k, \$15k and \$10k per year, organizations will use ALL resources on reporting (including Section 2's funding for outreach) and not on mission work and racial equity.

4. I wish the Council and NCR Department would have a better understanding and realistic idea of the cost of running an organization under these guidelines.

Becky Timm
4575 Vincent Ave N

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [BC](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment (Neighborhoods 2020)
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 8:57:16 AM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,
Ben Cowper
Blaisdell Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55408

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Bernie Radobicky](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Armatage Funding Decrease
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 8:04:43 AM

Good morning,

I have a few questions regarding the funding decrease in Armatage:

1. What is the current budget for Armatage?
 - a) What is the current budget for surrounding neighborhoods of Armatage?
2. What is the revised / proposed budget for Armatage?
 - a) What is the revised / proposed budget for surrounding neighborhoods of Armatage?
3. What neighborhoods will receive the increase funding?
4. What is the tax revenue generated by Armatage residents? Or the percentage of tax's \$ linked to Armatage budget?
 - a) How will this percentage change under the new proposed budget?
5. What is the tax revenue generated by the neighborhoods receiving the increase funding? Or the percentage of tax's \$ linked to their budget?
 - a) How will this percentage change under the new proposed budget?
6. If my neighborhood (Armatage) is receiving less funding will my Annual taxes of \$11,987 decrease!?!?

Thank you & I look forward to your response
Bernie Radobicky
414.559.2288

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Betty Tisel](#)
To: [Sirdar, Deebaa](#); [Bourgerie, Zoe J](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fully Fund Neighborhood Orgs. - thank you
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:44:27 PM

Dear City Leaders,

The Kingfield Neighborhood Association has organized Get Out the Vote efforts and educated on non-partisan voter issues, for the past 8 years. Involvement in the “Vote No” campaign in 2012 led to our first Polling Place Party, which turned Election Day into a celebration. In 2017, KFNA built on the success of these Polling Place Parties by launching our “We are Kingfield – We Vote” yard sign campaign. In 2018, KFNA added a primary election Polling Place Party and GOTV Block Captains. Finding the personal outreach was hugely successful at increasing voter and building community connections, in 2020, KFNA added Make a Voting Plan flyers delivered to every household in the neighborhood. These resources and organizing plans are freely shared with multiple other Minneapolis nonprofits and because of KFNA’s work, Kingfield neighbors know that voting isn’t a solitary act but rather a celebration of community.

To continue to organize and mobilize Get Out the Vote efforts, we need financial stability and support. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to all neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure the Kingfield Neighborhood Association can continue to do their part helping to create a more just and racially equitable community by educating voters and getting out the vote.**

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Betty Tisel

Betty Tisel
betty@tiselfarley.com
612-865-2435

4155 Garfield Mpls MN 55409

All GOTV All The Time Till 11/4

=====

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Beverly Conerton](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on Neighborhood 2020 program guidelines
Date: Monday, September 21, 2020 6:39:07 PM

I am writing to comment on the draft Neighborhood 2020 program guidelines.

I live in the Longfellow neighborhood of Minneapolis. Longfellow is one of the neighborhoods that have been greatly affected by the arson, looting, and destruction of property that happened this spring. Since this happened, the Longfellow Community Council (LCC), the recognized neighborhood organization for the Longfellow neighborhood, has been working with residents of the neighborhood to create a plan to rebuild Longfellow, and to address resulting food insecurity and the safety and security of residents and businesses. It is the type of work that LCC has been doing for decades under the Neighborhood Reorganization Program (NRP). It is what neighborhood organizations throughout the city do best and which benefit not only the neighborhoods but also the city as a whole.

The Neighborhood 2020 guidelines should be supporting all neighborhoods in continuing to do their vital work. Instead, the guidelines favor a few neighborhoods in the city and leave the other neighborhoods with such a small amount of funding that neighborhoods will not realistically be able to continue to exist. This does not benefit the residents of the neighborhoods nor the city as a whole.

The world is a different place from the time when the city first drafted the guidelines in 2018 and 2019. We are in the midst of a worldwide pandemic that has resulted in an economic downturn that has affected Minneapolis residents and businesses. The murder of George Floyd has caused upheaval in society and a new examination of how society looks at racial justice. And many neighborhoods, including Longfellow and its residents and small and minority owned businesses, have suffered as a result of arson, looting, and property destruction that occurred during the riots in May of this year. Neighborhood associations are needed more than ever in order to help residents and businesses be engaged in rebuilding the neighborhood. Neighborhood organizations have been on the front lines with the response to the pandemic and the damage caused by the unrest. It would be unwise to decrease funding for neighborhood organizations especially at this time, when residents and businesses depend on neighborhood organizations. Such funding of neighborhood organizations helps not only residents and businesses, but also the city in its efforts to address these critical issues.

Because the circumstances have changed since the City first proposed the Neighborhood 2020 guidelines, the City should continue to fund neighborhoods at a level that is at least the amount of the current funding that each neighborhood organization receives from the Citizen Participation Program (CPP) for citizen participation work in this time when the participation of citizens in helping to solve the city's problems is so vitally needed.

Beverly Conerton
3644 46th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55406

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [B.T](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment/Question re Neighborhoods 2020 and Beyond
Date: Friday, March 6, 2020 5:57:32 PM

In reviewing the neighborhood 2020 and beyond plan, I wanted to compare funding levels in future yrs with those this yr, but I did not see any listing of fundings for 2020.

You provide separate funding for "neighborhood" organizations and "community" organizations - what exactly is the difference in these two entities?

Looking at the "Neighborhood Allocations Three-Yr Plan chart, I see that funding would be cut to many neighborhoods by almost 50%. What is the rational for such huge cuts? Is the over-all city budget going to be that much less in three yrs? Looking at the maps, I note that the plan is to provide as much as 4 or 5 times more funds to some neighborhoods than to others - even though they have borders with eachother. What is the rational for these vast differences?

You have two meetings planned - neither is on the southside.

Thank you
Beverly Turk
Hiawatha

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Brett Anderson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020 10:52:11 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As a resident of Minneapolis, I support and applaud the efforts made in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan regarding equity and specifically the emphasis on engaging historically underrepresented residents. However, I believe strongly that neighborhoods such as Armatage will not be able to succeed in engaging underrepresented residents, nor the rest of its residents without additional base funding.

The proposed base funding of \$10,000 per year for Armatage is not enough to carry out the core duties of a neighborhood organization which means that under the draft plan it would not be able to support any of its residents. Core/required expenses of a neighborhood organization (insurance, mailing, and accounting services) alone account for about \$7,500 which leaves just \$2,500 for all remaining expenses – program expenses, coordinator, etc. As an example, the \$2,500 would pay for a Coordinator making the *minimum wage of \$15/hour for 3 hours per week*. Merging neighborhoods can help a bit but it still does not allow for a pathway to sustainability. For example, mailing expenses increase as do other requirements when a neighborhood merges. The approximate additional \$4,000 of equity funding that would be available for Armatage would not help with this issue as it is to be spent engaging underrepresented residents, not covering basic expenses of the organization.

Therefore, each neighborhood should have a base funding amount of at least \$15,000 which can be accomplished either by allocating the money differently within the current proposed budget OR by increasing the funding available for the program. As a current board member, I am familiar with the expenses of a neighborhood organization and more importantly have seen the positive impact and role that they play in resident's lives. During such challenging times it would be a shame to see the neighborhood program collapse, but unfortunately that is what will happen should the current plan be enacted.

Best Regards,

Brett

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Brian Longley](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Funding for Neighborhood Organizations
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:17:01 PM

I live in Nokomis East and am very disappointed that the City Council might make drastic cuts in funding to the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association. In these hard times their grassroots work knitting the community together is vital. We need them at full strength to help with social and racial justice issues, and support for local businesses and organizations. NENA is outstanding. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Brian Longley
5125 37th Avenue South
Minneapolis 55417

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association
2915 Wayzata Blvd
Minneapolis, MN
55405-2145



September 30, 2020

Mr. Steven Gallagher
Neighborhood and Community Relations
105 5th Avenue S, Suite 425
Minneapolis MN 55401

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

BMNA is on record endorsing the purpose and themes of the Neighborhoods 2020 process. We continue to support the purpose and the goal of the plan to promote the participation of all Minneapolis residents in the decision-making processes of our neighborhood organizations and to have an equitable civic participation system; to increase representation of historically underrepresented groups and allocating funding accordingly.

The Board of Directors and Staff of the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association have engaged in a number of meetings, workshops and conversations about the Neighborhood 2020 proposal over the last several years. We submitted comments about the proposal in March of 2019. We offer these additional comments in response to the funding and reporting guidelines released on February 28, 2020.

Funding


In allocating funding, we support the original resolution of a \$25,000 base over the next three years. This allocation was arrived at through dialogue with leadership from many of the Minneapolis neighborhoods over a number of years. We strive to keep all residents informed, connected to our community, and empowered to guide and influence decisions that affect the community and their lives. We believe that it is unrealistic to think we can do that with a \$10,000 allocation, which is \$833 a month. Communication and finance management would be greatly impacted. We currently have contracted paid staff to manage our monthly newspaper, electronic communications, and finances, including bookkeeping and auditing. Funding at the suggested level would require a shift to reliance on volunteers for these things when finding volunteers is difficult overall for any organization. Things like events (we sponsor 9 to 12 a year) and funding for community projects would have to be eliminated.

Organizational Accountability

We agree that neighborhood association boards need to be accountable for their expenditures and finances. We ask for realistic expectations for volunteer boards. Onerous requirements for board member make-up, board member term limits, and unrealistic requirements regarding meetings in reality prevent boards from being successful, especially if base funding is reduced requiring increased reliance on volunteers for essential tasks as noted above.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Respectfully,


Kevin Thompson, President
Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association

*The BMNA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event organized by the BMNA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at bmna@bmna.org at least five days before our event. *Meeting location is ADA compliant.*

From: [Byron Millea](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Orgs and Public Safety
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:22:35 PM

Dear City Leaders,

It is my understanding that funding for neighborhood organizations is coming up for approval soon. As the city council seeks to move away from reliance on MPD for all public safety resources, it is critical that community initiatives are funded by an investment in neighborhood solutions.

I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhood organizations by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure those organizations can be real partners in public safety work. Let's start putting our money more directly into our neighborhoods and find new ways to keep our city safe.

Thank you all for the hard work of representing our city.

Kind Regards,

Byron Millea
2630 Pleasant Ave, #204
Minneapolis, MN 55408

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [C.M](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] TangleTown Neighborhood Association
Date: Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:03:32 PM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I value the TangleTown Neighborhood Association and the work they do to make our neighborhood and city a better place to live, work, and play. The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, and lead grassroots environmental change. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the TangleTown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for TangleTown Neighborhood Association to a \$20,000 base so they may continue its great work.

Thank you,

C. McCabe
5103 Garfield Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55419

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Callie Possehl](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:57:46 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Thank you,
Callie Possehl
6015 Sheridan Avenue S
Minneapolis MN 55410

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[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [candace](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [SENA Board](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment from the Board of Directors
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:27:16 PM

To whom it may concern;

Over the past several months the City of Minneapolis has experienced a social upheaval that has impacted every aspect of daily life. Between Covid-19 and the civil uprising in the wake of George Floyd's murder, the need for neighborhood organization (NOs) has been elevated into the spotlight. It has been NOs that have supported residents and coordinated with other community leaders to get resources and information to the most impacted in our neighborhoods. It is NOs that have provided street level outreach for the City by organizing public input sessions, community safety meetings and more. And it is NOs that are leading the way in the efforts to stabilize and rebuild our communities by coordinating with other groups to ensure equity and inclusion every step of the way. The Neighborhoods 2020 plan that is going before the City Council later this year is no longer relevant to the current and ever evolving needs of our communities and the negative impact it will have in causing many organizations to close their doors, SENA included, will not serve the desired outcome of creating greater equity in our communities. We strongly urge the City Council to vote no until a plan can be developed that will truly address the disparity in our communities, instead of one that will diminish the capacity of NOs at a time when their skills and expertise are needed most.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Carlyn Shanley](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Relations
Date: Thursday, April 9, 2020 11:28:19 AM

The proposed program is woefully underfunded and will undo the system of neighborhood organizations that has successfully supported communities like Greater Longfellow for the past 30 years.

--

CARLYN SHANLEY

414.241.2571

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: cfaacks@usfamily.net
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep funding for Neighborhood associations
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 3:08:45 PM

Hello:

It seems imperative to continue to fund the local neighborhood organizations at a minimum of the current levels if not more. These are the organizations that are directly in contact with our neighbors.

During the protests it was the NENA association that got the word out that the local businesses were attempting to patrol 34th Ave. So, while Minneapolis proper was occupied with other areas, I was headed to a business gathering to discuss our options and when I arrived at Oxendale's parking lot I was speechless at the neighborhood turn out to help keep things quiet in the neighborhood. I still tear up when I think about the support and NENA was able to pull people together to work out the problems we were experiencing- even providing yellow reflective jackets donated by a company.

They are currently setting up food shelf options that are located closer to those in need vs. those folks having to find transportation to other food shelf distribution sites.

They also hosted the comment session regarding the quickly changing building regulations - it seems wrong to change some rules yet make these decisions using the old rules: requests to alter zoning only requires notifying residents within 350' but the situation at 34th Ave. So and 52nd St. was making changes that would bring in a minimum of 19 residents with no parking and no water run off on that corner. These changes will effect more than people within 350' but that hasn't been changed to correlate with '2040' developers planning.

Sorry -BUT NENA held the meetings so the neighbors at least had some idea of what was happening (the business on the corner didn't post anything in a timely manner so...).

We can always find money to pay for stadiums most of us can't even attend and we always have money to pay off lawsuits for Minneapolis employee wrong doing (or bizarre lack of responsibility - did anyone know that they had to pull up and redo the curb at 34th and 52nd because it was too high? to drain into the sewer drain and we could all see it but they still poured the concrete and then charged the city/mndot to redo the work. Or the really obvious bus pad mistake that had to be redone and anyone looking could see it was a problem. Even now it is a laughable sidewalk. And this is only one curb???) .

I think that there are a lot of residents who are frustrated with the city right now and reducing the little bit that goes directly to the neighborhoods isn't only the wrong fiscal decision but politically a wrong decision.

Sincerely;

Carolyn Faacks

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Casey Frid](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NA cuts will eat the young
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 1:00:20 PM

Hello. It is my understanding that drastic cuts to neighborhood associations in Minneapolis are planned between now and 2023.

I just moved to Minneapolis from Brooklyn, NY, where I was an active member of two neighborhood associations. I want to stress how VITAL these associations were to ensuring that citizens were heard by city officials. They give citizens a seat at the table, allowing them to have a say in policy and to shape existing policies. They do so in a way that is convenient for folks to attend.

*Cutting funding will not only cripple the ability of Minneapolis citizens to have a say in government, it will make the city as a whole less attractive to those who are young or otherwise geographically mobile. Many will opt to live elsewhere. These cuts would reveal the city's priorities, and how they are not aligned with encouraging an active and informed citizenry.

I urge the city to NOT implement these cuts to the neighborhood associations.

Thank you.

Casey Frid

Sent from iPhone. Kindly excuse typos.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

September 28, 2020

Mayor Jacob Frey
Council Member Kevin Reich, Ward 1
Council Member Cam Gordon, Ward 2
Council Member Steve Fletcher, Ward 3
Council Member Phillippe Cunningham, Ward 4
Council Member Jeremiah Ellison, Ward 5
Council Member Jamal Osman, Ward 6
Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7
Council Vice President Andrea Jenkins, Ward 8
Council Member Alondra Cano, Ward 9
Council President Lisa Bender, Ward 10
Council Member Jeremy Schroeder, Ward 11
Council Member Andrew Johnson, Ward 12
Council Member Linea Palmisano, Ward 13

Dear Mayor Frey and City Council Members:

The Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA) opposes implementation of the *Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines* proposed by the Neighborhood & Community Relations Department.

City residents are anguished about the horrific murder of George Floyd and the tragic unrest resulting from it, torn by racial strife and issues of public safety, reeling from the pandemic, economic insecurity, and national politics.

Meanwhile, neighborhood organizations (NOs) across the city are struggling, each in our own way, to address local needs and promote stability. Among other things, we are supporting small businesses; dealing with health, increased crime; trying to assuage racial strife; promoting innumerable public service messages from various levels of government.

It would be disturbing and disruptive to inflict yet another source of stress and economic uncertainty on them with a new and controversial system of neighborhood funding that would

- reduce the capacity of many NOs to the point they could no longer afford even minimal staff support;
- force them to divert efforts into competing with each other for grants — instead of collaborating with each other to rebuild our city;
- redirect NCR staff away from positive support of NOs to developing and administering new competitive (and divisive) grant programs.

At this critical — even dangerous — time in our city's history, we urge you instead to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million. This additional funding would ensure that

neighborhoods could continue their important work, and further empower them to more vigorously and successfully address racial disparities.

Sincerely,

Mary Pattock, Chair

Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association

Cc David Rubedor, Director of Neighborhood and Community Relations
Steven Gallagher, Policy Specialist, NCR
Jack Whitehurst, Neighborhood Support Specialist, NCR

From: [Chandra Lalla](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Bender, Lisa](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 comment--Reconsider funding neighborhood orgs
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:49:15 PM

I disagree with the premise that these various neighborhood organizations can do better outreach and engagement than the City of Minneapolis. The funds given to neighborhood organizations and NCR would be better spent on professional city staff, including additional staff for council members, who are ultimately accountable to residents. My experience with city staff is that they typically provide factual information. Public engagement should not be left to volunteers from approximately 70 independent non-profits, of varying quality and professionalism. These organizations are never held accountable or responsible for their actions. People are already familiar with the City.

Given my own experiences and experiences with various neighborhood organizations, I don't expect to get factual information at their meetings, from their volunteers or staff. When I think of a new person attending a meeting, I am concerned they will not realize the existing bias so they end up being misled when attending meetings. They lack transparency and do not engage new people/renters/people of color. Instead of trying to fix these issues, board members will often complain about how hard it is to engage people. I've been told as a young woman of color renter that engagement is my problem to fix. This is from older, white homeowners who have historically gotten free money/grants from the organization to spend on home improvement projects over the decades. I'm sorry but the city hasn't given me an outreach budget and millions of dollars since the 1990s.

On the surface it sounds so good and democratic to give money to neighborhood orgs but what are the metrics of success. There's a difference between something sounding good on paper but in practice the reality is different. Any suggestion of attaching standards to funding is met with resistance and hostility. It's why this current process has been dragged out. Members of the City Council are afraid of upsetting them. They want free money with no accountability. The City shouldn't be in the business of funding organizations with that attitude.

The City needs to recognize they are funding special interests groups. They are not representative of the whole city, often just a subset of white homeowners with interests that don't align with and are often in opposition to renters. The people served by these organizations already have outsized influence and representation. The city should be open to not giving existing orgs guaranteed funds, funds should be open to any group in the city, groups that accept meeting certain standards in return for that funding. These neighborhood organizations do not engage new residents and routinely spread misinformation. I would prefer that the funds for these organizations go towards affordable housing, safe streets or other public goods that everyone benefits from. Empowering the same people does not

address equity or engage all residents. If you're getting city funding there should be accountability, responsibility, engagement standards, and overall high standards to operate ethically.

I want to emphasize neighborhood organizations are not the neighborhood. These neighborhood org boards rarely look like the neighborhood. It's a handful of time-rich people with their own personal agendas which often goes against what would serve the entire community. I hope the council has the courage to change course by taking in our current reality and follow in the steps of other cities who have ended their relationships with neighborhood orgs. All neighborhoods aren't entitled to get the same funding. I'm repeatedly told these organizations provide a valuable service yet there's no evidence to support this. In Minneapolis we're lucky to have an engaged population and people find more meaning volunteering with other organizations that have actual missions to serve the community. These organizations are broken and you can't fix them without starting from scratch. I'm tired of smart people doing the wrong things on this topic. Big changes are necessary. We can't continue to do what's always been done. Working people don't have unlimited time to dedicate to these orgs, people are struggling and can't sit through endless pointless meetings with no relevance to their lives.

These organizations lack transparency and are so bothered when people put their own words verbatim out on social media. City funding should come with the requirement to follow MN Open Meeting Law. They should be recorded and access should be available to the public, websites should be up-to-date with current info you shouldn't have to struggle to find information. They currently act like private little clubs and become disgruntled when people ask for transparency. I saw in the Southwest Journal (<https://www.southwestjournal.com/news/2020/09/neighborhood-meetings-to-record-or-not-to-record/>) that the city won't even require the meetings to be recorded. This is wrong. Why does the City keep funding these orgs with little or no accountability? Many of them have no interest in encouraging more people to participate because that would dilute the power of the few. They only want to use the name of "the neighborhood" to embellish their own narrow self-interest.

I do not support funds supporting neighborhood organization without strict conditions and high standards, especially my own neighborhood org, the Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Organization (LHENA). Our city's limited resources would be better spent on so many other urgent priorities at this time. This plan was not the product of robust engagement like Mpls 2040 plan. This process engaged those few with an established interest in maintaining the current, extremely flawed, system.

Do better and have the courage to do what's right and move towards true equity. I've seen so many good people who want to help their community get burnt out on these orgs because they're so hostile, tedious and downright mean. Is that what the city wants to continue to

support by funding these orgs? By funding them, you are endorsing them. You are responsible for the hostility and misinformation you expose residents to. Your budget is your values.

Please reconsider this plan. Do not fund the existing neighborhood organization structure. Fund systems of engagement that are professional, transparent, and actually relevant to people's lives.

Chandra Lalla
Ward 10

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Kevin O'Neil](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Input on Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:48:17 PM

When we tell friends from cities outside Minnesota about Minneapolis's funding of neighborhood-based neighborhood organizations, they are almost always shocked and admiring of this example of Minneapolis's commitment to grassroots organizations at the neighborhood level. And we consider our neighborhood organization in the Victory neighborhood (VINA) to be one of the best things about living in the city of Minneapolis.

My wife and I have lived in our neighborhood for 27 years in the only home we have ever owned. We've both been involved in a variety of activities with VINA, on committees, as participants, and as volunteers at ice cream socials, Christmas events, garden tours, neighborhood garage sales, housing assistance projects, etc. We've also been Block Club leaders for our block for over 20 years and more recently also as part of VINA's Block Ambassadors program, organizing events for our block, serving as sources of information for our neighbors about neighborhood news, programs, and events, and helping out neighbors on those rare occasions when we have a conflict between neighbors.

We look at the neighborhood-based network of neighborhood organizations as a precious jewel that supports and builds neighborhood communities across Minneapolis. Our specific experience with VINA is that it has had a very deep and enduring impact on our neighbors' pride and identification with our neighborhood. And that's what makes a neighborhood healthy, friendly, active, and a joy to live in.

Consequently, although we're certainly cognizant of the current budget challenges Minneapolis faces, we would be very greatly saddened and disappointed to see these neighborhood organizations allowed to slowly collapse and disappear for lack of funding. They took many years to build up, and they will not be easy to restore if they are not supported.

We're also worried about any plans to centralize them, which we believe will dilute people's ability to identify with them as a place to meet neighbors to solve neighborhood problems and improve community, and, consequently, will discourage participation. The network of localized neighborhood organizations offers a truly great resource for working across neighborhoods, but we believe that it's also important that these organizations remain localized in individual neighborhoods where community members can identify with them.

We think it's important that neighborhood organizations be held accountable, and that they are required to meet standards and guidelines for ensuring that all members of a neighborhood feel truly welcomed and encouraged to participate fully in neighborhood decisions about neighborhood priorities, projects, and activities.

At the same time, we would be concerned if these organizations become so tightly controlled by the city that they become top down organizations operating under the close supervision of the city or become mere communication arms for the city. It's hard to see how they will attract much neighborhood participation if that's what they become. The value of VINA and other neighborhood organizations, for their individual neighborhoods and for the city as a whole, is that they are very localized, bottom up organizations for neighborhood issues and community,

and we would hate to lose that.

Chris and Kevin O'Neil
4000 Vincent Ave. North



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[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [CJ](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood funding
Date: Thursday, April 9, 2020 1:50:38 PM

Hello. I am writing to say I support making funding of community organizations contingent on equity criteria.

Chris Jones
2900 41st Ave S MPLS 55406

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [o](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Nokomis East](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Do not cut neighborhood org funding
Date: Sunday, September 20, 2020 11:42:05 AM

I live in Ward 12 of the Nokomis East neighborhood and feel that the city funding allotted to my neighborhood association, NENA, is an incredible bargain in today's environment. Connecting city/county/state/federal programs in a positive way to residents of all ethnicities, languages, and economic statuses is exactly what city leaders are suggesting as necessary steps to achieve equity across the city's diverse population. I previously lived in Corcoran and Bancroft neighborhoods - equally effective.

Do not cut funding to any of the city's 70 neighborhood organizations. It would negatively impact residents and businesses across each of the city's 83 neighborhoods.

Regards,

Christie Nixon
3822 E 49th Street
Minneapolis 55417

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Chuck Anderson-Weir](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please don't reduce funding for Neighborhood Associations
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 8:48:57 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Our communities and local connections, like Neighborhood Associations are essential for how we move forward together, please don't reduce funding for Neighborhood Associations during times like this.

I'm Chuck Anderson-Weir, resident of south Minneapolis (3546 38th Ave S)

Thank you,
Chuck

Chuck Anderson-Weir
Senior Manager, Measurement Solutions
507-581-4668

ovativegroup



[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Cody Hoerning](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood 2020 Comments
Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:23:05 AM

First, I want to say that the goals and strategy of racial equity in this plan is noble and something I strongly support.

However, I do not believe that our goal of racial equity has to come at the cost of the destruction of numerous neighborhood organizations. The total funding formula by 2023 in many of the neighborhoods is too low to cover basic costs of meetings and operation. Our neighborhood operational budget will be cut by ~60%. Currently, we only have a part-time staff person and a few part-time student interns. A cut of this magnitude would likely cripple our organization, and greatly reduce our capacity to function.

I also want to ask the question of why some underrepresented groups in some areas of the city are prioritized over others? Just because an underrepresented group is not the majority in the neighborhood, does not mean these groups should be punished and ignored. We have many BIPOC in our neighborhood. Why do they have to suffer without neighborhood representation because of this funding formula? We cannot ignore human impact in preference of someone's demographic formula. We have done targeted outreach to underrepresented communities, and have designed programming that is tailored to specific underrepresented demographics. All this goes away with the proposed funding cuts, leaving these communities more underrepresented than they are currently. Surely, this is not the goal of this plan.

Finally, I want to suggest that the total amounts being offered to many neighborhoods by 2023 is too low for an organization to remain viable. Perhaps this is the plan? To silence neighborhood voices and allow the city to take more control. As a current volunteer board member, it will not be worth my time to constantly be looking for outside grant funding just to keep the organization functional. I believe many of the current volunteer board members would leave for organizations with greater stability and impact factor. The loss of human capital will exacerbate the loss of monetary capital.

Thank you,

Cody Hoerning

--

Cody Hoerning
University of Minnesota- Graduate Student
Fellow- Bayer and UMN Multifunctional Agriculture Initiative
Off-Campus Living- Neighborhood Liason
920-809-6663

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Conor O'Brien](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 5:21:22 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Conor O'Brien, Armatage Resident

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Cory Schaffhausen](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] draft plan feedback
Date: Sunday, September 20, 2020 7:30:05 PM

I hope there has been sufficient feedback to make it clear that under the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan, neighborhood organizations bear all of the scrutiny and all of the consequences for the citywide challenge of increasing equity, and NCR bears none of the scrutiny or consequences. This is unacceptable, NCR is spending public funds just as neighborhood groups are.

An equally important area to address is the fact that the draft plan predates the COVID pandemic and resulting historic budget shortfall. The draft plan had allowed high levels of funding after 2020 as a ramp down from current levels, and now all funding for neighbors may be cut due to budget constraints.

A revised draft plan must make NCR equally accountable with an equal risk to budget cuts, if this remains the formula for neighborhood groups. A revised plan must account for the short term budget shortfall and allow neighborhoods to survive, even if this means less funding now and the possibility of securing the future of the neighborhoods program post COVID recovery.

Sincerely

Cory Schaffhausen

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Cory Schaffhausen](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 framework comments
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2020 1:01:54 PM

The Neighborhoods 2020 Framework (Feb 2020) includes admirable goals to increase equitable use of public funding for neighborhood associations. However, the framework remains critically flawed because neighborhood organizations are expected to be accountable for equity goals, **but NCR is making no effort build evaluations of it's own actions into this framework and has no accountability for the potential to worsen equity through this framework.**

If equity is the primary measure of success of neighborhood organizations, it should be the primary measure for NCR as well. There are predictable negative consequences that could worsen equity in some areas if the NCR framework is implemented. The framework does not include any discussion of how NCR will monitor these negative consequences and how NCR's funding framework will change if it does not meet the goal of improving equity in all areas.

I am a board member in the Hale Page Diamond Lake community association. This means that our organization has already taken steps to consolidate, as recommended. In the two years I have been involved, more than 2/3rds of the board has turned over, and the board remains short 4 members. The current funding level provides approximately \$75k per year. Of this, \$34k pays a part-time staff member. It is essential to recognize that for our organization, continuity of knowledge, relationships, and regulatory requirements would be impossible without a staff member who remains when other board members come and go. A portion of the remaining funds support community building events that leverage 2000+ hours of volunteer work each year and provide free family activities for the area.

The NCR framework would reduce HPDL funding levels to \$65k in the first year and to \$36k by year 3 and throughout the remaining decade. At this funding level, HPDL would no longer have the ability to hire a part-time staff, the organization would lose continuity as board members continue to cycle, attrition would likely increase as bureaucratic demands shift from paid staff to volunteer board members, and even the current community building events that have taken place annually for over 10 years are in jeopardy because the logistics required may exceed the capacity of an understaffed volunteer board.

The NCR framework creates a new disparity where organizations like HPDL (and potentially many others with little or no funding above the baseline) will become shells of what they are today and will have no capacity to engage in the equity building efforts that are the state goal of the framework. The framework assumes additional funding would be available on a competitive basis. However, the outcome is predictable: organizations without staff will not have the bandwidth to compete with groups that do have staff dedicated to fundraising, and the disparity will worsen.

In this framework, equity is only realistically supported in areas that are funded well above the base level. Organizations in other areas will decline, if they continue to exist at all.

It is detrimental to the city's equity goals to allow neighborhood organizations to fall apart simply because they are located in areas below arbitrary demographic limits. It is irresponsible

of NCR to not measure it's own successes and failures as a result of these funding formulas and to not create contingency plans when predictable negative consequences occur. The NCR framework must be revised to address these issues if improving equity in all neighborhoods is the goal.

Sincerely,

Cory Schaffhausen

Hale, Minneapolis

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Cyndi Hovey](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:09:33 PM

Dear City Leaders,

Thank you for partnering with CURA to create a more equitable funding structure for Neighborhoods. Now please invest in this new structure. Invest in equity. Invest in anti-racism. Invest in neighborhoods.

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

We are digging in and doing the work in Whittier through the Whittier Alliance. It takes a lot of time, commitment, energy and money to truly pursue Anti-Racism and Equity work. We are swimming in White supremacy and systems of oppression. We want to do this work and we need your support.

Sincerely,
Cyndi Hovey
2021 Blaisdell Ave #201

--

Cyndi Hovey

she//her

Organizer . Facilitator . Connector

608-239-8604

cghovey@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/cyndihovey](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cyndihovey)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Cynthia Sarver](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Increase funding to Neighborhood Organizations so the City Can Fund Neighborhood Anti-Racism Efforts
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 3:33:52 PM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

-- Cynthia Sarver
5112 14th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55417

([she/hers](#))

[Zoom personal meeting room](#)

Strategic | Ideation | Activator | Learner | Connectedness

“You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.” — Buckminster Fuller

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Dan Millea](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Cc: ["milleajackie@gmail.com"](mailto:milleajackie@gmail.com)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2021 City Budget - Please Give Priority to Our Neighborhoods and Neighborhood Organizations
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:20:21 PM

Dear All:

As the city of Minneapolis moves to evaluate and address its public safety issues and concerns, I am convinced that it is critical that we properly fund community initiatives by investing in our neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations. Please take action and increase the funding allotted to our neighborhoods by at least \$3 million, bringing the total allocation to \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important work.

Sincerely,

Dan Millea
5716 Blaisdell Avenue
Minneapolis

Dan Millea
Attorney at Law
dmillea@zelle.com

ZELLE LLP

500 Washington Avenue South, Suite 4000

Minneapolis, MN 55415

D (612) 336-9170

M (612) 619-2997

F (612) 336-9100

[vCard](#) | [Bio](#) | [Website](#)

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[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening

links or attachments.

From: [Daniel Perez](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Undoing Racism / Committing to Racial Equity
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 7:43:45 PM

Dear Neighborhoods 2020 folxs,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,
Daniel Perez Amparo
2525 Clinton Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Daniel Shafto](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comment
Date: Friday, April 3, 2020 5:16:11 PM

Hello,

By way of feedback for Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines, I would like to request an increase in funding to neighborhood organizations. They are critical to the well-being of our neighborhoods.

Thank you.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Daniel Swenson-Klatt](#)
To: [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Cc: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of Neighborhood Organizations
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020 6:35:28 PM

Dear Members of the City Council and Mayor Frey,

My name is Daniel Swenson-Klatt, I own and operate Butter Bakery Café. I am writing to you today as a small business owner of the Kingfield neighborhood. My work with the Kingfield Neighborhood Association, the Lyndale Neighborhood Association, and other neighborhood organizations has included community building and business networking to build our local economy, environmental actions that led to city-wide composting, get-out-the vote events to build civic engagement, arts and education activities and support to create vibrant communities, efforts to increase local farming and gardening to address food security, advocacy for racial equity and inclusion, on the ground work to support affordable housing construction to help me support my employees and customers, and much, much more. Over the past 15 years it has become very clear that neighborhood organizations play a critical role in the network of engagement and communication. While we are looking towards a future that prioritizes equity in many forms including racial, economic, education, housing, and environmental, we need neighborhood organizations funded and thriving.

Addressing racism, community engagement, community solutions to public safety, activism around equity in schools, small business support and more, begins at the block level. Addressing racism is a neighborhood level problem and requires a neighbor to neighbor solution. Racial equity work needs more funding, not less. As a neighborhood small business owner, I am committed to investing in this work. And I know I will have more impact with partnerships at my neighborhood level.

As a partner in the work with the city, county, state, school and park board, I deeply value and need neighborhood organizations in this work. I am asking that you honor the racial equity framework of funding as a statement of support for racial equity, and increase the funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all neighborhood organizations.

Thank you,

Daniel Swenson-Klatt

Owner / operator

Butter Bakery Café GBC

3700 Nicollet Ave S

Minneapolis, MN 55409

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [David Wood](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Undoing Racism / Racial Equity
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:46:12 PM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.**

Sincerely,
David K. Wood

4210 Wentworth Ave

Minneapolis, MN 55409

--

David K. Wood
(612) 204-2152

"I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer."

-Abraham Lincoln

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [NCR](#)
To: [David Otto](#); [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Gallagher, Steven P](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Proposed 66% Cut to Lynnhurst Neighborhood Funding
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 3:01:46 PM

Hello, David.

Thank you for sending this comment. I am forwarding it to neighborhoods2020@minneapolismn.gov so it can be added to the public comments.

For more information about how allocations in the draft guidelines were calculated, you can visit <http://minneapolismn.gov/neighborhoods2020>

In the draft program guidelines document there's a funding formula on page 4. You can reach out to Steve Gallagher if you have any more questions about those estimates.

Best,

Rebekah Tedrick | Community Relations Specialist | she/her/hers* | City of Minneapolis – Neighborhood and Community Relations | Crown Roller Mill, Room 425 – 105 5th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55401 | 612-673-3163 | rebekah.tedrick-moutz@minneapolismn.gov | www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr
[*Why include pronouns](#)

You can fill out your [census form](#) using your address or [census ID](#) starting March 12. [#WeCountMpls](#)

From: David Otto <dmo411@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:23 PM
To: NCR <ncr@minneapolismn.gov>; info@lynnhurst.org
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed 66% Cut to Lynnhurst Neighborhood Funding

Hello,

I am a homeowner and resident in the Lynnhurst neighborhood and oppose the large reduction of our community funding.

I would appreciate some transparency to the process & study of how this reallocation was determined. I agree that additional funding can/should go to other neighborhoods, but it sounds like we might not even receive the minimum necessary funding to maintain a very basic operations program for our community?

I would imagine Lynnhurst pays one of the highest tax amounts in Minneapolis, so it would be nice to maintain basic functionality to our community services.

Thank you,

David Otto

1804 West 49th St.

Minneapolis

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [David Wellington](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Organization Support
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 1:58:39 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Frey,

I am writing to you today as a Minneapolis resident, commercial property owner and manager, and commercial real estate developer at Wellington Management, Inc. My work with Neighborhood Organizations has included a hundred plus meetings in Harrison, Bryn Mawr, Corcoran, Philips, Longfellow, Seward and Prospect Park. Over the past six years it has become clear to me that Neighborhood Organizations play a critical role in our network of engagement and communication. While we are looking towards a future that prioritizes racial, economic, housing, education and environmental equity we need to ensure Neighborhood Organizations are funded and thriving.

Undoing racism, community solutions to public safety, advancing equity in schools, small business support, tenant organizing, and more, begins at the neighborhood block level. Advocating for the systemic change our city needs begins with neighbors coming together to demand these changes within their communities.

As a partner with neighborhoods to develop affordable and attainable places to live, work, run a business and shop, I deeply value and need Neighborhood Organizations to help us create better projects that further knits our community together. I am asking that you honor the racial equity framework of funding as a statement of support for racial equity, and increase overall funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all Neighborhood Organizations in Minneapolis.

Best regards,

David Wellington | Executive Vice President

Wellington Management, Inc. | 1625 Energy Park Drive #100 | St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 999-5511 **DIRECT** | (651) 263-8386 **CELL** | (651) 292-9844 **MAIN**

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Deb White](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment: Neighborhood Association Fund
Date: Friday, June 26, 2020 7:09:05 PM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

Please read this to the end, as it may not be what you are expecting.

We are writing in strong support of the funding shift proposed by the Neighborhoods 2020 plan.

We live in the Tangletown neighborhood and were shocked to receive a call to action from our association, to post a comment against the proposed plan to redistribute neighborhood association funds to neighborhoods with more needs.

Even if our association was doing 100% equity work, asking to keep funding for a [68% white](#) neighborhood where the median household income is over 2x that of the average Minneapolis household ([\\$130,737 vs \\$56,255](#)) is counter to the concept of equity. The proposed changes in the Neighborhoods 2020 plan will shift funding to those neighborhoods that need it most and we wholeheartedly support the funding shift. Mostly-white neighborhoods that haven't committed to and done real equity work shouldn't be given money while mostly-BIPOC and low-poverty neighborhoods are literally dying because those of us with power to change things aren't doing what we can and should. We hope the associations in well-resourced neighborhoods across the city reflect on their true role in equity matters, that their members take time to reflect on the moment...to reflect on our history...to do some real learning around these issues...and to dig deep into their own hearts and minds. Do we really need more plants in our well-manicured parks? Or do we need to create equity now, across our city, by giving our funding to the associations who serve under-resourced neighborhoods, associations led by people who have been doing equity work for years?

Thank you for creating a more equitable funding proposal via the Neighborhoods 2020 plan. We are in support of this plan.

Deb & Tim Soulen

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Dennis Avery](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2020 Plan Caveat
Date: Saturday, March 28, 2020 12:33:14 PM

Minneapolis belongs to everyone. Folks in the suburban area and outstate Minnesotans who enjoy all the city has to offer. The older people, the disabled and working parents who must shuttle children around town and shop for groceries and make doctor appointments. In other words, all the folks that have to drive.

Don't forget us in the rush to turn our lovely city into a mass transit, bicycle-centric metropolis. And that includes our parkway system, which must remain open to vehicle travel so that our elderly residents, in particular, can find the peace and beauty of an occasional drive by our lakes and follow the creek to Minnehaha Falls. There has to be room on the bus for everyone, so please be inclusive as you seek to plan for our collective future.

Dennis and Gina Avery
1811 Valders Av. No.
Golden Valley, MN 55527
763-213-9368

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Dennis Fazio](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Neighborhoods 2020 Draft Guidelines
Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 1:20:28 PM

I have great concern that the whole Neighborhoods 2020 program is being hijacked away from its original purposes to solve a single major societal problem—a long history of institutional racism. Indeed, funds in the CPP program were biased to be more focused on those neighborhoods with wider diversity and greater needs, and this was not out of bounds. But here we are proposing to shift the great majority of Neighborhoods 2020 funding to those same neighborhoods with the focus now established on a single issue. If I'm understanding this correctly, the program seems to have been redirected to cover *only* racial equity as its single goal. Community involvement, neighborhood environment, neighborhood camaraderie, and livability issues are rarely mentioned.

I did attend the CURA presentations on their research findings and proposal last year and came away quite disappointed that a University-affiliated agency could present such shoddy research work.

C. Terrance Anderson presented for CURA and stated that they examined 30 years of documentation while holding up about a 10" thick set of bound reports. However, viewing the sparse set of data (all on one slide) that was actually distilled from all this prior work, I questioned that the paucity of data presented didn't seem to justify such a sweeping conclusion of significant institutional racism in the NRP and CPP programs. Mr. Anderson's response was that he disagreed; that was it. There was really no time for in depth discussion or questioning at these gatherings because of the limited time and lack of preparedness to delve deeper. However, this could have been accomplished with a more comprehensive written report, as true academic studies produce, but none has been made available most likely because it doesn't exist.

I did a numerical analysis of the proposed new Neighborhoods 2020 allocations. Taking 18 neighborhoods where they propose to give \$55K/year or more, I see that, in aggregate, these 18 neighborhoods will be allocated half of the total \$3 million proposed to be potentially available—a raise from the one-third of total CPP funds that they previously were allocated. But also from NCR's own tabulation, we can see that these 18 also carry a total of \$12.3 million of unspent funds from past NCR/CPP allocations. Thus, about 21% of the total neighborhoods hold 36% of the current total unspent fund balance.

So, if it is (so far unjustifiably) claimed that this subset of neighborhoods have been starved of adequate funds to help address racial equity disparities, what will all these neighborhoods do with this additional money that they haven't been able to accomplish in the past with their proportionately larger annual allocations and resulting \$12.3 million surplus cash horde?

Certainly the goal of the City Council to combat and reverse institutional racism is most worthy of effort, and all of the neighborhoods do indeed support that this issue be included in Neighborhoods 2020. However, it's not clear that steering even more funding away from a wide range of neighborhood improvement activities city-wide into a smaller subset of neighborhoods for this single focus area, where existing surplus funds already exist, is a correct approach.

Dennis Fazio
Former Treasurer, Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association
Former Director, Heritage Park Neighborhood Association

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Dennis Wagner](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 7:58:37 PM

Personally, I think this is all talk and no walk, outreach? not really it's all in looking. Haven't heard anything from our community in years, no idea what they do and how things are better now than they were last year. My job to go after them, or there job to go after me? Last meeting minutes posted for the board (July 2019!) (Last update Aug 2019). Spend money, no accountability, get a free pass, spend more money, no accountability, another free pass.....and on and on and on decade after decade. We had an email list years ago, they just blew it up) Looks like Rat hole \$ kind of a feel good jobs program. I mean really can you folks point to anything that says here is a measurable achievement that was planned and executed and this is how the community is better? Here is your ROI on community \$ spent. All we see is more talking, more group hugs, but not much for accomplishments. You think of the \$Millions you folks have gotten, what has the tax payer got in return? More stable neighborhoods? Gun violence seems to be on the rise? Cleaner streets? Better landlords? Less litter? Better renters? Fewer folks on section 8 or subsidized housing, perhaps better school graduation rates? Lower drug addiction, fewer gang bangers? Sorry would prefer to provide some glowing response, but there isn't anything that I can see to provide a glowing response too.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [donna neste](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] An unfunded mandate
Date: Monday, June 1, 2020 11:32:02 PM

What a clever way to defund our neighborhoods. Put out a bogus report about how the white people have received most of the benefits of the city's funding to neighborhoods, cherry picking the facts, and then holding most of the funding in one pot to be divided out after submitting proposals for everything a neighborhood plans to do. As stated, the facts have been cherry picked. In Phillips money was spent in collaboration with other neighborhoods to create affordable housing occupied by Native American elders, Somali, and other people of color. Somali soccer teams, Latino and Somali radio stations, minority businesses and art programs that engage children of all colors and cultures have been funded and continue to be funded, yet little of that was reflected in this report.

It is hard enough for neighborhoods to fund a director or staff person to write the reports, keep the books and organize the volunteers with the funds given to the neighborhoods, without needing to write proposals for everything needed to support a neighborhood. The funds given to the neighborhoods help to leverage so many good things and bring people together for fun events and constructive activities as volunteers, like Phillips Clean Sweep. If funds will have to be spent to hire proposal writers and requested evaluations (expensive endeavors) neighborhoods will have to close their doors. Much is asked, for little money. It's an unfunded mandate.

Much has been said about racial equity and rightly so, but if neighborhoods are forced to close their doors, for lack of funds, people of color and those most vulnerable will suffer the most. Working toward equity, racial justice and developing leadership skills begins in the neighborhoods, but it, like everything, takes adequate funding. Neighborhoods 2020 will be the death to them.

Donna Pususta Neste
Midtown Phillips Board Member

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**DOWNTOWN
MINNEAPOLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

40 S. 7th Street, STE 212 PMB 172
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Phone: (612) 659-1279
Online: www.thedmna.org

June 24, 2020

Minneapolis City Council
City Hall
350 South 5th Street, Room 307
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Mayor Frey, Council President Bender, PECE Committee Chair Phillipe Cunningham, and Members of the City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines. The Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association (DMNA), covering both the Downtown East and Downtown West neighborhoods, has been represented and active in all of the stakeholder meetings. We want to commend the impressive work of staff from the City's NCR department and from the U of M Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) in facilitating the discussions and creating a draft recommendation from which we can all continue the conversation.

In recent years the City has developed and enacted an aggressive plan to address racial inequities. All city departments have been required to analyze their operations and methods of service delivery to ensure that the way they are doing business is reducing, rather than exacerbating, racial disparities. Through the Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines, we understand that the City is now asking neighborhood associations to do the same. The disparate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the killing of George Floyd had certainly given a new sense of urgency to this work. The DMNA Board of Directors fully supports the equity objective in Neighborhoods 2020 and looks forward to reviewing the way we do business through a race equity lens.

With that said, however, we do have some concerns about the Neighborhoods 2020 Guidelines. First, we are concerned that while the intent of the guidelines is to treat every neighborhood fairly, not every neighborhood is the same. For example, because our downtown constituents live almost exclusively in large condo and apartment buildings, outreach efforts have to be very different than in single-family neighborhoods.

Additionally, we are extremely concerned about the substantial reduction of funding for neighborhood organizations. The amount of dollars available through the Citywide Neighborhood Network will leave many neighborhood organizations woefully underfunded. Most neighborhood organizations will struggle to pay for even basic administrative expenses, let alone have dollars available to engage in grassroots activities and to support neighborhood identified priorities.

We understand that the mayor and council had hoped to keep the new Program Guidelines budget neutral at the current appropriation of \$4.1m. We also acknowledge that the combined impacts of COVID-19 and the George Floyd killing have put tremendous pressure on the city budget. However, the fact remains that current proposal is likely quite inadequate for the associations to continue serving as an effective means of engagement and voice for all residents while also achieving real equity outcomes that are effective and more than just window dressing.

We would request two things:

1. That the City provides a base amount for each neighborhood of \$25,000 annually, which would require about \$2 million city-wide. The City can redirect the remaining amount of the \$4.1m current appropriation to the Equitable Engagement, Partnership Engagement, and Collaboration & Shared Resources funds. If the mayor and council wish to invest more city dollars to these purposes in future years, then they should increase the total appropriation.
2. That the City's NCR Department works in partnership with individual neighborhood associations to help develop plans to achieve racial equity goals. Any attempt to impose a "one size fits all" approach across the city is likely to result in more contrived busywork than actual results. The underlying dynamics of racial inequity vary dramatically between the 80 neighborhoods. Individual neighborhood organizations should have the ability to tailor effective responses based on their own neighborhood's demographics.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment. We wish the mayor and council well as it works to resolve this challenging issue. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact DMNA Neighborhood Coordinator Christie Hantge at christie@thedmna.org, or 320-583-4573.

Kind regards,

Pam McCrea, Chair
DMNA Board

Christie Rock Hantge
DMNA Neighborhood Coordinator

Cc: DMNA Board of Directors

From: [Leslie Hovda](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 7:10:04 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Dr. Leslie Hovda

Armitage neighborhood, Minneapolis

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From: [Us Dupont-Jarrett](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] please support neighborhood orgs
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 12:48:40 PM

Hello!

We members of the Dupont-Jarrett family of four have lived in Minneapolis for 20+ years, and the Victory Neighborhood for 10ish years. We believe community is very important, and without logistical (ie financial) support to coordinate efforts, it simply wouldn't happen--no one has time/energy to coordinate to it otherwise.

Please continue supporting the neighborhood organizations at current or enhanced levels--not defunding them.

Thank you,

the Dupont-Jarrett

--

Dupont-Jarrett family
djfamco@gmail.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association

4101 Harriet Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55409

612.430.9161 • info@EastHarriet.org • www.EastHarriet.org

Dear Council President Lisa Bender, Council Member Linea Palmisano, NCR and other City Leaders,

Neighborhood coordination in times of pandemic and unrest are more important now than ever. We are grateful to the City of Minneapolis for their long history of supporting neighborhood organizations that help create our vibrant and engaged city. Upon close review of the Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines, East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association (EHFNA) would like to provide the following feedback:

Feedback regarding Neighborhoods 2020 funding structure:

- We support the equitable engagement program and look forward to furthering our outreach to underrepresented populations. Over the past few years, we held focus groups with renters, youth and seniors. Every year, we've reached more renters at our Fall Fest and Happy Hour events. We have supported equity goals through funding an affordable housing project, supporting area schools, and an addition to the Farmstead Rec Center building. With training and sufficient funding, we are well positioned to do more equity work to reach underrepresented residents.
- The goal of a city wide network of "neighborhood associations supporting every residents' ability to engage in grass-roots activities, work on neighborhood identified priorities and partner with the city" will simply not be possible at a \$10,000 base funding formula. We support the focus on equity in this plan, however, neighborhoods like EHFNA will not be able to do this equity or engagement work with our funding cut by one third. East Harriet needs, at minimum, a \$20,000 base. This amount puts our neighborhood in a position to survive so that we can continue this vital engagement work. A \$20,000 base would also give neighborhoods the ability to join with together to create a strong organization that supports the city's equity goals. To be truly successful, equity work must be done in every neighborhood.

Feedback to program guidelines:

- There needs to be more criteria/guidance on what programs and what partners will qualify for the partnership engagement program.
- An 18 month limit for completing work under the equitable engagement and partnership engagement programs is limiting. Oftentimes big change requires a significant time investment and getting multiple partnering agencies on board, 18 months does not seem sufficient to achieve big picture, impactful work.
- We appreciate the funding provided in the collaboration and shared resources fund and are open to looking for ways in which we can better collaborate or consider merging to create cost efficiencies.
- Eligible activities for the city-wide neighborhood fund clarify that only neighborhood events and activities where the purpose is to develop new leadership will be funded. We believe community building events are a critical component of maintaining strong neighborhoods in the



East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association

4101 Harriet Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55409

612.430.9161 • info@EastHarriet.org • www.EastHarriet.org

city and they cannot all have a primary purpose of growing leadership. For example, an environmentally focused event should be permissible as supporting an important city goal around the climate crisis, it's not clear whether this event would be permissible as the standards are currently written.

- Additionally, do eligible activities for the Equity Fund need to be new programs? When we find a program that has been successful in engaging under-represented groups, we continue it if possible, such as Fall Fest and neighborhood Happy Hours.
- We encourage reimbursement for food and entertainment which are common ways to motivate individuals to attend events and engage with our organizations.
- This plan is missing any changes that will be made to, or specific support offered from, the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department to achieve the goals of the new program. with more support from NCR maybe the 2022 level of funding at just \$15,000 base funding would be sufficient.
- Under this plan, could funding from previous NRP and CPP programs be made less restricted so that we could use those old funds to help support our neighborhood if operational spending is to be cut so drastically.
- It's not completely clear that if 2 neighborhoods combine, their funding is then doubled. I think this is the assumption, but if that new group is considered to be 1 in the future, are there assurances that that combined group will continue to receive more funding?
- This plan does not clearly state what are considered under-represented groups, *in our neighborhood*. We need to understand what that looks like for our neighborhood so we can be sure our goals are aligned correctly.

What could be lost under this plan:

- Over 650 EHFNA volunteer hours
- Regular, in depth communications and outreach to 2,000 households in EHFNA via

An annual mailing to all EH residents plus doorhangers to announce the annual meeting and Fall Fest, almost 750 people monthly via our monthly email newsletter, 450 people on Facebook, over 1,700 people on Nextdoor, and 280 monthly visits to our website

- Community building events that have existed for decades plus new ones that keep things fresh: EHFNA Fall Fest, Quarterly Happy Hours, Free Bike decorating at Open Streets, Kite sales at the Kite Festival, Earth Day cleanup support, and games at the MPRB Summer Kick-off event.
- Business Façade Improvement and financial support to area schools.



East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association

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Minneapolis, MN 55409

612.430.9161 • info@EastHarriet.org • www.EastHarriet.org

- Neighborhood recognition – our residents know us and trust us. We consistently get a 43% open rate on our eNewsletters. We have the infrastructure in place to reach our residents quickly.
- Police accountability can be enforced on a neighborhood level. Neighborhoods can help make the policing plan for the future.

Thank you for your consideration in making these much needed changes,

Brian Nalezny

EHFNA President

Approved by EHFNA Board September 2, 2020

From: [Elaine](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Funding for neighborhood associations
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 9:37:51 AM

I am a long time resident of the Longfellow/Howe neighborhood.
I am writing to express my concerns about the Neighborhoods 2020 guidelines.
The program is underfunded and has poorly defined goals that will be difficult to measure.
The money would be distributed to CBOs through competitive grants, which will basically eliminate funding for many current neighborhood associations.
Under this proposal, Longfellow Community Council will see a significant decrease in funding, from \$7/resident to \$1/resident. The LCC will be unable to do any meaningful work at this funding level.
For residents, this would mean loss of access to home improvement loans, support for local small businesses, emergency grants and more. There would no longer be community meetings and residents will lose their voice regarding important developments in their own neighborhoods.
I have personally benefited from these programs, taking out a small low interest home improvement loan when I was a new homeowner.
I support continued work on racial equity and all of it's impacts, but I have grave concerns about the ramifications of this proposal, both in terms of how it will negatively impact my neighborhood association and whether it is capable of achieving its stated goals.
I urge you to do more work on this proposal and truly work collaboratively with neighborhood associations.

Elaine Ito
Longfellow/Howe neighborhood.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: ergreenbaum@aim.com
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] funding for neighborhood associations
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2020 4:27:21 PM

City Budgeting for local associations:

I live in Howe in the Longfellow neighborhood and am writing to protest the lowered funding for my neighborhood association LCC. I understand the reasoning behind what is being done, however, instead of punishing associations that are offering excellent programming by lowering funding - the city needs to find a way to bring up appropriate association funding levels and NOT force others to get reduced funding. It totally defeats the purpose of what the associations are doing.

I saw what happened in Seward, when they went bankrupt years ago due to mismanagement by an executive director, and the neighborhood suffered because of it. Forcing programs to shut down ends up doing damage to a community that is doing good things. LCC is very progressive - we are working hard to create a community wildlife habitat of which my property is one of them. LCC helped me receive a rain garden.

Not only that, Articulture, a 501(c)3 nonprofit I started in 2000, wouldn't exist today without the help, guidance, and support it received from LCC. Our nonprofit has been giving jobs to 3 staff members and up to 20 contracted teaching artists annually. Through grants, we give free arts and healing classes to marginalized populations in partnership with social service organizations. Our annual income in 2019 was over \$224,000 - we have since moved out of the direct neighborhood to Seward, but I cannot stress enough how community councils can help in so many ways that ultimately can make a huge difference not just in a specific community - Articulture serves populations in the whole of Minneapolis and the metro area.

And what LCC is doing in terms of environmental programs has a broader affect on both showing what other organizations can copy and what we are doing that is ultimately good for cities on a meta scale.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Greenbaum
3820 39th Ave S

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Elizabeth Shaffer](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lowry Hill funding
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 1:42:58 PM

Hello Neighborhoods 2020,

I request Lowry Hill's overall funding stay at the \$25,000 level and not fall to \$19,000 by 2023.

We are a neighborhood community of 60% renters due to our high-density buildings along Hennepin Avenue and many condos sprinkled throughout. We also have 45 new units of affordable housing coming in by fall of 2021. We need to maintain this level of funding to meet the needs of this unique community mix.

With no new development of multiunit market-rate units in our historic neighborhood, we do not get any park fees to help maintain our green space. Our neighborhood funding has been a lifeline for us in meeting the needs of our community in that area. As you can imagine one park with 60% of the neighborhood having no backyards is an important asset.

Finally, through COVID and the riots, neighborhood associations have stepped up to provide real help for people in need. Do not reduce our resources so drastically.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Shaffer
President, Friends of Thomas Lowry Park

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From: [Vanessa Haight](#)
To: [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Cc: [Frey, Jacob](#); [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Petition
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:15:21 PM

Good evening Council Members:

I have the honor of delivering the following message regarding the future of neighborhoods. You can also find the petition as a living document at: <https://www.elliottpark.org/equity>

Sincerely,

Vanessa Haight, Executive Director
Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc.
612-335-5846
www.elliottpark.org

Minneapolis City Council,

Undoing racism, community solutions to public safety, advancing equity in schools, small business support, tenant organizing, and more, begins at the neighborhood block level. Advocating for the systemic change our city needs begins with neighbors coming together to demand these changes within their communities.

I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned

Carley Matsumoto	55403
Katie Drahos	55403
Christopher Woelfle	55404
Lenief Heimstead	55404
Nicole Sperry	55404
Chris Shillock	55404
Marlys Anderson	55404
Patti Wettlin	55404
Daniel Quirk	55404

Tanya Schmitt	55404
Millie Schafer	55404
Witney Bjerke	55404
brenda schmidt	55404
Cassie Garner	55404
Julie Steller	55404
Katie Pilarski	55404
Katrina Becker	55404
Tricia Nelson	55404
Connie Rutledge	55404
Patty Smith	55404
Pat Stradal	55404
Rebecca Thomas	55404
Hillary Olson	55404
Femi Ogun	55404
Willow Rheault	
Kreibich	55404
Stephanie Brown	55404
Mark Yamaguchi	55404
Erin Sjoquist	55404
Sophie Wahl	55404
Harriet McCleary	55404
Shannon Dotson	55404
Nate Rastetter	55404
Cyndi Hovey	55404
Alonzo Pantoja Patino	55404
Natalie Vilter	55404
Sophia Hansen	55404
Caroline Jablonowski	55404
Larry Lade	55404
Arunkumar Pillai	55404
Jill Krueger	55404
Julian Ward	55404
Tamar Herman	55404
Daniel Garth Osborn	55404
Jeff Nelson	55404
Ellis Anderson	55404
Gina Wright	55404
Gil Bessard	55404
TamirT Mohamud	55404
carrie kalweit	55404
Ruth Sylte	55404
Jared Hanks	55404
Steven Wiese	55404
Joanna Krause-	

Johnson	55404
Deborah Moses	55404
Vachel Hudson	55404
Kevin O'Hara	55405
Eric Reich	55405
Patrick Reardon	55405
Claire Maxwell	55405
Nichole Arlt	55405
Benjamin Ptacek	55405
Kevin Thompson	55405
Anna Cox	55405
Katrina Hannemann	55405
Loren Marple	55405
Melanie Gatewood	55405
Katlynn Schmick	55405
Liz Isaac-Herzog	55405
Zachary Levonian	55405
Dave Disselkamp	55405
Ricardo Perez	55406
Elizabeth Sawyer	55406
Jean Mitchell	55406
Candace Miller Lopez	55406
Laura Mahutchin	55406
Jason Fritzel	55406
Dana Tuss	55407
Emer Griffin	55407
Karen Townsend	55407
Colette Baumgardner	55408
Bernadette Spencer	55408
Derek Hughes	55408
Jessica Holtkamp	55408
Andrea Rogers	55408
Eric Ortiz	55408
Leslie Modrack	55408
Dave La Violette	55408
Kaley Brown	55408
Leah Norman	55408
Heather Woods	55408
Jeanne W. Vergeront	55408
George Rishmawi	55408
Grant Baumgardner	55408
Lori Moucha	55408
Ellen Mueller	55408
Elizabeth Knapstein	55408
Lynda Gradert	55408

Ben Cowper	55408
Alisa Coddington	55408
Mikayla Ferg	55408
Alexander Glass	55408
Wendy Darst	55408
Andrea Lechuga	55408
Ariella Tilsen	55408
Jazzy DiMeglio	55408
Jacquelynn Goessling	55409
sandy parnell	55409
Sarah Tschida	55409
Jim Kumon	55409
Susan Stryk	55409
scott mueller	55409
Anne Birch	55409
Julie Heaton-Hill	55409
Betty Tisel	55409
David Wood	55409
Shannon svensrud	55409
Katherine Albright	55409
Ken Bearman	55409
Dean Amundson	55409
Mary Jo Nichols	55409
Spencer Albers	55410
Andy Harris	55411
Nichole Buehler	55411
Jeanne Torma	55411
Brian Krupski	55411
Jasmine Ricigliano	55411
Qannani Omar	55411
Heidi Nyquist	55412
Shannon Timm	55412
Kevin Aldwaik Aldwaik	55412
Deborah Dixon	55412
Danielle Tietjen	55412
Katie Fitzpatrick	55412
Leah Streeter	55412
Ernie Burnham ii	55412
Ognjenka Carter	55412
Christine Benson	55412
Kathleen Acaso	55412
Becky Timm	55412
Chuck Robinson	55412
Jessica Bell Odden	55412
Jens Paulson	55412

Nate Streeter	55412
Joe Timm	55412
Becky Phetteplace	55413
Christina Perfetti	55413
Sarah Danielson	55413
Lisa Datta	55414
Steve Treichler	55415
Kelly Stenzel	55415
Julie Rodriguez	55415
Kirsi Oldenburg	55416
Carrie Andersen	55417
cynthia sarver	55417
Keith Dietzenbach	55417
Mandie Flint	55417
Molly Stawarz	55417
Shannon Carboni	55418
David MacDonald	55418
Erin Oakley	55419
Margaret Walker	55419
Margaret Hastings	55419
Joshua Martin	55419
wade Keller	55419
Kaija Bergen	55419
Sally Franson	55419
Chrysa Duran	55419
Ann Zawistoski	55419
Dan Millea	55419
Katie Millea	55419
Rebecca Shedd	55419
Betsy Born	55421
Pia Payne-Shannon	55430
Marnie Peichel	
Shinjan Sengupta	
Lily Dzubay	
Nathaniel Broadbridge	
Coriner Boler	
Kim Forbes	
Amoke Kubat	
Stefanie Hollmichel	
Kevin Beaudin	
christine popowski	
Byron Millea	
Todd Shipman	
Melissa Heuchert-	
Berry	

Ian Dotson
Heather Friedli-
Ratzlaff
Lauren Boritzke
Sue Thomas
Kelly Piatt
Brianna Harrington
Stephani Pescitelli
Kalen Keir
Daniel Perez Amparo
Jessica Ward-Denison
Krista Pearson
Kari Anderson
Alex Register
Jamie Jones
Scott Artley
Leslie Thomas
Angela Bonfiglio
Mary Lind
Kimberly Caprini
Sabrina Gessert
Nancy Veronen
Audua Pugh
Polly Peterson
Jenny Wollner
annie gillette
cleveland
Katie laux
Devin Abraham
Mark Dougherty
Karen S.
Elisa Gustafson
Becky Dankowski
Anne Winkler-Morey
Laura Jean
nestor garcia

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810 S Seventh St
Minneapolis, MN 55415

612.335.5846

info@elliottpark.org

elliottpark.org

September 21, 2020

Dear Minneapolis City Council:

We strongly support the equitable engagement component of the updated Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines. Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. (EPNI) is a leader in organizing around equity and we will continue our work under the new Program. Our initiatives focus on addressing food insecurity, preventing housing displacement, and providing small business support.

However, we do continue to have concerns about funding for our work. The revised Program Guidelines increase expectations of neighborhood organizations while decreasing funding for most organizations. **If we continue to fund neighborhood organizations poorly while increasing expectations, we are setting neighborhoods up for failure.** EPNI has very little NRP/CPP reserves and will have no buffer as we transition to the new program. With a bare-bone budget of \$128k, the current city funding accounts for only half of our budget. Unfortunately, the Neighborhoods 2020 document does nothing to support a transition to a healthy and sustainable organization with diversified funding; a transition that many neighborhoods will be making in the coming years.

Because of the requirement that this proposal be budget neutral, the City is now in the unfortunate position of adopting a more equitable funding formula at the same time that it is poised to drastically reduce base funding. **With the proposed 4.1 million dollars in funding, it would take another 100 years under the current funding formula to address the racial inequities in our neighborhoods.**

The City of Minneapolis and many of its leaders have publicly confirmed that racial equity is a top priority for them. We see a future where neighborhood organizations are not for white bodies and white benefit only, one that elevates community by proclaiming that BIPOC lives matter and actively works to dismantle white supremacy. Raising the overall project budget by \$3 million for a total of a \$7.1 million investment, provides the opportunity to fulfill the racial equity goals of the plan, while also largely maintaining the baseline in funding for all Minneapolis neighborhood organizations.

We urge the City Council to allocate \$3 million additional dollars into the proposed racial equity formula for Neighborhoods for a total of a \$7.1 million investment to address racial disparities at the neighborhood level.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Haight
Executive Director

I will only identify myself as a resident of Minneapolis. Any information beyond that is not necessary. My comments should be judged for their content, not by my characteristics.

I became familiar with Neighborhoods 2020 so I could assist a small neighborhood organization respond to the proposed Project Guidelines. It has no program staff and no board member who has followed the issue. None were board members when the process started in 2015. I knew saying "we don't like it" would be less than useful so I attempted to start at the beginning to gain an understanding of the project. Accomplishing that was more difficult than it should have been and I did not complete it to my satisfaction. That is not at issue here, but I do find it ironic that information about a program to assist residents in having an impact on programs that impact their lives was not very accessible.

I could find no explanation or reason why, immediately after adopting Resolution 2019R - 153 because of approving the Neighborhoods 2020 framework in May 2019, Council directed staff to engage a consultant to complete the design of Neighborhoods 2020 rather than continuing as had been previously planned. Much of the Consultant's work program appears to duplicate what has already been done. It set a schedule for submission of documents (pre-Covid) that was not met. There is no record of the called-for collaboration in the two documents CURA has submitted. One, the Program Guidelines, seem like a replacement for the framework. The other, the Racial Equity Analysis, seems very problematic.

The Resolution 2019R - 0153 framework sought to ensure every neighborhood had an organization that would facilitate willing residents' participation in identifying and acting on neighborhood priorities, influencing city plans, policies, programs and services, as well as increasing involvement in civic and community life and creating a sense of place and celebrating community. There was a funding formula that provided a base amount of funding with possible additional monies for activities to increase the participation of persons categorized as underrepresented. More possible additional monies were available for projects that addressed Neighborhood Priorities. Base funding was a minimum of \$25,000.

CURA's changes to the framework would shift nearly all the funding to encouraging participation of underrepresented categories of residents meaningfully and effectively in policies and programs that impact them and in decision making at the local geographic level, with a focus on furthering equity. Each Neighborhood Organization would receive \$10,000. This would be restricted to administrative expenses, and encouraging the participation of underrepresented categories of residents. Additional funding would be available but only for more activities engaging underrepresented categories of residents. There would be no money for

addressing neighborhood priorities, or creating a civic life, a community life or a sense of place. It would seem the primary activity of Neighborhood Organizations would be meetings and report writing. I actually hope that my understanding of the framework and the program guidelines is incorrect.

Much of what is contained in the Proposed Program Guidelines is also in the Racial Equity Analysis. This is very confusing and I couldn't find an explanation for it.

If I were being asked to approve this document I would send it back to its author with a request that it be resubmitted with the following additional information:

1. The proposed changes to the adopted framework set out in a copy of that document with arguments for the changes being keyed to this new document.
2. The complete formula for allotting the proposed Equitable Engagement Funding along with an understandable explanation of it, including the definition and source of each category of data used, and the arguments for use of this particular formula.
3. An explanation of how the \$10,000 base amount was derived and a demonstration this is adequate to fund a neighborhood organization that can accomplish the four goals found on the first page of the adopted framework. Information should come from actual neighborhood organization budgets. If these goals are being eliminated, justification for their elimination.
4. Hypothetical 2023 work programs for neighborhood organizations receiving (with maximum funding) following amounts of Equitable Engagement Funding :
 - A among the largest amount,
 - B about the median amount,
 - C about \$15,000, and
 - D less than \$5,000.

I would also point out what appear to me to be flaws in the Racial Equity Analysis. While this document has already been adopted, it is the foundation for the proposed program guidelines.

1. One of the items on CURA's to-do list is "Defining a racial equity analysis of neighborhood association operations and activities." I would understand this to mean "tell us how to analyse neighborhood association operations and

activities to determine if they are racially equitable". CURA produced an "equity analysis" of thirty years of NRP/PPP spending. I don't find it on their list.

2. CURA lists among its qualifications for preparing this analysis its work with Minneapolis neighborhood organizations. There is no statement that CURA will not contract with any Minneapolis neighborhood organization in the future. The appearance of a conflict of interest exists since it recommends shifting funding to organizations that have probably engaged it in the past and/or are likely to engage in the future.
3. "Benefit" is used repeatedly without a discussion of its meaning for purposes of the analysis.
4. To extrapolate the results of a sample to the whole, it must be demonstrated that the sample is representative of the whole. To correlate the race of the applicants with a particular result, the race of the applicants must be the only difference between the two groups.
5. It is incorrect to compare the racial distribution of recipients of loans/grants for which the applicant was required to be an adult owner of the dwelling unit to the racial distribution of the entire neighborhood population. The correct comparison is to the racial distribution of dwellings units in the neighborhood occupied by householders of that own the dwelling unit.
6. When it became clear to CURA that their request for information was too narrowly defined to provide enough data for their purposes they did not explain why there was no other data that could be used.

If there are indeed flaws in this analysis, you should tell CURA to correct them or to forgo payment for the analysis. You should not pay for a product not received.

Minneapolis is at a critical juncture. Some residents would like to eliminate all police officers. Other residents are concerned about the increase in crime and the general lawlessness that has developed. Many residents worry about their personal safety. Hostility has replaced civility. Panhandlers hassle drivers and pedestrians. Homeless people sleep on sidewalks and block them. Stores remain boarded because the City will not allow the installation of protective gates. Covid 19 has reduced City revenue and increased expenditures. Washington politics have reduced Federal aid for Covid expenses and resulted in no aid for repairing riot damage. Can the City afford the program this year? Wouldn't it be better spent involving residents in conversations about the Public Safety Department?

From: [Emily Resseger](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Johnson, Andrew](#); [candace](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 plan comments
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:54:09 PM

Hello-

Please find below my comments on the Neighborhoods 2020 plan.

I applaud the City of Minneapolis for centering racial equity in the Neighborhoods 2020 plan. As a white person who has lived in the city for 16 years and served on the Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) board for 8 years, it was clear before COVID-19 and the unrest of this summer that racial disparities are THE key issue affecting all Minneapolis residents. This summer has just amplified that reality. The City of Minneapolis must address racial disparities and center racial equity in order for us all to thrive going forward. Neighborhoods with larger concentrated areas of poverty and greater gentrification threats need elevated support if we are to ever make progress on reducing racial disparities. I understand and support the Standish and Ericsson neighborhoods receiving smaller pieces of the total pie in order to begin to address white supremacy and make up for the deliberate racist actions of the past.

However, I do not support the proposal put forward as "Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines". SENA will likely shut its doors if our funds are cut to the amounts included in the Neighborhoods 2020 plan. Under the proposal SENA will receive at most \$50,304 in 2021, \$40,964 in 2022, and \$31,902 in 2023. We currently receive just over \$77,000 annually from the City's CPP fund, which is already not enough funding to fully pay our staff a living wage and do the programming, outreach and engagement work necessary to serve our neighbors. It would not be possible to maintain even part-time staff with the amount proposed and have funding left over for programming. Without staff we would not have the capacity to do the resource intensive organizing and relationship building necessary to advance racial equity. We know from experience and the financial realities of today's world that we would not be able to make up the funds lost through further diversifying our funding stream and increased fundraising.

If neighborhood organizations like SENA close their doors, the City will have a hard time reaching the desired outcome of greater equity in our communities. Neighborhood organizations are the connective tissue between residents and the City. With COVID-19 and the civil uprising in the wake of George Floyd's murder, the need for neighborhood organizations has been elevated into the spotlight. Neighborhood organizations have led the way this summer to support residents and coordinate with community leaders to get resources and information to the most impacted. Neighborhood organizations have also provided a key link for the City by organizing public input sessions, community safety meetings and more. The City does not have the expertise or capacity to take on this role going forward.

I urge you to reject the Neighborhoods 2020 plan. Instead, craft a new plan that relies on the existing infrastructure of neighborhood organizations but empowers them to work more closely and collaboratively with the City to reach the desired outcome of full racial equity. A majority of City Council members made a commitment on June 7 to drastically change the way Minneapolis approaches crime and safety, including dismantling the police department. Neighborhood organizations are poised to be a key piece of this puzzle: as a conduit to

neighbors, as organizers, and as disseminators of information. If the City Council is truly committed to a reimagined future Minneapolis with a different public safety model, neighborhood organizations should play a key role.

I would also urge you to increase funding to neighborhood organizations significantly to enable them to do the work outlined above. The mayor has proposed a 2021 budget of \$178.7 million for police and \$4.1 million for all neighborhood organization activity. I have seen estimates that an additional \$3 million (bringing the total to \$7.1 million) would be the minimum amount needed to fully fund neighborhood associations. Redirecting \$3 million from the police budget to neighborhood organizations would show residents that City Council members are serious about the reform they promised on June 7.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Emily Resseger
3640 27th Avenue South
Standish neighborhood
612-822-0637
resseger@gmail.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Emily Roland](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] support Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:10:11 AM

Hello

I am a resident in the Armatage neighborhood and I am in support of neighborhoods 2020!

Emily Roland
5808 Oliver Ave South

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Erik Ostrom](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 comment
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 2:01:41 PM

I don't have detailed comments but I like the requirement to work with community organizations and engage with underrepresented residents. Equity is crucial.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Erin Sjoquist](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood funding 2020
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 7:44:16 PM

Dear City Leaders ,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. For many many years Neighborhood Organizations have been pivotal to outreach and engagement channels from the city. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work. There are so many residents that volunteer their time to these organizations, but resources need to be there in the first place for the volunteers to come out.

Kind Regards,

Erin Sjoquist
2404 Pleasant Ave
Mpls MN

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EAST TOWN
BUSINESS
PARTNERSHIP

September 14, 2020

Council Member Lisa Goodman
Council Member Steve Fletcher
Council Member Jamal Osman
350 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear CM Fletcher, CM Goodman, and CM Osman:

On behalf of the board of directors and the staff of the East Town Business Partnership (ETBP), we are writing in support of the two neighborhood organizations that our district overlays in part: the Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. (EPNI) and the Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association (DMNA). EPNI and DMNA do vital work in our city, the positive results of which we see every day in many different ways. ETBP is a partner to each of these organizations, sharing common goals of making our neighborhoods vital attractive places that encourage the wellbeing of the residents, the businesses located in them and the visitors and patrons who come to our neighborhoods. Our city works because our neighborhoods are strong; they attract citizen volunteers to act on behalf of the city's greater good and they are accountable to the community.

We share EPNI's and DMNA's concerns that the Neighborhoods 2020 plan does not adequately address the proposed shift away from a city-driven, modestly structured funding/oversight system for neighborhood initiatives to a more bureaucratic and tightly controlled set of neighborhood imperatives. All organizations must be properly monitored but the proposed the transition must be managed thoughtfully and be consistent with the best ambitions for our neighborhoods, which are the life blood of our city.

As reflected in a recent letter assembled by a large coalition of neighborhood associations, we are urging the City Council to allocate \$3 million additional dollars into the proposed racial equity formula for neighborhood funding for a total of a \$7.1 million investment to maintain the administrative capacity of the associations while also addressing racial disparities at the neighborhood level.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dan Collison in black ink.

Dan Collison
ETBP Executive Director
Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Carina Aleckson in black ink.

Carina Aleckson
ETBP Board President
Board President

CC: Neighborhoods 2020

From: [Ethan Komoroski](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:55:47 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As a relatively new Armatage resident, I have had the extreme delight of meeting many of my neighbors through Armatage Neighborhood Association events. This personal level of bonding wouldn't have been possible without ANA. By meeting my neighbors, I can confidently say my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible. As an Armatage Neighborhood Green Team member, the funding we have has been put to great use to install rain gardens, clean up the neighborhood with litter pick up events, and educational events about organics recycling. We've been able to make these events inclusive; indeed the only path forward is together.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Ethan Komoroski

6020 Newton Avenue South

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Folwell Neighborhood Association (FNA)

Sept. 25, 2020

Neighborhoods 2020 Framework

To the Offices of:

Mayor Jacob Frey

City Council

Neighborhoods and Community Relations Department

Dear City Council and Mayor Jacob Frey,

We have been on this journey of revisioning Neighborhoods for over five years. At this point, we feel we have said everything we need to say. Yet the city finds itself in a new place. We understand that the needs are great in every aspect of infrastructure. However, without neighborhoods, many of the plans you all have for this great city will fall apart.

The Council has agreed that Neighborhoods are important. You have identified us as part of the City's 2040 plan. You have invested in us when we asked for a more equitable plan. Many of you have leaned on Neighborhoods in the last six months and we have responded with value that far exceeds your investment.

We see your verbal statements of support, but we need your financial investment. You have declared Racism a Public Health Crisis. We agree, but addressing decades of systematic and structural racism is impossible without investment. It is time to rethink the distributions from the city's budget, time to fund those who are committed to making this city a sustainably stronger community.

We are signers on the collective letter you have already received, but felt it was important to send an additional statement asking that you invest in Neighborhoods so they can continue to develop into the agencies that we all need them to become.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you feel it necessary, we are available for a conversation to provide further clarification.

With respect to the work,

The Folwell Neighborhood Board of Directors, staff, and community

From: [Gary Arnteson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on proposed "Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines"
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:57:48 PM

David Rubidor,

I am writing this as an individual.

When the City Council adopted the Framework for the Future a decade ago, it designated neighborhood organization administration a basic city service, and called for \$3,000,000 in annual funding.

I believe the proposed guidelines will lead to a greatly improved neighborhood movement.

I believe that the base should be \$25,000. Please increase the allocation by \$3,000,000 to a total of \$7,100,000. Work Group 1 based its recommendations on \$10 million. NCR can't recommend an increased allocation.

Re: "Board has a strategic plan for funding". I think WPCC's plan should be "[CPP] funding plus individual contributions." I don't think foundations should be expected to fund WPCC admin, a basic city service. The foundations should be funding admin for neighborhood organizations that represent neighborhoods that have greater needs than Waite Park neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration,

Gary Arntsen

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From: [Glen Johnson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:03:48 PM

Hello,

Overall, I am very pleased with the direction of the Neighborhoods 2020 formula towards equity in funding. Neighborhoods should have more funding if the local area has fewer resources and has historically been less funded in prior years.

I do have concerns about the low base funding level, as it would not allow any substantial staff. More funding for neighborhoods overall is one option. However, more resources/functional support from the city would be a way to assist by leveraging the similar structure of all neighborhood organizations. If more resources are needed, my main concern is that enough guidance and rules are set for the organizations that we don't fall back into the boards being dominated by older white homeowners in nearly all neighborhoods. Beyond the equity formula, requirements for how neighborhood organizations operate in an equitable manner should be put in place.

Thank you,
Glen Johnson

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Mpls Neighborhood 2020 Plan

Comments by Gordon Everest, 2020 March 14

geverest@umn.edu

<http://geverest.umn.edu>

Referencing:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@ncr/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-223035.pdf>

This neighborhood 2020 plan strikes me as completely irresponsible. I am saddened by this effort. It takes a pot of money and divides it up according to a formula to correct a perceived problem. Then hoping that in each neighborhood leadership will step forward to effectively mobilize to achieve those goals. It completely ignores the current state of affairs, the programs that are working, albeit unevenly. It is completely abandoning anything that is working effectively now and replacing it with something that we have no idea whether or not it will work. I predict that much of the funding will be wasted for lack of leadership in the local communities. In the meantime, those neighborhood associations which have been effective will be decimated, just because they don't have a large population of BIPOC within their borders. Seems like this plan is based on a blind hope that just putting a carrot of money out there is going to yield an emergence of leaders who can effectively meet the overall goal. If you don't have people to lead, to act, then the money spent is most likely not going to produce the desired result. Build on what you already have that is working in neighborhood associations. Don't just throw that away in hopes that something new is going to magically work. While the objective of racial equity is laudable, throwing out what is working now is like starting over with lots of unknowns. This is like smashing what has already been achieved in hopes that a new program, a totally new approach will succeed.

Ever heard of a pilot project to test out a new idea? Don't try to do everything all at once until you can find something that works. Tackle the problem incrementally, to see what works, to support leadership initiatives wherever they arise. At least start with an assessment of how well each neighborhood is doing. Then focus the money and effort to developing leadership in the worst areas. Better idea – set aside a pot of money to identify and develop leadership in neighborhoods where none currently exists, and where the racial inequities are the worst. What we really need here is leadership from our own leaders, our elected officials. This plan is a copout. It sounds good but there is nothing in it to ensure the desired result. People as leaders speaks louder than money and can be more effective. We need leadership at the city level, to put a plan in place to develop leaders at the neighborhood level. Not just throw money at a problem with no assurance that it will produce the desired result.

Neighborhood Funding Transition Period

<u>Funding Program</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>% change</u>
Citywide Neighborhood Network					\$1,680,000	\$1,260,000	\$840,000	\$840,000	\$840,000	-50.00
Neighborhood base					\$20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	-50.00
Equitable engagement fund					\$1,870,000	\$1,990,000	\$2,160,000	\$2,160,000	\$2,160,000	15.51
Partnership engagement fund					\$450,000	\$750,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	144.44
Collab and sharded resource					\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	-100.00
Budget total					\$4,100,000	\$4,100,000	\$4,100,000	\$4,100,000	\$4,100,000	0.00

Someone had fun playing with numbers.

What is the actual data for prior years

This ignores past successes and failures.

This has no measures of future success, just blind hope, as if just spending the money will produce desired results.

How will we know if the money spent worked?

1) What was the formula used to arrive at the decisions to fund neighborhoods according to the charts provided?

The formula (proposed guidelines) is based on:

- Areas of Concentrated Poverty (50% weight) – A unit of measurement by the Met Council
- Gentrification (20% weight) – A unit of measurement by University of Minnesota (CURA)
- Cost Burdened Households (30% weight) – A unit of measurement by the US Census, Minnesota Compass and others

2) There is separate funding for "neighborhood" organizations and "community" organizations - what exactly is the difference in these two entities? I have not yet received an answer to this question.

From: [Haley Anderson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:54:01 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Haley Anderson

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ingrid and Roger Krafve Krafve](#)
To: [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Marvan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public comment from a 30-year Armatage resident, and 17-year teacher with MPLS Park and Rec and Armatage Montessori
Date: Friday, September 11, 2020 2:18:51 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As a 30-year Armatage resident, and 17-year teacher with MPLS Park and Rec and Armatage Montessori, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Nelson Krafve

A 30-year Armatage resident, and

17-year teacher with MPLS Park and Rec and Armatage Montessori

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jackie Henry](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 3:07:35 PM

- Hello!
- My name is Jackie Henry and I live at 4925 35th Ave S in the Nokomis East neighborhood. We have lived in the neighborhood for 13 years and support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. Make resources available to strengthen the **neighborhood organizational network AND racial equity**.
- I have found NENA to be valuable in our community through its tireless effort in creating a close-knit community that allocates resources to those in need and builds engagement through fun events such as the Monarch Festival, the Night Before New Year's Eve and the Nokomis Block Party.
- We love living in our "small town in the big city!"
- Sincerely, Jackie Henry

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jacob Soper](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Revised Public Comment - Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:54:13 PM

Greetings,

Please accept this as my comment regarding the Neighborhoods 2020 plan:

- 1) One week ago during a Community Safety Zoom call, Mayor Frey stated how important the Neighborhood Associations (NA's) are in Minneapolis. He stated that they are incredibly valuable, and an important connector and advocate for the residents of their respective neighborhoods. But, if I understand correctly, Neighborhoods 2020 effectively slashes the budget support for neighborhood associations by up to 80% (depending on the NA). If the city values these organizations, why cut the funding?
- 2) There is much confusion among NA's regarding the details of the plan, how awarded money is calculated, and next steps for NA's. Why, at this point, is there still so much confusion?
- 3) If the NA's are not funded, who will perform the work that they do now on behalf of the city and their respective residents?

With the above in mind, I request as follows: Please reject the current Neighborhoods 2020 plan in its current form and engage further with city residents and neighborhood association leaders to come up with a plan that allows the neighborhood associations to function effectively.

Thank you,

Jake Soper

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [james mccluskey](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Do away with local funding for community groups
Date: Friday, April 10, 2020 7:27:49 AM

These local groups do not represent me and I am against giving our tax money to them, stop their funding and reduce our taxes....

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Stuart, Lisa M](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Cc: [Nokomis East](#); [Wambach, Heather](#); [Boss, Jane R](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Nokomis East Neighborhood Association
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 9:42:43 AM

Hello, we are the librarians and supervisor for the Nokomis Library at 5100 34th Avenue South, Ward 12. We strongly support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA or other neighborhood organizations. NENA is a trusted partner and is intimately involved in our community. We rely on NENA to connect with families and individuals in our community who are the most vulnerable, as well as to strengthen the neighborhood organizational network and further essential racial equity work in the Nokomis East neighborhood. Nokomis East Neighborhood Association is fully integrated into the community. They've built strong relationships with the people, businesses and organizations in the Nokomis area. When we work with NENA our impact is strengthened tenfold. For example, this summer NENA coordinated food distribution events in our most vulnerable neighborhoods. They invited us to join them, giving away free books to kids and adults, and activity kits to encourage playful learning and early literacy development. We also developed nature backpacks for families, to encourage and facilitate nature exploration this summer. NENA staff's native language skills and outreach efforts allow us to reach many Spanish-speaking and Somali families we would otherwise not be able to reach. Thank you for your continued support of local organizations like NENA which are doing important work in our communities during an unprecedented time of social unrest and a global pandemic.

Respectfully,

Jane Boss, Lisa Stuart, and Heather Wambach

Lisa Stuart | Youth Services Librarian
Hennepin County Library | Nokomis & Roosevelt
lmstuart@hclib.org
She her pronouns

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: buzjanet@bitstream.net
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] support neighborhood associations please
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:19:13 AM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I value the Tangletown Neighborhood Association and the work they do to make our neighborhood and city a better place to live, work, and play. The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, lead grassroots environmental change, and are humbly diving into racial equity work. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for neighborhood associations so they may continue their great work.

Thank you for your consideration,

Janet Jones

230 Valleyview Place

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [jeanie Gibson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 12:45:03 PM

The only concerns are it's harder to see the doctor right now and get your prescriptions or any x-rays or anything you might need during this pandemic hopefully you will be able to figure out you know better ways of helping people who have injuries and are elderly and don't know else to comment about it this time and low income

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jeanne Vergeront](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Growing Support for Neighbor Organizations
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 8:36:08 AM

Dear City Leaders,

An essential part of the work that needs to be done to heal our city and return a sense of safety to residents must happen at the most local level—between neighbors, up-and-down street, and in neighborhoods—between people and supported by neighborhood organizations.

For years, Neighborhood Organizations have been critical to outreach and engagement channels from the city. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Vergeront
2731 Fremont Avenue South

Jeanne W. Vergeront
VERGERONT MUSEUM PLANNING

2731 Fremont Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408
OFFICE: 612.879.8979
CELL: 612.819.4853
FAX: 612.879.8844
[EMAIL: jwverg@earthlink.net](mailto:jwverg@earthlink.net)
<http://www.vergeront.com>
MUSEUM NOTES:
www.museumnotes.blogspot.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [jennifer.kohlman](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please do not cut funding to neighborhood organizations!
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:00:07 PM

Hello,

My name is Jennifer Kohlman and I am a resident of Minneapolis, residing in Ward 12. I support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level, or higher! Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. These are valuable resources to our communities, and especially more so now, as we need the resources and organizers to help us come together as citizens to fight for equity and safety for all of us.

Thank you,

Jennifer

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jennifer Lindner](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Increase the funding for Neighborhood Associations
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:17:02 AM

I am shocked the city council is using comments from 2017 to guide 2021, in the wake of completely changed social circumstances. Homelessness driven by mass unemployment, documented retaliation by the police against everyone in Minneapolis in response to city, nationwide and global protest against their horrific murder of George Floyd - a 38% increase in police response time over the summer with 25% increase in crime here, with the same patrol numbers - means neighborhood organizations are responding to completely different safety threats and unprecedented want in our streets. We need and deserve increased funding to all of the neighborhood associations to address homelessness and our own safety, by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million, immediately.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Lindner
Lowry Hill, Minneapolis

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jennifer Oliphant, EdD, MPH EdD](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood cuts to funding
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 11:10:19 AM

As the proposed cuts to funding move forward, I want to comment on this. As a resident of Minneapolis, I spent the last year dealing with the aftermath of a developer planning for an apartment on our block. This is due to the 2040 plan. The process included our neighborhood association extensively. If you are going to have the 2040 plan place the demands on the neighbors and neighborhood associations to deal with the 2040 development implications, how can the neighborhood associations do that with less money?

Perhaps, since the developers are making a lot of money off of putting many unit buildings on single family home plots, you should impose a per living unit tax on the development. That money could go directly to the neighborhood associations to pay for the work the City's 2040 plan causes for the neighborhood associations.

We have neighborhood associations because we need them. And, the city is better for it. Please, don't ask these small organizations to do this work and not fund them for it. The success of the 2040 plan demands that we have neighborhood associations involved.

--

Jenny A. Oliphant, Ed.D., M.P.H.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jenny Vuong Ng](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7:45:35 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Thank you,

Jenny Ng
Armatage Resident

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jenny Veit](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillippe M](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Bender, Lisa](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:44:09 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members,

As an Armatage resident, I support the racial equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan. However, the proposed program changes will reduce the base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to work on equity will be in jeopardy. Though some neighborhoods have reserves to help delay the impact of the proposed program changes, many will need to immediately begin drastically reducing programs and services should this plan pass as drafted. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the neighborhood base funding from \$10,000/year to \$15,000/year.**

The last few months of COVID-19 and community-driven reform have reinforced how critical strong, local communities are. A better balance in the funding plan will increase equity while allowing small neighborhoods like ours to keep operating.

Sincerely,

Jenny Veit

6049 Morgan Av S

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jennifer Wollner](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Emergency Response Work
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 4:12:32 PM

Dear City Leaders,

It is my understanding that Neighborhood Organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. At a time when Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months, it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies can not. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,
Jenny Wollner
2201 3rd Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jeremy Nichols](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 5:36:03 PM

As a life-long city resident, and after watching the long, convoluted, and misguided process by which the Neighborhoods 2020 plan came into being I have but one comment:

The city should discontinue all funding of neighborhood groups and use the funds to directly address critical needs the city is facing.

Jeremy S. Nichols
2436 Sheridan Ave S
Minneapolis, MN

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jerry Dustrud](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:17:38 AM

Dear City Leaders,

- It is my understanding that Neighborhood Organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. At a time when Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months, it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies can not. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to do their important racial equity work.

Jerry Dustrud
Elliot Park Neighborhood Inc.
Board of Directors

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jessica Bell Odden](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 - Undoing Racism / Racial Equity
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 1:25:19 PM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper-local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.**

Sincerely,
Jessica Bell Odden
3558 Humboldt Ave N. Minneapolis, MN 55412

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jessica Holtkamp](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Resident Engagement & Organizing
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 12:21:53 PM

Dear City Leaders,

It is my understanding that Neighborhood Organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. At a time when Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months, it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. **Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies can not.**

Ensuring funding for the great work being done by our neighborhood associations is one of the best things you all could do to help our city in these difficult times. My personal neighborhood association has seen a significant increase in volunteers and organization that has allowed us to establish sustainable projects to help our neighbors in need, when broader government assistance is not an option. **Between our Food Share Program and our new Public Safety Committee, we've engaged more than 60 new volunteers, and are providing biweekly food shares to a growing number of neighbors in need.**

I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,
Jessica Holtkamp
2618 Fremont Ave S

--

Jessica Holtkamp
Phone | (319)-470-5396
Email | jessica.k.holtkamp@gmail.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jimmy Randolph](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:05:52 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

I support the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. Shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue. This is a tough time for Minneapolis, but with a pandemic and civil unrest it's an even tougher time to lose our strong network of community-building neighborhood non-profits.

The proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for many neighborhoods across the city to such a degree that core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Without more base funding, neighborhoods won't be able to fund a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, or communications such as mailings and digital tools that make reaching community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget of \$7 million and more base funding, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year.** Currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year and it's challenging to operate at this level.

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

I believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Randolph
Resident of the Northrop Neighborhood

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [JJ](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote
Date: Monday, September 21, 2020 9:39:37 PM

I'm chomping at the bit here to vote Andrea Jenkins out of office. Befo9re you go, Andria, repay the city for your personal security.

Don't let the door hit you in the caboose on the way out. We don't want a Workman's Comp claim.

Honest to goodness, Jack

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ronjonna](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support the Whittier Alliance
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 1:42:05 PM

Dear City Leaders,

As the city moves forward with addressing and evaluating public safety, it is deeply important that community initiatives are funded. If the city is experiencing neighborhood violence and inequities in policing, then it is time that the city council invest in neighborhood solutions. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Joanna Krause-Johnson

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Joel Federer](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 3:23:24 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Joel Federer, Armatage Neighborhood

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [John Edwards](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Stop funding this deeply flawed system
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:00:45 PM

The city of Minneapolis spent decades and hundreds of millions of dollars creating a racially inequitable system of neighborhood associations which have built power and organizing capacity disproportionately serving the interests of white property owners.

The city created this problem and now has the responsibility to fix it. Sending more money to neighborhoods experiencing higher levels of poverty and more cost-burdened households is better than the system as it has long existed, but it doesn't fix the fundamental problems.

Many of these organizations don't have a clear mission that's relevant to the lives of residents. Because of this lack of relevance, and resulting lack of interest, they are prone to being taken over by vocal minorities (older, whiter, homeowners) of the neighborhood which can be indifferent or hostile to the needs of significant portions of their community (BIPOC residents, renters). Many neighborhood organizations communicate low-quality or outright misinformation to their residents (if they're communicating at all). When residents show up to their first neighborhood association meeting, with the misguided assumption that it's a quasi-governmental body, many will come away with a poor impression of city government -- either due to misinformation, hostility, or the general poor quality of the experience.

Please demand results and accountability for our tax dollars. Maintaining 70 separate non-profit orgs is a significant waste of resources and human capital that could be better spent on projects that are relevant to the lives of residents. Why not a system that funds specific neighborhood projects -- instead of funding organizations for the sake of funding organizations? I wish more effort had gone into reimagining the system from the ground up, instead of maintaining the flawed structure we currently have.

-John Edwards
Lowry Hill East

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [John Kreger](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Sunday, September 27, 2020 1:16:23 PM

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

John Kreger

5524 Upton Ave S, Armatage

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Jon Binks](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] A few broader comments on Neighnorhoods 2020
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2020 2:35:21 PM

Hello,

Thank you for inviting feedback. As a member of the Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association, I applaud your efforts to help rethink and improve the direction and purpose of our neighborhood associations.

That said, I am concerned about how you have gathered and analyzed information. First, the World Cafe methodology is not consistent with science-based ideation exercises which try to avoid group-think and idea “blocking.” This, alas, is part of a general systemic issue with neighborhood associations themselves and how voices are heard. Too often, residents are asked for “input” which gets organized and summarized into some sort of overwhelming “too many cooks” soup. At the very minimum, alongside these efforts should be community learning and data gathering/presentation to ensure the most valuable “input.”

Without surveying best practices, investigating longer-term strategy alternatives, consulting various experts and sharing their work, performing an environmental scan, etc. etc. neighborhood associations and their residents simply aren’t learning or “growing” together and regularly find themselves at a significant disadvantage when interacting with the City, developers, the Park Board and many others. Perhaps my suggestions may be similar to the idea of conceiving of neighborhood associations as nodes in an extended network (including sharing and accessing information with other neighborhood associations).

I would hope that, in future, more resources and expertise could be devoted to fully educate and inform residents and, in this way, I believe neighborhood associations could act to promote equitable sharing of information to empower more residents. As often happens in any organization, neighborhood associations can both be “captured” by more powerful and better-informed interests or fall prey to a pretense of transparency and openness, all the while subject to an informal clique of actual decision makers. At times neighborhood associations seem to be too insular when they should be collaborating broadly (which I hope the new suggested changes can partly address)

In summary, I think the work you are doing is invaluable but should be seen as very much a work-in-progress. I do hope your process and the City’s final decision(s) will be revisited at some point to clarify goals and progress etc.

Indeed, there is room, and this is the time, for real positive change on many levels in our city.

Thank you again and best wishes,

Jon Binks

Jonathan Binks
Innovating Minds for Change
innovatingminds4change.com

612-379-3402 (home)

612-655-2165 (cell)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Josh Martin](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Plan
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 7:23:36 PM

I am a resident of the Kingfield neighborhood. I have recently become aware of and reviewed the Neighborhoods 2020 plan. I am fully supportive of this plan due to its focus on equity, as well as raising visibility and access for involvement in neighborhood associations. If neighborhood associations are to continue to enjoy the power that they do, it is critical that we take steps to ensure that they are representative of and accountable to their residents.

I should add that my experiences with the Kingfield Neighborhood Association have been positive. These comments are intended to support equity and good governance generally and are not intended as criticism of my own neighborhood association.

-Josh Martin

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Judd Grossman](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 comment
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:28:44 PM

Regarding Neighborhoods 2020 initiative, Please save money and stop funding neighborhood organizations. Government should focus on priorities like the police department, fire department, and streets. Thanks!

--

Judd Grossman
1402/1404 Douglas Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55403

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Julian Ward](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Emergency Response Work
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:17:25 AM

Dear City Leaders,

It is my understanding that Neighborhood Organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. At a time when Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months, it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies can not. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

Julian Ward
2424 Stevens Ave., Apt. #1
Minneapolis, MN. 55404

Cell: 612-423-5039

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: heathill@winternet.com
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kingfield Neighborhood Association
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:25:30 AM

Dear City Leaders,

For years, neighborhood organizations have been critical to outreach and engagement channels from the city and the county. This year, during the pandemic, that has expanded to communicating best practices and health updates on behalf of the State of Minnesota, as well. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. KFNA works with local community leaders to help them understand the key issues, and also be able to address them and examine them to their neighbors. The work KFNA does develops leaders in the community. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important engagement, leadership, and racial equity work.**

Sincerely,

Julie Heaton-Hill

3630 Grand Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55409

heathill@winternet.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



September 30, 2020

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I am writing to you today as the Director of the North Minneapolis Promise Zone. My work with Neighborhood Organizations has included Public Safety, Economic Development, Census 2020, Mental & Chemical Health, as well as COVID response. My work with Neighborhoods has spanned the last fifteen years as both the leader of a community-based organization, and a City employee working on the Northside. In that time, I have seen the critical role that organizations like Folwell Neighborhood Association, Jordan Area Community Council, Hawthorne Neighborhood Council, Northside Residents Redevelopment Council, and McKinley Neighborhood Association (just to name a few) play in the network of engagement and communication. There could not be a more important time for Neighborhood Organizations to be supported than this moment calling for racial justice in public safety, housing, employment and education. These Neighborhood Organizations have the neighbor-to-neighbor relationships that enable the voice of residents in marginalized communities, such as North Minneapolis, to be heard.

As a partner from the City who works in the neighborhood, I cannot express the tremendous value I have found in getting information out to communities, as well as input from those same residents through the Neighborhood Organizations. Looking to the future, I will continue to lean on those invaluable resources and support the great work of building better communities alongside our partners in Neighborhood Organizations.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julianne Leerssen".

Julianne Leerssen, J.D.
Promise Zone Director

From: [Julie Rybarczyk](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Victory Neighborhood
Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 1:05:39 PM

My kids and I have lived in Victory Neighborhood for 14 years. I've really appreciated our Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA) and the resources they've provided for our neighborhood.

My highest priority is funding initiatives that are supporting equity and inclusion in our city.

I think neighborhood associations are well equipped to support the actual people who live in the area. Please take this into consideration as you review budgets!

Thank you!

> Julie

—
julie rybarczyk
612.770.9000
behance.net/re-bar-chek

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Kalen Rainbow Keir](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood organization funding
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 12:15:45 PM

Esteemed City Leaders,

As we search for answers to the challenging questions posed by the MN uprisings, we have to remember that many of the problems that led to this volatility have been problems for decades. That said, many local organizations have been searching for just as long for solutions. The fires were lit long ago, and some community members have been doing the work to fight their underlying causes.

For years, Neighborhood Organizations have been critical to outreach and engagement channels from the city. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work.

I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Best,
Kalen Keir
2524 Clinton Ave
Mpls MN 55404

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Karen Larson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Association Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:40:58 AM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I value the Tangletown Neighborhood Association and the work they do to make our neighborhood and city a better place to live, work, and play. The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, lead grassroots environmental change, and are humbly diving into racial equity work. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for neighborhood associations so they may continue their great work.

Thank you for your consideration,

Karen Larson

4633 Nicollet Ave, Mpls, MN 55419

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Kari Anderson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Cc: kla78218@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comments for Increased City Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:46:35 AM

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared Racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't get more equity with less money. I am asking you today to increase the Neighborhood organization funding by \$3 million dollars for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to do their important racial equity work.

We need strong neighborhoods now more than ever!

Best,
Kari Anderson
Harrison

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Karl Slingsby](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood 2020 Funding Cut
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 10:06:50 AM

Hello,

I'm here to voice my concern over the decline neighborhood funding for Neighborhoods 2020. At this time, I feel this would be a very bad idea.

We've seen neighborhoods come together in this time of crisis to protect against Riots, looters, pandemics, and school changes.

This is a time when the neighborhoods need to come together to build stronger bonds, not be defunded and ignored.

Thank you for your time,

Karl Slingsby
5445 Elliot Ave

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Katie Nolan](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Nokomis East](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); eremy.schroeder@minneapolismn.gov; [Murphy, Suzanne](#); [Brian Kramer](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NENA funding
Date: Friday, September 18, 2020 10:22:59 AM

Good morning,

We support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. Make resources available to strengthen the neighborhood organizational network AND racial equity. We have found NENA to be valuable in our community in multiple ways: Through the low-interest loan they helped us get to build a new garage, for the amazing Monarch Festival they do every year (which has become a family, city and cultural treasure), for the support and information they provided during this summer's unrest that helped bring our community together, for the free food boxes they have been providing to families in need during this pandemic. Local community organizations like this are key to improving quality of life for our residents which in turn saves the city money. Getting to know our neighbors is more important than ever and doesn't happen through Nextdoor; it happens through grassroots activity like that empowered by organizations like NENA.

Thank you for your time. My name is Kate Nolan-Kramer and I live in Ward 12 at 3120 E. 51st Street.

Sincerely,
Kate Nolan-Kramer

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Katie Albright](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The importance of neighborhood funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:41:45 AM

Dear City Leaders,

It is my understanding that neighborhood organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. At a time when Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months, it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies can not.

In response to COVID-19, the Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA) rejuvenated the block network system and has hand-delivered multiple flyers to every household with information on the disease, resources available, and also stressing the importance of watching out for our most vulnerable neighbors. KFNA also helped consolidate information for local businesses and share this information with our residents about changing rules and shifting hours.

Working with the Minneapolis Boomerang Bag network, KFNA shifted our volunteer grocery tote Sewists (sewing activists!) to making face masks instead. Providing free delivered fabric, supplies, and designs, since April 1st, the group has sewn and donated over 4100 masks to 75 local clinics.

KFNA also stepped in to provide ongoing support at a local church's biweekly grocery distribution event, and collected Census information from participants when the federal Census workers were mandated to stay home. KFNA organized 25 bi-lingual volunteers, volunteering over 125 hours, to assist about 100 Spanish-speaking families complete the Census and avoid a knock on the door in August.

I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work through emergency response.

I have personally been active in these efforts and see the ways they make our city stronger.

Sincerely,

Katherine Albright
4041 Garfield Ave. S.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Kathleen Lenk](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:23:03 PM

I am writing to comment on the draft Neighborhood 2020 program guidelines.

I live in the Longfellow neighborhood of Minneapolis. Longfellow is one of the neighborhoods that have been greatly affected by recent unrest following the murder of George Floyd. Our neighborhood association, the Longfellow Community Council (LCC), has been working with residents and business owners to address all the issues caused by this unrest such as property destruction, lack of access to food due to all three major food outlets being damaged and closed, and safety and security issues. This is a perfect example of why neighborhood associations such as LCC are so vital to our City.

The Neighborhood 2020 guidelines as they are currently written provide very little support for neighborhood associations, and the support that is provided is not distributed equitably across neighborhoods. This does not benefit the residents of the neighborhoods nor the city as a whole.

With the instability that has been created with the recent unrest in our City along with the Covid-19 pandemic, neighborhood associations are needed more than ever. Neighborhood associations can help residents and businesses engage in rebuilding neighborhoods and address the challenges brought by the pandemic (e.g., supporting struggling businesses). Neighborhood associations have already been on the front lines with the response to the pandemic and the damage caused by the unrest. It would be unwise to decrease funding for neighborhood associations.

For all the reasons, the City should continue to fund neighborhood associations at a level that is at least the amount of the current funding from the Citizen Participation Program (CPP).

Sincerely,

Kathleen Lenk
2852 41st Ave. S.

--

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Katie Laux](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Undoing Racism / Racial Equity
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:46:43 AM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.**

Sincerely,
Katie Laux

3719 Pleasant Ave.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Katlynn E. Schmick](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Encouraging Community Solutions to Public Safety
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:35:23 AM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

Katlynn E. Schmick
419 W Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55405

(She/Her/Hers)

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
College of Biological Sciences | Microbiology Undergraduate 2020
Scientific Research Communication | Co-President
Voytas Laboratory and 10k Families Study | Research Assistant

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

May 19, 2020

Neighborhood and Community Relations

Crown Roller Mill, Suite 425

105 5th Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55401

Re: Proposed Neighborhoods 2020 Guidelines

To Whom It May Concern:

Kenny Neighborhood Association has reviewed the proposed Neighborhoods 2020 Guidelines and appreciates the opportunity to provide the comments below.

- We agree that racial equity is a problem in Minneapolis and we support racial equity work. We also believe that basic, grass-roots community engagement is the primary tool for us to engage in this racial equity work.
- We support the equitable engagement program and look forward to furthering our outreach to underserved populations while getting support from the NCR department to best achieve these goals.
- We would appreciate concrete, real world examples of how the city intends this work to be done in all different types of neighborhoods across the city.
- We appreciate the purpose of the Citywide Neighborhood Network Fund as being defined as a “continuation of the citywide network of independent, nonprofit neighborhood organizations supporting every resident’s ability to engage in grass-roots activities, work on neighborhood-identified priorities and partner with the city.”
- We disagree with the proposed funding of \$10,000 per year. We do not feel that we can adequately do the work supporting every resident’s ability to engage in grass-roots activities and work on neighborhood identified priorities and partner with the city with this level of funding.
- Neighborhoods leverage an extraordinary amount of volunteer work hours that benefit not only a particular neighborhood, but the city as a whole. If the neighborhood organizations do not have the ability to leverage this due to funding reductions, this is a loss for the entire city.
- Smaller neighborhoods have already scaled back in order to stretch limited funding to do the most good on the smallest amount of resources. They do not have office space, do not pay rent or utilities, and have contract staff that work under 20 hours/week who provide their own storage and technology

needs. There just isn't anything more for a single neighborhood to cut in order to reduce costs without jeopardizing community engagement.

- Given the already scaled back nature of smaller neighborhoods, merging several organizations is a consideration, but may not reduce costs significantly. There would be savings on insurance, web hosting, communication vehicles, and shared staff costs. However, caution needs to be exercised in looking at the advantages/disadvantages of combining so as not to negatively impact serving our populations.
 - If you cut staff to reduce costs, then the organization may not have the capacity to do basic engagement, let alone additional racial equity work. If you reduce engagement and programming in order to maintain the organizational capacity, there may not be enough funding to do the work that is being asked.
- The City's expectations for neighborhood organizations to engage neighbors, complete City reporting, carry director & officer and general liability insurance, deliver a wide range of activities and host meetings, cannot be conducted on the proposed amount of funding.
 - The city has a greater ability to negotiate contracts and bulk buying of goods and services. Under a shared resources model, we ask that NCR take on the expense of insurance, printing, distribution (including postage), and web hosting/maintenance.
- We support the shift toward equity work in this plan. But, the City needs to find a better balance for how funding is allocated. We understand that there needs to be significant funding going to neighborhoods that need it most through equity allocations, but there also needs to be processes in place to ensure that smaller neighborhoods have enough in base funding to continue operating. If the City stayed at the proposed 2021 budget for neighborhoods which calls for base funding of \$20,000 per neighborhood, 40 percent of the funding pool would go towards base funding and 60 percent would still go toward racial equity work. This would enable more neighborhoods to keep their doors open.

Some additional points of clarification:

- Citywide Neighborhood Election Day (p. 13). It isn't clear if this is voluntary. It appears that it is, but the wording needs to be clarified.
- Board of Directors (p. 17): "Have no more than 25% of the board serve more than six consecutive years". We would like to see this say that the percentage could be exceeded if there are no other candidates.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kenny Neighborhood Association



Kenwood Neighborhood Organization
PO Box 2061
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0061

September 30, 2020

We are having difficulty understanding what our role in the Neighborhoods 2020 program would be. The Neighborhoods 2020 Framework made our role very clear:

Funding for neighborhood programs instills a sense of community and builds connections to local government by supporting the following public purposes:

1. identifying and acting on neighborhood priorities
2. influencing city decisions on plans, policies, programs and services
3. increasing involvement in civic and community life
4. creating a sense of place and celebrating community.

But not so the proposed Program Guidelines:

Program Outcomes:

1. All residents feel they are informed, connected to their community, and empowered to guide and influence decisions that affect their community and their lives.
2. Under-represented or under-engaged residents are informed, connected to their community and feel represented and heard.

It is not clear to us how the Framework and the Proposed Guidelines relate to each other. We are also unsure of what decisions we would make that would be so major. We believe that as the board of KNO we should not presume to represent the opinions of all residents of Kenwood. When we were asked for just comments on Minneapolis 2040 and the SW Area Parks Plan, we used surveys and meetings to learn of residents' opinions. We limit our initiatives to neighborhood issues because that is what the organization was created for and what no other organization does. That is not to say we do not want to be involved in broader issues, but only in conjunction with a larger organization working with other neighborhood organizations.

The proposed guidelines would reduce our funding from \$25,000 to \$10,000 per year. They would limit use of this money to administration, communication, and increasing participation of underrepresented persons in the organization. As we understand the proposed Program Guidelines, we could identify neighborhood issues but could do nothing to address them as we would have no money to spend. It would be the same for increasing involvement in civic and community life as well as creating a sense of place and celebrating community.

We wonder how a board of nine to 12 persons can proportionally represent so many categories of underrepresented persons. How to elect such a board perplexes us. There is not overwhelming interest in serving on the board. The size of the board is flexible enough that anyone who wants to serve is elected. NRP/CPP records show that KNO repeatedly asked NRP/CPP staff for assistance in diversifying both participation in KNO and our board. We received none, as far as we can find in our records.

We will be very frustrated to lose the funding we used for East Cedar Lake Beach. This beach was a hot spot of partying, drinking, drug use, and brawling that created havoc for nearby residents, headaches for the park police,

and drove away those who wanted to peaceably enjoy the beach. Now some call it the best beach in the City for its peacefulness. Judging by the number of bicycles and cars parked in the area many people come from outside the neighborhood to enjoy it. We are concerned that the old beach will return unless we can fund the park police/patrol and the activities and events that helped create the new beach. Volunteers are now involved in helping park maintenance workers keep the beach neat and clean. They cannot replace the park patrol, performers at events, or leaders for classes. We want the beach to be welcoming to all those who arrive on SWLRT as well as those who use it now.

In 2012 when we first surveyed the neighborhood, mitigating the impact of SWLRT on the neighborhood was a high priority. Because SWLRT was repeatedly delayed, we have been unable to spend most of the allocation for this issue and it is held in reserve. It will be three more years at least before SWLRT is operating. To make the most effective use of this money we would like to be allowed to keep at least part of it in reserve until after SWLRT is operating.

KNO has been considering the role it and other neighborhood associations could have in the coming discussions about the Public Safety Department and the role of peace officers in the City. Neighborhood associations often have the ability to reach the people who are hesitant to publicly express their concerns and opinions.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Turner
Kenwood Neighborhood Organization

From: [Mackenzie Dykstra](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Funding for EHFNA
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 8:03:49 AM

To whom it may concern:

As a resident of the East Harriet neighborhood, I am so proud of- and grateful to- the association for the work they do to build up our community, not simply maintain it. The annual budget is critical to the communication, resources and passion fueling growth and fostering community in our neighborhood and, therefore, our city.

Please keep the budget at its current rate. Thank you!

Kenzie Dykstra
4337 Aldrich Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN
55409

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Keri Diem](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for neighborhood associations
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:12:04 PM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I value the Tangletown Neighborhood Association and the work they do to make our neighborhood and city a better place to live, work, and play. The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, lead grassroots environmental change, and are humbly diving into racial equity work. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for neighborhood associations so they may continue their great work.

Thank you for your consideration,

Keri Diem

5100 Garfield Ave

Minneapolis, 55419

Sent from my iPad

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Kevin Beaudin](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillippe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:37:50 AM

Dear City Leaders,

For years, Neighborhood Organizations have been critical to outreach and engagement channels from the city. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Thank you,

Kevin Beaudin

2429 3rd Av S Minneapolis

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

Dear City Leaders,

We come to you as fellow neighbors, organizers, activists, mediators, trainers, facilitators, consultants, business leaders, outreach workers, engagement specialists, and dedicated community leaders. We come to you during a global health pandemic, a country being torn apart by poor leadership at every level, and a city finally coming to terms with its long established racist history.

While Minneapolis grapples with a \$160 million deficit and calls to defund the police, it is critical to have a strong vision of where we are going. A plan that will invest in the building up of our collective healing and success, and dismantling of the policies and culture that dehumanize Black and Brown bodies. We feel that the current guidelines and Racial Equity funding formula are steps in the right direction. However, without financial resources, their impact is limited. For over 30 years, the City of Minneapolis invested hundreds of millions of dollars into a neighborhood funding system that did not prioritize racial equity. Now the City is looking to adopt racial equity as a core lens for future funding at the same time it is substantially cutting its investment into neighborhoods.

As a strong collection of neighborhood organizations leading the way into the future of organizing around equity, we are urging the City Council to allocate \$3 million additional dollars into the proposed racial equity formula for Neighborhoods for a total of a \$7.1 million investment to address racial disparities at the neighborhood level.

The City of Minneapolis invested over \$300 million dollars for decades into a largely inequitable neighborhood system. ([Full analysis from CURA here](#)) So what does it mean to repair the harm? Because of the requirement that this proposal be budget neutral, the City is now in the unfortunate position of adopting a more racially equitable funding formula at the same time that it is poised to drastically reduce base funding. With the proposed 4.1 million dollars in funding, it would take another 100 years under the current funding formula to address the racial inequities in our neighborhoods.

We believe that neighborhood residents are the most powerful force for justice and equity in their communities. It is imperative to build strong, sustainable and multi-racial neighborhood organizations as key vehicles for residents to organize and develop solutions to combat Minneapolis' worst-in-the-nation racial disparities. Considering their unique position within the community, neighborhood organizations are better positioned to respond to community needs than anyone else.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the limitations of overly centralized and bureaucratized community response plans for community health and safety. In the wake of the community rebellion following George Floyd's murder by Minneapolis police, the city moves towards the creation of a new transformative model of public safety. Neighborhood organizations can have an important role to play in building community trust and uplifting community driven solutions at the local level. People of color who have been underrepresented in neighborhood organizations must be at the forefront in crafting solutions to address systemic inequities.

In response to COVID-19, neighborhood organizations have risen to the challenge of becoming first responders in caring for residents, emergencies, and leading work on difficult conversations around the racism that runs deep within the city practices and policing. To vision what that can look like for the future, look to the neighborhoods that are already doing it.

Many neighborhood organizations are already leading on critical initiatives related to racial, economic, and social equity, and increased financial support is required to build capacity and expand this work. In the appendix you will find specific examples of racial equity programs and initiatives driven by neighborhood organizations across the city.

- Neighborhood organizations act nimbly to adapt to current events, assess community needs, and secure resources;
- Neighborhood organizations organize outreach in creative, accessible ways that no other organizations or government can reach deep into our communities; and

- Neighborhood organizations provide hyper-local opportunities to transform communities through dismantling white supremacy and addressing racism.

Now more than ever, neighborhood organizations need investment with the tasks set before us. CURA has outlined what equitable funding looks like across the city (*see Appendix B*). We believe with these additional funds, it would raise the base funding, allowing for the equitable framework to thrive while not disinvesting in wealthier areas. We believe that the problem is not in the formula, but rather the amount of funds allocated.

False formulas:

Funding - Equity ≠ Justice

Equity - Funding ≠ Justice

Our formula:

More Equity + More Funding = More Justice

The City of Minneapolis and many of its leaders have publicly confirmed that racial equity is a top priority for them. It is time to lend your critical vote and support on this additional funding to enable the necessary tools for dismantling white supremacy and reducing equity gaps along racial lines across the board. (*See Appendix B*)

Disinvesting in an institution does not change its history, but investing in an institution is necessary to shape its future. We see a future where neighborhood organizations are not for white bodies and white benefit only, one that elevates community by proclaiming that BIPOC lives matter and actively works to dismantle white supremacy. Raising the overall project budget by \$3 million for a total of a \$7.1 million investment, provides the opportunity to fulfill the racial equity goals of the plan, while also largely maintaining the baseline in funding for all Minneapolis neighborhood organizations.

With respect to the work,

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. (Approved 8/18/20)
 Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/18/20)
 Citizens for a Loring Park Community (Approved 8/18/20)
 Armatage Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/18/20)
 Victory Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/18/2020)
 Harrison Neighborhood Association (8/18/2020)
 St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/25/20)
 Folwell Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/31/2020)
 Northside Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC) (Approved 9/1/2020)
 Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (Approved 9/1/2020)
 Whittier Alliance (Approved 9/2/2020)
 East Harriet-Farmstead Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/2/2020)
 Tangletown Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/3/2020)
 West Maka Ska Council (formerly West Calhoun) (Approved 9/8/2020)
 Fulton Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/9/2020)
 Kingfield Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/9/2020)
 ECCO Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/10/2020)
 CAPIUSA
 Beltrami Neighborhood Council (Approved 9/11/20)
 Bottineau Neighborhood Association (Approved 9.11.2020)
 Webber Camden Neighborhood Association (9/11/2020)

Cleveland Neighborhood Association (9/11/2020)
Kenny Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/12/2020)
Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association (9/14/20)
Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (9/16/20)
McKinley Community (9/17/2020)

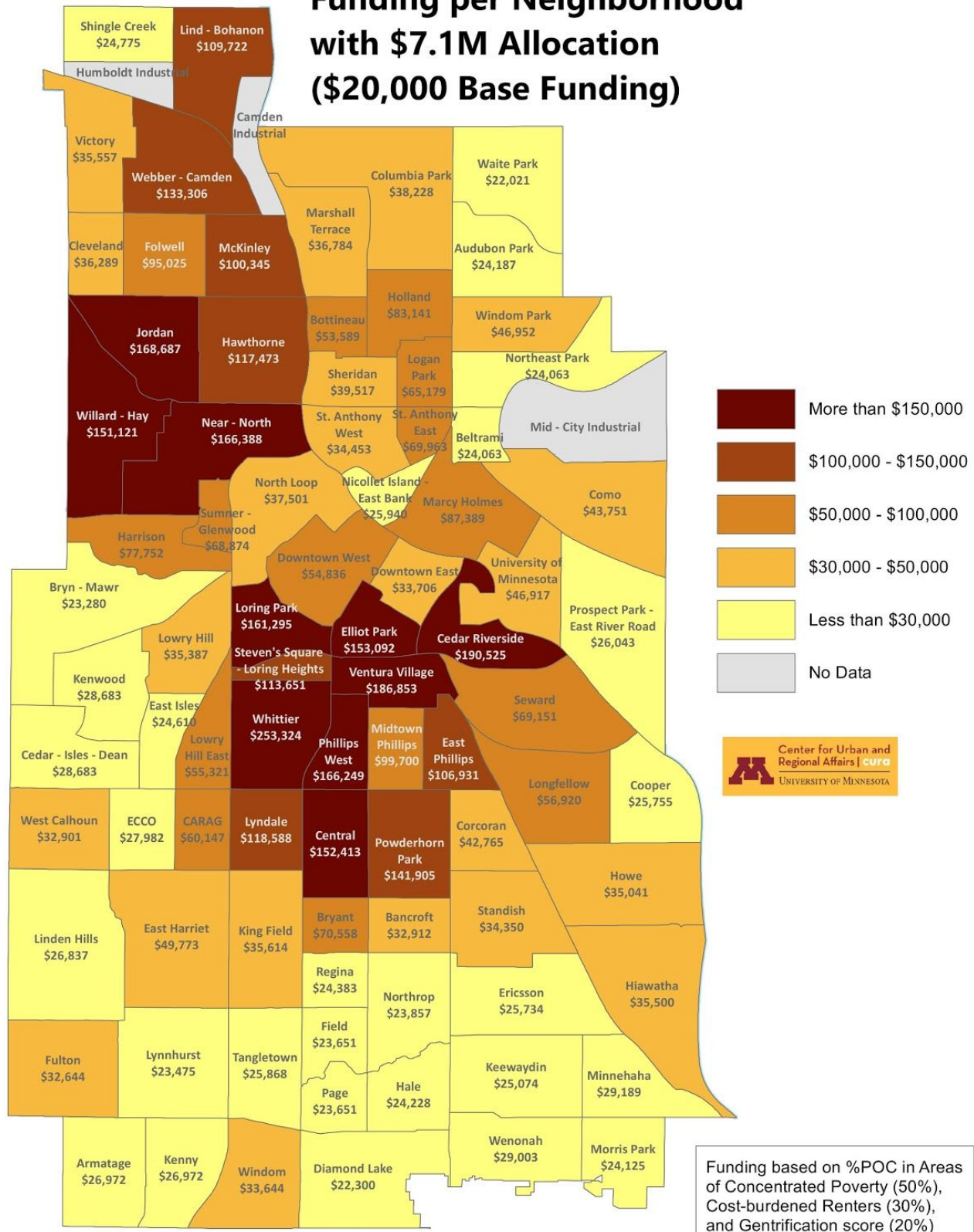
APPENDIX A

Examples of racial, economic, and social equity initiatives that neighborhood organizations are already doing, and need financial support to continue and expand in order to meet the increased need across the city:

- **Food & supply distribution programs:** Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., Folwell Neighborhood Association, Harrison Neighborhood Association, Beltrami Neighborhood Council, Bottineau Neighborhood Association, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association McKinley Community, Kenny Neighborhood Association
- **Anti-racism trainings & conversations:** Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., Folwell Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Armatage Neighborhood Association, Harrison Neighborhood Association, Tangletown Neighborhood Association, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Beltrami Neighborhood Council, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, ECCO Neighborhood Association, Kenny Neighborhood Association
- **Rent & bill pay relief programs:** Whittier Alliance, Beltrami Neighborhood Council, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association
- **Renter protection and anti-displacement work:** Harrison Neighborhood Association, Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Beltrami Neighborhood Council
- **Small business support:** Whittier Alliance, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., Armatage Neighborhood Association, Harrison Neighborhood Association, East Harriet-Farmstead Neighborhood Association, Tangletown Neighborhood Association, Beltrami Neighborhood Council, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, McKinley Community, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, ECCO Neighborhood Association, Fulton Neighborhood Association, Kenny Neighborhood Association, Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association
- **Environmental Justice Advocacy:** Folwell Neighborhood Association, Harrison Neighborhood Association, Bottineau Neighborhood Association, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, McKinley Community, Tangletown Neighborhood Association
- **Reimagining & Addressing Public Safety Conversations:** Folwell Neighborhood Association, Armatage Neighborhood Association, Harrison Neighborhood Association, East Harriet-Farmstead Neighborhood Association, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, McKinley Community, ECCO Neighborhood Association, Fulton Neighborhood Association
- **Accessible Transportation & Mobility Advocacy:** St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association
- **Support and/or Organizing for Affordable Housing:** East Harriet-Farmstead Neighborhood Association, Tangletown Neighborhood Association, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Bottineau Neighborhood Association, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance
- **Support for Neighborhood Schools:** East Harriet-Farmstead Neighborhood Association, Tangletown Neighborhood Association, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance, Fulton Neighborhood Association, Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association
- **Census and Voter Registration/Turnout:** Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, McKinley Community, Whittier Alliance

APPENDIX B

Funding per Neighborhood with \$7.1M Allocation (\$20,000 Base Funding)



Neighborhood	\$4.1M Allocation (\$10,000 base) *	\$7.1M Allocation (\$20,000 base)
Armatage	\$ 14,275	\$ 26,972
Audubon Park	\$ 12,567	\$ 24,187
Bancroft	\$ 17,917	\$ 32,912
Beltrami	\$ 12,491	\$ 24,063
Bottineau	\$ 30,596	\$ 53,589
Bryant	\$ 41,000	\$ 70,558
Bryn - Mawr	\$ 12,011	\$ 23,280
CARAG / South Uptown	\$ 40,635	\$ 60,147
Cedar - Isles - Dean	\$ 15,324	\$ 28,683
Cedar Riverside	\$ 114,561	\$ 190,525
Central	\$ 91,191	\$ 152,413
Cleveland	\$ 19,988	\$ 36,289
Columbia Park	\$ 21,177	\$ 38,228
Como	\$ 24,563	\$ 43,751
Cooper	\$ 13,529	\$ 25,755
Corcoran	\$ 23,959	\$ 42,765
Diamond Lake	\$ 11,410	\$ 22,300
Downtown East	\$ 18,404	\$ 33,706
Downtown West	\$ 31,361	\$ 54,836
East Harriet	\$ 28,256	\$ 49,773
East Isles	\$ 12,827	\$ 24,610
East Phillips	\$ 63,303	\$ 106,931
ECCO	\$ 14,894	\$ 27,982
Elliot Park	\$ 91,608	\$ 153,092
Ericsson	\$ 13,516	\$ 25,734
Field	\$ 12,239	\$ 23,651
Folwell	\$ 56,003	\$ 95,025
Fulton	\$ 17,753	\$ 32,644
Hale	\$ 12,593	\$ 24,228
Harrison	\$ 45,412	\$ 77,752
Hawthorne	\$ 69,767	\$ 117,473
Hiawatha	\$ 19,504	\$ 35,500
Holland	\$ 48,716	\$ 83,141
Howe	\$ 19,223	\$ 35,041
Jordan	\$ 101,170	\$ 168,687
Keewaydin	\$ 13,111	\$ 25,074
Kenny	\$ 14,275	\$ 26,972
Kenwood	\$ 15,324	\$ 28,683
King Field	\$ 19,574	\$ 35,614
Lind - Bohanon	\$ 65,014	\$ 109,722
Linden Hills	\$ 14,193	\$ 26,837
Logan Park	\$ 37,702	\$ 65,179
Longfellow	\$ 32,638	\$ 56,920
Loring Park	\$ 96,637	\$ 161,295

Sept 28, 2020

Dear City Council and Mayor Frey,

I am writing to you today as a resident of the Lyndale neighborhood, Program Developer at the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), and Program Director at Juxtaposition Arts. My work with Neighborhood Organizations has included supporting community-based research projects and working with NOs on projects focused on community safety strategies and urban planning and design. Over the past eight years that I've worked with Neighborhood Organizations in these ways, it has become very clear that these organizations play a critical role in the network of engagement and communication. When we are looking towards a future that prioritizes racial equity, we need Neighborhood Organizations funded and thriving.

Addressing racism, community engagement, community solutions to public safety, activism around equity in schools, small businesses support, and more, begins at the block level. Addressing racism is a neighborhood level problem and requires a neighbor to neighbor solution. Racial equity work needs more funding, not less. As a partner in the work with the city, county, state, school, and park board, I deeply value and need Neighborhood Organizations in this work.

I am asking that you honor the racial equity framework of funding as a statement of support for racial equity, and increase the funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all Neighborhood Organizations.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristen Murray', with a stylized, flowing script.

Kristen Murray
3328 Blaisdell Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55408

From: [Office Manager](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support NENA
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 2:42:13 PM

Crosstown supports funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. We often partner with NENA in efforts to help support our community, reach those in need, and meet the needs of our neighbor. NENA is vital to the community and the work they do providing renter advocacy, food support through food shelves, cooking training, racial reconciliation progress, neighborhood trash clean up, and so much more is very important. Please vote to continue funding these efforts through this organization.

--

Kristi Johnson
Office & Communication Manager



[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [LaChelle Semanko](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments re: draft neighborhood proposal 2020
Date: Monday, August 24, 2020 10:33:45 AM

To whom it may concern:

My family and I have lived in Victory Neighborhood for 18 years. As residents of Victory, we support and value the work done by Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA). We regularly participate in annual events such as the ice cream social and my favorite – the neighborhood garage sale. I have taken advantage of anti-racism workshops, neighborhood safety workshops and other programs sponsored by ViNA.

With reduced funding, we are concerned that ViNA would not be able to provide the necessary services and programs our neighborhood depends on. We ask that the proposed funding changes take into consideration how important neighborhood associations are to the vitality of each neighborhood and are necessary to meet the needs of thousands of households in our neighborhood and other neighborhoods across the city. Without the appropriate funding, our community will be greatly negatively impacted.

Lachelle Semanko

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Laura Berdine](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern about Victory Neighborhood Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:15:15 PM

Hello,

My name is Laura Berdine. I am the Board Chair for the Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA). I am deeply concerned about our ability to support our neighborhood with the loss in funding we are facing in the future. We have a physical office open to residents several times a week and employ a part time Executive Director. The board relies heavily on our Director to help us carry out the mission, field phone calls, and organize events.

Our board has undergone a renewed commitment to equity and inclusion in the past year. Following the murder of George Floyd and the civil unrest, we launched a series of six anti-racist discussions. A new community garden offers low income residents and renters a space to grow vegetables as well as beautify an empty lot. Recent board elections had seven people running for five open seats. Our former all white board now includes people of color and a LGBTQ member. I am energized by their commitment, their ideas to support those voices that have been marginalized in the past, and their willingness to step in to lead with so many uncertainties.

I ask that the City Council reconsiders the funding model for Victory Neighborhood. Our board and Executive Director are committed to carrying out the charge identified by the City of Minneapolis. To do so adequately, we need the financial support to move our neighborhood forward.

Thanks,

Laura Berdine
4158 Upton Ave N
651-955-4956

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Laura Schweitz](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Potential funding cut to neighborhood associations
Date: Monday, July 13, 2020 8:00:22 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to advocate funding not be cut for local neighborhood associations. More specifically, I'm asking that the base funding for the Tangletown Neighborhood Association is increased to \$20,000 to ensure they can continue to enrich this neighborhood in the future.

A big reason my husband and I wanted to start our family in Minneapolis (vs moving to the burbs) was for the sense of community/connectedness that comes from living within one of Minneapolis' neighborhoods. We never felt so lucky as when we found our house across the street from Fuller Park in Tangletown, and began enjoying the benefits of the Tangletown Neighborhood Association. We've benefited from the fourth of July celebrations, environmental advocacy, organization of annual garage sales, and the regular communication of what's going on in our community via Tangletown Neighborhood Association's newsletter/facebook page/website. Just this year our family signed up to adopt four storm drains in our neighborhood, due to the advocacy from the Tangletown Neighborhood Association.

Please increase the base funding to \$20,000 so the Tangletown Neighborhood Association can continue the great work that they do.

Thank you for your consideration!

Kind Regards,

Laura Schweitz
4812 Harriet Ave

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Laura Silver](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed funding cut to Tangletown Neighborhood Association
Date: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:05:50 AM

Dear Jeremy and members of the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I moved to Tangletown (and to Minnesota) in the 1990s and began my involvement with the Tangletown Neighborhood Association not long after. I was a board member for several years (two or three separate terms), sat on the NRP committee, and was even the coordinator for our popular July 4th Parade and Picnic. In those days, we didn't have a paid staff member, and burnout (and turnover) on the board was extremely high. I've been amazed in recent years to see how the TNA has blossomed with the help of a paid executive director. The newsletter and website, the email communications, and the environmental initiatives in particular have been welcome and impressive and have contributed to a strong sense of community.

I understand that the City is planning to make major cuts in funding to the TNA. While I support the focus on equity that led to this proposal, I worry that the TNA would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services they now offer and that make our neighborhood and city better places to live, work, and play.

I value the Tangletown Neighborhood Association and the work they do. I respectfully ask that you increase the funding for the TNA to a \$20,000 base so they may continue their great work.

Yours,
Laura Silver
4915 Garfield Ave. S.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lauren Dosland](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 8:40:16 PM

City Council,

My husband and I, residents of the Kenny neighborhood, would like to submit a comment regarding the neighborhood association funding.

We strongly urge you to support the Kenny neighborhood association, and ideally all Minneapolis neighborhood associations, with sufficient funding. We are deeply disappointed to hear that funding for neighborhood associations across the city are set to expire at the end of 2020.

This is difficult to fathom. Although we have been Kenny residents for only a year and a half, we can speak to the way in which our association has enriched our daily Minneapolis experience. A few examples: we received a rebate toward making security enhancements; the association is subsidizing our installation of a rain garden to help prevent runoff/flooding and promote animal habitats; we've met with the Kenny association Chair at park events, helping us feel more connected; the Kenny website and newsletter provide us with must-know, relevant and pertinent information; and, during this COVID-19 pandemic, they have provided valuable resources that directly impact us in our neighborhood.

These are just some of the ways they've impacted and greatly added to our lives, and to those of our neighbors.

Overall, we would choose to stay in Minneapolis because of the support of our neighborhood association. Not only is the association doing truly meaningful work, but in our opinion, it's common sense that a major metropolitan city such as Minneapolis would support it's neighborhood associations with sufficient funding. Any other alternative would be extremely disappointing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lauren & Hans Dosland

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lauren Anderson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:28:50 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

I support the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. Shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue. This is a tough time for Minneapolis, but with a pandemic and civil unrest it's an even tougher time to lose our strong network of community-building neighborhood non-profits.

The proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for many neighborhoods across the city to such a degree that core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Without more base funding, neighborhoods won't be able to fund a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, or communications such as mailings and digital tools that make reaching community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget of \$7 million and more base funding, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year.** Currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year and it's challenging to operate at this level.

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

I believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Lauren Anderson
Resident of the Northrop Neighborhood

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Leah Norman](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood 2020 funding concerns
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 6:58:21 AM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Soon,
Leah Norman
2719 Dupont Ave S

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Leah Sweet](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood funding
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:15:43 PM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I am writing to express my support for the Tangletown Neighborhood Association and the work in our neighborhood. The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, lead grassroots environmental change, and are humbly diving into racial equity work. I currently serve on the equity task force and am proud to be putting our shared neighborhood racial justice commitment into practice.

Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for neighborhood associations so they may continue their great work.

Thank you for your consideration,

Leah Sweet Slicker
4737 Pleasant Ave

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Leanna Kemp](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tangletown Neighborhood Association Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 2:08:38 PM

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in regard to the Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the proposed changes to funding for neighborhood associations.

Per Sally Bauer, the director of the Tangletown Neighborhood Association, TNA (and other neighborhood associations) are at risk of not remaining solvent under the new funding plan.

I support the city's focus on equity, and welcome changes that provide additional support to neighborhoods where residents are under-represented or under-engaged. However, I don't support decreasing funding so substantially that some neighborhoods are unable to maintain a neighborhood association. All Minneapolis residents and neighborhoods deserve the support and representation of a neighborhood association.

I ask that you increase the minimum funding allocations so that every neighborhood can keep a Neighborhood Association.

Regards,
Leanna Kemp Kristoff
4841 Lyndale Ave. S.
Minneapolis MN 55419

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lenief Heimstead](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Organization Funding
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 7:15:41 AM

I am a renter in Elliot Park. Our neighborhood organization has been doing a fantastic job of advancing racial equity and supporting renters' concerns.

The Neighborhoods 2020 plan will make it more difficult for EPNI to continue and to amplify that work. The proposed 2021 budget will only add to that difficulty.

I am joining with others in Elliot Park to ask that you fund neighborhood organizations at a sustainable level during this time of multiple crises, by raising the allocation \$3 million to a total of \$7.1 million.

Thank you,
Lenief Heimstead

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Linda Korman](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Continue Funding Neighborhood Associations
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 4:44:52 PM

Hello,

I am writing to ask you to keep funding neighborhood associations. They do so much for our neighborhoods. I've been a resident of Tangletown (used to be Fuller neighborhood til it was merged with Tangletown) for 35 years. TNA provides so many things- including volunteer clean ups, celebrations that get people together- keep us updated on current events and how we can help. More than ever these neighborhood associations are needed!

Thank you.

Linda Korman

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Linda Minch](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Funding for Neighborhood Associations
Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 3:40:07 PM

I have lived in Victory Neighborhood for nearly three years. As a resident of Victory, I truly support and value the work done by Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA). Part of the reason I chose to live in this neighborhood is because of the services and community that exist because of the ViNA Neighborhood Association. I regularly participate in the Neighborhood Garage Sale and have taken advantage of the Home Improvement Rebate Program sponsored by ViNA. My elderly neighbors have been greatly assisted by the Victory Youth Corps which helps them maintain their yards and keeps their sidewalks shoveled. I may need their services in the not too distant future.

With reduced funding, I am concerned that ViNA would not be able to provide the necessary services and programs our neighborhood depends on. I ask that the proposed funding changes take into consideration how important neighborhood associations are to the vitality of each neighborhood and are necessary to meet the needs of thousands of households in our neighborhood and other neighborhoods across the city. Without the appropriate funding, our community will be greatly negatively impacted. As a member of the Livability Committee for ViNA and a Block Ambassador, I implore you to maintain, if not increase the funding for Neighborhood Associations like ViNA that work diligently to aid our neighborhoods and help create a sense of community that is so needed.

Thank You!

Linda Minch

4122 Upton Ave N

Minneapolis, MN 55412

Sent from my iPad

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Becky Allen](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Steve Birch](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines - Linden Hills Neighborhood Council
Date: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:00:36 PM

September 8, 2020

Via e-mail (Neighborhoods2020@minneapolismn.gov)
and U.S. Mail

David Rubedor
Director
Neighborhood and Community Relations Department
105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

RE: Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines (February 2020)

Dear Mr. Rubedor:

As you are aware, the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (the “Board” or “Council”) has been actively participating in the community listening sessions and providing input and comments on the City of Minneapolis’ (the “City”) *Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines* (“Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines”). After participating in meetings with other neighborhoods and as part of the Community Connections Conference held at the Minneapolis Convention Center, the Board is providing comments on the proposed programs guidelines in this letter.

The Council would like to thank you for your representation and advocacy. It is clear from your own history, statements, and positions that you understand the value of community and neighborhood organizations and are for a Neighborhoods 2020 Program that provides sufficient resources to neighborhoods while also moving the City forward toward meeting the needs of the citizens and the goals of Minneapolis 2040.

The Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines recognizes the unique strengths of neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations in making this a great city in which to live. The Board is proud of the positive impact it has made in the Linden Hills community over the years, which could not have been accomplished without the support—financially and otherwise—from the City. The Linden Hills Neighborhood Council believes that the purpose goals of the Neighborhoods 2020 Framework are sound and supportable without question. While the goals are supportable, the program guidelines lack the required

resources required to accomplish the goal of why neighborhood councils exist and their role in the Minneapolis 2040 strategy. (Minneapolis 2040, Goal 14, Policy 100, "Place-based Neighborhood Engagement").

The funding model, particularly the allocation of financial resources to neighborhoods through the Citywide Neighborhood Network Fund is simply insufficient for a neighborhood organization to maintain a level of viability that allows it to meet the goals in the Minneapolis 2040 strategy. The Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines states that the Citywide Neighborhood Network Fund is designed to meet expenses such as staff, rent, phones, mailers and newsletters. This reduction in finding from current levels represents a cut of over 50% immediately and moves towards over 75% in three years. Funding staff alone at the Minneapolis minimum wage would provide only for one half-time staff with no funding available for other expenses. Our recommendation is that neighborhoods receive a floor or base amount of \$25,000.00 annually. While this is a cut, it also provides sufficient resources for the neighborhoods to operate.

In reviewing the City of Minneapolis approved budget for 2019, The city allocated \$9,625,000 toward Neighborhood Engagement and Support (Ref: City of Minneapolis Council Adopted Budget, page 349). The amount of money provided annually to Neighborhood Organizations through the Community Participation Program in the 2017-2019 cycle is \$4,100,000. This means that only 42% of the allocation for Neighborhood Engagement and Support is going to the neighborhoods.

The belief of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council is that the city has missed the mark by seeking to expand the scope of what the city is trying to accomplish with neighborhoods and that it did not consider another resourcing method. We believe that more than sufficient funds are available across the city with unallocated and uncontracted Neighborhood Revitalization Program dollars to meet the needs of the Equitable Engagement and Partnership Engagement portions of the Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines while still providing sufficient funds for neighborhood councils to continue to operate.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this information for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephen M. Birch
Chair
Linden Hills Neighborhood Council

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lindsey Dickinson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Do not defund neighborhood orgs
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 9:27:22 AM

Over the past week I have seen neighborhood organizations unite and organize their residents in ways that have been incredibly effective and helpful. Minneapolis residents were left (in many cases) to protect their neighborhoods when the police failed. Defunding these organizations when we have so much work to do as a city to connect and rebuild is RIDICULOUS.

Please don't defund neighborhood organizations.

Lindsey Dickinson
Hale Resident

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lisa Scuto-Johnson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of NENA
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 8:46:30 PM

I support funding for the NENA association at the current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. Make resources available to strengthen the neighborhood organizational network, and racial equity.

I have found NENA to be valuable in our community through business, family friendly activities. It is a great resource to keep me informed of what is going on in my neighborhood, and I find the organization more supportive than the city council.

I feel the city council is not very supportive of creating a friendly safe city/neighborhood. If they cut funding, what is the plan.

Lisa Johnson

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Elizabeth Isaac-Herzog](#)
To: [Elizabeth Isaac-Herzog](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Funding our Neighborhood Associations is crucial
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:13:06 PM

Dear City Leaders,

I am writing to request that you to **increase funding to neighborhood associations** in Minneapolis. The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a **public health emergency**. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. **Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis**. You can't achieve more equity with less money.

On a related topic, as you are aware, Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months — it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to **respond in emergency situations** in a way that other government agencies can not.

Additionally, efforts to **reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census**, voter registration, neighborhood development, and elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them.

I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important work in engaging citizens on the wide range of local and city issues.

Thank you,
Liz Isaac-Herzog

2009 Aldrich Ave S Apt. 5
Minneapolis MN 55405

--

Liz Isaac-Herzog
Pronouns: she/her/hers
610 742 3727
eisaacherzog@icloud.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Elizabeth Stiras](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request: No cuts to neighborhood organization funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:09:15 PM

Good afternoon,

I stand in support of funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA), along with similar neighborhood organizations throughout Minneapolis, at its current level.

Please **do not cut funding** for NENA and neighborhood organizations. Your support of this funding ensures that resources are put to their best use: strengthening the neighborhood organizational network and racial equity.

With rising distrust with law enforcement, we need a safe, reliable micro-infrastructure responsive on the ground. NENA provides just that, and more.

Their efforts:

- * Support commerce: promoting local and/or new businesses; 34th Ave reconstruction; Commercial Facade Improvement grants
- * Provide tools for living: food distribution, neighborhood cleanup; organizing neighborhood patrols in May due to threats of violence; better bus stops and Metro Transit service; 500 lbs of donated produce each year; Nokomis East Info Sharing Group
- * Support the environment: Nokomis Naturescape, Curb Appeal Grant; 12th Annual Monarch Festival (pollinator awareness)

All of these efforts improve property values, individual economic security and equity for all.

NENA consists of dedicated, experienced and necessary community organizers who, when the City felt chaotic and hopeless, gave us a safety net.

Thank you,

Liz Stiras, Ward 12 (Keewaydin)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

Public Comment on Neighborhoods 2020 Proposal by Neighborhood & Community Relations by Logan Park Neighborhood Association

Logan Park Neighborhood Organization supports the general concept of the Neighborhoods 2020 proposal for Neighborhood Organizations as proposed by the Neighborhood & Community Relations Department. NCR has proposed to work with neighborhood organizations to increase diversity and create more equitable engagement for residents of Minneapolis. LPNA supports those goals.

LPNA asks that the City Council and NCR recognize that over 50% of the neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis have part-time staff or no staff. In order to do the work necessary to achieve the goals outlined in Neighborhoods 2020, the many volunteer board members and committee members involved in neighborhood organizations will need professional expertise to develop and implement the required Equity Engagement Plan.

Current funding for NCR and neighborhood organizations for 2021 is unknown and generally expected to be reduced from current levels due to decreased city revenue.

Our understanding is that NCR is currently working on a template and more detailed guidelines to define and outline expectations of an Equity Engagement Plan.

With the probable decrease in funding, decrease in NCR assistance in 2021 along with unknown expectations and performance measures, we strongly feel that 2021 needs to be treated as a transitional year. Volunteers, neighborhood staff and city staff need to learn, understand, receive training and plan budgets so together we can adequately develop functional and productive Equity Engagement Plans.

This summer has seen many neighborhood organizations, including LPNA, take on new issues and actions to respond to current events. Just as we recognize the pressures being put on the city budget, we ask that the City Council recognize that neighborhood organizations are evolving organically and the importance of adequate resources to truly successfully achieve the goals of the current proposal. Our hope is that in 2022 and beyond, there will be more funding, city staff assistance, volunteer training and new partnerships to make our shared goals of diversity and inclusion for neighborhood organizations a reality.

From: [Lola Panschar](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Nicollet Mall is NOT walkable
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 3:46:46 PM

or Strollable and is very dangerous to ride a bicycle on:(
After having it closed for years it is now a glorified bus hub
Does'n't the city realize how much people like to walk (the lakes the parks, etc) and dine outside?
That's what will bring back Downtown if you just let Nicollet mall be pedestrian ONLY.

it is so lovely on a Sunday when there are less busses!!!!

It is a crime.

With a heavy heart,

Lola Panschar

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [DavisCarter, Lolita \(DEED\)](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: ["L Lajeane Davis Carter"](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My comments Neighborhoods 2020 Programs Guidelines
Date: Friday, February 28, 2020 2:57:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Greetings: As I reviewed the resolution by Cunningham, I believe the Neighborhoods 2020 guidelines is truly trying- [*attempting*]- to answer the question “**why diversity, equity, and inclusion matters**” within the City of Minneapolis. As a native to Minneapolis, MN {Near North}; I am pleased and delighted to say that City of Minneapolis is willing (motivated) to travel a journey. To identify how to build the **core values** of diversity, equity, and inclusion into policy, programmatic and funding structure to continue to support the City’s diverse and vibrant neighborhood system. Thumbs UP from Me!

Sincerely,

Ms. Lolita L. Davis Carter

Ms. Lolita L. Davis Carter | Senior Employment & Training Program Specialist

Office of Youth Development

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200, St. Paul MN 55101

Direct: 651.259.7665 | Fax: 651.215.3842 | TTY: 651.296.3900

[Web](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)



[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

April 29, 2020

To: Neighborhoods 2020 Steering Committee
City Council PECE Committee
Micah Intermill – Budget Director (Co-Chair)
CM Phillippe Cunningham (Co-Chair)
CVP Andrea Jenkins
CM Andrew Johnson
CM Cam Gordon
CM Lisa Goodman
CM Alondra Cano
Brad Cousins – City Attorney's Office
Heidi Richie – Mayor's Office
Mark Ruff – City Coordinator
C Terrence Anderson – CURA
David Rubedor - Director NCR
Karen Moe - Associate Director NCR

Dear Colleagues:

Longfellow Community Council (LCC), Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) and neighborhood associations (NAs) across the city have engaged, in good faith, in the Neighborhoods 2020 process for the last several years. We did this with the expectation that our expertise and experience would be honored; our point of view would be beneficial to the ongoing dialogue; and that our body of work and capacity as a 70 strong network for good would factor heavily into the decision-making process. Unfortunately, the most recent version of the Neighborhoods 2020 Draft Program Guidelines, released for public comment on February 28, 2020, resembles in no way these assumptions.

We have many specific concerns including but not limited to,

- The capacity of the proposed program to achieve its intended outcomes with such a paltry investment by the City.
- The budget and guidelines are an unrealistic and unfunded mandate.
- We question the logic and efficacy of dividing 4.1 million dollars into 3 different programs to fund an undefined set of organizations and projects, the majority of which will be distributed through competitive grants.
- We are wary of the movable target that is the data used to define the program priorities when with each new iteration came a new set of data points.
- If this new program were enacted, neighborhood boards and the input from residents would be silenced. We are being told that as independent nonprofits we deserve little if any funding, and the small amount of funding we would receive would only be used to advance the goals of the current City leadership, not the priorities of the community.

We do not and cannot approve of the proposed program guidelines and funding recommendations. It is irresponsible to comment on a plan that will do nothing to effect system change relating to racial equity

and will only serve to dismantle the neighborhood system. A system that has been held up as an example to the nation of how to do resident engagement.

There are many unanswered questions in this process that we would like you to consider:

- What is the City's estimation for the number of NAs that will close as a result of these changes and where is the plan/budget for dealing with this very real problem?
- What exactly does success for this program look like and how will it be measured?
- What will the story be that you tell yourself about the role you played in all of this?
- Finally and maybe most important, what will the story be that you tell you stakeholders, constituents and neighbors?

In light of these concerns and the impact that addressing Covid-19 has had on our capacity to organize our communities around this issue, we ask that the N2020 Steering Committee, PECE committee and City Council table any further action on Neighborhoods 2020 until after the threat has been lifted. Neighborhood associations across the city are directing all of their resources to keeping our communities safe, informed and connected. It is the work we were created to do and the work our stakeholders expect. We urge you to extend CPP through 2021 to allow time to regroup, and address the serious reservations shared by so many neighborhood groups.

Respectfully,

Marya McIntosh
Board Chair
Longfellow Community Council

Nathan Shepherd
Board President
Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association

From: [Loren Marple](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Invest in neighborhood public safety
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 4:57:26 PM

Dear City Leaders,

As the city moves forward with addressing and evaluating public safety, it is deeply important that community initiatives are funded. If the city is experiencing neighborhood violence and inequities in policing, then it is time that the city council invest in neighborhood solutions. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

Loren Marple
902 W Franklin Ave

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Loren Marple](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Increase funding for neighborhood organizations
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:36:27 PM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

Loren Marple
902 W Franklin Ave

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Loren Marple](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support resident engagement and organizing at the grassroots level
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:24:33 AM

Dear City Leaders,

For years, Neighborhood Organizations have been critical to outreach and engagement channels from the city. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,

Loren Marple
902 W Franklin Ave

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lorie Grabowski](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] neighborhoods2020 public comment - BASE funding
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:23:44 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

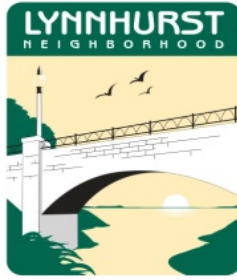
My family and I are residents of the Armatage neighborhood and have been for over 20 years. We support the equity goals of the Neighborhoods 2020 plan, as well as a shift in funding that will allow that work to be done.

However, the base funding cut to Armatage and other small neighborhoods is such that it may put core services to community members in jeopardy. Rather than cutting the base by more than half, we ask that base funding be cut by a still significant, but more reasonable, amount. **Therefore, I ask the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year). As noted, this is still a shift in funds to make critical equity work happen; it will, however, insure that a minimal amount of funding is maintained for neighborhoods across this city.

Sincerely,

Lorie Grabowski, Armatage neighborhood, 5648 Logan Avenue South

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



September 29, 2020

Neighborhood and Community Relations
105 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, MN 55401

RE: Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association Comments on the Proposed Neighborhoods 2020 Plan

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association (LYNAS) is submitting the following comments on the proposed Neighborhoods 2020 plan.

Active Neighborhood Organizations – An Engaged, Cost-Effective Resource

LYNAS wishes to continue to contribute to major city-wide goals for achieving racial equity, rebuilding damaged communities and addressing the housing crisis. We also want to sustain our strong history of neighborhood-centered activities in community engagement, public safety, support to local businesses, environment, housing, infrastructure and other areas that help maintain livable neighborhoods. A listing of our recent tasks, some in response to the civil unrest, and a few examples of our ongoing activities are below.

We are fully aware of the serious financial challenges the City is facing and will continue to face for some period and do not want to appear detached from this reality. However, we believe that the local knowledge, citizen engagement and “volunteer power” that neighborhood organizations leverage can have an outsized impact on addressing our City’s issues compared to the funding levels being discussed for Neighborhoods 2020. The City has an urgent need for resources and *we can help*, and would like a modest increase in funding for the program to be considered.

More Funding for Neighborhoods with Greater Needs, Minimum Operating Funding for All Neighborhoods

LYNAS largely utilizes volunteer hours and previously allocated City funds that we have carefully managed over many years to implement our initiatives. The underlying structure that supports all our activities requires a minimum annual funding of \$30,000 to \$35,000 for a part-time staff person (10 hours/week), basic communications, proper contract administration and core community engagement. (Some Minneapolis neighborhoods have comparable minimum annual funding needs; others undoubtedly have higher base requirements.) Without this minimum from the City or some other source, our role in achieving city and neighborhood goals will be diminished.

The proposed distribution formula in Neighborhoods 2020 combined with the total funding of \$4.1M provides only about one-third of the annual minimum baseline for us and other comparable neighborhoods. We believe it would benefit the city overall to adjust the formula and/or to increase the total dollars for the program to provide annual minimum funding for every neighborhood.

To be completely clear, we adamantly do not support equal funding allocations to all neighborhoods. We are advocating that all neighborhoods receive annual *minimum operating funds* that should be jointly determined with NCR, and that neighborhoods with greater needs and historical underfunding receive larger allocations.

Sincerely,

Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

Paul Daggett, Kevin Ehlert, Victoria Johnson, Carolyn McCormick, Peter Nussbaum, Michael O'Brien, Clare Padgett, Jonathan Parke, Steven Prentice, Paul Ragozzino, Nancy Selz and Andrea Vorachek

Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association – How We Contribute

Recent Tasks Supporting City-Wide Goals

- **West Broadway rebuilding:** Donated \$10,000 to *Rebuild the North* campaign.
- **Support to families in need with students at community schools:** Raised \$10,000 on donation website for gift cards for food and essential supplies to provide to families in need with students at Washburn High School and Justice Page Middle School.
- **Women's shelter support:** Collected and donated to Haven Housing a full van of toiletries and personal hygiene supplies for women and children.
- **Small businesses support:** Reimbursed Lynnhurst small businesses for expenses incurred adding boards to protect windows during unrest.
- **Fighting racism:** Published a newsletter with resources for racism awareness; added this as a continuing feature.

Initiative to Help Address Housing Crisis

- **Mortgages for housing projects:** Loaned \$110,000 of NRP Program Income to Propel Nonprofits to underwrite housing projects falling outside of the standard investment model.

Examples of Activities for Sustaining a Livable Neighborhood

- **Community engagement:** In-person and Zoom meetings (pre- and post-COVID) on neighborhood housing and development issues, recruitment of under-represented groups for LYNAS Board, Annual Meeting speakers on voter registration and public safety, various general community gatherings (pre-COVID), environmental forums (pre-COVID.)

- **Water quality:** Grants for improving water quality through sustainable gardening and landscaping practices. Post-COVID Zoom tour of sustainable yards and gardens.
- **Small businesses:** Grants for small business façade improvements.
- **Public safety:** Grants for security cameras, block leader organization initiative.
- **Communications:** An active role in two-way communication between the City and our residents on issues and events unique to Lynnhurst (e.g., Historic District) and of broader impact. These have been especially important with COVID-19 limiting our typical in-person community gatherings and Councilmember-sponsored events. We utilize a quarterly newsletter mailed to all single-family and apartment addresses in Lynnhurst, email news, social media postings including Lynnhurst-specific and broad-based, our website, and volunteer-delivered flyers for issues in areas smaller than the entire neighborhood.

From: [Lynn Farmer](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Input in Neighborhood Plan
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:54:36 PM

Hello, I am a 20 year resident of the Phillips neighborhood and I fully support this plan. I appreciate that the research was developed in partnership with CURA, an organization I deeply respect.

The key to this plan is that equity, not equality, is at the forefront. So many folks talk about wanting equity, then don't do anything about it. I like that this plan approaches neighborhood challenges from an evidence-based perspective and has deep data and research behind it. Now, some folks, especially in higher-income neighborhoods will not like this plan because they lose funds. This is a chance for Minneapolis residents to put their money where their mouth is. If we as a community truly believe in equity, not equality, then this is the kind of work that needs to be done.

Lynn Farmer

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [LYNN OHLHORST](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] We value and appreciate AMA!
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:02:52 PM

We have lived at our home within Armatage for 35+ years.

We have to thank the Armatage Neighborhood Association as it has grown and offered fantastic services especially over the past many recent years. We have used several recycling options; support for energy/security update options; and the recent Native Plant rebates. This association is VERY HELPFUL to a wide variety of neighborhood members (All ages; all nationalities; all ranges of jobs; etc.). Please don't cut the annual base funding!

We don't want programs and services cut back. With all of our individual health and economic challenges, we want funding to neighborhoods to be INCREASED helping us all in many ways.

Thank you for consideration of our thoughts and request.

Lynn Ohlhorst

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lynn Regnier](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Nokomis East](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood 2020
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:46:23 PM

Dear City Partners:

For the last 14 years I have been involved with neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis as a staff member and as a community volunteer. It has been my experience that our neighborhood organizations provide a valuable service connecting city residents and businesses to each other and to the citywide initiatives that affect their daily lives. They do the work that the city cannot—informing and engaging individuals up close, where they live and work.

I am particularly confused as to why the City is so eager to underfund the very organizations that do so much compelling work on behalf of the City at large. And at this time, most especially, when we are all so vulnerable from unprecedented chaos due to civil unrest, covid-19 and political divisiveness. There is much work to do and neighborhood organizations are uniquely positioned and experienced to do this work.

I urge you to reconsider plans to reduce funding to neighborhood organizations and, instead, seek positive solutions to strengthen funding and sustain our neighborhood networks into the future.

Sincerely,
Lynn Regnier
Ward 12
5333 42nd Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Sent from my iPad
Lynn Regnier

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lynn Von Korff](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Neighborhoods 2020 Plan
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:44:45 PM

Thank you for your consideration of these comments to make Neighborhoods 2020 equitable engagement funding more equitable and transparent.

1. Make publicly available equitable engagement formulas, data, and the specific sources used to create measures.

2. Use the most current and valid data to calculate equitable engagement funding. Some census tracts with large populations of BIPOC, renters, students, and low-income residents are historically under-counted. In those cases, the most **current valid estimates will often be more equitable** than “actual” census counts. All sources should be made public.

3. Use continuous instead of categorical measures to calculate equitable engagement funding. It appears that some measures used to calculate equitable engagement funding are categorical (e.g. 100%, 50%, or 0%) when continuous measures would be **more equitable** and better serve our communities. For example, a neighborhood with 45% cost burdened households--or whatever measures are used, should not be considered equivalent to a neighborhood with 10% cost-burdened households.

I strongly support the concept of equitable engagement funding, but the formulas, data, and sources for each measure should also be equitable and transparent. Descriptions are insufficient.

Increase base funding. I support the many voices asking to increase the total overall allocation for that purpose.

Thank you!

Lynn Von Korff
48 Clarence Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Lynne Ferguson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020 4:11:45 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Lynne Ferguson
6014 Oliver Av S
Minneapolis, MN 55419

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Mark Yamaguchi](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Resident Engagement & Organizing
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 12:11:23 PM

Dear City Leaders,

It is my understanding that Neighborhood Organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. At a time when Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the last six months, it is more critical now than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies can not. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

Sincerely,
Mark Yamaguchi
2438 Pleasant Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Peichel](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Organization level work is Essential!
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:05:45 AM

Dear City Leaders,

The Kingfield Neighborhood Association has a long history of advocating for affordable housing in our neighborhood. KFNA administered an Exterior Matching Grant Home Improvement program that provided funds to homeowners at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). This program provided 58 grants and almost \$150,000 to visible repairs; in some areas of the neighborhood KFNA also matched our own dollars to support families in financial need and spent an additional \$19,000. Additionally, the Emergency Home Repair Grant provided another \$150,000 to homeowners who earned at, or below, 50 % AMI to stabilize hazardous household conditions. Over the past two decades KFNA has also worked with, and supported, the City of Lakes Community Land Trust, PPL, Habitat for Humanity, Hennepin County, Minneapolis Public Housing, and Beacon Interfaith Housing to develop 50 units of affordable housing in our neighborhood.

To continue this work and advocate for this diversity of housing in our community, we need money to be at the table when projects are being proposed and planned. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to all neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure the Kingfield Neighborhood Association can continue to do their part of increasing economic and racial diversity by increasing affordable housing options in the city.**

Sincerely,
Marnie Peichel
4217 Garfield Ave., Minneapolis 55409

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Martha Rosen](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Cc: [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Continued Support of Nokomis East Neighborhood Association
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2020 11:09:49 AM

I have lived in the Nokomis East Neighborhood for nearly 26 years. Over the years, the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) has proven again and again that it is a vital resource for this area of the city. As the neighborhood has become economically and racially more diverse it has shown great flexibility in broadening the scope of its services. Most recently, it has provided social and financial support to individuals and businesses affected by the pandemic. I'm writing to request that funding for NENA be continued at the current level. Rather than cutting funding for NENA and other neighborhood organizations, resources should be made available to strengthen the both **neighborhood organizational network AND racial equity**.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Martha Rosen
5321 36th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Mn 55417
612-961-7282

Some ideas for supporting your community:

- Shop at locally-owned small businesses.
- Buy gift-cards now and use them later at businesses, such as restaurants, you are currently avoiding.
- Donate to local food banks.
- Physical distancing doesn't prevent social interaction; it just changes it. Keep in touch with family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors through phone, email, Skype/Facetime, and social media.
- Keep in touch through the United States Post Office; you can't e-mail cookies!
- Check on your neighbors, especially older and otherwise vulnerable people. A phone call is all it takes.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Mary ann](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Speeding
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:13:34 PM

I am wondering how the 20mph speed limit is being I forced without active police 35 monitoring these limits. Daily I see people traveling at least 30-35mph on the parkway and 35-40 mph coming down the hill on Bloomington Ave.

Sent from my iPad

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [mary schreiber](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Nokomis East Neighborhood Association
Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 7:08:14 PM

Don't Defund our NENA !!!

*Mary Schreiber
3306 Mondamin St
Mpls MN 55417*

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Mary Schwanke](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Goodman, Lisa R.](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Decreasing Grants to Neighborhood Organizations
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2020 2:46:17 PM

I am writing to express my opposition to cutting grants to Neighborhood Organizations. Since we have lived in this neighborhood, our Kenwood Neighborhood Organization has supported many projects in the area and the greater community of Minneapolis. To name a few The Bridge for Runaway Youth, early on Housing for individuals with HIV. Both needed resources in Minneapolis. KNO continues to support and update East Cedar Beach, transitioning it from an unsafe beach to a beach that families use on a regular basis. These families come from many areas of Minneapolis. When the SWLRT is functional it will improve even further the access of more diverse populations.

I believe as others do that instead of defunding KNO and other neighborhood organizations, the city of Minneapolis should develop a Strategic and Racial Equity Action Plan so that all neighborhoods no matter what their composition could participate in a coordinated effort to promote equity across the city.

Mary Schwanke
1977 Kenwood Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55405

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Megan](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] N2020 Comments
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:30:31 PM

Good afternoon!

I'd like the council to vote NO to this plan. In light of everything happening in Minneapolis and how the plan was created, with lack of neighborhood organization input for one, I'd like the council to reconsider their approach to neighborhood organizations and supporting them in the future. They could have a strong role if supported properly.

Thank you,
Megan (Standish-Ericsson Resident)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Melanie Gatewood](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Organization Funding
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 8:48:49 PM

Dear City Leaders,

Invest in us, don't divest funds from our communities. If ever, now is NOT the times to defund our neighborhoods. Not when so many of us are just now becoming fully aware of our power. We asked you to defund the police, NOT us!

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared Racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't get more equity with less money. I am asking you today to increase the Neighborhood organization funding by \$3 million dollars for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to do their important racial equity work.

Thank you again for advocating with us in this work.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Gatewood

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Melissa Gould](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Funding - Neighborhood Coordinator Perspective
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:39:08 PM

Hello NCR and Neighborhoods 2020 Planners,

Before you finalize your funding structure for Neighborhoods 2020, I would like to implore you to consider this from the perspective of one of the 70+ contractors and employees who work every day to keep neighborhood organizations functioning in the best interest of the neighborhood residents. Through conversations, emails and regular meetings, I know I am not alone among my Neighborhood Coordinator/ Executive Director peers in always striving for the best for our Neighborhood Organizations. We do our best to be efficient, to keep our costs low and to cut costs wherever possible. Many Coordinators are saving neighborhood money by using their own houses for neighborhood storage, by working minimal hours, and by maintaining contractor status and not asking for expensive employee status and benefits. We neighborhood workers are vital to maintaining active and engaged neighborhood associations, but with the Citywide Neighborhood Network Base Funding amount of only \$10,000 and Equitable Engagement Fund grant requests, you are requiring more planning, tracking and reporting from Coordinators who will need to significantly scale back their hours. It's not even possible for the neighborhood association to function at that amount--there will be no way to accomplish the valuable and necessary equity work highlighted in the plan if the neighborhood no longer exists. Operational costs must be covered first, before additional planning work can be done.

In the draft plan, the Citywide Neighborhood Network Fund exists to aid in the, "Continuation of the citywide network of independent nonprofit neighborhood organizations supporting every resident's ability to engage in grass-roots activities, work on neighborhood-identified priorities and partner with the City." These are only empty words unless this Fund contains enough funds to actually, realistically support neighborhood organizations. Feel free to look at the annual budget for East Harriet.

We have small costs that won't move the needle much, but are necessary for the organization. These annual costs include: Phone (Google Voice no longer offers a free option. It is \$168.), Quickbooks (\$75), Zoom (\$180. If we're able to meet in person, then this number becomes \$300 for childcare), Website (\$20), Non Profit Filing (\$25), Office Supplies & Postage (\$120), General Liability Insurance (\$476). We are an organization that has these costs scaled back to the minimum, but that total is still about \$1100.

Our next expense is our office space. At \$175 a month, it's barely more than the cost of storage, but we have the benefit of a small meeting space, access to a copy machine and a mailing address. As I stated earlier, some neighborhoods keep their storage in the staff person's house--is that really what Neighborhoods 2020 planners want to encourage for the historical meeting minutes and payment request forms generated by neighborhood associations as well as their tents, reusable yard signs and other event gear? This adds up to another \$2100.

This brings us to our last, most significant and really only major expense, me. With only 6,800 in funding left, the Neighborhoods 2020 plan implies that all neighborhood association functions should be accomplished in less than 4 hours a week. Each month, it takes 5 hours to pull together ONE eNewsletter. It takes 10 hours to prepare for and attend the monthly Board Meeting, plus another 5 hours planning the Annual Meeting and 20 hours to answer emails and other administrative activities. These necessary duties average out to 40 hours a month/ 9.2 hours a week. So, a minimum amount of staff expense as an operational cost would be \$16,300. Added together with the other necessary expenses, that totals \$19,500.

Therefore, I request that a minimum Base Funding amount of \$20,000 is necessary for the survival of neighborhood organizations.

Thank you,

Melissa Gould
EHFNA Coordinator
(612) 430-9161

info@eastharriet.org
www.eastharriet.org
[EHFNA's Facebook Group](#)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



Metro Blooms

PO Box 17099,
Minneapolis, MN 55417
651-699-2426
www.metroblooms.org

Dear Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Frey,

We are writing to you today as a longtime partner of neighborhood organizations across the City of Minneapolis. Over the last 11 years, we have partnered with 47 neighborhood associations to provide raingardens, native plantings, and resilient yard workshops to protect clean water and create urban habitat, working with our partners to build an ethic of environmental stewardship across the City. In the past decade these partnerships have led to the installation of more than 1,500 raingardens in Minneapolis.

Because of our neighborhood partnerships, particularly those with equity-centered organizations, we have tailored the way we do this work, specifically involving and training local youth and contractors in our process and co-creating engagement and placemaking efforts with community organizations. They have encouraged and supported us to integrate equitable engagement and development in our work to benefit underserved communities, particularly in Northside and south-central Minneapolis.

Neighborhood organizations play a critical and invaluable role in our network of engagement and communication and the overall success of these projects. While we are looking towards a future that prioritizes equity in racial, economic, education, and environmental principles, we must ensure neighborhood organizations are funded and thriving. Clean water and air, undoing systemic racism, community solutions to public safety, livable outdoor spaces, health equity, equity in schools, small business support, tenant organizing — all of this begins at the neighborhood block level. Advocating for the systemic change our city needs starts with neighbors coming together to demand these changes within their communities.

As a longtime partner in the work to equitably engage and invest in our communities, we deeply value and rely on neighborhood organizations. We are asking that you honor the racial equity framework of funding and increase overall funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Jennifer F. Ehlert
Jennifer F. Ehlert

Richard Frey
Richard Frey

Alex Blasto
Alex Blasto
Metro Blooms Staff

Rish Hansi
Rish Hansi
Laura Small
Laura Small

Walter Handberg
Walter Handberg

Metro Blooms partners with communities to create resilient landscapes and foster clean watersheds, embracing the values of equity and inclusion to solve environmental challenges.

Grow. Bloom. Inspire!

From: [la sims](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Continued Support of the Minneapolis Neighborhood Association
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020 12:27:06 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Frey,

I am writing to you today as an Organizer with MICAH (Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing). My work with Neighborhood Organizations has included affordable housing, the Blue Line Extension-Light Rail System, and environmental justice.

Over the past 13 years it has become clear that Neighborhood Organizations play a critical role in our network of engagement and communication. While we are looking towards a future that prioritizes equity *racial, economic, education, housing, environmental* we need to ensure Neighborhood Organizations are funded and thriving.

Undoing racism, community solutions to public safety, advancing equity in schools, small business support, tenant organizing, and more, begins at the neighborhood block level. Advocating for the systemic change our city needs begins with neighbors coming together to demand these changes within their communities.

As a partner in the work of the Blue Line Coalition, the Community Advisory Committee of the Met Council, and the Minnesota Pollution Control, I in the past and currently, deeply value and need Neighborhood Organizations. They are a valued asset to the neighborhood and communities of Minneapolis. I am asking that you honor the racial equity framework of funding as a statement of support for racial equity, and increase overall funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all Neighborhood Organizations in Minneapolis.

Thank you for the time and your attention given to this very important matter to all of Minnesota.

la sheila sims, MICAH (micah.org)

If one espouses equity, one has the role and responsibility of doing equity.
Otherwise, you are being disingenuous and less than candid. -la sims

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [originalcheli](#)
To: [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Windom neighborhood
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 8:59:41 AM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

The windom neighborhood is at the edge of Minneapolis and we as a community are often forgotten and left on our own.

I value the Windom Neighborhood Association and the work they do to make our neighborhood and city a better place to live, work, and play. The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, lead grassroots environmental change, and are humbly diving into racial equity work. We keep one another safe. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for neighborhood associations so they may continue their great work.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Michele Hannaman
6204 1st Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55419
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone*

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Michelle Casey](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Neighborhoods 2020 plan
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020 5:54:35 PM

Dear Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I am writing to offer my perspective on the proposed Neighborhoods 2020 plan, which will cut funding for the Tangletown Neighborhood Association by two-thirds. I support the focus on equity in this plan, however, this drastic of a cut will not allow the neighborhood association to do equity or engagement work in this neighborhood. Our neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping us informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, and lead grassroots environmental change. In the current pandemic, their communication and outreach activities have been especially needed and appreciated.

Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for Tangletown Neighborhood Association to a \$20,000 base so they may continue their great work.

Thank you,
Michelle Casey
4829 Garfield Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55419

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Michelle](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Funding
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 3:26:19 PM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I seldom email my city leaders but felt I must in this case. My husband and I brought our house in Tangletown in 1996 while we were in our mid-20's. We both grew up in small towns and have come to appreciate the Tangletown Neighborhood Association's work in creating a true sense of community within such a large city- something we did not expect. We have loved raising our son in this neighborhood that offers regular community gatherings with the Fourth of July celebration at the top of our list.

This almost all volunteer-led neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping us informed and engaged on issues that impact us and our neighbors. The association leads projects which have enhanced the safety and beauty of Tangletown. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. This is tragic. I ask that you increase the funding for Tangletown Neighborhood Association to a \$20,000 base so they may continue their work and keep this a great neighborhood in the future.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Michelle Cleveland
4721 Pillsbury Ave S*

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

To: Neighborhoods 2020 Steering Committee

City Council PECE Committee

Micah Intermill – Budget Director (Co-Chair)
CM Phillipe Cunningham (Co-Chair)
CVP Andrea Jenkins
CM Andrew Johnson
CM Cam Gordon
CM Lisa Goodman
CM Alondra Cano

Brad Cousins – City Attorney's Office
Heidi Richie – Mayor's Office
Mark Ruff – City Coordinator
C Terrence Anderson – CURA
David Rubedor - Director NCR
Karen Moe - Associate Director NCR

Dear City Servants:

Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc. (MPNAI) endorses the letter already submitted by Longfellow Community Council (LCC) and Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA). Along with them, we echo and confirm their position as follows “...neighborhood associations across the city have engaged, in good faith, in the Neighborhoods 2020 process for the last several years. We did this with the expectation that our expertise and experience would be honored; our point of view would be beneficial to the ongoing dialogue; and that our body of work and capacity as a 70 strong network for good would factor heavily into the decision-making process. Unfortunately, the most recent version of the Neighborhoods 2020 Draft Program Guidelines, released for public comment on February 28, 2020, resembles in no way these assumptions.” (LCC/SENA 4/29/20)

We affirm their concerns and add a few of our own:

- The Objectives and Outcomes, while listed as *quantifiable* are not, in any way, measureable goals.
- The guidelines for distribution of the funds through competitive grants, pit neighborhood associations against each other.
- The idea that “Partners” can accommodate and process all of the new applications from all of the neighborhood associations.

We agree with our fellow neighborhoods that “We do not and cannot approve of the proposed program guidelines and funding recommendations. It is irresponsible to comment on a plan that will do nothing to effect system change relating to racial equity and will only serve to dismantle the neighborhood system - a system that has been held up as an example to the nation of how to do resident engagement.”

MPNAI affirms the concerns of LCC/SENA and adds these, as well:

- There is no rubric for neighborhood association to use for evaluating outcomes. How will neighborhoods fund evaluation without diverting funds from programing? What entity will evaluate neighborhood participation?
- Where are the tangible goals and guidelines that will convince our neighbors that this program's objectives are worth volunteer's time?
- When all is said and done and this program is a failure, what will the city have to say, to constituents and neighbors, about wasting their time, effort and tax dollars?

MPNAI feels that city/community engagement has been poor since ~2013. The 2020 proposal is not an improvement on current practice. The development of the guidelines has bypassed neighborhood involvement. The addition of the COVID crises has only made the process worse. Decisions of this magnitude cannot be made during a time when open public forums where everyone can participate are not possible. Furthermore, online forums for receiving public comment exclude, and therefore silence, significant portions of our community from sharing their viewpoints; ironically, **particularly those already underserved.**

Respectfully,

Jennifer Naglak

Board President, on behalf of the Board of Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc.



MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC

www.midtownphillips.org | 763.310.4760 | [midtownphillipsminneapolis](https://www.facebook.com/midtownphillipsminneapolis)

From: [Mike Binkley](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] North Loop neighborhood funding
Date: Sunday, April 19, 2020 3:09:48 PM

Hello,

Since you're inviting comments from neighborhood groups about the Neighborhoods 2020 plan, I wanted to pass along a few thoughts about the North Loop.

As you know, we have a very active and engaged neighborhood, and we've been so grateful for the city funding that's helped us bring neighbors together, build community pride and keep people enthusiastic about this area that's such an economic engine for the city's tax base.

While the vast majority of what we accomplish as a neighborhood association comes through long volunteer hours, especially from members of the board, we appreciate the city showing its support for us through this annual funding. It lets us know that while we work hard to keep this great neighborhood engaged, you're noticing, appreciating and contributing to it.

So again, thank you, and please keep it coming!

Mike Binkley
North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Member/Videographer
612.327.3556
northloop.org



[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Mike Guild](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Cc: [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for NENA
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:40:30 AM

Good morning City of Minneapolis, Andrew and Jeremy-

I am writing this morning to share that I support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA and neighborhood organizations. Make resources available to strengthen the **neighborhood organizational network AND racial equity**

My wife and I moved to this neighborhood as a young married couple in Spring of 2001. Like so many young people at that age, we were looking for a neighborhood to place our roots and begin our lives together. With 10 years we had started to grow as a family and we faced the decision so many other young families face: Do we stay in this area we have grown to love or do we move to the suburbs?

We did our research on home prices, neighborhood feel, community organization, and decided, without a doubt, we wanted to stay right here in South Minneapolis.

When considering WHY we wanted to stay, consistently at the top of the list were things NENA has provided and supported for our area: Local events like Monarch Festival, Block Parties and National Night out. The beautiful local business nodes we have along 34th and other areas. The beautiful parks, boulevards, homes and yards reinvestments. Safe and clean and welcoming access to light rail for my job. And many, many more.

NENA knows this neighborhood in a way a centralized committee never could. We need to keep funding NENA at the current levels.

mjg

Mike Guild
612.239.6766 cell
mikeguild@gmail.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Monique Thomas](#)
To: [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Marvan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:53:47 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Monique Thomas

Armatage Neighborhood Resident

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

Dear City Leaders,

We come to you as fellow neighbors, organizers, activists, mediators, trainers, facilitators, consultants, business leaders, outreach workers, engagement specialists, and dedicated community leaders. We come to you during a global health pandemic, a country being torn apart by poor leadership at every level, and a city finally coming to terms with its long established racist history.

While Minneapolis grapples with a \$160 million deficit and calls to defund the police, it is critical to have a strong vision of where we are going. A plan that will invest in the building up of our collective healing and success, and dismantling of the policies and culture that dehumanize Black and Brown bodies. We feel that the current guidelines and Racial Equity funding formula are steps in the right direction. However, without financial resources, their impact is limited. For over 30 years, the City of Minneapolis invested hundreds of millions of dollars into a neighborhood funding system that did not prioritize racial equity. Now the City is looking to adopt racial equity as a core lens for future funding at the same time it is substantially cutting its investment into neighborhoods.

As a strong collection of neighborhood organizations leading the way into the future of organizing around equity, we are urging the City Council to allocate \$3 million additional dollars into the proposed racial equity formula for Neighborhoods for a total of a \$7.1 million investment to address racial disparities at the neighborhood level.

The City of Minneapolis invested over \$300 million dollars for decades into a largely inequitable neighborhood system. ([Full analysis from CURA here](#)) So what does it mean to repair the harm? Because of the requirement that this proposal be budget neutral, the City is now in the unfortunate position of adopting a more racially equitable funding formula at the same time that it is poised to drastically reduce base funding. With the proposed 4.1 million dollars in funding, it would take another 100 years under the current funding formula to address the racial inequities in our neighborhoods.

We believe that neighborhood residents are the most powerful force for justice and equity in their communities. It is imperative to build strong, sustainable and multi-racial neighborhood organizations as key vehicles for residents to organize and develop solutions to combat Minneapolis' worst-in-the-nation racial disparities. Considering their unique position within the community, neighborhood organizations are better positioned to respond to community needs than anyone else.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the limitations of overly centralized and bureaucratized community response plans for community health and safety. In the wake of the community rebellion following George Floyd's murder by Minneapolis police, the city moves towards the creation of a new transformative model of public safety. Neighborhood organizations can have an important role to play in building community trust and uplifting community driven solutions at the local level. People of color who have been underrepresented in neighborhood organizations must be at the forefront in crafting solutions to address systemic inequities.

In response to COVID-19, neighborhood organizations have risen to the challenge of becoming first responders in caring for residents, emergencies, and leading work on difficult conversations around the racism that runs deep within the city practices and policing. To vision what that can look like for the future, look to the neighborhoods that are already doing it.

Many neighborhood organizations are already leading on critical initiatives related to racial, economic, and social equity, and increased financial support is required to build capacity and expand this work. In the appendix you will find specific examples of racial equity programs and initiatives driven by neighborhood organizations across the city.

- Neighborhood organizations act nimbly to adapt to current events, assess community needs, and secure resources;
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False formulas:

Funding - Equity \neq Justice

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More Equity + More Funding = More Justice

The City of Minneapolis and many of its leaders have publicly confirmed that racial equity is a top priority for them. It is time to lend your critical vote and support on this additional funding to enable the necessary tools for dismantling white supremacy and reducing equity gaps along racial lines across the board. (*See Appendix B*)

Disinvesting in an institution does not change its history, but investing in an institution is necessary to shape its future. We see a future where neighborhood organizations are not for white bodies and white benefit only, one that elevates community by proclaiming that BIPOC lives matter and actively works to dismantle white supremacy. Raising the overall project budget by \$3 million for a total of a \$7.1 million investment, provides the opportunity to fulfill the racial equity goals of the plan, while also largely maintaining the baseline in funding for all Minneapolis neighborhood organizations.

With respect to the work,

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. (Approved 8/18/20)
 Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/18/20)
 Citizens for a Loring Park Community (Approved 8/18/20)
 Armatage Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/18/20)
 Victory Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/18/2020)
 Harrison Neighborhood Association (8/18/2020)
 St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/25/20)
 Folwell Neighborhood Association (Approved 8/31/2020)
 Northside Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC) (Approved 9/1/2020)
 Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (Approved 9/1/2020)
 Whittier Alliance (Approved 9/2/2020)
 East Harriet-Farmstead Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/2/2020)
 Tangletown Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/3/2020)
 West Maka Ska Council (formerly West Calhoun) (Approved 9/8/2020)
 Fulton Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/9/2020)
 Kingfield Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/9/2020)
 ECCO Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/10/2020)
 CAPIUSA
 Beltrami Neighborhood Council (Approved 9/11/20)
 Bottineau Neighborhood Association (Approved 9.11.2020)
 Webber Camden Neighborhood Association (9/11/2020)

Cleveland Neighborhood Association (9/11/2020)
Kenny Neighborhood Association (Approved 9/12/2020)
Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association (9/14/20)
Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (9/16/20)
McKinley Community (9/17/2020)

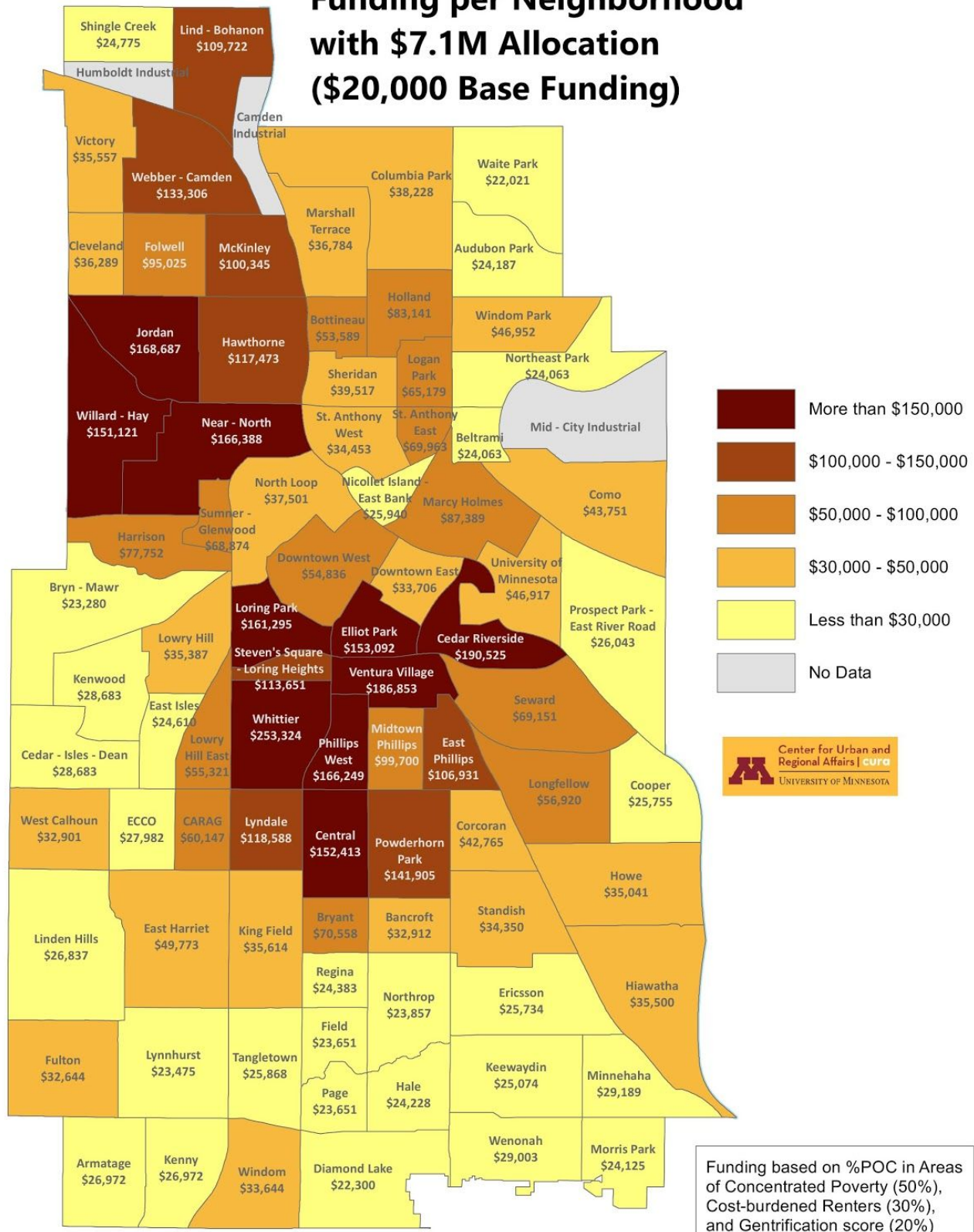
APPENDIX A

Examples of racial, economic, and social equity initiatives that neighborhood organizations are already doing, and need financial support to continue and expand in order to meet the increased need across the city:

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- **Anti-racism trainings & conversations:** Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., Folwell Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Armatage Neighborhood Association, Harrison Neighborhood Association, Tangletown Neighborhood Association, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Beltrami Neighborhood Council, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, ECCO Neighborhood Association, Kenny Neighborhood Association
- **Rent & bill pay relief programs:** Whittier Alliance, Beltrami Neighborhood Council, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association
- **Renter protection and anti-displacement work:** Harrison Neighborhood Association, Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association, Whittier Alliance, Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Beltrami Neighborhood Council
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- **Census and Voter Registration/Turnout:** Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, McKinley Community, Whittier Alliance

APPENDIX B

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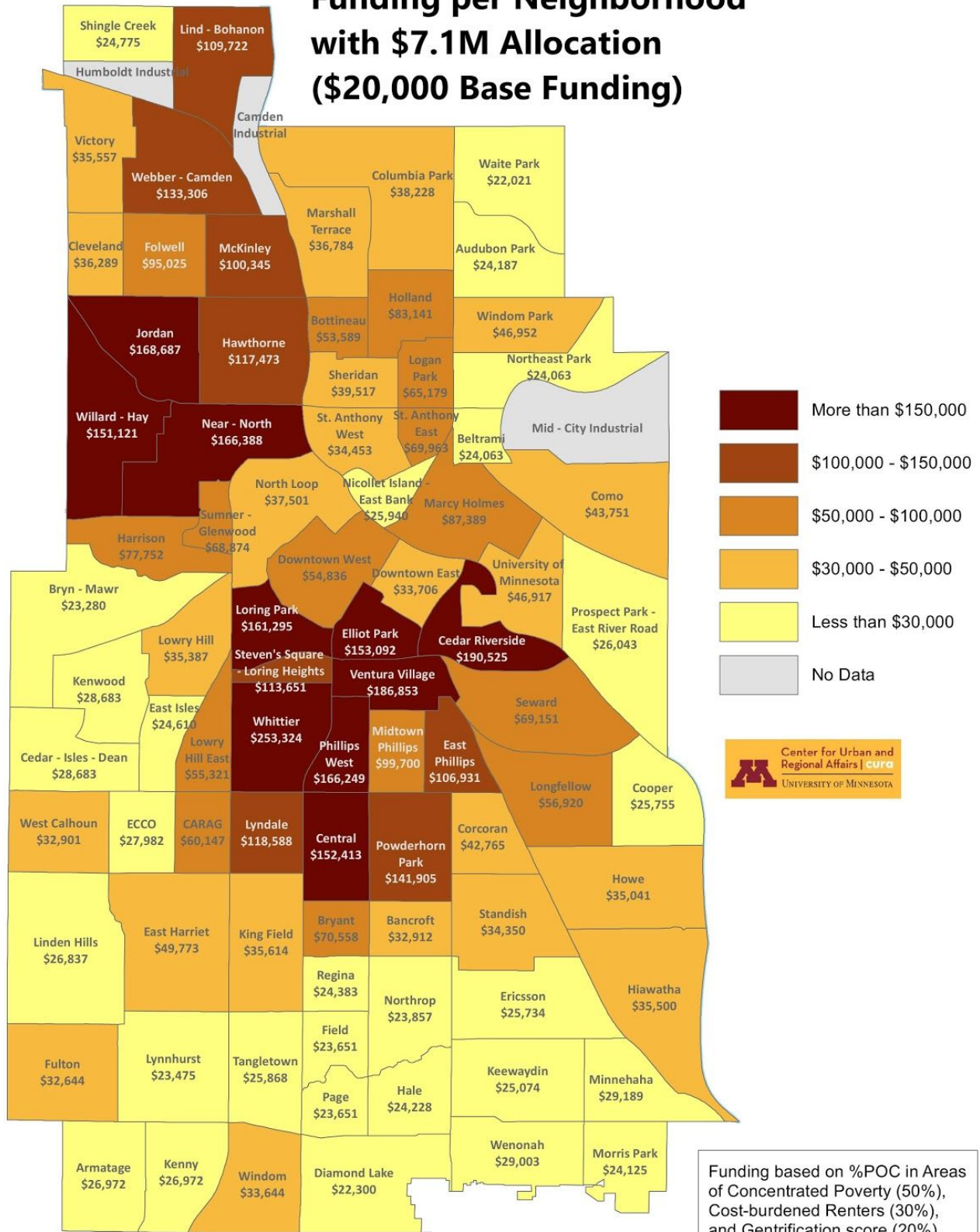
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Lyndale	\$ 70,451	\$ 118,588
Lynnhurst	\$ 12,131	\$ 23,475
Marcy Holmes	\$ 51,321	\$ 87,389
Marshall Terrace	\$ 20,291	\$ 36,784
McKinley	\$ 59,265	\$ 100,345
Midtown Phillips	\$ 58,870	\$ 99,700
Minnehaha	\$ 15,634	\$ 29,189
Morris Park	\$ 12,529	\$ 24,125
Near - North	\$ 99,761	\$ 166,388
Nicollet Island - East Bank	\$ 13,642	\$ 25,940
North Loop	\$ 20,731	\$ 37,501
Northeast Park	\$ 12,491	\$ 24,063
Northrop	\$ 12,365	\$ 23,857
Page	\$ 12,239	\$ 23,651
Phillips West	\$ 99,675	\$ 166,249
Powderhorn Park	\$ 84,749	\$ 141,905
Prospect Park - East River Road	\$ 13,706	\$ 26,043
Regina	\$ 12,688	\$ 24,383
Seward	\$ 40,138	\$ 69,151
Sheridan	\$ 21,967	\$ 39,517
Shingle Creek	\$ 12,928	\$ 24,775
St. Anthony East	\$ 34,617	\$ 69,963
St. Anthony West	\$ 18,862	\$ 34,453
Standish	\$ 18,799	\$ 34,350
Steven's Square - Loring Heights	\$ 67,424	\$ 113,651
Sumner - Glenwood	\$ 39,968	\$ 68,874
Tangletown	\$ 13,598	\$ 25,868
University of Minnesota	\$ 26,504	\$ 46,917
Ventura Village	\$ 112,309	\$ 186,853
Victory	\$ 19,539	\$ 35,557
Waite Park	\$ 11,239	\$ 22,021
Webber - Camden	\$ 79,476	\$ 133,306
Wenonah	\$ 15,520	\$ 29,003
West Calhoun	\$ 17,911	\$ 32,901
Whittier	\$ 153,067	\$ 253,324
Willard - Hay	\$ 90,399	\$ 151,121
Windom	\$ 18,366	\$ 33,644
Windom Park	\$ 26,526	\$ 46,952

* \$10,000 base begins in 2023 and remains at this level going forward
The base amount is \$20,000 in 2021 and \$15,000 in 2022

From: [Nancy Hamilton Britt](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Association Funding
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 12:49:00 PM

Dear City Council Members and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department,

I value the Tangletown Neighborhood Association and the work they do to make our neighborhood and city a better place to live, work, and play.

Neighborhood Associations are a vital service during these times, providing infinitely more benefits to cost ratio, and serving as a crucial support system.

The neighborhood association plays a critical role in keeping residents informed and engaged on issues that impact us. They build community, contribute to beautification and safety, lead grassroots environmental change, and are humbly diving into racial equity work. Under the current funding proposal, I understand the Tangletown Neighborhood Association would no longer be able to manage the communications, events, programs, and services currently offered. I ask that you increase the funding for neighborhood associations so they may continue their great work.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nancy Britt

5426 Nicollet Avenue, #312

Minneapolis, MN 55419

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Nancy Selz](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood 2020 plan and tax dollars
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:08:23 PM

David Rubedor,

Please send me a list of property taxes paid by each neighborhood. I want that amount factored into the new 2040 neighborhood plan. Unfortunately, I don't agree that this plan should be based on racial equity alone and that SW Mpls should continue to be ignored.

Please let me know how soon you can get this information to me. My contact information is below.

Nancy Selz
612-285-7895 home
612-940-2783 mobile
nas5208@yahoo.com

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Natalie Tourtelotte](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 3:44:14 PM

I have been concerned about the funding cuts that many neighborhood organizations are facing for some time, but events in the last 2 weeks make me even more concerned about these cuts.

Neighborhood organizations were initial responders, organizers, and disseminators of public safety information as neighborhoods throughout our city were faced with threats from outside groups. This does not seem like a prudent time to be cutting funds to neighborhood organizations.

Many neighborhood organizations are facing cuts that essentially eliminate them from functioning in any capacity other than a volunteer organization. We already have volunteer organizations - we need an association that has some staff capacity and some capacity to help sponsor neighborhood events and identify programming and priorities for the area. You cannot do that on \$20,000 a year. Within the next 2 years, some of our associations are facing budgets of \$20,000 or less per year. There is not a lot of opportunity to meet the goals I read in the Neighborhoods 2020 Guidelines with that size of a budget.

I also want to speak specifically to a program that has been in our neighborhood, Victory, for many years and one that I've told many people that every neighborhood in America should, which is YouthCorps. This program meets multiple neighborhood needs at once without costing a significant amount of money. It provides teens with an early job-like activity and allows them to develop job skills of communication, follow-through, and reliability; it ensures that neighborhood yards are taken care of when homeowners are physically unable to; and it promotes intergenerational relationship building and communication within the community. Truly, every neighborhood in America should have this program. In Victory, it is being cut due the significant budget cut in this plan. Instead, this program should be expanded to almost every neighborhood in our city.

Please consider restoring funding to neighborhood programming and staffing within associations that are facing significant cuts as our city residents need neighborhood based-organizations to build community, create programming, and meet local needs.

Thank you,
Natalie Tourtelotte
612-201-1465

3822 Russell Ave N

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Nate Broadbridge](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Needs
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 4:24:09 PM

Hello fellow Minneapolitans, City Council, and the N'hoods 2020 Team.

Just wanted to send a friendly reminder that the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have both declared racism a public health emergency. I believe addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. I also believe that, in order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at the neighborhood level. **Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis and you can't achieve more equity with less money.**

Please - increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

I know there are many competing priorities and it's tough to put your money where your mouth is, but in this case I don't think this is too much to ask...

Sincerely,
Nate Broadbridge (Ward 10)

411 W 25th St
Minneapolis, 55405

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From: [Nate Rastetter](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] racial justice
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 7:42:12 PM

Dear City Leaders,

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency, and as such, it is imperative that we act with intention. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. We can't achieve more equity with less money. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work. Let's demonstrate that Minneapolis intends to lead the path forward in service to racial justice. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
Nate Rastetter
2417 Pleasant Ave #5
Minneapolis MN 55404

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Nathan Shepherd](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 comments
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:45:32 AM

As stated in a recent letter submitted by numerous Neighborhood Organizations, this plan simply does not provide enough funding for most organizations to continue operating. SENA (Standish-Ericsson neighborhoods) tries to pay livable wages to employees while providing service to the community. SENA has an annual budget of approximately \$150,000, much of which is spent employing people to provide direct assistance to our neighbors. The Neighborhoods 2020 formula, as it stands now, would prevent that from happening, as there simply is not enough money to permit that to occur. Much of that work is focused on precisely the kind of community building activities we should want from our hyper-local organizations: holding events to get people together in response to divisive rhetoric, providing assistance to keep people in their homes, and holding meetings and distributing information about projects and issues that affect our neighborhood specifically.

Strangely, the stated goal of the Neighborhoods 2020 plan is to make the system of Neighborhood Organizations consistent with the Minneapolis 2040 plan. That is a laudable goal, but the N2020 plan does not do that. As stated in the Minneapolis 2040 plan, the goal is to "have an equitable civic participation system that enfranchises everyone, recognizes the core and vital service neighborhood organizations provide to the City of Minneapolis, and builds people's long-term capacity to organize and improve their lives and neighborhoods." But the Neighborhoods 2020 plan will lead to the closure of most of the organizations that provide "core and vital" services and builds people's capacity to organize. How does ending these organizations serve the stated goals?

The reality is that now, more than ever, there is a great need for avenues for residents to have a say in what goes on in their communities, in how they are policed and rebuilt and strengthened against climate change and made welcoming to neighbors of all stripes. Neighborhood organizations are the best way to do that, but this plan simply does not allow those organizations to continue. If the goal is the one stated, this won't do that, and this plan should be rejected so that a new plan can be drawn up to achieve the goals we all have for our city.

Best,
Nathan Shepherd
Board President, Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [NP Cichowicz](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:45:28 PM

Minneapolis City Council,

At this incredibly troubling time in our City's history I ask our elected officials to vote "no until a plan can be developed that will truly address the disparity in our communities, instead of one that will diminish the capacity of NOs at a time when their skills and expertise are needed most." This quoted language comes directly from the SENA board or directors. As one for the newest members of the board I could not agree more.

At a time when we need our neighbor associations more than ever, we need more support both in words and in funding.

Nick Cichowicz
Ward 12 resident

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Nicole Martinez](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Neighborhoods 2020 Post
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 10:31:03 AM

Hello,

I live in the East Harriet neighborhood. I am writing because I did not appreciate the call to action (copied below for context) regarding Minneapolis's new neighborhood funding plan in our most recent neighborhood email. This particular call to action doesn't support my values as a community member and I do not feel represented. This call to action implies that I would not support increased funding for other neighborhoods that need it more, even if it did come at the "expense" of East Harriet, but **on the whole I do support equitable funding actions to gain better equity for all communities**. When we lift up the communities with the most need, we are all lifted.

With any policy change, the devil is in the details. I took a look at the funding plan linked in the post and have a few questions.

1. Can you help me understand what "drastically" reduced funding is? In my interpretation of the plan, our eligible funds would decrease only by a few thousand dollars each year for the next few years. It appears to be a modest budget decrease of only 10-12% each year.
2. Can you detail specifically which core services for East Harriet that would be in jeopardy? Who determines core services? Are we confident that they are in, fact, core services? What groups of people are served/who is served by these core services?
3. How can we be SURE, right now, that there is no other way to provide those services and continue the work in our neighborhood (as stated in the last sentence of the call to action)? There are usually many ways to achieve goals and support for a community if our mission is clear.
4. Is there a city council member residents can reach out to and ask for more funding for all neighborhoods? This to me feels like the most supportive and equitable action.

I believe the intent of this call to action was to protect and provide for the residents of the East Harriet neighborhood. That's wonderful. However, the tone of the post implies that residents of East Harriet would rather hold on to their privilege than share with communities that need more support. That has broad impact on residents, like myself, in East Harriet that do not share that view, as well as impact on our surrounding communities who might read the post and feel unsupported. We should be acting in a way that is best for ALL, not just best for East Harriet. That truly would make East Harriet the best neighborhood in the city!

I appreciate you taking the time to read my email and for the opportunity to provide comments and feedback.

Best regards,
Nicole Martinez

Your Neighborhood Association needs your help.

Funding for neighborhood organizations like EHFNA expires in December. The City is considering a [new funding plan](#) that would add equity goals for neighborhoods' work and

increase funding for areas of the city that need it most. But it would also drastically reduce the annual base funding for East Harriet and many other neighborhoods to such a degree that core services will be in jeopardy.

If you value the EHFNA and our continued work in the neighborhood, please take a few minutes to comment before the deadline of **September 30, 2020 at 11:59pm**.

You may send us comments by email Neighborhoods2020@minneapolismn.gov or phone 612-673-3737.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Paige Tomfohrde](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commentary or Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Thursday, September 10, 2020 10:59:42 AM

Hello,

I recently read the new plan for funding neighborhood organizations and noticed that the base funding is being cut in half. This is preposterous. In a city where we are trying to move away from over-policing into crime prevention, the work that our neighborhood groups do is essential to our long term community and crime prevention goals. It isn't possible for our neighborhood associations to function properly without this funding, especially in low income neighborhoods like mine. Why is it that city policies constantly favor the wealthy and leave behind the people who really need it? The racist policies of this city have been going unchecked for too long. It's time that we start thinking about why we have to have people rioting in the streets to be treated like human beings. It's time to INCREASE neighborhood funding, not take it away.

Paige Tomfohrde

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Pamela Russell Warder](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Allocating Tax Dollars
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 8:48:29 AM

Greetings.

I live along the Humboldt Greenway in the Lind-Bohanon neighborhood. I would like to see tax dollars in this neighborhood be allocated to trash containers and signs throughout the neighborhood reminding people not to litter, especially along Shingle Creek.

There are upstanding hard-working residents living in Lind-Bohanon. Unfortunately, there are filthy, low class residents in the mix who throw trash on the ground and out of their car windows regularly. I've driven right behind many of them. They have absolutely no shame throwing trash out of their car window. Residents are left to pick up this trash and discard of it in our own trash containers.

While we cannot control the animals that litter the ground with trash, I would like to see the city allocate tax dollars to place trash containers along street corners and along Shingle Creek to make it easier and healthier for residents to pick up and dispose of dirty litter. I suggest the trash containers be colorful receptacles showing a kind of urban appeal. Signs should also be placed throughout the neighborhood reminding residents to not litter and dispose of trash properly. Similar to signs from years ago reading, "Don't be a litterbug." These are my comments. Please let me know if I can take further action.

Regards,
Pam Russell

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Pamela Russell Warder](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Allocating Tax Dollars
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 8:48:29 AM

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While we cannot control the animals that litter the ground with trash, I would like to see the city allocate tax dollars to place trash containers along street corners and along Shingle Creek to make it easier and healthier for residents to pick up and dispose of dirty litter. I suggest the trash containers be colorful receptacles showing a kind of urban appeal. Signs should also be placed throughout the neighborhood reminding residents to not litter and dispose of trash properly. Similar to signs from years ago reading, "Don't be a litterbug." These are my comments. Please let me know if I can take further action.

Regards,
Pam Russell

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Patty Smith](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Organization Funding
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:04:30 AM

Hello,

As the city moves forward with addressing and evaluating public safety, it is deeply important that community initiatives are funded. If the city is experiencing neighborhood violence and inequities in policing, then it is time that the city council invest in neighborhood solutions. I am asking that you increase Neighborhood funding by \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to do their important racial equity work.

Thank you,

Patty Smith (she/her/hers)
Resident Connections Coordinator
612-382-5326 | aeon.org | [donate now](#)



[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Peter Thillen](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood Association Funding
Date: Sunday, September 20, 2020 10:39:55 AM

To Whom it may Concern,

It is my understanding that neighborhood organizations and their funding is coming up for approval soon. Minneapolis has experienced multiple emergencies in the past six months, and it is more critical than ever to fund hyper local organizations. Neighborhoods are uniquely positioned to respond in emergency situations in a way that other government agencies cannot. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to do their important racial equity work. Thank you

--

Regards,

Peter Thillen

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.



June 25, 2020

David M. Rubedor
Director Neighborhood Community Relations
Neighborhood and Community Relations
105 5th Ave South, Suite 425
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear Director Rubedor,

Attached please find Prospect Park Association's comments on the proposed Neighborhood 2020 Program Guidelines. These comments were approved unanimously by our Board of Directors on June 22, 2020.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and thank you for your careful consideration of our concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Eric Amel
President, Board of Directors
Prospect Park Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Amel', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

cc: Cam Gordon, Minneapolis City Council Member Ward 2

To: David M. Rubedor, Director Neighborhood and Community Relations
From: Prospect Park Association (PPA) Board of Directors**
Re: Proposed Neighborhood 2020 Program Guidelines

Introduction

Prospect Park Association is grateful for the opportunity to comment on the proposed "Neighborhood 2020 Program Guidelines." We are in fundamental agreement with NCR's goals and in fact are actively engaged in reaching out, listening, and creating programs and services in collaboration with student renters, low-income residents, and Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) to address inequities stemming from economic and racial disparities. For over a year these efforts are being partly led by Glendale public housing residents and student renters who are active within PPA, both as employees and as volunteers.

We are fairly certain that the huge cuts proposed by NCR will bring much of this work to a halt (see below). We ask the guidelines be modified to include recognition and continued support for neighborhood groups who are already working hard at the goals and outcomes of 2020 (see specific recommendations, page 4).

Collaboration with Glendale has led to such accomplishments and ongoing projects as:

- repairing and reopening of a safe walkway from Glendale to the neighborhood elementary school
- revised parking regulations in Glendale
- moving many PPA meetings to Glendale and Luxton Park community centers
- hiring Glendale residents as PPA staff
- a Glendale-based education project for children and adults
- collaboration with East Side Neighborhood Services and Hennepin County to maintain Glendale Food shelves
- census outreach and celebration
- establishing a community organizing training program for low-income neighborhood residents of color.

PPA attention to renters includes:

- two new students on PPA Board
- a new demographic map that shows how many more students, including students of color and foreign students, live in our neighborhood
- hiring U of M students as PPA staff
- an outreach project to ascertain student renter needs and secure renter participation and community leadership
- Rock the Tower fall festival, including voter registration drive
- tenants' rights project

PPA's Year One Community Building Progress Report" is available by request.

The revision of NCR's guidelines began before Minneapolis was confronted with Covid-19 and George Floyd's death and its aftermath. We can be proud as a city of the positive role

neighborhood organizations are playing in response to these two crises. Thanks to PPA's recent history of working together with a range of groups and residents, we have been successful raising funds to help distribute pandemic supplies to public housing residents, including over 600 residents of color, half aged 19 or younger. This effort is led by public housing Prospect Park residents. This collaboration has also set up networks to check on vulnerable residents. As an established neighborhood organization, PPA has been able to convene and generate partnerships, and we rely on the city to support our hard work in accomplishing our shared goals.

Our major concern with the proposal is the significant decrease in base funding. The proposed cuts will undermine our ongoing Neighborhoods 2020 Community Building work in Prospect Park. Projects that are now under way will likely come to a halt if the proposal is enacted. We urge you to modify the guidelines to include recognition and continued support for neighborhood groups like ours that are already working hard at meeting the goals and outcomes of 2020. Why rip things down to the studs, when creative organizations and established structures are making the progress you desire?

Furthermore, after George Floyd's death, at a time when neighborhood groups are being mentioned as possible partners for new forms of safety in our city; and when we learn that the police have a larger outreach budget than all of NCR (Councilman Fletcher comments at Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Group on 6-16-20) why precipitously cut the neighborhoods before we have taken in and understood the new directions we are moving in?

Analysis

Our major concern with the proposal is the significant decrease in base funding. The proposed cut is 70%, \$64,000 to \$20,000 the first year, and then base funding drops to \$10,000 by year 3, for an overall cut of 84%. These are the very funds we are using to diversify our employment base, support new projects that are directly part of 2020 efforts, and draw in new active members.

We are eligible for additional equitable engagement funding, but our allotment is a maximum of \$3,100 for 2021. The sum is inadequate; moreover, we are concerned that calculation relies on outdated demographic information. We could more easily address this issue if the proposal were more transparent about how the equitable engagement funding allocation was calculated.

We rely on NCR funding to cover fixed costs. If we cannot cover those costs, we cannot continue our Neighborhoods 2020 Community Building work at its current pace. We pay a modest salary to a skeleton staff, and we have been sharing space with another community group to help cover rent. In anticipation of proposed cuts, we recently moved to a much smaller space, held off signing a longer-term lease, and reduced staff by 25%. Still, our ongoing fixed costs, such as staff, rent, insurance, and basic office expenses are about \$45,000 per year, at a minimum.

We are willing to increase our level of fund-raising, but we need the stability of staff and a place to work to do so. Volunteers have already raised project funds this year, including funds to increase the 2020 census response among those historically undercounted in Prospect Park. But raising funds to cover fixed operating costs, especially in the current

environment, is an entirely different matter. The proposed very low base funding, combined with unpredictable special project grant awards, puts the work of small neighborhood groups at risk. Instead of devoting volunteer resources to our Neighborhood 2020 Community Building, we will need those active PPA members to raise operating funds and manage unpredictable funding cycles.

Moreover, PPA is successfully recruiting and attracting board members new to neighborhood work. If we continue to be successful in that effort, we will need to rely more heavily on staff for the institutional memory to move forward. Finally, although we anticipate the instability caused by COVID-19 will come to an end, we are deeply concerned at the possibility that we might need to lay off our staff and vacate our office during this time of crisis. We realize that the reconfigurations proposed by the NCR were crafted before the pandemic hit but implementing them now would exacerbate an already precarious situation.

Significant Demographic Changes in the Prospect Park Neighborhood

In the past few years, the Prospect Park neighborhood has undergone significant demographic changes that the proposal seems not to have taken into account. The formerly industrial area north of University Avenue and Stadium Village are now home to approximately 7,000 new residents. These are overwhelmingly renters, and the vast majority are students, many of whom are cost-burdened households. This particular population does not quite fit into the categories set out in the proposal, but it faces significant challenges. A student population is overwhelmingly young, often living on their own for the first time, and by definition transient: the goal of the University is to graduate them within six (ideally four) years. Many students move from place to place during their time at the University. PPA's work to involve student renters will, therefore, need to be ongoing. Many of the residents are international students, who bring their own strengths and their own set of needs. We know that food insecurity is a critical issue among the student population in general; we do not yet know to what extent it is a problem for our neighbors.

Glendale Townhomes Public Housing is an integral part of our neighborhood and PPA has been working closely with Glendale residents to listen and support their stated needs, such as parking issues, housing security, and restoring a safe route for children walking to and from our neighborhood school.

PPA has also been working with University off campus housing, recruited students to our Board, and employed student interns who are fully integrated into the planning, goal setting, and implementation of our efforts to listen to those who have not been involved in the past. We have shifted focus to support projects underserved communities have identified as key, such as Glendale's Mutual Aid Project, a new student voter registration drive called "Rock the Tower," and a project to document the history of the Jackson family, one of the first African-American families to purchase a home in Prospect Park in the early 1900s.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We would like to offer several alternatives to the current proposal:

1. Return to the original proposed guidelines, which PPA supported, scrapping the revisions. Simplify and streamline the plan. Instead of creating a new grant-making

infrastructure at NCR, allocate available funds and require groups demonstrate they are working toward "Neighborhood 2020" goals.

If instead you move forward with the current guidelines:

2. Significantly increase base funding levels.
3. Make the equitable engagement funding calculations transparent.
4. Extend the transition period. As currently written, guidelines are to be implemented January 1st, 2021. That timeframe, especially during a pandemic, cannot be adhered to responsibly, especially for a small neighborhood group like PPA.
5. Award two and three year "Partnership Engagement" program grants instead of 18-month grants. We assume these grants will be highly competitive, and that we should not plan on receiving an award even if our proposal moves Neighborhood 2020 goals forward. The short timeline combined with low base funding means PPA will need to lay off our key part-time staff person when a grant ends or if we do not get a grant, and then use volunteer resources to hire and train new staff when a grant is awarded. PPA volunteers write our grants; we do not have enough funds to allocate staff to fund raising. Volunteer burnout is a serious threat.
6. Consider taking outreach funds for new initiatives from the police department, not the neighborhoods.

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS:

As the proposal is currently written, we are left with questions: When will the "Partnership Engagement" grant guidelines be available? When can we apply? (PPA volunteers need to select partners, design a program, write a grant—and the grant will have to include funds to cover operations, which requires financial planning.) When will we be notified of awards? Who will review the grants? Is NCR establishing a grant-making infrastructure? Will there be a community peer-review panel? If grant awards will not be announced until early 2021 or later, do we vacate our office and lay off staff in the meantime? Our current tenant is moving out and, due to the pandemic, we can't reasonable expect to find another. Will moving be safe for tenants during this pandemic?

We thank you for your careful consideration of our concerns and recommendations.

From: [Proud Mom B](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Good Work That Neighborhood's Do
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 3:10:55 PM

For years, Neighborhood Organizations have been critical to outreach and engagement channels from the city. Efforts to reach residents on fundamental issues such as the census, voter registration, neighborhood development, elections for all local races, would fall flat without neighborhoods supporting them. As we look at funding across the city, it is important to invest in hyper localized work. I am asking that you increase Neighborhood funding by \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to do their important racial equity work.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Racheal Robinson](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Victory Neighborhood (ViNa)
Date: Thursday, August 13, 2020 7:50:10 PM

Hello,

My husband and I and our two young daughters own our home in Victory Neighborhood and have lived here for over 7 years. My children attend the local school. As residents of Victory, we support and value the work done by the Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA). We are currently leading and organizing the community garden on 47th Ave N. As a combat veteran and as a mother, I feel it is important that these programs remain available for our ever-growing, diverse community. In these times of uncertainty, it is critical to foster the community in new and unique ways.

With reduced funding, we are concerned that ViNA would not be able to provide the necessary services and programs our neighborhood depends on. I ask that the proposed funding changes take into consideration how important neighborhood associations are to the vitality of each neighborhood and are necessary to meet the needs of thousands of households in our neighborhood and other neighborhoods across the city. Without the appropriate funding, our community will be greatly negatively impacted. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Racheal Robinson

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rachel Guerrero](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] our neighbor hood plan
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 6:22:13 PM

Hi,

I really am proud of the neighborhood organizations that we have in this city. I always have the feeling that the neighborhood organizations are there for me, because they care about my specific neighborhood and are aware of what's happening on that micro-local level. I would really hate to see them go or be underfunded so that they are ineffective. It sounds like the 2020 plan is really underfunding the neighborhood organizations. It looks like according to the proposed plan there will now be 4 different organizations - 2 of which seem to be very redundant. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". The neighborhood organizations are doing a great job as they are, and I am very proud of them.

Thanks,

Rachel Guerrero
3310 39th Ave S
Mpls

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rachel W](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); ccn@tds.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 9/2020 article, neighborhood funding, Amy Luesebrink, reporter
Date: Friday, September 11, 2020 8:39:13 AM

After reading this article in the Camden Community News, it appears that the Minneapolis City Council has, once again, made decisions based on no facts or concern for constituents. Just like their big idea to grab power with their charter change and defunding/dismantling the Minneapolis Police Department, they are once again wanting to make reckless and thoughtless changes to basic needs for the city & the people who live here. More study is needed before placing the entire load of funding on the neighborhoods. Council members are paid hefty salaries, can get private security & have tremendous authority over spending. Do not let them continue on this path of neighborhood destruction with their recklessness.

Rachel Workman

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rebecca Corruccini](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fund Minneapolis neighborhoods for equity
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020 7:46:53 AM

Dear City Leaders,

As the city moves forward with addressing and evaluating public safety, it is deeply important that community initiatives are funded. If the city is experiencing neighborhood violence and inequities in policing, then it is time that the city council invest in neighborhood solutions. I urge you to increase the funding allotted to neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure neighborhoods can continue to do their important racial equity work.

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County have declared racism a public health emergency. Addressing racism begins on the block, and from neighbor to neighbor. In order to effectively combat racism, we must begin at a hyper local level. Racial equity work deserves funding from the City of Minneapolis. You can't achieve more equity with less money.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Corruccini
2432 Bryant Ave S, Minneapolis, MN, 55405

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rebecca Lewis](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Neighborhood Organizations
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 3:47:13 PM

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I am writing to you today as a volunteer for community orgs. My work with Neighborhood Organizations has included organizing events, outreach to communities, and as a source of information regarding community needs. Over the past 7 years it has become very clear that Neighborhood Organizations play a critical role in the network of engagement and communication. While we are looking towards a future that prioritizes equity we need Neighborhood Organizations funded and thriving.

Addressing racism, community engagement, community solutions to public safety, activism around equity in schools, small businesses support and more, begins at the block level. Addressing racism is a neighborhood level problem and requires a neighbor to neighbor solution. Racial equity work needs more funding, not less.

As a partner in the work with the city, county, state, school and park board, I deeply value and need Neighborhood Organizations in this work. I am asking that you honor the racial equity framework of funding as a statement of support for racial equity, and increase the funding by \$3 million dollars to ensure the survival of all Neighborhood Organizations.

**Thank you,
Rebecca Lewis**

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rebecca Shedd](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Budgeting for neighborhoods
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:00:38 AM

Dear City Leaders,

The Kingfield Neighborhood Association has organized Get Out the Vote efforts and educated on non-partisan voter issues, for the past 8 years. Involvement in the “Vote No” campaign in 2012 led to our first Polling Place Party, which turned Election Day into a celebration. In 2017, KFNA built on the success of these Polling Place Parties by launching our “We are Kingfield – We Vote” yard sign campaign. In 2018, KFNA added a primary election Polling Place Party and GOTV Block Captains. Finding the personal outreach was hugely successful at increasing voter and building community connections, in 2020, KFNA added Make a Voting Plan flyers delivered to every household in the neighborhood. These resources and organizing plans are freely shared with multiple other Minneapolis nonprofits and because of KFNA’s work, Kingfield neighbors know that voting isn’t a solitary act but rather a celebration of community.

To continue to organize and mobilize Get Out the Vote efforts, we need financial stability and support. **I urge you to increase the funding allotted to all neighborhoods by at least \$3 million for a minimum total allocation of \$7.1 million to ensure the Kingfield Neighborhood Association can continue to do their part helping to create a more just and racially equitable community by educating voters and getting out the vote.**

Rebecca Shedd
4554 Wentworth Ave

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Fish Townsend](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Program Guidelines - Funding
Date: Friday, May 22, 2020 8:05:09 PM

Hello,
Please add the following comment to the Public Comments of the Neighborhood Program Guidelines:

The proposed program is woefully underfunded and will undo the system of neighborhood organizations that has successfully supported communities like Greater Longfellow for the past 30 years.

King Regards,

Rebecca Townsend

Pronouns: feminine and neutral

*"Hatred does not cease by hatred, but only by love; this is the eternal rule."
~Siddhartha Gautama, The Dhammapada: The Sayings of the Buddha*

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

SECURITY MANAGEMENT

APRIL 2019

A PUBLICATION OF ASIS INTERNATIONAL

Issue & Beyond

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Evaluating security and climate after Parkland.

✕ *Access Control*

U.S. facilities struggle to meet federal standards.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

✕40

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THE POWER OF AWARENESS

SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA, EMPLOYS A WEB-BASED TOOL FOR THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS, RESULTING IN COMMUNITYWIDE COLLABORATION. BY HOLLY GILBERT STOWELL

FOR CITIZENS IN SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA, reporting threats is as easy as clicking a button. Anyone with Internet access can report suspicious behavior and activity by clicking on a red square labeled TIPS, located on the websites of the county’s schools and law enforcement agencies.

The tool is part of Awareity, a Web-based platform for threat assessment teams.

“We’ve had well over 400 tips since we’ve been involved in this,” says Captain Kevin Griger, investigations commander for the Sarpy County Sheriff’s Office.

Griger played an essential role in building a communitywide threat assessment team in Sarpy County. Originating in January 2016, the idea was to keep tabs on people and

cases of interest and to involve stakeholders who could act to prevent or mitigate those threats, including schools, the county attorney, the probation office, behavioral health officials, and others.

Once the participating organizations—including schools, city officials, and the military—signed a memorandum of understanding, the sheriff’s office funded the first contract with Awareity in July 2016. The four school districts in the county

now fund the platform, and the most recent contract was renewed in July 2018. After an initial licensing fee, Awareity charges a small amount for each user.

“You can click on the button and submit a tip, like ‘Bill has a gun and he’s threatening to shoot up the school tomorrow,’ or ‘Sally has a hit-list,’” Griger says. “Sometimes they are less serious in nature—but we get everything.”

The Web-based platform contains detailed reports and allows users to make updates on particular threats. Notifications about new threats or updates to existing cases are emailed to team members. For privacy purposes, the emails contain only a link that goes to the secure Awareity website where threat information can be viewed.

“As people come up on the radar, one way or another—whether through the school or through anonymous notification—our threat assessment team then sits down and decides what course of action to take to try to mitigate any issues ahead of time, instead of waiting until something has happened,” Griger explains.

However, not all threats contain plans to harm others. “We’ve had three suicides prevented as a result of it, where somebody felt it was serious enough to report,” Griger says.

For example, a school was able to intervene when someone reported that his girlfriend was talking seriously about suicide.

“When we get that information, we’re able to send somebody out to make contact, come up with a safety plan right then, and deal with the situation,” Griger adds.

Awareity allows users to build out different teams and have emails directed to just those groups. So, if an issue comes up at Bellvue High School—for example—school officials with access to Awareity can choose to provide the details of the case only to that school’s personnel.



“I think every one of our four superintendents has a license, so they see in real time anything that comes in through their particular school,” Griger says. “The particular people that are assigned to our threat assessment team can get onto Awareity and see the documents that pertain to each individual case.”

There are times, however, when schools may choose to escalate the threat and make everyone on the team aware of it.

“If they think it’s something that’s bigger, and say, ‘You know what, we need to bring this to the threat assessment team meeting and talk about this kid’...then you can open it up and let everybody on our team see it, all 20 people,” Griger says.

When dealing with threat information, he adds that privacy concerns are treated with the utmost consideration.

“Because we are talking about students, school records, behavioral health issues, juvenile arrest records, things like that—we restrict it as much as possible,” Griger notes. “Everybody signs a

You can click on the button and submit a tip.

memorandum of understanding for confidentiality that the things we discuss in our threat assessment meetings are only for those meetings.”

While the reported threats or tips involve students about 80 percent of the time, sometimes the cases pertain to the community at large. One man, for example, was put on the list for making threatening comments to a county official.

“He’s always bringing in these odd things to the courthouse where he’s suing us for \$5 million, but they don’t make sense, just weird gibberish that he writes out,” Griger says. “But he did threaten one of our county attorneys, so while he’s somebody we don’t feel has the means to carry it out or even the heart to carry it out, it’s somebody we are watching.”

At monthly meetings, the threat assessment team discusses cases and can decide to eliminate threats that are no longer credible.

“I have a list that we maintain, and I say, ‘Okay John Doe is on this list, we have a safety plan,’ and after six months we decide if we can drop John Doe off the radar,” Griger notes. “We don’t need to talk about him every month if there’s no change or update.”

Awareity has been responsive about making tweaks or changes to the platform to better suit the county’s needs, according to Griger.

“It’s been a great program for us. The business itself has been very receptive to any ideas that we have to make it more user friendly, so if we ask, ‘Is it possible to tweak it like this?’ they say, ‘Absolutely,’” he adds. “They are very responsive to doing things and changing things the way we want them done.”

Overall, Griger notes that smaller threats can have a snowball effect, sometimes quickly escalating into bad situations, so prevention is key.

“While being picked on while riding the bus isn’t a big deal in the grand scheme of what’s happening in the entire world, to that kid who reported it, or to his parents, it’s a big deal to them,” Griger notes.

He points out that the student could decide to retaliate one day with violence if the bullying doesn’t stop. “If we can deal with issues early on, that is better for everyone,” Griger says. ■

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
RICK SHAW, INFO@AWAREITY.COM, WWW.AWAREITY.COM, 402.730.0090

From: ExecDir@FirstPreventers.org
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 - The Proven Game-Changer
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 5:27:15 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[0419 Security Management Magazine Sarpy County Case Study.pdf](#)
Importance: High

****Please Acknowledge Receipt of This Message** Thank you!**

The Neighborhoods 2020 Program has the potential to be a game-changer for building and re-building trust and improving public safety, but positive changes will only be achieved if it's done with research-based strategies and the right community-driven tools.

Setting up each neighborhood within their own silo is an old playbook approach that will face longstanding and dangerous challenges that lead to gaps and disconnects and more prevention failures. The new playbook involves setting up each neighborhood so it is connected with the larger community, and the First Preventers Program is the new playbook and how other communities, schools, and organizations are empowered to "SEE" what they need to see and leading the way to successfully save lives, reputations, and bottom lines every day.

The First Preventers Program is different and effective because the First Preventers Program was developed using 20+ years of extensive research involving thousands of human-made incidents and tragedies involving racism, police brutality (bad cops), violence (school, workplace, domestic, gang, etc.), homicides, sex abuse, drug abuse, human trafficking, suicides, and numerous other crimes, incidents, and tragedies. The First Preventers Program was built from the ground up using the research-based and success-based strategies and community-driven tools that are critically needed to achieve real change and real action.

Neighborhoods and communities cannot prevent at-risk individuals if they don't know what others know (community members, family, friends, social media, law enforcement, etc.), and at-risk individuals aren't always located within a single neighborhood or community. The First Preventers Program is leading the way and transforming community safety by giving community resources (social workers, mental health, juvenile services, behavior specialists, mentors, and numerous others) the proven strategies and tools needed to "SEE" the pre-incident indicators (red flags, warning signs, concerning behaviors, leakage, etc.), "SEE" the at-risk individuals, "SEE" the proactive intervention and prevention actions, and "SEE" the bigger picture across their neighborhoods and community.

Community members "SEE" the indicators exhibited by at-risk individuals, and with The First Preventers Program and the Butterfly Effect (eliminates snitching and other dangerous gaps), the right people and resources within your community can now "SEE" what they need to see to achieve real change and transform public safety.

First Preventers (offense) are needed with First Responders (defense) so the team is not just defense only. See the case study, book, and video information below.

Additional Information:

- Sarpy County, Nebraska Case Study (attached to this message)
- **The First Preventers Playbook** – My new book shares the new playbook based on 20+ years of research. You can order your own copy here: <https://rickshawprevents.com/first-preventers-playbook/> or you can reach out and we would be happy to send you a copy.
- (Video) Community Policing & Community Preventing: First Responders & First Preventers Working TOGETHER: <https://www.firstpreventers.org/community-policing-first-responders-first-preventers-working-together/>

I look forward to your responses and questions because after 20+ years of research, most of the questions, gaps, silos, and disconnects have been exposed multiple times, so now we just need to work together and implement the First Preventers Program and start helping your communities and community members to see the value and benefits.

Rick Shaw
Executive Director
FirstPreventers.org
Las Vegas, NV
402 | 730 | 0090
[Connect on LinkedIn](#)

The only research-based Prevention solution that democrats, republicans, independents, law enforcement, religions, pro-gun, anti-gun, victims, parents, and most everyone else can agree is the best way to prevent more violence, suicides, sexual assaults, human trafficking, drug abuse, bullying and other incidents involving growing numbers of at-risk individuals, especially in this new reality.



Pre-order now for Oct 20, 2020 delivery.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rick Stawarz](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save NENA
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:56:24 AM

Dear Councilmembers Schroeder and Johnson,

I am the pastor of a South Minneapolis church, Restoration Anglican. Our church has enjoyed partnership with NENA for the past several years, and I am incredibly disappointed to hear that you plan to drastically cut NENA's funding. Please make resources available for neighborhood organizational networks AND racial equity.

Last fall, NENA, our church, and Crosstown covenant hosted a [neighborhood conversation](#) on race. We filled Crosstown's sanctuary and had a very fruitful, open positive conversation about the real wounds this community has experienced and a path forward. Before the pandemic hit, we were already making plans for another, similar event.

Conversations like this are regular for NENA. Their efforts to bring together a variety of organizations has led to a comradely and solidarity within our very diverse neighborhood. As a proven and trusted neighborhood organization, NENA is able to attract people from all sorts of backgrounds in a way that my church, as a faith organization, would not be able to do.

Thank you for hearing my voice on this matter and for your work in our city.

Peace,

Rick Stawarz +
Restoration Anglican in Minneapolis
restorationmpls.org
612.568.7378
[Pick a time](#)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Rita Lederle](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NENA funding
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 5:46:24 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) and request that you not cut their funding. Before moving to Minneapolis, I had always heard about the strong neighborhoods that provided community in a large city. Now that we live here, I completely understand what people were talking about and NENA is the reason.

NENA brings our neighborhood together and gets me much more involved in my community. I have attended neighborhood meetings, installed a rain garden because we got a grant, had a police officer come to my house to make suggestions on improving home safety, made more of an effort to patronize local businesses, and met more of my neighbors. NENA made these things happen because they made it so easy for me to be involved.

Please keep NENA strong. We didn't have anything like this when we lived in St. Paul or Madison and it is part of what makes Minneapolis special. I'm often asked why I want to live in the city proper instead of the suburbs and my neighborhood community is one of the top reasons. Please help keep it this way.

Thank you,
Rita Lederle
5230 40th Ave S

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Roselyn Rezac](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] funding
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2020 8:52:56 AM

Why would affluent neighborhoods like Lowry Hill, Lowry, Carag, West. Calhoun, East Harried and Fulton get more funding than Bryn Mawr?

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Roxanne OBrien](#)
To: [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#)
Cc: [Frey, Jacob](#); [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please and Thank you.
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:56:48 AM

Dear City Council and Mayor Frey,

I have been living and organizing on the Northside for a long time. Over the last few years, I have experienced the important roll Neighborhood Organizations play in partnership with other agencies that are fighting on the front lines of racial, environmental, economic, and food justice issues. With the City experiencing multiple emergencies already and more looming in the future, now is the time to invest in Neighborhoods and not disinvest. Neighborhood Organizations are the most localized agencies to respond in a crisis.

I am asking that you increase the funding for Neighborhood Organizations by \$3 million dollars to honor its equity formula yet still providing enough funds for all neighborhoods to continue.

At some point we must invest in the future we want to see and the neighborhoods we want to live in. The City has declared Racism a public health crisis and it's time to allocate it's dollars like it means it.

Thank you

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ryan Antkowiak](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Monday, September 28, 2020 9:07:03 AM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

Ryan Antkowiak

Armatage | 5421 Xerxes Ave S

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ryan Fisher](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Tangletown Neighborhood Association](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Impact statement on the value of neighborhood funding and Neighborhoods 2020
Date: Friday, September 25, 2020 7:00:35 AM

CM Schroeder and NCR Representatives,

I am a long-time resident of Tangletown Neighborhood and been involved with the neighborhood association there for over ten years. I've attended several of the public Neighborhoods 2020 meetings in addition to the session on the topic at Community Connections Conference last year. I've read each draft 2020 plan proposals. I have spoken with my immediate neighbors, others engaged on the topic across the city, and at one time with CM Jeremy Schroeder directly on the topic of city support for neighborhoods. I am in support of maintaining existing funding levels by the city for our neighborhoods.

Historic events of 2020, worldwide and and Minneapolis, highlight the value and purpose of organized local community. A health pandemic compelling neighbors to work together; city services unable to meet the safety demands or even basic human rights resulting in community-led protection; and weak city leadership and direction now clearly out of touch with the communities across our city prove how essential the time is to protect neighborhood funding. We've seen neighbors help neighbors get food, sanitize public places, watch out for one another, and self-organize, largely facilitated by neighborhood-led initiatives. Examples of this are numerous in Tangletown and across the city, and city funded dollars allow us to employ a part time staff person to make this work.

Given my history with Tangletown Neighborhood Association, our organization's most successful periods of operation have been when we've worked with a salaried or contracted staff person. When operating funding is in question this essential service is jeopardized, reducing the effectiveness of our organization's resource to the neighborhood. Further reductions to strategic and impact funding completely deflate our ability to offer meaningful and valuable resources and engagement, which our organization is charged with by the City of Minneapolis and our local Tangletown constituents.

Please maintain city funding of neighborhoods beyond 2020 at current capacity, while working to evolve the structures which support our effectiveness.

Ryan Fisher
140 W. 48th Street

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Ryan Orton](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Alli Orton](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:34:41 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

Sincerely,
Ryan Orton
Armatage

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Sam Penders](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Fletcher, Steve](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 plan comment
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2020 12:35:01 PM

Hi,

I would like to comment on the Neighborhoods 2020 draft plan.

I am a 23 year-old renter, recent college student, and a current board member on the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood association. As is common in many neighborhoods, I have experienced how my neighborhood association board is largely unrepresentative of the neighborhood at large. My neighborhood is 90% renters with an average age in the 20s, but this is not reflected on the board membership. As a result, most of the work our board does is not focused on the needs of the average resident.

I support the proposed changes to the neighborhood association funding structure, including the lowered base funding, and equity calculation formula to determine which neighborhoods need funding the most. I believe this will be more equitable than the current funding structure.

However, as described in my own neighborhood association experience, funding based on the calculated need alone is not enough if the board is demographically unrepresentative of the neighborhood. There needs to be enforcement action (including loss of funding) against organizations which do not adequately serve their residents.

Thank you,
Sam Penders
606 7th St SE

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

St Anthony East

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

June 22, 2020

To Mayor Frey and the Minneapolis City Council:

As board members of St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association, we have spent countless hours reviewing, discussing, and providing individual feedback about Neighborhoods 2020 since this initiative began. We write to you now, to express our support for the proposed Neighborhoods 2020 plan and to request that the City prioritize this program in your budgetary decisions. Much like the rest of the city, individuals have not always agreed about the best path forward. We have considered thoughtfully and spoken passionately about our concerns, our fears, and our hopes for Minneapolis. Now, along with the rest of the world, the things we feared feel more urgent and the future is increasingly murky. Our need for strong and intentional leadership, as well as our need for grassroots community development to address the needs of our neighbors has never been more pressing. As a board we want to thank you for your commitment to our city and your leadership in these uncertain times. We know the decisions you will need to make are not easy. We are encouraged by your recent announcements about funding for emergency housing assistance for our neighbors who are most in need.

The data is clear. Living in Minneapolis has been, and continues to be, a different experience for white neighbors than it is for our indigenous populations and people of color. Historically, neighborhood organizations have often ignored, or at times, actively created programs which supported and maintained the racial inequities that are so deeply present in our city. Our organization is united in our concern and desire to correct the history of oppression which has been an unintended consequence of past neighborhood funding structures such as the NRP program. We hope to stand up publicly and declare our intention to address systemic oppression in our association so that we may be held accountable by our neighbors. In addition, we would like to applaud the goals of the Neighborhood 2020 program. We may never agree if Neighborhoods 2020 is the best plan that we could have, but we are deeply hopeful that it will do what it was intended to do and help Neighborhood Associations serve all of our neighbors better.

In the light of the COVID-19 pandemic almost nothing feels certain. The only exceptions are that individuals in our community need grassroot, neighbor-centered, equity-framed community building now more than ever, and we need to address racial inequity in every instance that we can.

Sincerely,

St. Anthony East Board of Directors

From: [sue.berger](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#); [Reich, Kevin A.](#); [Gordon, Cam A.](#); [Fletcher, Steve](#); [Cunningham, Phillipe M](#); [Ward 4](#); [Ellison, Jeremiah](#); [Hans, Dani](#); [Sharif-Abdinassir, Maryan](#); [Warsame, Abdi](#); [SanCartier, Ryan J](#); [Arab, Yusra A](#); [Goodman, Lisa R.](#); [Jenkins, Andrea](#); [Cano, Alondra \(External\)](#); [Kesti, Dylan](#); [Faulkner, Graham R](#); [Bender, Lisa](#); [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhoods 2020 public comment
Date: Friday, September 11, 2020 6:17:13 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council Members and NCR Staff,

As an Armatage resident, my neighborhood supports the equity goals outlined in the draft Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the emphasis placed on engaging historically underrepresented residents. We recognize that shifting more funding to areas of Minneapolis that need it most and increasing racial equity in our communities is overdue.

However, the proposed program changes will reduce the annual base funding for Armatage and other small neighborhoods to such a degree that many core services and the ability to actually work on equity goals will be in jeopardy. Base funding allows neighborhoods to operate by making a small amount of staff time, accounting services, rent, and communications such as mailings and digital tools to reach community members possible.

Should the funding cuts in this plan pass, many Minneapolis neighborhoods will need to drastically reduce their programs and services immediately. With a higher overall budget and base funding level, neighborhoods would be better able to keep their doors open while still protecting the equity goals and funding in the plan. **Therefore, I urge the Minneapolis City Council to increase the overall neighborhood program funding budget, so base funding can be raised from \$10,000/year to at least \$15,000/year** (currently, base funding starts at \$25,000/year).

COVID-19 and months of reckoning and reform have demonstrated how critical strong, local communities are to our wellbeing, safety, and ability to make change. Neighborhood organizations are needed now more than ever to listen to all community members' needs, serve as a key connector between residents and government, and strengthen our city through advocacy, housing support, safety initiatives, annual community-building events, environmental work, and communications that keep residents informed and engaged.

We believe there can be a better funding plan that will support neighborhood organizations to continue much-needed community organizing while increasing and supporting the racial equity work happening across Minneapolis.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK & FOR READING!

Sincerely

Sue Ellen Berger

5810 Upton Ave S, Mpls MN, 55410 Armatage

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [NCR](#)
To: [Tammi Cheever](#)
Cc: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: Public comment for Neighborhoods 2020 RE: [EXTERNAL] Please keep all neighborhoods strong.
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 4:53:32 PM

Hello, Tammi.

Thank you for your message. That is great to hear. I will go ahead and share this with Neighborhoods2020@minneapolismn.gov to add to the public comments.

Best,

Rebekah Tedrick | Community Relations Specialist | she/her/hers* | City of Minneapolis – Neighborhood and Community Relations | Crown Roller Mill, Room 425 – 105 5th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55401 | 612-673-3163 | rebekah.tedrick-moutz@minneapolismn.gov | <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr>
*Why include pronouns

You can fill out your census form using your address or census ID starting March 12. #WeCountMpls

-----Original Message-----

From: Tammi Cheever <tcheev@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 23, 2020 8:43 AM
To: NCR <ncr@minneapolismn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please keep all neighborhoods strong.

Hello,

i am writing to you as a concerned Lynnhurst neighbor. Please continue to fund all neighborhoods at a minimum level. I appreciate what Lynnhurst Association does to bring neighbors together. As a member of the Lynnhurst Environmental Committee, we have done many things to support the city's agenda, such as education and support for the organics recycling program. Just this spring, LYNAS has bought lawn bags for the environmental committee as we remove invasive garlic mustard from the creek area (81 bags worth so far!).

Another thing I appreciate is the communication we receive via newsletter and email. Ruth Olson is integral in this as our part-time staff person.

Please continue to fund neighborhoods adequately.

Thanks,

Tammi Cheever
5112 Dupont Ave. S.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Timothy Bildsoe](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood 2020 Comments
Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 3:38:50 PM

Regarding the draft Neighborhoods 2020 Program Guidelines, I would ask that the **base funding** for any neighborhood be a **minimum of \$30,000**. Anything less than that makes it difficult to effectively meet the basic goals of the program. Our neighborhoods are most connected to resident's needs and concerns.

Thank you!

Tim Bildsoe

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential and/or privileged material. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by replying to the sender. After notifying the sender of the error, you should immediately delete this e-mail from your system. Please be aware that any unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, distribution, duplication or use of the e-mail contents or any attachments therein is strictly prohibited.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Tom Mckenna](#)
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Cc: [Schroeder, Jeremy](#); [Johnson, Andrew](#); [Nokomis East](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for NENA
Date: Thursday, September 17, 2020 9:47:28 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-horizontal.png](#)
[Outlook-Every Thir.png](#)

We support funding for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) at its current level. Please do not cut funding for NENA!

During these uncertain times resources are needed to strengthen the neighborhood organizational network, any effort to weaken the neighborhood association model is counter intuitive and cuts off a vital link in the chain of community involvement.

NENA's administration of much needed grants, neighborhood beautification projects, and ongoing support for those in need in Nokomis East are all examples of the value added to our community.

Finally, NENA was instrumental in coordinating community meetings and the dissemination of information during the riots following George Floyd's death. It is very likely that NENA's leadership during the unrest prevented damage to property in our neighborhood and any unnecessary confrontations or incidents.

Understanding that difficult decisions must be made regarding the city budget and COVID related shortfalls, cutting funding to these vital hubs for communities throughout Minneapolis seems short sighted and would tear yet another hole in the fabric of our community. Now is a time to reinforce the value of community and to ensure people have a source of information and support that they can trust.

Please carefully consider any decision to reduce funding for NENA, saving a few dollars on a budget line may cost our community in ways that far exceed that savings.

Thank you,

Tom Mckenna
Every Third Saturday Inc., Veterans Advocate



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[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: t4peace@juno.com
To: [Neighborhoods 2020](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comments
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 8:10:44 PM

Hello Neighborhoods 2020 Team--

I looked over the Neighborhoods 2020 draft plan and was happy to read that underserved neighborhoods will be receiving a greater amount of funding dollars, because the city's lack of support in the past warrants that kind of support going forward until greater equity is achieved. **Thank you for this.**

Four areas that need to be addressed more fully are engagement, outreach, grievances, and equity. I came to this conclusion based on experiences with my neighborhood board as a committee member, as someone working on their bylaws rewrite, and as someone who has 30+ years of experience in community organizations.

Most recently, I was heavily involved in my neighborhood's Planning and Zoning Committee from 2015-2018, and was very frustrated by **the disconnect between their stated goal of encouraging wider participation and how they actually functioned.**

The P&Z committee and the neighborhood board did not meet their stated goal of more neighborhood involvement because:

1. New people were openly discouraged from speaking at committee and neighborhood meetings, and were often interrupted and/or verbally attacked by current and past board members when they did speak.
2. People who had specific critical comments and/or questioned specifics in draft plans were treated with hostility or ignored.
3. Anyone who wasn't white and/or middle class was ignored or ostracized, as was anyone with ideas that current or former board members did not agree with.
4. Decisions about what the board/committee was doing were already made by the same few* men before they were presented for committee/board feedback/approval [*which is also a violation of the bylaws].

So the reason that I bring up engagement, outreach, grievances, and equity is this: how exactly will you reach your goals of participation by people typically left out of the city's neighborhood-based engagement structure in these four categories?

Re: engagement:

The 2020 plan is already done--you have already written the specifics of what it is, how it'll be carried out, who has control over the process, and what the outcomes are inclusive of. **Where is the space for input?**

Re: outreach:

Having only 2 public meetings, and expecting communities to learn about the public comment period without having a widespread media presence that gives information on how the public can actually comment, is a serious contradiction of your goal of engaging with the public. **If the public has no knowledge of your process or timeline, how can they give you feedback on your plans?**

Suggestion: engage with these newspapers and their websites: Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder, The Circle, Hmong Times, La Prensa de Minnesota, The Alley Newspaper, Insight News, etc.

Re: grievances:

One thing that many sets of bylaws and engagement plans typically neglect to include is a grievance process. There needs to be a mechanism for anyone who has been disregarded or treated unfairly to bring these inequities into the open and have them addressed, so that community members, neighborhood representatives, and leaders have a transparent and supportive relationship with each other.

To silence dissent and suppress open discussion of it is the biggest hurdle to overcome in becoming a truly inclusive and equitable organization. Disagreement isn't hazardous--working through it creates a clearer understanding of how intentions are communicated and the perceptions of their intended audience. And group discussion often clarifies and refines ideas for the better.

Re: equity:

I understand that carrying out a truly equitable process in the development of a plan for systemic change, regarding the inclusion of community members historically left out of neighborhood organizations, is complex and time-consuming.

But being truly representative means both creating and running neighborhood organizations to include neighborhood residents where they live, on their schedule, and according to their needs [such as having meetings on weekend afternoons, providing transportation to/from meetings, providing meals and childcare at meetings, providing internet access and laptops, etc.].

And I understand that it's much easier and much faster to make a plan and then ask for feedback after the plan is done. But unless you get input from the people you want to involve when you are creating the plan--including their input on what the plan is going to be, how it will be used, how decisions are going to be made, etc.--then nothing is going to change.

Without neighborhood residents giving you their own ideas on what they themselves need to be engaged--what, where, how, when and why--the outcomes you want won't happen. There is a great saying that I don't know the origin of:

"Nothing about us without us."

That is what the guiding principle of a Neighborhoods 2020 rewrite could be, to insure you're really including the people you're trying to include.

Best of luck in the work ahead,

Trina Porte
Minneapolis

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