

# Staff Report

**Title: Overview of NCR and City-wide Projects**

Action  Discussion  Informational

**Date:** 08/27/19

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Brodeen, Internal Services Manager

**Attachments:**

## Requested Action

There is no action being requested. This item is for informational and discussion purposes.

## Background

Staff members of the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department will be attending this meeting to share information with the commission related to important initiatives happening in the City that are of relevance to all community members.

Information on each subject can be found below:

### 2020 CENSUS

**We Count Minneapolis** is the City's tag line for the 2020 Census. The U.S. Census is a count of all residents in the United States taken every 10 years and is required by the U.S. Constitution. It is used to determine political representation and federal funding distribution for governments, including at the state and local levels. In 2020, it will determine how many congressional representatives Minnesota will have for the next decade. Getting an accurate and complete count of all residents is vital.

Visit Minneapolis' Census webpage to learn more about the Census, find useful fact sheets, fliers and videos to share with your neighbors and community, links to the U.S. Census Bureau and information on available jobs! <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/census/>.

### ELECTIONS

Minneapolis has its very own department dedicated to administering local, state and federal elections for residents. It is housed within the City Clerk's Office. Voter outreach and engagement is a critical part of work that the Elections and Voter Services Office manages. The

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department at 612-673-3737. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadio aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.

City has goals to increase voter turnout across Minneapolis. Visit the elections website to learn more: <http://vote.minneapolismn.gov/>.

#### OFFICE OF IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE AFFAIRS (OIRA)

OIRA was created in 2018 and is housed within the NCR Department. Minneapolis office is one of about twenty offices dedicated to our Immigrant and Refugee residents in the U.S. The principal responsibilities are to:

- Inform City leaders about federal immigration developments and advise on policy initiatives to support affected residents.
- Equip community members with information regarding immigration developments, positioning them to protect and defend their rights.
- Educate residents about existing resources to address immigration issues and other needs, whether through local government or through legal, social service or other nonprofit organizations.

An upcoming event the office is coordinating along with City and community leaders is Welcoming Week Celebration, which will be held on **September 20, 2019** from **2-6:30 p.m.** at Powderhorn Park. The celebrations goal is for families to have fun, celebrate, learn about each other and to create safe and welcoming spaces for immigrants and refugees in Minneapolis. All are welcome to attend this free event.

Michelle Rivero is the Director of OIRA, her contact information as well as additional information can be found online: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/oira/index.htm>.

#### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

**We Count.** is the theme of the 2020 Community Connections Conference and will be held on **Saturday, February 1, 2020** at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The Community Connections Conference is an annual free event that fosters connections between the residents of Minneapolis, community groups, neighborhoods and local government. In 2019, 885 people participated.

More information on the conference can be found online:

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/conf>.