

To: Policy Board Members and
Alternates
From: Bob Miller
CC:

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Board Agendas/Minutes Online

Immediately following the October 20 NRP Policy Board meeting, I directed Brett Feldman of my staff to explore options for making NRP Policy Board meeting agendas and minutes more accessible online. Minneapolis neighborhood organization representatives and Policy Board members attending that meeting had expressed their strong desire for making this information available to the public as soon as it was available.

While the NRP has never posted Policy Board meeting agendas online, approved Policy Board minutes have been posted on the NRP Web site since January 2000.

Efforts to develop the necessary Web infrastructure to post agendas online are now underway. We are currently exploring how the NRP might replicate the City of Minneapolis' method of notifying e-mail subscribers when new agendas or actions are posted through an "opt-in" subscription system.

Together with Vaman Pai of the City of Minneapolis Communications office and Roger Downey and Debra Parker of the Business Information Services Department, we are assessing the feasibility of making NRP Policy Board meeting agendas and minutes available online through the GovDocs e-mail subscription management system now implemented by the City of Minneapolis.

The issues that we are still working to address include:

- 1) Can the NRP use the GovDocs system as part of the City's current contract with GovDocs?
- 2) Is there a way to use the GovDocs system through the City of Minneapolis' current contract in a way that allows the agendas and minutes to still be housed on the NRP Web site? This would allow the NRP to maintain its own "branding" as subscribers would be directed back to the NRP Web site to get to the information they are seeking.
- 3) Will the NRP have to establish its own contract with GovDocs to make this service available to subscribers?
- 4) What infrastructure would the NRP have to add to its existing Web site to accommodate GovDocs or a similar system?

We will continue to work with City of Minneapolis staff to create an effective notification system so that e-mail subscribers as well as NRP Web site visitors can view Policy Board agendas and minutes online as soon as they are available.

I will keep you informed of our progress.