

Memorandum

Date: January 21, 2004

To: Policy Board Members and Alternates

From: Robert D. Miller, Director

Subject: Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund

At the November 17, 2003 Policy Board meeting I requested that the Board clarify its intentions on the source of funds for the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund and provided a draft of procedures for accessing the set aside. The requested action was tabled by the Board in November until the December Board meeting. At the December 15 Board meeting, consideration was postponed and re-scheduled for January.

As was indicated in the legal opinion issued at the time the fund was established, the allocation of these resources must occur based on strategies contained in neighborhood action plans.

The issue that must be decided by the Board is the source of these funds. The choices described in November have not changed. They are as follows:

1. Deduct an amount proportionate to the neighborhoods part of the total Phase II allocation to neighborhoods from each neighborhoods allocation for Phase II. This spreads the cost across all neighborhoods.
2. Deduct the amount of any request from the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund from the Phase II allocation for the neighborhood requesting the funds. This makes each neighborhood accountable for their request from these funds.

The answer to this question is needed now and will affect the level of individual neighborhood interest in pursuing these funds.

Staff has reviewed these options and also developed procedures that can be used to guide neighborhoods interested in funds from this reserve account. The proposed guidelines have been revised several times to respond to questions from neighborhoods and to provide as much clarity as possible.

The funding approach that I am recommending is Option 1 above. This approach spreads the cost for the fund across all neighborhoods in proportion to the dollars they will be allocated in Phase II. It deducts these dollars before the neighborhood allocations are made, in the same manner as we have done with the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund.

The proposed Procedures for accessing this special fund meet the requirements of the legal opinion and make the process similar to the Board's Early Access process.

Based on my assessment of the needs of the NRP and the neighborhoods, my discussions with local precinct commanders, the comments and suggestions received since November 13, and the excellent modifications offered by Zach Korb and some of the neighborhood representatives to the Board, I recommend approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board (Board) approves reserving \$1 million from the Phase II funds to be allocated to all neighborhoods to fund the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund approved by the Policy Board on August 18, 2003; and

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Board approves and adopts the Procedures for Accessing the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund attached to this memorandum as the process to be used in accessing these NRP funds; and

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Director is hereby authorized and directed to inform the neighborhoods of the availability of these resources and the guidelines for accessing them.

Procedures for Accessing the NRP Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives
Reserve Fund
(Draft #4)

On August 18, 2003 the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board passed a resolution proposed by Council President Paul Ostrow that dedicates \$1 million of NRP's revenues to "community oriented public safety activities".

In order to qualify for these funds, the following conditions must be satisfied:

1. The funds must be used for community oriented public safety initiatives that are over and above the level included in the approved City budget for public safety services.
2. The expenditure must be for community oriented public safety services that use police hours at straight time for activities such as: expansion of current levels of CCP/SAFE service, bike patrols, foot patrols, and community based and local precinct commander directed police presence.
3. The proposed strategy must be approved by the neighborhood organization Board of Directors and the local precinct commander.
4. The request must be submitted by the neighborhood and the precinct to the NRP Policy Board for approval and specify:
 - a) the Phase II neighborhood action plan strategy for which the funds will be used;
 - b) how much is being requested;
 - c) the type of costs that will be covered;
 - d) the outcomes expected and the measures that will be used to assess results; and
 - e) the time frame for expending funds.

(Note: A neighborhood does not have to be in Phase II or eligible for Phase II to participate in this program)

5. If the neighborhood has an existing, approved NRP action plan strategy (either Phase I or Phase II) that is consistent with the proposed use of these reserve funds, the neighborhood organization board has the authority to approve the reserve fund request. Otherwise, the neighborhood must also approve the reserve fund request at a neighborhood-wide general attendance meeting, promoted through broad means (such as flyers, newspaper ads/articles, etc.).
6. The NRP Policy Board must approve the proposed plan before any expenditure occurs.

7. The neighborhood must act to include the community oriented public safety initiatives strategy being funded (or commit to including the planned activity) in the neighborhood's Phase II action plan.
8. NRP staff will develop draft criteria for accessing the Community Oriented Public Safety Fund for consideration by neighborhoods and for approval by Policy Board members at the February Policy Board meeting.
9. The NRP Policy Board Chair will establish a task force to review neighborhood proposals and provide funding recommendations to the Policy Board at the April Policy Board meeting.

Collaborative plans that are supported by a majority of the neighborhoods in a precinct are encouraged and will be given priority.

The funds reserved for this pool have been deducted from the funds available to neighborhoods in Phase II and were deducted before the individual neighborhood allocations were calculated. As a result, neighborhoods with approved requests will not have the amount that they receive from the Community Oriented Public Safety Initiatives Reserve Fund deducted from their neighborhood Phase II allocation.