

Date: April 22, 2008
To: Policy Board Members and Alternates
From: Robert D. Miller, Director
Subject: Change of Designated Organization for Cedar Riverside Neighborhood

In August 1998, the NRP Policy Board approved the first Cedar Riverside Participation Agreement. Due to a variety of concerns raised by neighborhood residents and NRP staff between 1999 and 2001, the Participation Agreement with the West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC) was allowed to expire on June 30, 2001. Following expiration of that agreement, NRP identified several conditions for continuation of the NRP process in the neighborhood, including greater oversight by NRP, and the creation of a largely autonomous NRP Steering Committee. A new Participation Agreement that addressed these concerns was developed by the WBCC and approved by NRP on September 4, 2003.

The Cedar Riverside NRP Steering Committee developed and implemented the planning process that resulted in community approval of the Cedar Riverside First Step Plan in 2006 and the full Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan in 2007. Despite these accomplishments significant tension developed between the WBCC Board and the NRP Steering Committee. The tension threatened to derail the NRP process in the neighborhood. In October 2007, the WBCC recommended that the Cedar Riverside NRP Steering Committee seek incorporation as a separate legal entity, in order to directly contract to implement NRP related activities.

Recently, representatives from the two groups entered into a discussion of issues facilitated by Council Member Cam Gordon. This working group developed a set of principles that will guide the future relationship of the two organizations. According to the terms of this agreement, the Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program will not compete with the WBCC for Citizen Participation status with the City of Minneapolis, and the WBCC will recognize the authority of CRNRP over administration of the NRP process in the neighborhood. The agreement also provides for a continued review role by the WBCC on NRP projects, and calls for continued discussion and cooperation between the two organizations.

In my review of the WBCC/CRNRP agreement, I find that the organizations have worked out a very thoughtful and workable arrangement that should allow both organizations to flourish, and I applaud their efforts.

The Cedar Riverside NRP Steering Committee, now the CRNRP, has been very creative in encouraging participation and input in development and implementation of the neighborhood's Action Plan. In their work over the last several years, the Steering Committee held personal interviews with residents, businesses and other stakeholders; organized 15 focus groups with underrepresented constituencies; and held numerous community meetings to gather input. The Steering Committee organized a unique and very inclusive balloting process for the First Step Plan by holding balloting over several days at numerous locations throughout the neighborhood. Approval of the Full Plan involved a similar extensive process of distributing surveys throughout the community to gather feedback, and final community approval at a community meeting. The CRNRP is to be commended for its industrious work to overcome the many challenges posed by this diverse and complex community.

It is my recommendation that the NRP Policy Board support the agreement between WBCC and the CRNRP and recognize the CRNRP as the designated NRP organization for the Cedar Riverside/West Bank neighborhood. Based on the early discussions and preliminary agreements between the two organizations, an implementation contract was prepared and circulated for neighborhood and government signatures. The contract carries an April 1, 2008 date. Therefore, to minimize confusion and the expense attached to redrafting and re-circulating the contract, I am including as part of this recommended resolution an effective date of April 1, 2008.

I am, therefore, recommending action on the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program ("NRP") Policy Board ("Board") commends the West Bank Community Coalition ("WBCC") and Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program ("CRNRP") for their efforts to achieve a positive and mutually beneficial working relationship that maximizes service to the Cedar Riverside neighborhood while reducing the potential for future conflicts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board accepts the recommendation contained in the April 16, 2008 agreement between WBCC and CRNRP and designates CRNRP as the contract agent and neighborhood organization for the NRP Neighborhood Action Plan development and implementation processes for the Cedar Riverside neighborhood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that designation of CRNRP will be effective April 1, 2008, and that existing NRP contracts with the WBCC will be extended as necessary to ensure an orderly completion of NRP activities and transfer of NRP responsibilities to CRNRP.

Cedar Riverside NRP
C/O Brian Coyle Center
420 15th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55454-1114

April 17, 2008

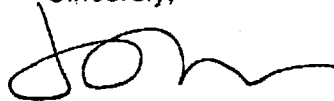
Robert D. Miller
Minneapolis NRP
Crown Roller Mill Ste 425
105 Fifth Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Mr. Miller,

The Board of the Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program (CRNRP) has approved the attached agreement between the West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC) and the Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program (CRNRP). In accordance with the terms of this agreement, the CRNRP Board accepts from the WBCC Board responsibility and authority for administering the Cedar Riverside NRP program.

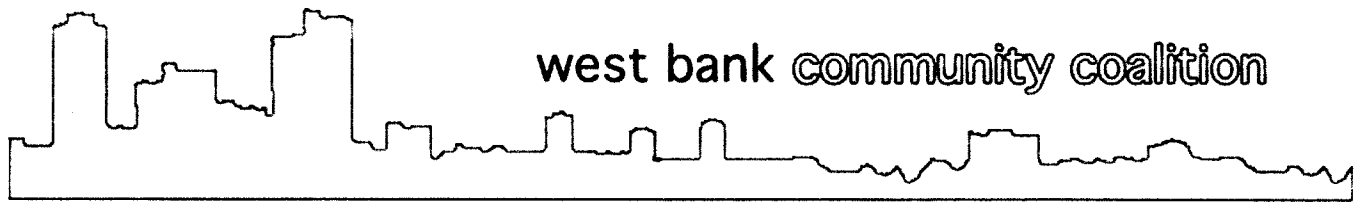
We look forward to working with the WBCC and will be pleased to represent the Cedar Riverside neighborhood as the designated NRP organization for the City of Minneapolis.

Sincerely,



John Bueche
Chair, CRNRP Board

Encl. Letter of Agreement between WBCC and CRNRP



April 17, 2008

Robert D. Miller
Minneapolis NRP
Crown Roller Mill Ste 425
105 Fifth Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Mr. Miller,

On Wednesday, April 16, 2008, the West Bank Community Coalition adopted unanimously a resolution approving the attached agreement between the West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC) and the Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program (CRNRP). The WBCC Board has authorized me to execute the documents necessary to transfer the administration of the Cedar Riverside NRP Action Plan to the CRNRP, with Pillsbury United Communities being the fiscal agent.

We look forward to working with the CRNRP and will be pleased to continue representing the Cedar Riverside neighborhood as the designated citizen participation organization for the City of Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Silver".

Laura Silver
President



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**Agreement Between the West Bank Community Coalition ("WBCC") -and- the
Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program ("CR NRP")**

1. The CR NRP will recognize the authority of the WBCC as the City of Minneapolis' recognized citizen participation organization in the West Bank/Cedar Riverside neighborhood. The CR NRP will support the WBCC in that effort and will not attempt to compete in any way for that recognition.
2. The WBCC will recognize the authority of CR NRP as the organization responsible for planning, implementing, modifying and reviewing the Cedar Riverside NRP Neighborhood Action Plan and will support CR NRP in that effort.
3. The CR NRP will allow the WBCC to review and comment on:
 - a. Neighborhood Action Plan scopes of services of \$25,000 or above;
 - b. Neighborhood Action Plan modifications of \$25,000 or above; and
 - c. The proposed new bylaws of the new CR NRP organization.
4. The WBCC and the CR NRP agree to form a joint Work Group made up of individuals from within the leadership boards of each group. The purpose of the Work Group is to find a path that will both build the Coalition's capacity and facilitate moving ahead with successful and full implementation of the neighborhood's NRP Neighborhood Action Plan. The Work Group will:
 - a. Meet as needed and agreed to by its members;
 - b. Develop a Memorandum of Understanding based on the above, which will include the additional following agreements;
 - c. Determine if there are other agreements or decisions where review and comment (1) by WBCC would be appropriate, and (2) by CR NRP would be appropriate;
 - d. Explore and consider ways to have NRP funding and/or staff support and/or other funds help build the WBCC's capacity; and
 - e. Identify, and clarify the roles of, other organizations active in the neighborhood that may play a role in community engagement.
5. Unless extended by mutual agreement, this agreement shall terminate on March 31, 2011 unless earlier terminated by mutual agreement.

This Agreement is entered into and effective April 16, 2008.

West Bank Community Coalition

By Laura Silver
Its President

**Cedar Riverside Neighborhood
Revitalization Program**

By [Signature]
Its CHAIR