

## **Memorandum**

To: Policy Board Members and Alternates

From: Carsten Slostad, Staff Secretary

Date: September 17, 2008

Subject: Draft Resolution

On Tuesday, September 9th, Policy Board committee members working on a Policy Board response to the "Framework for the Future" presented a draft resolution for Policy Board members to consider. This resolution was distributed by e-mail and delivered to those without e-mail. A vote on the resolution was requested of each member by the end of Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> so that the resolution could be presented to the City Council on September 11th. Members could vote by e-mail or by phone.

The results of the voting are as follows:

Voting for the resolution:

- Debbie Evans
- Beverly Conerton
- Kari Anderson
- Jeffrey Strand
- Peter McLaughlin
- Gail Dorfman
- Joe Mullery
- Scott Vreeland
- Ken Kelash

Voting to "Abstain"

- Barbara Johnson
- R.T. Rybak

Not responding to the request for a vote:

- Mark Stenglein
- Peggy Flanagan
- David Ellis

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The adopted resolution was transmitted electronically to the Committee of the Whole of the Minneapolis City Council on Thursday, September 11th and formally on Monday, September 15th.

This Policy Board action needs to be formalized by officially recording it in the minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting. I am, therefore, recommending adoption of the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the “Policy Board Resolution on the City of Minneapolis’ Proposed Framework for the Future” voted upon by solicited vote and adopted by this method is hereby recorded as an official action of the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** that a copy of the resolution is to be attached to the minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting of the Policy Board.

## **NRP Policy Board Resolution**

### **On the City of Minneapolis' Proposed Framework for the Future**

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board (Policy Board) was created in 1991 pursuant to the NRP legislation with representatives required from the State of Minnesota, Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis (City), the Minneapolis Park Board, the Minneapolis Library Board, the Minneapolis School Board (Governmental Partners); and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board has successfully governed the Neighborhood Revitalization Program for 17 years, becoming a national model for engaging community members and providing neighborhood organizations with access to policy makers from multiple jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, NRP and neighborhood organizations have leveraged NRP funding of approximately \$270 million into more than \$1 billion in additional public and private investment in neighborhood improvements; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood investments of NRP funds have helped to stabilize and grow property taxes and improve the quality of life in Minneapolis, including more than:

- \$145 million for improving housing,
- \$37 million for economic development,
- \$20 million for improving parks,
- \$15 million for improving schools and libraries; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Minneapolis, volunteering through their neighborhood organizations, have contributed more than one million (1,000,000) hours of volunteer service to make Minneapolis a better place to live, work, learn and play; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board supports the City's position that neighborhood organizations provide a basic City service that requires adequate annual funding by the City; and

WHEREAS, on July 24, 2008, the NRP Work Group, created by the Minneapolis City Council, submitted its final report entitled *Framework for the Future: Options for the Focus, Funding and Governance of NRP Program and Action Plan Activities after 2009* (Framework) which recommends the establishment of a new City department to coordinate community engagement and to oversee the operation of the NRP after 2009; and

WHEREAS, a secure, dedicated, long-term source of funding is critical to the success of a neighborhood revitalization program so that neighborhoods can plan and implement strategies to continue to revitalize neighborhoods throughout Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Board is on record [NRP / PR#2007-23] supporting:

- the continuation of NRP beyond 2009;
- annual funding of \$12 million for neighborhood organizations for operating support and discretionary/implementation funding; and
- that the Neighborhood Revitalization Program central office staffing be under the direct supervision and control of the Policy Board.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Policy Board encourages the City to live up to its principles of community engagement by entering into a meaningful and direct dialogue with the Policy Board and neighborhood organizations on the future of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program prior to adoption of the Framework; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy Board strongly believes Minneapolis residents, neighborhood organizations, and the interests of the governments that represent those residents (State of Minnesota, Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Park Board and the Minneapolis School Board) are best served by a Neighborhood Revitalization Program governance structure that brings policy makers and neighborhood representatives together to keep Minneapolis neighborhoods strong and vibrant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy Board supports the continuation of a multi-jurisdictional Policy Board as the governance structure for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and its funding of neighborhood organizations after 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy Board supports:

- funding of neighborhood organizations at a minimum of \$12 million annually after 2009 for operating support and for discretionary/implementation funding to allow neighborhood organizations to develop, plan, and implement neighborhood plans which empower residents to complete projects, programs, services, and activities that improve the quality of life in neighborhoods; and
- securing funding to cover the gap in NRP Phase II funding which threatens the health and stability of neighborhoods prior to 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy Board encourages all of its Governmental Partners to work together to:

- identify and secure strong, stable funding sources for funding the Neighborhood Revitalization Program after 2009; and
- secure funding to cover the gap in NRP Phase II funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy Board encourages the City to strengthen and enhance its community participation and citizen engagement activities for non-NRP activities to improve how the City engages the community and how the community members participate in the City's decision-making process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy Board strongly encourages the City to work with neighborhood organizations, the Policy Board, and its other jurisdictional partners to develop a mutually agreeable legislative proposal that clearly allows for funds from the newly authorized Redevelopment Finance District to be used for the statutorily defined purposes of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program.