

Memorandum

To: Policy Board Members and Alternates

From: Robert D. Miller, Director

Date: September 21, 2010

Subject: Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association
Request for Waiver to enter Phase II Planning.

The Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association (HNIA) requests a waiver to the thresholds for beginning planning for Phase II. The Phase II Neighborhood Planning Process adopted by the NRP policy Board on July 24, 2000 states that “neighborhoods may begin their Phase II planning efforts when they have expended 85% or contracted 95% of their overall Phase I NRP allocation.” As of September 22, 2010, the Holland neighborhood has expended 75% and contracted 87% of its NRP Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan funds.

As HNIA reports in its request, the majority of its remaining Phase I funds have been allocated funds to acquire blighted housing. The neighborhood has worked closely with the City to identify strategies for specific properties, but the City has not yet been able to act on these projects. Were it not for these pending projects, 96% of the neighborhood’s allocation would be contracted.

The Holland neighborhood’s Phase I allocation was \$3,610,932. Holland has contracted \$3,125,022.32 of the neighborhood Phase I funds are (87%). The unused allocation of \$359,949.68 for blighted housing would bring the total contracted amount to \$3,484,972, for a total of 96%.

Based on my review of the HNIA request for a waiver of the guidelines for entrance into Phase II Planning, I recommend the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association has completed implementation of its NRP Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan priority projects with one exception; and

WHEREAS: The Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association has identified blighted property acquisition as a priority in its Phase I NRP Neighborhood Action Plan and needs participation and partnerships with the City to implement these improvements; and

WHEREAS: Completion of this single project will result in Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association meeting the required 95% contracted threshold for entry into Phase II;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board (“Board”) hereby approves the Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association request for a waiver of the contracting and expenditure threshold requirements for beginning Phase II planning.



Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association

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Sept. 16, 2010

Robert Thompson

NRP

425 Crown Roller Mill

105 5th Ave. S

Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear Robert,

The Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association (HNIA) would like to request a waiver related to housing funds that are impacting our ability to enter into Phase II of the NRP.

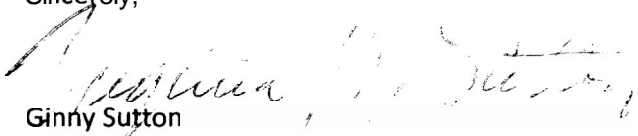
Some years ago, the neighborhood allocated funds to be used for acquisition of blighted housing and related housing activities in the Holland neighborhood. Some of the targeted sites are owned by the city. The city is aware of our interest in these sites, but for various reasons has not yet been able to move forward to completion of the strategy with HNIA. We continue to work with the city on this. But in the meantime, these NRP funds alone leave HNIA with too much uncontracted/unspent Phase I funds to move forward into Phase II work. If it were not for this pending city project impacting us, HNIA would be able to move forward into Phase II work.

Thus, we are seeking the waiver as we await action on the city's part related to these housing dollars. The board voted at its July 15, 2010, meeting to seek this waiver from NRP.

Please let us know if there is any other information you need from us on this request.

Thank you for your assistance to the Holland neighborhood!

Sincerely,


Ginny Sutton
HNIA Board President