



January 5, 2009

Dear Neighborhood Leader,

On November 26, 2008 Policy Board Chair Gail Dorfman and I wrote to you about the plans for holding a neighborhood organization representative discussion on February 21 about the process for selecting neighborhood representatives to the new Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission. We asked you to adopt a resolution of support and participation in this discussion, identify your representatives to the meeting and provide any ideas that you may have for selecting the neighborhood reps.

We have received several resolutions of support but we are far short of the number required to finalize the calling of this meeting. I want to remind you that the deadline for providing NRP with a resolution and representatives is January 30. **If you do not provide a resolution by that date, your organization will be counted as voting no on holding the February 21 meeting.** The Policy Board resolution stipulates that at least 60% of the eligible neighborhood organizations must agree to participate in order to hold the meeting.

NRP has also received a number of questions asking for clarification of points presented in the letter. The responses were developed after discussions with the neighborhood representatives to the Policy Board.

- Q. Who will be eligible to participate (and vote on any proposed neighborhood representative selection process) on February 21?
- A. **Any neighborhood organization with whom NRP is contracting for preparation or implementation of a neighborhood action plan may send representatives.**
- Q. How will NRP ensure that the participants represent Neighborhood Organizations?
- A. **Neighborhood organizations are being asked to submit the names and contact information for their representatives to the February 21 meeting. The representatives submitted by each neighborhood organization will be invited to the February 21 meeting and will be the only participants allowed to vote on any matters coming before the group.**

Q. How many votes will each neighborhood organization have?

A. Each neighborhood organization will have one vote for each neighborhood represented by the neighborhood organization (i.e. one neighborhood = one vote).

For example, the Whittier Alliance will have one vote because it represents the Whittier neighborhood. The Longfellow Community Council will have four votes because it represents the Cooper, Howe, Hiawatha, and Longfellow neighborhoods. Each neighborhood organization will select the representatives to vote on behalf of its neighborhood(s). A neighborhood organization with more than one neighborhood may select one representative to cast votes for all of its neighborhoods or have a different representative for each neighborhood that it includes. This decision will be made by the neighborhood organization.

Q. What happens if 60% of the neighborhoods approve the resolution to hold a meeting but a smaller number send representatives to the actual meeting?

A. The meeting will be held with the representatives that attend. The representatives that attend will determine the next steps in the selection process.

I hope these responses help clarify the intent of the Policy Board. The original November 26 letter is attached for your use and information. It includes a draft resolution for consideration by your Board.

One final reminder, please consider acting on a resolution of support and submitting your representatives as soon as possible so that we can determine if this meeting will proceed and begin making arrangements for its convening.

I hope that you had a great holiday season and have a happy 2009!

Sincerely,

Robert D. Miller
Director