

---

Page 2: 2020-21 Community Participation Program Annual Report Organization Information - please confirm

**Q1**

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION**

Prospect Park Organization

---

**Q2**

**ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION**

Neighborhood Organization Contact:

**Liza Davitch**

Organization Email Address:

**[liza@prospectparkmpls.org](mailto:liza@prospectparkmpls.org)**

---

**Q3**

**Organization Website and Social Media**

Website

**<https://prospectparkmpls.org/>**

Facebook

**<https://www.facebook.com/prospectparkmpls>**

Other

**<https://www.instagram.com/prospectparkmpls>**

---

**Q4**

Date / Time

**03/28/2022**

**DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL** Once your board has reviewed this draft annual report, please provide the date of the meeting at which the board approved submission of this report to NCR. Note: Meeting minutes may be requested by NCR.

---

Page 3: 202-21 Community Participation Program Annual Report Additional Organization Information

## Q5

Indicate the POSITION TITLE of each PAID EMPLOYEE OR CONTRACT STAFF (excluding professional services such as accounting, legal, etc.)

Position Title #1

**Admin & Communication Coordinator**

Position Title #2

**Outreach/Community Organizer**

## Q6

Please indicate below the AVERAGE HOURS PER WEEK of each paid staff (excluding separate professional services such as accounting, legal, etc.)

#1 Hours/Week

**20.0**

#2 Hours/Week

**3.5**

## Q7

IF NEEDED, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO BELOW: Note if any positions are seasonal, temporary, etc.

Position #2 in 2020 only.

Page 4: 2019 Community Participation Program Annual ReportStakeholder Engagement - Outreach & Engagement

## Q8

MEETINGS (Check all that apply)

**Held regular committee meetings or discussion groups that are open to all stakeholders**

,

**Held at least one general membership or community meeting (in addition to the annual meeting) to gather input from residents and other stakeholders for a neighborhood specific initiative**

,

**Hosted at least one general membership or committee meeting in response to a City request for input - such as a development proposal, transit planning or public works projects**

,

**Conducted one or more focus groups**

**Q9**

DOOR-TO-DOOR (Check all that apply)Door-Knocking  
(with goal of face-to-face engagement)

At least once reaching a portion of neighborhood,

At least once reaching most or all of neighborhood,

Conducted primarily by volunteers,

Carried out primarily to gather input or inform on a  
specific city or neighborhood issue

**Q10**

Approximately HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH through door-knocking in 2020-21?(Please provide a  
cumulative total for both years)

240

**Q11**

FLYERING - Dropping literature at doors (Check all that  
apply)

At least once reaching a portion of the neighborhood,

At least once reaching most or all of the neighborhood,

Carried out primarily to inform and increase  
membership and participation

,

Carried out primarily to gather input or inform on a  
specific city or neighborhood issue

**Q12**

Approximately HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS DID YOU REACH through flyering in 2020-21?(Please provide a  
cumulative total for both years)

12000

**Q13**

EVENTS (Check all that apply)

Staffed a booth or table at neighborhood event or other  
community event that included sign-up sheets, surveys  
or information about your organization.

,

Organized one or more issue specific event (such as a  
safety forum, housing fair, Open Streets, Creative  
Citymaking, etc).

,

Organized smaller events for specific outreach to target  
audiences (e.g., sidewalk tabling to reach renters,  
lemonade stands, tabling at Farmer's Market, etc.)

**Q14**

COMMUNICATION (Fill in all that apply)

Print a paper newsletter?(If so, at what frequency?)

**Digital newsletter published twice monthly.**

Number of subscribers to your email list

**1,253**

Number of followers on your primary social media channel  
(facebook, twitter, or other)

**1,743**

**Q15**

OTHER (Check all that apply)

**Conducted at least one community-wide survey (such as a random sample or all-household survey)**

,

**Conducted another form of survey (e.g., intercept survey)**

,

**Developed partnerships with cultural, religious, professional or business associations to expand outreach into under-represented populations**

,

Other activities (please describe here)::

One on one interviews with renters/students.

**Q16**

How did your organization adapt to issues surrounding COVID19 and civil unrest? (Check all that apply)

**Staff working from home,**

**Closed office,**

**Online meetings/events,**

**Doorknocked,**

**Held events/meetings in person outside with social distancing**

,

**Held events/meetings in person inside with social distancing**

**Q17**

How did you connect with your community about important information? (Check all that apply)

**Email blast,**

**Flyer,**

**Postcards,**

**Doorknocking,**

**Social media posts/campaigns,**

**Special page on website**

**Q18**

What issues affected your community? (Check all that apply)

**Community members needing PPE,**  
**Housing insecurity,**  
**Increased crime**

---

**Q19**

Did your organization create initiatives and projects or share information from/with other organizations that were developed in response to: (Check all that apply)

**COVID-19,**  
**Mutual aid networks,**  
Other (please list)::  
Mitigating and preparing for climate change.

---

**Q20**

PLEASE SHARE ONE STORY ABOUT A PROJECT OR INITIATIVE YOUR ORGANIZATION CREATED OR SUPPORTED IN RESPONSE TO THE VARIOUS CRISES OF 2020-21:

In response to the murder of George Floyd and the public safety crisis, Prospect Park Association collaborated with the Prospect Park Anti-Racism Group to create a five-week online interactive presentation/conversation series called "Who Keeps Us Safe?" The series addressed the roles of police and community in our collective safety. It was open to the public and gave community members opportunities to learn, ask questions, and share ideas. Sessions were recorded and made available on PPA's website. Presenters included MPD150, the Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention, Our Streets, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) and Reclaim the Block.

In March 2020, the week before Minnesota Governor Tim Walz used emergency powers to protect public health during the pandemic, PPA created a web page with helpful pandemic resources and distributed fliers throughout Prospect Park to ensure everyone was aware of the web page.

---

**Q21**

Please provide an ESTIMATE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED to your organization in 2020-21. (see Volunteer Hour Tracking Guide for suggested ways to calculate this. Please provide a cumulative total for both years)

11000

---

**Q22**

HOW DID YOUR ORGANIZATION REACH OUT TO UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? (Check all that apply)

**Worked on an issue of particular interest to an under-represented group within the neighborhood**

,

**Provided notices of annual and special meetings in multiple languages**

,

**Targeted outreach in apartment buildings or blocks to reach renters**

,

**Targeted tabling at other events or locations (such as farmers markets, cultural events, etc.)**

,

**Held focus groups or open meeting formats for under-represented communities**

,

**Included an Americans with Disabilities Act statement on meeting and event notices**

,

**Reviewed participation activities, and identified new leaders and volunteers for volunteer, committee and board participation**

,

**Held one-time/pop up events in areas of the neighborhood that don't often have neighborhood meetings**

,

**Met with other agencies in the community that work closely with under-represented constituencies in the neighborhood**

,

**Other activities (please describe here)::**

Held meetings online using zoom with closed captioning, translated Environment Committee's rain garden presentation into Somali.

**Q23**

What more would you like to tell NCR or the community ABOUT YOUR STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT?What are you doing that is NEW OR PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL TO REACH RESIDENTS and others?

PPA formed a renters' rights subcommittee. We developed a list of all apartment units in the neighborhood, door- knocked rental units to inform neighbors, created a blog on PPA's website for renters, and developed a brochure, which was distributed to rental units. An early success was organizing renters living in twelve properties that faced significant and serious problems with a property management company. We gathered information and tenants worked together to create a letter detailing grievances. PPA supported the effort, approved the letter, and sent it to the property owner. The property owner worked with tenants to correct problems and replaced the problematic property management group.

PPA worked with Pratt School teachers to organize broader community involvement to build and install ten planters to calm traffic at two large intersections adjacent to Pratt school. Teachers, PPA volunteers, and Pratt school students filled the planters. PPA worked with City of Minneapolis engineers to design the planters and obtain permission to place the planters in the intersections.

## Q24

### MAJOR HIGHLIGHT

#### Highlight: Walkway Construction

Issue/impact: Reconstruction was stalled on a walkway forcing children to walk a long dangerous route. The walkway connects families living in Glendale Townhomes Public Housing with Pratt School and Luxton Park,

Steps/Outcomes: PPA and neighbors adjacent to the walkway met with City of Minneapolis Public Works and our Councilmember to advocate for the project, learn what was holding it up, and work together to address them so design, bidding, and construction could commence. The project was “fast tracked” and the walkway was rebuilt during 2020.

#### Highlight: The Jackson Family Memorial Playground Project

Opportunity: Create a playground and historical memorial at Pratt School to recognize contributions to our neighborhood and country by the Jackson family and to highlight racial injustice they faced. The Jacksons moved into the Prospect Park neighborhood in the early 1900s. They were the first African American family to move into the all-white neighborhood. Soon after they moved in, the Jackson family was subject to discrimination, harassment, and daily threats trying to get them to leave the neighborhood. One such threat came during a demonstration in which Madison Jackson was told that his children would not have anybody to play with. He considered this and decided to build a playground in their backyard that was open to all of the children in the neighborhood. Neighborhood children came to play and the Jackson family remained in Prospect Park for several decades. The three Jackson daughters were the first African American children to attend Pratt Community School.

Collaboration/steps/outcome: PPA created partnerships with members of the Jackson family, parents from the Pratt Parent-Teacher Organization, and teachers and administrators from Pratt Community School, developing the groundwork. In 2021, PPA and Pratt PTO raised \$20,000 to work with the 4RM+ULA design team. This year we will seek community input on a preliminary design and begin fundraising for the project.

Impact: This project will serve the students of Pratt Community School within the Prospect Park neighborhood by providing a safe, engaging, and innovative play space in addition to educational opportunities for the community to learn about the rich racial history of the community. Pratt School has about 70% minority student enrollment with 58% of students from low-wealth families.

#### Highlight: Responses to Pandemic

Mutual Aid Project: PPA supported and helped fundraise—and contributed \$2,000—to a Mutual Aid Project organized by Crossing Barriers/Defend Glendale. The project sourced, packaged, and delivered much needed pandemic supplies and information, free of charge, to over 900 public housing residents, including 184 families in Prospect Park neighborhood, at a time when supplies were expensive and/or impossible to obtain.

Neighborhood After School Program: PPA collaborated with and subsequently raised over \$5,000 for East Side Neighborhood Services to hire teachers to provide targeted instruction and support for students of young people at Glendale Public Housing and Pratt Community School. This was a time when virtual learning was creating a challenging time for low-income families. Children in these families needed in-person guidance to meet their individual needs.

#### Highlight: Prospect Park Census 2020 Count

Issue: Reach under-counted communities, specifically Glendale Townhomes Public Housing residents and renters.

Steps/outcome: PPA reached under-counted communities by: 1) distributing census materials in Somali and English to Glendale Townhomes, 2) holding an event making Somali and English speaking Census representatives available to public housing residents, 3) recruiting volunteers to distribute over 3,000 flyers to 20 large apartment buildings and hundreds of small apartment units, and 4) designing and mailing a postcard with census information to households, including our large apartment buildings. Minnesota narrowly retained a legislation seat thanks to the many MN Census 2020 Count efforts.

#### Highlight: Rain Gardens Project

Issue: To mitigate the increase of stormwater runoff due to climate change.

Steps/outcome: PPA approved a Climate Action Plan for the neighborhood. The two primary and immediate goals are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and bolster the community's resilience in the face of climate change. Three rain gardens were designed and installed on the property of neighborhood organizations to mitigate rainwater runoff and protect the environment. Twenty volunteers



gathered at three places to install the rain gardens and bring the project to completion.

Impact: By installing the rain gardens at community organizations, we had the opportunity to educate more people about climate change and ways to combat it. The locations of the rain gardens help capture a significant part of the rain from nearby buildings. We formed relationships with the organizations who owned/managed those facilities which included Glendale Townhomes Public Housing, Stadium Village Church, and Pillars of Prospect Park Child Care and Senior Living. The total Project square footage: 911 sq.ft. Each rain garden was an average of 303 sq.ft. Pollution Reduction Calculations per raingarden per year (estimated): Runoff captured – 39,188 gallons. Total Suspended Solids captured – 17.77 lbs. Total Phosphorus captured – 0.098 lbs. Pollution Reduction Calculations for total project per year (estimated); Runoff captured – 117,564 gallons. Total Suspended Solids captured – 53.32 lbs. Total Phosphorus captured – 0.296 lbs.

Highlight: '25 by 2025' Initiative

Issue: Natural gas is the number one contributor to Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Minneapolis. The average older home in Prospect Park uses almost 25% more natural gas than the state average and 14% more than the Minneapolis average in 2019. There aren't easy conversions with natural gas. The best place to start is to make steps to insulate homes for energy efficiency. A third of the old homes in Prospect Park have among the highest heating bills in the state. The '25 by 2025' initiative seeks to help residents bring natural gas use down by 25% by 2025 through better insulation and energy equipment upgrades.

Steps/outcome: PPA distributed fliers to every older house, duplex, triplex and quad in the neighborhood. The flier provided information on how to insulate homes and where to go for free materials and 0% financing. PPA co-hosted a 'Healing the Earth' Garden Walk with Prospect Park Garden Club that showcased homes with alternative energy sources in June. We held virtual sessions with MNCEE (Minnesota Center for Energy and Environment) presenting information on home energy audits and improvement, and a virtual information session on Minneapolis' 4D Program for Landlords. Door hangers distributed flyers and virtual posts were sent about free home energy audits through MNCEE. We launched the National Night Out Ambassador program where volunteers were present at NNO events to answer questions on the '25% by '25' Initiative.

Impact: There were 105 new energy audits in Prospect Park homes in 2021.

---

### Q25

We'd love to share your highlights with others. If possible, upload a digital photo, video, or illustration with the link below, or send any of these files to [ncr@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:ncr@minneapolismn.gov) with the Subject Line: 2020-21 CPP Annual Report Images. If you have a large digital file with multiple images, please make arrangements to mail or deliver a copy directly to your NCR Neighborhood Specialist.

**PPA Highlight. Traffic Calming Project..jpg (4.7MB)**

---