

**Annual Meeting Presentation  
December 15, 2015**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Thanks very much for joining us tonight for our 2015 Annual Meeting.

As you may know, for several years Cedar-Riverside NRP has been working with residents, businesses, neighborhood groups and institutions to identify priorities and develop programs that benefit members of our community. CRNRP has supported and developed initiatives in many areas, including safety, community building, youth and elders, housing, neighborhood beautification, economic and human development, and education.

Today we are excited to share news with you of the work we accomplished for the neighborhood in 2015 that includes a three-year strategic plan we are asking you to support with a vote of confidence today. We're also excited to be holding our annual elections and we thank you for joining us to participate in that important process.

We have a lot of ground to cover tonight, so we ask that you hold your questions until the end of each presentation so that we can share as much information as possible with the larger group prior to responding to individual questions.

## CRNRP STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

### THE OPPORTUNITIES

- How can CRNRP be a more effective and transparent manager of NRP funds for the community?
- How can CRNRP leverage community assets and NRP funds to build the capacity of the organization to attract new resources and conduct programs that will benefit the community now and in the future?

### THE CHALLENGES

- City of Minneapolis is putting pressure on NRP orgs to put their money into programs and they specifically encouraged CRNRP to focus its energy on 2-3 priorities in order to be effective with those programs.
- The NRP program is no longer funded so whatever funds remain are the only funds available, absent bringing in outside resources.

### THE RESPONSE

CRNRP leadership engaged in a strategic planning process that:

- Improves and makes adjustments to the committee and engagement structure to align with current organizational and community priorities and ensures the accountable and transparent use of NRP funds.
- Values community knowledge, wisdom, and experience by encouraging increased collaboration with community members and other neighborhood groups to develop strategies and deliver programs that address community priorities.
- Charts a path of organizational growth and capacity building for the next three years that brings in new revenues and human resources to leverage NRP funds and neighborhood assets to benefit the West Bank community.
- Identifies 3 key areas to focus capacity building efforts: early childhood education, immigrant wealth and asset building with a focus on women, and safety.

## CRNRP STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

### PROCESS

- ✓ After extensive community engagement with more than 500 community members, CHANCE, and the West Bank Community Coalition, in fall of 2012 CRNRP secured neighborhood approval for its Phase II Action Plan that identifies a number of neighborhood priorities.
- ✓ Collaborative studies conducted by CRNRP and the University of Minnesota CURA and CHANCE programs in 2013 included another extensive community engagement process with more than 100 residents and community leaders that raised up early childhood education and immigrant wealth building with a focus on women as priority issues for the West Bank.
- ✓ CRNRP announces in 2014 Annual Report and at annual meeting in December 2014 that program priorities for 2015 will be early childhood education and immigrant wealth and asset building.
- ✓ In summer of 2015 CRNRP hired Elena Gaarder, a consultant with 20 years of community development experience, to lead the planning process.
- ✓ CRNRP then held meetings to ask the community and its board of directors to review and rank their top choices among the priorities listed in the Phase II Action Plan.
- ✓ Consultant conducted stakeholder interviews and led board discussions to gather input on significant organizational, community, and external trends.
- ✓ Consultant drafted, CRNRP Board reviewed, then voted to approve to the strategic plan in September 2015.

### RESULTS

- ✓ CRNRP approved a revised mission statement.
- ✓ CRNRP identified its core values and strategic direction to guide its work over the next three years.
- ✓ CRNRP revised its committee structure to leverage knowledge and wisdom in the community by encouraging other groups to help us address issues that they are better suited to handle.
- ✓ CRNRP drafted a work plan to accomplish its objectives.

## CRNRP STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

### MISSION

The mission of the Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program is to support residents and stakeholders of the West Bank neighborhood by providing culturally appropriate tools and resources that promote civic engagement, leadership development, and equitable access to economic and educational opportunities for all its constituents.

### CORE VALUES

The results of the environmental scan, the discussion at the board and staff planning sessions, and community input suggest the following core values that will drive the work of CRNRP over the next three years.

1. CRNRP will work in **partnership** with residents, business owners, institutional partners and other nonprofit organizations to fulfill the strategies outlined in the CRNRP Phase II Plan.
2. Activities where NRP Phase II funds can be **leveraged** and **address a gap** in resources should be a priority for implementation.
3. CRNRP will continue to engage all residents and stakeholders, but will focus programmatic efforts to ensure **equitable economic and educational outcomes** for immigrant families in the neighborhood.
4. CRNRP will continue to **work across sectors and cultures** to address safety and quality of life issues in the community and **build social connections**.
5. CRNRP works to create **systems change**, promote **equity** in the distribution of resources and related policies and to ensure positive economic outcomes for the Cedar Riverside neighborhood.

## CRNRP STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Over the next three years, CRNRP will continue in its role as the organization responsible for managing the NRP resources on behalf of the community, ***but will expand its capacity to operate programs in three key areas:***

1. Building wealth and assets for immigrant families, with a focus on women;
2. Ensuring school success for youth by increasing early childhood education resources in the Cedar Riverside neighborhood; and
3. Increasing safety and social connections by strengthening relationships among residents, businesses, students, stakeholders and police.

In addition to the above, CRNRP will also support efforts to address community identified priorities in the following areas:

- Expanded or improved programs and services for youth and elders.
- Expanded or improved outdoor green spaces and other community spaces.
- Establishing arts and culture as a focal point for building social and civic connections between various groups in the community.
- Supporting a vibrant business community that meets the needs of the neighborhood.
- Ensuring safe, decent and affordable housing for all residents.
- Providing leadership development opportunities

## CRNRP PLAN MODIFICATION SUMMARY

### PROPOSED MODIFICATION AND ALLOCATIONS

- ❖ CRNRP board on November 16 voted to approve the following plan modification. The reallocation would move a total of \$255,000 from the sale of townhomes to these strategies:
  - \$35,000 to support *increasing early childhood education resources* on the West Bank.
  - \$40,000 to support *an immigrant wealth and asset building program* with an emphasis on women.
  - \$180,000 for implementation and operations funding to support *management of all programs, execution of our strategic plan and all CRNRP communications, outreach and engagement activities* for the next two years (2016-2017).
- ❖ \$125,785 remains in our housing allocation to finance home improvements and offer down payment assistance at 0% interest. *This is unchanged and is not affected by the plan modification request.*
- ❖ If the plan modification moves forward, there would still be \$229,519 remaining from the townhome sales *to support a variety of community priorities.*
- ❖ In addition to directly supporting programs, management, and our strategic plan, the *plan modification allows us to leverage NRP funds* to solicit \$135,500 of additional programs funds in these amounts:
  - \$68,000 for early childhood education
  - \$40,000 for women's wealth
  - \$7,500 for an expanded safety walks program
  - \$20,000 for bus shelter improvements