
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Submission Template

Please use this template as a guide to developing your submission for funding from the Community Participation Program. The level of detail should be appropriate to your organization's proposed activities, and to the level of funding allocated for your organization.

You may provide this submission electronically to ncr@minneapolismn.gov. Please include a copy of your bylaws.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Organization Name:	Jordan Area Community Council (JACC)
Address:	2900 Fremont Avenue North, Suite 108 Minneapolis, MN 55411
Website url:	http://jordanmpls.org
Organization email:	info@jordanmpls.org
Federal EIN:	41-6043288
Board Contact:	Name: Dennis Wagner, Board Chair
Staff Contact:	Name: Cathy Spann, Executive Director Phone: 612-886-4539 (Office) Email: cathy@jordanmpls.org Address: 2900 Fremont Avenue North, Suite 108 Minneapolis, MN 55411

Who should be the primary contact for this submission? Cathy Spann, Executive Director

Date of Board review and approval: _____

FUNDING ACTIVITIES.

Use the following questions as a guide for your submission. For questions 1-8, please limit each response to no more than 3 paragraphs.

1. **Eligibility.** If your organization has not previously been funded through the Community Participation Program, please provide evidence of the organization's eligibility, as identified in Section II.A of the Guidelines.

The Jordan Area Community Council has been previously funded thru the Community Participation Program.

2. **Community participation efforts.** Describe proposed outreach activity in the neighborhood, and methods to involve residents and other stakeholders in one or more of the three key program purposes. How will you engage residents and other stakeholders of their neighborhood in developing a Neighborhood Priority Plan?

The Jordan Area Community Council (JACC) has had a history of involving the community by doing outreach, especially thru door knocking, social gatherings and building block clubs for residents to get to know their neighbors. JACC will continue to focus on the priorities of residents by hosting monthly meetings focused on Housing and Crime and Safety. Two new meetings that were established are the Communications Committee and Community Listening Sessions. All Board meetings are open to the public, ADA accessible and every agenda allocates time for Community input. JACC will continue to host its annual community Livability Forum and dinner.

A primary major hurdle is "Perception": The general consensus of the BOD (Board of Directors) is that, although the North side (of which Jordan is a community) has its crime and housing problems, the perception of these issues is way overblown relative to their actual impact to the average citizen. Many would also agree that the perception issues carries into the political and bureaucratic arena, shading decisions made at department as well as City Council levels.

A second major hurdle is "Concentrating Poverty", the perception of the board and the community is that City, county, and state agencies are concentrating poverty into certain zip-codes and neighborhoods, "Because it's cheap" low housing prices beget low income which begets more low housing prices, which begets Non-profits restricting funding to low income which begets more low income.

It is the intent of the agency to present various venues for residents and stakeholders to engage and share their input on what they view as being important for the neighborhood.

In December of 2012, community residents met and outlined the following topics for the 2013 Community Listening sessions:

- MPS training on bullying
- Block club leaders meet and greet
- City planning

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- Grant opportunities
 - Habitat for Humanity info session
 - Tenant’s rights outreach info session
 - Foreclosure Prevention info session
 - Youth development needs and community work with government
 - NAZ presentation
 - Security systems info training

3. **Building organizational capacity.** How will you work to: (1) provide opportunities for the direct involvement of members, (2) build your membership and volunteer base, (3) encourage and develop new leadership, and (4) expand the organization's capacity through self-assessment and other activities.

We find the common perception among Jordan residents is that our community registers very low on the city and the county importance scale and has become a “designated low income” area where lowered expectations from our political representatives create self-perpetuating conditions of lower tax base, higher crime rate, higher social service dependency, and an extremely low ratio of owner occupancy, etc... These conditions require the appropriate level of planning and financing that are difficult to secure when opposed to initiatives supporting more egalitarian regional concepts supported by City and Council planners.

In 2012 the JACC board made a collective decision to undergo a strategic planning stage. Each board member and staff were asked to identify three areas of focus for the agency. In January 2013 a board/staff retreat was held and three areas of focus were identified as high priorities: Housing, Crime and Safety and implementing a Youth Initiative.

Under each area of focus the following strategies were identified as measures to provide resident opportunities to get involve, build JACC membership and volunteer base and expand the organizations capacity. These draft priorities will be brought forward for approval through a Neighborhood Priority Plan.

Crime reduction/safety (Public welfare)

- Bike/car/walk patrol
- Block clubs/actively expand block club networks
- Database integration
- Home safety workshops
- Collaborate with MPD 4th Precinct
- Anti-gun campaign
- Educate and awareness of gun violence

Housing

- Database integration
- Landlord/311 strategy
- Block clubs
- Standards/expectations of landlords
- Dirty 30
- Down payment assistance
- Home improvement assistance
- Housing sub-committee
- Tenant's Rights & responsibilities workshops
- Pro-bono Legal advice clinics
- Partner with other organizations
- Economic development
- Establish areas of redevelopment
- Actively lobby for developers and investors
- Beautification
- Partner/establish artist space on main thoroughfares
- Partner with city for façade improvement on existing businesses

Youth Initiative

- JACC youth committee
- Partner with MPS and other agencies
- Parenting workshops

4. **Building neighborhood relationships.** Describe your outreach, networking, and inclusivity efforts to: (1) build a sense of a whole neighborhood among residents, (2) build bridges among neighbors and diverse communities within the neighborhood, (3) work with other neighborhoods and organizations on issues of common interest, (4) build partnerships with private and public entities, and (5) benefit the neighborhood as a whole.

While the overall neighborhood is highly diversified, some sections of the community are near 100% rental. This leads to hot spots for criminal and socially disruptive behavior driven by huge amounts of sub-standard investment properties. The City (by design or by neglect)

does minimal code compliance at best and allows investors unwarranted leeway for construction extensions, sub-standard construction practices, and standards that would not be allowed in other areas of the city. We find that the County does not utilize needed tools at its discretion and our neighborhoods have unsafe concentrations of criminal activities and L3SOs.

The consequences are extensive: The lower standards set by Regulatory services and Law enforcement creates an environment where non-conforming investment properties cause an untenable housing market that caters to high turnover in our community. This absence of accountability results in a very volatile environment of anonymity which attracts disruptive and criminal behaviors and influences the quality of our school system, reduces interaction between residents, and projects a negative image of the area that drives away homesteaders and creates lower housing values that perpetuates future decline.

We need to build better communications with our neighboring communities, specifically where it involves construction projects. Several projects that our Board supported were opposed by other communities. By creating better communications and offering support to other organizations for initiatives taking place beyond our borders, we will have more impact to influence these communities to support our developments

JACC will continue to support block club gatherings, National Night Out parties, host an annual Livability Forum and dinner. In addition to these activities JACC has strengthened its relationship with the MPD by working to identifying blocks that are "HOT SPOTS". Committee members of the Crime and Safety Committee will develop a door knock plan to reach out to neighbors on these blocks to provide block start-up assistance, create a venue for residents to organize and address problem properties on their block.

Jordan residents are face with many disparities. It is imperative that JACC work in partnership with other agencies to address various issues. Under the umbrella of a Youth Initiative, JACC will explore an opportunity to work with the MPD and Protect MN to address ways in which to promote an anti-gun campaign that educates and raises awareness of gun violence, its impact on families and the community at-large.

5. **Involvement of under-engaged stakeholders.** Organizations should discuss which stakeholder groups are typically un-engaged or under-engaged in their work, and how they will work to involve those groups. Organizations should also discuss how the NCR Department can help with this work.

As reported previously, the Jordan Neighborhood major strength is its composition of racially and ethnically diverse residents. According to the 2009 American Community Survey estimates, Jordan has a high proportion of black residents (60%). Smaller portions of white residents (15%), Asian residents (14%), and Hispanic residents (5%) live in the neighborhood as well. The remaining residents (6%) are identified as "other" in the American Community Survey.

Of the residents in Jordan who speak languages other than English (1370), roughly half (662) say they speak English less than “very well”. The largest group of non-native English-speakers in Jordan is Hmong speakers; with roughly 434 saying they speak English less than “very well”. In the fall of 2011, JACC hired an administration/Communication Coordinator who is of Hmong descent. This staff person will be instrumental in translating information, training the staff and board on cultural practices and customs.

The board and volunteer base continues to be somewhat diverse in racial/ethnic composition, there is room for improvement. The board is not a total reflection of the community at-large, there is no representation of renters who live in the Jordan neighborhood. The JACC staff is working with the Tenant’s Organizing Project (TOP) to address issues and concerns of Jordan renters. This project is in collaboration with Harrison Neighborhood Association, Hawthorne Neighborhood Association, NAZ, Jewish Community Council, Northside Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC), Legal Aide, Homeline, etc.

The NCR department could assist JACC with translating advertisements in other languages to increase our effectiveness and assist staff with determining the digital divide of Jordan resident i.e. the number of residents who have access to internet, email, etc.

The Jordan Neighborhood has a very high proportion of children not living in traditional nuclear family households—60% according to the 2009 American Community Survey estimates. More than half of the ~2600 children in our neighborhood are growing up in female-headed or male-headed households without a husband/wife present. JACC has focused its efforts, more recently, to hosting more casual community gatherings thru the listening sessions. All sessions are child-friendly.

As JACC explores implementing a youth initiative the agency has reached out to the following agencies: Jerry Gamble Boys and Girls club, Lucy Laney, Hmong Academy, NAZ, etc. to form partnerships with entities whose focus is to serve children/youth that live in the community. JACC will participate in the Step-up program and hire two youth workers in the summer of 2013.

6. **Housing Activities.** Neighborhood organizations should discuss their work on housing and housing related activities. Organizations should estimate the percentage of time to be spent on these issues.

Since October of 2012, JACC has experienced a major increase in community participation of residents that attend the monthly Housing committee. This committee has formed a sub-committee to survey the neighborhood and develop community standards. It should be realistic to anticipate that as JACC reaches out to renters in the neighborhood 25-30% of time will be spent on the issues of housing. JACC staff will continue to participate in the TOP to address issues/concerns of residents. JACC will host a development meeting that invites all developers that have done work in Jordan over the past 2-3 years to meet and discuss the Jordan community standards. There is a paradigm shift occurring at JACC. In the past developers approached the Housing committee and board of directors and made

suggestions. Jordan Residents have taken the initiative to create a plan of what they would like to see built and how they vision their neighborhood.

7. **Unused funds.** Organizations should discuss how they plan to use unused funds from the previous cycle for community engagement or implementation of neighborhood priorities.

JACC anticipates there to be unused funds in excess of \$40,000 from the previous cycle. It is from this funding JACC would like to set aside 30% of these unused CPP funds for future priorities, the remainder to be allocated towards improvements to 2539 Irving Avenue North to stay in compliance with ADA standards, if additional funding is not available. JACC Board of Directors will review funding that potentially can be used from NRP Phase I and II to address paying for the renovations needed at 2539 Irving Avenue North. This will be brought forward for approval as part of a neighborhood priority plan.

8. **Budgets.** Submissions should include a budget showing how Community Participation Program funds will support the organization’s community participation work and an amount set-aside for implementation of Neighborhood Priority Plans. An annual budget for the organization should also be provided.

SAMPLE BUDGET

Staff Expenses	\$ 95,000
Employee Benefits	\$ 8,000
Professional Services	\$ 5,000
Occupancy	\$ 6,600
Communications/Outreach	\$ 3,500
Supplies and Materials	\$ 5,000
Festivals and events	\$ 5,500
Development	\$ 1,860
Fundraising	\$
Other Services	\$
Neighborhood Priorities	\$ 10,000
TOTAL:	\$140,460

Notes:

- Staff expenses should include payroll, FICA, and withholding, or contract staff.
- Employee benefits should include any health insurance, retirement, or other benefits.
- Professional services should include the cost of temporary contractors, bookkeepers, accountants, etc.
- Occupancy should reflect costs related to rent, utilities, phone, websites and email expenses, and other similar expenses.

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- Communications/Outreach should include costs of publications, printing, postage, delivery, flyers, etc.
 - Supplies and materials should include office supplies as well as expenses for supplies related to ongoing programs such as block patrols, etc.
 - Festivals and events can include any costs related to community events and festivals. Food is not an eligible expense.
 - Development expenses could include costs related to training, education, recognition, or orientation for board, staff and volunteers.
 - Fundraising could include any costs related to fundraising for your organization (hiring of consultants, costs of materials, postage, events, etc).
 - Neighborhood Priorities: at this point you do not need to know what the priorities are. Just indicate what the organization would like to set aside at this time for future priorities.