

Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI)

Wednesday July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

Question 1

*“How can city leader work better with neighborhood and community organizations to make access to decision making opportunities more equitable and accessible to all residents?”*

- Knowledge about the community
- Has strong networking skills in the community to speak for the community
- Seeking out who the community support is so they can speak on their behalf
- Understanding that different cultures have different interpretations
- Not enough help for seniors (low-income) housing and transportation
- Networking building with in community plus supporting capacity building (leadership) with money
- How to engage policy change with money (networking building)
- Community (leaders) needs to be at the policy table
- Mou - 2 ways street
- City of Minneapolis departments has to communicate policy/recommendation to communities before changes
- Other than education, the MOU is not effective, and it needs political re-enforcement
- The community needs the City to financially sponsor leadership program to increase community capacity to be involved and engaged in the policy decision making process
- The City needs to financially support a multicultural community relationship between and among the traditionally disfranchised communities
- True community leaders must be engaged in all partnership with the City
- City of Minneapolis supports communities to increase internal relationship building
- Community leaders must be at the policy decision making table to make and recommend changes (housing support)

Question 2

*“What can city and neighborhood leaders do to help ensure that neighborhood organizations and all city boards and committees better reflect our communities?”*

- City needs to support leadership networking building among traditionally disfranchised communities
  - Youth – city connects to existing communities entities
- Support leadership training for communities to be engage in policy making
- City must not plan for the community without community leaders’ participation
- City support across community leadership training/institute

- Rethink the selection process
  - Including identifying community leaders and building relationship with them
- Barriers to engaging in neighborhood groups; access to child care, voting and restrictions
- Invite council members to neighborhood organizations

### Question 3

*“What would get you and others involved in the community more involved in neighborhood organizations and in the civic life of our city.*

- Not connecting to each other; lack of networks
- Cultural exchange beyond communities of color, but with predominately white constituents
- Lack of experiential knowledge makes communication a challenge
- Have gatherings NOT meetings
- Collective decision making; no fixed leadership and peer relationships
- Re-institute the mayors council; Humphrey
  - With quality people at the table