



RESOLUTION ADOPTING PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR CEDAR RIVERSIDE OPPORTUNITY HUB

WHEREAS, the Cedar Riverside Partnership is committed to working collaboratively to identify and mobilize long-term, strategic investments to promote a vibrant Cedar Riverside neighborhood as a safe and healthy place to live, learn, work, and play;

WHEREAS, the Partnership has identified that young adults in Cedar Riverside ages 18-25 are often lacking important resources and support to advance their education and find employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2014, the Partnership identified potential public and private resources that could align to provide support for a Cedar Riverside workforce center as a location for integrated education and job counseling and placement resources, including:

- Strong history of Augsburg College, the University of Minnesota, Fairview, and St. Catherine University in partnership with HealthForce Minnesota to provide Scrubs Camp opportunities for Cedar Riverside youth to immerse high school students in a vision of college and healthcare careers;
- Hennepin County's work with the University of Minnesota to envision 21st Century library resources for Cedar Riverside and other Southeast Minneapolis neighborhoods;
- Sherman Associates' participation in the West Broadway Education and Career Center, which reflects a public private partnership approach to a workforce center;
- Fairview Health Service's offer of approximately 7,000 square feet of office space in the Smiley building;
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's investment and expertise in workforce centers and data on the needs of Cedar Riverside residents;
- Minneapolis Community & Technical College's "MCTC Works" software package to provide real-time job and career path information in a user-friendly environment; and
- Expressions of interest by the Department of Justice in Minneapolis as one of three pilot sites for investment of resources in East African youth.

WHEREAS, the Partnership has continued to work with various agencies to align resources and explore the feasibility of pilot library services to support an ‘opportunity hub’ in Cedar Riverside; with the support of Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, Library Director Lois Thompson agreed to initiate a process to explore the use of the Fairview Smiley Clinic space as one option for a satellite library facility;

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2015, the Partnership convened a meeting of government agencies co-hosted by Hennepin County Library Director Lois Thompson and Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board Executive Director Ann DeGroot to identify current or planned activities in Cedar Riverside and align future efforts; these partners concurred in the concept of an opportunity hub where Hennepin County Library would serve as a lead partner in a collaborative model to integrate library, workforce, and other services;

WHEREAS, the Cedar Riverside Partnership has received generous offers of research assistance from the Carlson Consulting Enterprise of the University of Minnesota Business School, and graduate students from Augsburg College and the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs to contribute to the planning of this opportunity hub;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cedar Riverside Partnership hereby directs its Counsel to provide support to Hennepin County and other partners in the development of this opportunity hub, to identify short-term opportunities among community partners, and to provide a report on its feasibility by June 30, 2015;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Partnership hereby authorizes its Chair, Augsburg College President Paul Pribbenow, to submit a letter of support with any grant application for this opportunity hub consistent with this resolution.



Attest: _____
Paul Pribbenow, Chair

Date: March 5, 2015