

The ONI Bureau Advisory Committee:

History and Current Activities:

The BAC is committed to providing a “highest and best-use” venue for the volunteer hours our membership contributes to the organization. We are currently reviewing our functions and policies to see where we can tighten, adjust and renew ourselves, in order to maximize the value of our work.

To date, as a part of this task, we had planned to move the nitty-gritty part of our budget oversight function to a subcommittee of interested members. We hoped this would better utilize our member’s varying skills and interests, allow time for deeper analysis by the subcommittee and free up the rest of the BAC to spend time on other areas of responsibility. However, for the last several budget years a larger, more inclusive group of stakeholders has been convened by the ONI Director to work on developing the budget. This group will have the assistance of an outside facilitator. The ONI BAC unanimously supports this endeavor, and BAC members will be participating in the larger group.

In addition to the budget process, we are now taking a deeper look at the roles and responsibilities underpinning our work. Following this section are the current BAC roles and responsibilities, (which can be found on the ONI website). It is the goal of the BAC that at the end of our own, and the larger city re-visioning process, the committee will work more creatively and productively, to the benefit of both ONI, and the underlying constituencies we all serve.

Current roles, goals and membership --

Our Goals

- To increase citizen involvement in the management of the City's resources.
- To gain an understanding of ONI and the relationship between ONI and the needs of the individuals and organizations who access its services. Also to gain understanding of the other city bureaus – most importantly where those bureaus’ needs and opportunities intersect with ONI.
- To provide recommendations to ONI regarding goals, priorities, policies and budgets.

Our Role

- *To recommend policy direction for ONI and the city council by:*
 - identifying and discussing ONI policies, as well as citywide issues;
 - identifying and discussing activities and projects in which ONI is involved;
 - reviewing current service levels and determining if they should be continued or changed, including the allocation of limited resources and program cuts.
- *To contribute to the presentation of a budget that is responsive to citizen needs by:*

- identifying the ONI's objectives and prioritizing budget items that need funding;
- obtaining citizen input about budget and policy items through review of citizen surveys and meetings;
- reviewing the current budget to determine if expenses and income levels are over or under the budgeted amounts.
- *To increase citizen access to the budget process by:*
 - increasing citizen participation in the management of city resources;
 - providing a strong communication link between the citizens and elected officials and their staffs.

Suggested BAC Membership:

Neighborhood Coalitions – 7 members

Coalition Directors/representative – 1 member

Unaffiliated neighborhood – 1 member

Underrepresented groups – 5 members

EMBAC – 1 member

Other ONI Contractors (Elders in Action, Mediation, Youth Graffiti services) – 3 members

Terms of service: one year appointments, effective July 1 – June 30. No term limits. The total number of BAC members to be counted for quorum is flexed from 15 to 20. Quorum will be met by 51% of BAC membership, within the 15 – 20 membership guidelines.