

## **Civic Engagement Program Expansion in FY 2014-15 - \$140,000**

For ONI BAC consideration at June 9, 2014 meeting

**Challenge:** ONI needs to determine how to utilize the \$140,000 of additional ongoing funding received in FY 2014-15 budget for civic engagement programs.

### **Reminders –**

- Funding equity among the civic engagement programs has been identified as the priority policy issue for ONI this year. In the past, new dollars have been used to help close funding gaps among partners.
- Requested funds for ONI's top priority package included \$350,000 with an even split between Community Grants (Coalitions) and DCL Capacity, with \$175,000 for each program.
- The Mayor included \$140,000 in funds for the civic engagement expansion, announcing that the Community Grants program is returning and that the funds are also intended to support DCL program.
- Coalitions have identified \$100,000 as the minimum amount needed to reinstate the grants given current staffing and format of program.
- The Mayor also included \$40,000 to support the dialogue and planning around structure and strategy for the future expansion of the DCL program (\$20,000 is new funds, \$20,000 is a carry forward from the current fiscal year). Those funds are only one-time funds and are focused on planning so do not address on-going operational needs or support expanding the ongoing capacity of the DCL program.
- While we are looking at DCL program structure this year, the outcome will not result in DCL's needing less funds.

### **Funding Options for Consideration** (preliminary list, more options can be raised at the BAC meeting):

1. Divide the funds between the Community Grants and DCL programs:
  - a. Support grants minimum - \$100,000 to Coalitions/Grants and \$40,000 to DCL program (\$8,000 per DCL partner)
  - b. Support even split - \$70,000 to Coalitions/Grants and \$70,000 to DCL program (\$14,000 per DCL partner)
    - i. Options for Coalition/Grants since it is less than the \$100,000 minimum
      1. Distribute funds to all Coalitions according to formula (grants per coalition would range from \$5,700 to \$16,000 based on existing formula)
      2. Adopt a different distribution such as alternating years so Coalitions receive more funds but only alternating years (grants per coalition would range from \$11,000 to \$32,000 based on existing formula).
      3. Implement a 1-2 year centralized city-wide grants program until more funds are available.
2. Allocate the funds to just one of the top priority programs:
  - a. Focus on restoring Community Grants – Coalitions receive full \$140,000
  - b. Focus on beginning to close funding equity gap- DCL program receives full \$140,000 (\$28,000 per DCL partner)