

ONI Budget Advisory Committee: Program Summary

Organization / Program title

Effective Engagement Solutions Program

Neighborhood Resource Center

Judith Mowry, Program Coordinator

Briefly describe the program funded with city dollars

The Effective Engagement Solutions Program Coordinator provides resources to address chronic community conflict that creates barriers to effective civic engagement. High conflict issues such as gentrification, race relations and development (including infill and density) tend to be addressed only when specific projects and issues arise. Creating the capacity for the community to dialogue and deliberate on these issues, and particularly on how they impact the relationships of community members allows the community to develop new understanding and to grow in their ability to navigate their ongoing development of a city that meets the best interests of it's residents. A full time program coordinator was hired in October 2007.

Major activities and accomplishments during current budget cycle (ending June 30, 2010)

The following projects and objectives have been or are being achieved:

- **Restorative Listening Project:** A monthly community forum on long-term North/NE Portland residents to share their experiences with gentrification and its impacts on the community. Participation ranges from 60-90 per month. Participants are encouraged to share thoughts and identify action steps to help the community move forward.
- **Special high-stakes negotiation projects as requested by Commissioners and neighborhood District Coalitions:**
 - Facilitated meetings for Commissioner Fish regarding the spending of 1 million in housing dollars
 - Facilitation of self governing community group for Last Thursday on Alberta (ongoing)
 - Coordination of workshop for Planning Bureau on equity and diversity
 - Providing ongoing advice to Motivespace – a grassroots community development organization dedicated to bringing developers, community and non-profits together to develop creative solutions to local chronic social, land use and economic challenges.
 - Facilitation of Stakeholder and partner group for Clean Energy Works Oregon including the development of a Community Workforce Agreement
 - Facilitation of monthly Sharing our Sidewalks meetings for Commissioner Fritz. Included 2 large community meetings
 - Special assignments for Commissioner Fritz
 - Consultation and support for dispute with BBQ business on Macadam.
 - GNA agreement between Sisters of the Road and the Portland Police Bureau.

- Consultation and facilitation for Neighborhood Associations and Coalition Boards
- Planning and implementation team for Cesar Chavez St. renaming ceremony
- Facilitation of community meetings for the VIBRANT project
- Supported community volunteer facilitators for ONI/BAC process
- GNA between Eliot Neighborhood Association and Rose Garden
- Developing plan for “everything Eliot” meeting to facilitate community input in multiple planning and transportation projects.
- Ongoing Information, consultation and referral for Community Residential Siting Program
- Facilitation for bike infrastructure meetings in Lents
- Facilitation and planning for Disposal of Public Lands meeting
- Local lead planner for regional National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation Conference

Summary of program budget and staffing

1 FTE for program coordinator = \$105,000 (Approx for NRC program coord, benefits and limited materials and services)

Partnerships with other organizations

Current Partnerships: Coalitions, Concordia University, several local churches, Motivespace, city bureaus