

**ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, April 23, 2018**

The meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee was held on Monday, April 23, 2018, at 6:20 p.m., in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building. The following members were present: Commissioner Markley, Chairman; Commissioners Philbrook, McKiernan was present on behalf of Commissioner Johnson, Kane, and Bynum. Commissioner Johnson was absent. The following officials were also in attendance: Gordon Criswell, Melissa Sieben, and Joe Connor, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Deputy Chief Counsel; Wilba Miller, Director of Community Development; and Doug Bailey, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Chairman Markley called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Approval of standing committee minutes from February 26, 2018. **On motion of Commissioner Bynum, seconded by Commissioner McKiernan, the minutes were approved.** Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Agenda:

Item No. 1 – 18204... PUBLIC HEARING: AMEND 2017-2021 FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN TO INCLUDE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA (NRSA) PLAN

Synopsis: Request to conduct a public hearing on April 26, 2018, to consider amendments to the 2017-2021 Five Year Consolidated Plan to include Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) for the Park Drive Neighborhood, submitted by Wilba Miller, Director of Community Development. It is requested that this item be fast tracked to the April 26, 2018 full commission.

Wilba Miller, Director of Community Development, said as you may remember from last year, through the SOAR project, we did a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan for an area known as Park Drive Neighborhood. We had several stakeholder meetings with residents and

community members. We developed this plan over probably four or five months and brought it forward to Commission.

Before we brought it forward to Commission, we did do a 30-day citizen comment period, from September to October. The document was submitted to Commission and approved by Commission on October 26th to be submitted to HUD. We did not receive answer back from HUD until February of this year. As part of their approval, they're requiring us to amend our 2017 Five Year Plan to include this.

You may remember, we just amended the '17 last year so this will be Amendment No. 1. All we have to do is have a public hearing, which I'm requesting for Thursday, and ask for Commission approval to amend the plan.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, McKiernan, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Item No. 2 – 18207...REQUEST: GROUNDWORK USA FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Synopsis: Request staff work with the Historic Northeast Midtown Association to form a steering committee and submit a letter of interest to Groundwork USA to support a new organization called Groundwork Trust, submitted by Rob Richardson, Director of Urban Planning. The selected community would receive up to \$200,000 in funding and technical assistance from NPA, EPA, and Groundwork USA to build the capacity of the local Groundwork Trust. Letters of interest are due April 30, 2018. It is requested that this item be fast tracked to the April 26, 2018 full commission meeting.



Jamie Hickey, Planner, said I'm here with Rachel Jefferson. She is working with us on the Northeast Area Master Plan. She is the Director of the Historic Northeast Midtown Association. Zach Flanders, Planner, is joining us via phone from conference in New Orleans.

Essentially, what we're doing is we're discussing a funding opportunity for Groundwork USA. It is a grant that is funded by the EPA and the National Park Service that would allow us to provide funding to support the implementation of the Northeast Area Master Plan that is currently ongoing. It would allow us to work in partnership with the Historic Northeast Area—Northeast Midtown Association to kind of work through some of that implementation.

Introduction



- Connection to Northeast Master Plan
- What is Groundwork USA?
- Specifics of the funding opportunity
- Groundwork Steering Committee
- Next Steps and Process
- Questions and Discussion
- Request for Action

April 23, 2018

What we'll kind of talk about really briefly is: the connection to the Northeast Area Master Plan, what Groundwork USA is, specifics of this funding opportunity, discuss the groundwork, steering committee, the next steps, and then open it for questions from you.

Northeast Area Master Plan



This funding opportunity aligns with the goals of the Northeast Area Master Plan and would support growing the capacity of the Historic Northeast Midtown Association to implement the plan in partnership with the Unified Government

Rachel Jefferson, Executive Director of the Historic Northeast Midtown Association, said we also operate as the Neighborhood Business Revitalization Organization for the northeast area of Kansas City, KS.

This opportunity really is well timed because the timing of it aligns with our Northeast Master Plan process, which will be finishing up in June. I am a member of that Northeast Master Plan Steering Committee and brought forth this proposal in that capacity.

April 23, 2018

Groundwork USA



Groundwork USA is a partnership between the National Park Service and the Environmental Protection Agency that supports a network of local organizations devoted to transforming the natural and built environment of marginalized communities. The objectives of the program are to:

- **Transform derelict and abandoned land**
- **Remediate and transform brownfields**
- **Improve outdoor facilities**
- **Enhance commercial areas**
- **Involve youth and young adults**
- **Ensure equitable and inclusive participation**

Groundwork is a partnership between the National Park Service and the Environmental Protection Agency that supports a series of groundwork trusts on the national level. There are 20 trusts right now that operate with the Groundwork name. They put out a request for proposals to form a 21st trust and that's the proposal that we would be writing a letter of interest for, which is due on April 30th.

Some of the objectives of the program are to: transform derelict and abandoned land, remediate and transform brownfields, improve outdoor facilities, enhance commercial areas, involve youth and young adults and youth development and local workforce projects, and ensure equitable and inclusive participation especially in economic development.

They also work a lot with creating neighborhood infrastructure for active living and working with parks, trails, gardens, urban waterways, and water systems.

Funding Opportunity



One community will be selected for the Groundwork Program through this RFP process. It will be eligible for up to \$200,000 in funding and technical assistance from NPS, EPA and GW USA to plan, establish and build the capacity of its local Groundwork organization.

- **\$200,000 in federal funding over 3 years**
- **\$35,000 local match per year for first 3 years**
- **\$10,000 private sector match per year for first 3 years**

Through this process, one community will be selected to be a Groundwork trust. It will be eligible for up to \$200,000 in funding and technical assistance from the National Park Service, EPA, and Groundwork USA to plan, establish, and build capacity of its local Groundwork organization. That would be \$200,000 in federal funding over three years. Required is a \$35,000 local match per year for the first three years from the local government, and a \$10,000 private sector match per year for the first three years from a private sector participant, probably a philanthropic body.

Funding Opportunity



Types of activities supported:

- **FTE whose sole focus is the Groundwork Trust**
- **Initiation of projects and programs that support the Groundwork Trust's workplan**
- **Youth development projects**
- **Parks Improvements**
- **Community Gardens**
- **Community Outreach**
- **Community Conceptual Plans**

The types of activities supported—one of the main activities is going to be the hiring of a full-time employee whose sole focus is the Groundwork Trust and and workplan that the Groundwork Steering Committee would create; initiation of projects and programs that support the Groundwork Trust's workplan. Other activities that can be funded include: youth development projects, parks improvements, community gardens, community outreach, and community conceptual plans.

Again, it's really well timed seeing how just last year the Unified Government also completed it's Parks Master Plan.

April 23, 2018

Groundwork Steering Committee



Potential Steering Committee Members:

Neighborhood Associations
 YouthBuild KCK
 UG: Elected Officials, Urban Planning, Economic Development, Mayor Offices,
 Public Works, Livable Neighborhoods, Parks & Recreation, County Administrator
 Academic Institutions: University of Kansas, Unified School District 500
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
 Kansas City Kansas Housing Authority
 Community Health Council of Wyandotte County
 Faith-Based Organizations
 Unity with Purpose
 Local Initiatives Support Corporation
 Environmental Protection Agency- Region 7
 National Parks Service- Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program

One of the things we're requesting here is we have permission to move forward with forming the Groundwork Steering Committee. This is just a list of potential agencies that would be included in the steering committee, along with those agencies and representatives that are already on the Northeast Master Plan Steering Committee: neighborhood associations, any of the 12-13 active neighborhood associations in the Historic Northeast Midtown Association area.

YouthBuild KCK, who is going to be carrying forward one of the early action projects out of the Northeast Master Plan. YouthBuild Model Block has been a very great partner of ours installing park improvements in both Heathwood and Parkwood Park, including play equipment and benches. I invite any of you to see and use.

The Unified Government, a host of people from the Unified Government will be needed to make this work, such as: the elected officials, Urban Planning Department, who we're here presenting this presentation with, Economic Development, the Mayor's office, Public Works, Livable Neighborhoods, Parks & Recreation, County Administrator's office.

Academic institutions: University of Kansas, specifically we have worked with the University of Kansas School of Architecture, Design and Planning who has the offshoot dock agency located just a few short blocks from here. It has been instrumental in using design and think strategy to implement both environment improvements, not only in northeast KCK but also in other areas of the community. The Unified School District 500.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, specifically the Wyandotte County Branch. The Kansas City Kansas Housing Authority, the Community Health

April 23, 2018

Council of Wyandotte County and their heat cab, which was formed out of that Health Equity Action Transformation Report. It's a community action board of about 30 individuals who are working on several different projects right now. Faith-based organizations. Unity with Purpose, which is another wonderful community-based group, which is working to bring improvements to northeast KCK with a specific focus on the Quindaro redevelopment. The Local Initiatives Support Corporation, which I know you're already aware of. Environmental Protection Agency-Region 7. National Parks Service, specifically Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program.

Next Steps and Process



- **Step 1 – Letter of Interest**
LOI Due: April 30, 2018
- **Step 2 – Assessment Process and Proposal**
Assessment: May 1, 2018 – July 15, 2018
Proposal Due: September 15, 2018
- **Step 3 – Feasibility Study**
(6 to 9 months)
- **Step 4 – Start-Up**
(12 – 18 months)
- **Step 5 – Building Capacity**
(3 years)

The steps in the process, like I said, we have this letter of interest that's due April 30th, which we are currently drafting right now. We'll go through an assessment process May 1st through July 15th, with a full proposal due September 15th if we're selected of one of six communities to move forward. Then we will go through a feasibility study, which will take about six to nine months, and a start-up phase of 12-18 months, and continue with building capacity for the next three years.

April 23, 2018

Request for Action



The request is for staff to work together with the Historic Northeast Midtown Association to form a steering committee and submit a letter of interest to Groundwork USA. Letters of Interest are due April 30, 2018.

Again, the request. I believe you have a more detailed one in front of you.

Chairman Markley said the April 30th date is the reason this would need to be fast tracked. Remember, we would need to fast track her action for the Thursday agenda.

Commissioner Bynum said, Rachel, I really appreciate all the ways that you've worked and supported the northeast area. It's a lot of ways, not the least of which is the current way that you have stepped forward and are such an integral part of the Northeast Area Master planning process.

I appreciate that you have gone out and found this and pulled the people together that need to be at the table to make something like this work. It's very exciting. It's a layering, which I think you already pointed out, the work that's already being done. It's a real opportunity for some of the implementation that we will need when we have a final master plan to bring forward to the full commission.

Action: **Commissioner Bynum made a motion that we allow you and the Steering Committee to work with our Urban Planning team and work on this application.**

Commissioner Philbrook said I want to remind everybody that that means we're committing the \$35,000 a year. I just wanted to stick that out there in front of the public. I have no problem with that, but I think I just needed to say that. Then \$10,000 from private sector, which I'm sure

April 23, 2018

Rachel doesn't feel is going to be a problem at all. I have a feeling she's been twisting arms already. Thank you. I appreciate that.

Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. Roll call was taken on the motion and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, McKiernan, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Adjourn

Chairman Markley adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

cg

April 23, 2018