

# City of Minneapolis

## Request for Committee Action

**To:** Community Development & Regulatory Services  
**Date:** 6/21/2016  
**Referral:** Ways & Means  
**From:** Community Planning & Economic Development  
**Lead Staff:** Deb Bahr-Helgen, Director, CPED-Employment and Training  
**Presented by:** Deb Bahr-Helgen, Director, CPED-Employment and Training  
**File Type:** Resolution  
**Subcategory:** Donation/Gift Acceptance

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**Subject:**

Acceptance of a donation from Northside Funders Group for travel to New York City to learn best practices in workforce development.

**Description:**

Passage of resolution accepting a donation to travel to New York City to learn best practices in workforce development.

**Previous Actions:**

None.

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**Ward/Address:**

All Wards

**Background/Analysis:**

The Northside Funders Group (NFG) has invited several of its partners to attend a site visit to New York City (NYC) to learn best practices in workforce development, including workforce centers. NFG has offered to donate funds to sponsor the Director of Employment and Training by providing travel-related expenses.

NFG and its partners have collaborated over several years to expand collective capacity to support North Minneapolis residents in attaining and retaining meaningful and living wage employment. In 2016, exciting opportunities to accelerate this work have arisen, including (but not limited to) the new Workforce Center at 800 West Broadway Avenue (a unique collocation of employment, educational, and health care services), North@Work (a comprehensive strategy to focus on the economic/employment needs of African-American men), and fruitful partnerships anchored by NFG to engage employers while positioning North Minneapolis residents as one of the region's greatest assets to maintain the City's growth by ensuring equitable prosperity.

Partners at State of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and several NFG member funders have identified public and private sector efforts in NYC that are addressing similar challenges to those faced by the City of Minneapolis. Peer learning is an important strategy to enhance CPED's mission to grow a vibrant, livable, and safely built city for everyone.

The site visit will include, but not be limited to:

- Meeting with NYC Mayor's Office of Workforce Development

- Meeting with representatives of NYC's Workforce Development Board
- Site visit to Workforce One Centers, which focus on specific industries and participant populations
- Site visit to NYC Center for Economic Opportunity, which operates programs tailored specifically for people of color
- Site visit to Center for Employment Opportunities, which provides programs tailored specifically for people with criminal histories

**Financial Review:**

**No financial impact.**

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution accepting a donation to travel to New York City to learn best practices in workforce development