

# C Community Development Committee

Meeting date: November 21, 2011

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

<b>Date:</b>	November 18, 2011
<b>Subject:</b>	2011 Livable Communities Demonstration Account (LCDA) Funding Recommendations
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	MN Statutes §473.253
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Paul Burns, Manager, Livable Communities Hon. Mary Hamann-Roland, Chair, Livable Communities Advisory Committee
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Community Development / Livable Communities

### Proposed Action

None. This is an opportunity to learn about the evaluation and funding recommendation process for the Livable Communities Demonstration Account (LCDA) grant program. Paul Burns will describe the application process and the first step of the evaluation process. The Chair of the Livable Communities Advisory Committee (LCAC), Apple Valley Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland, will describe the second step of the evaluation. The actual funding recommendations will be considered for action at the meeting on December 5, 2011.

### Background

Since the program's inception in 1996, the Council has held an annual competitive grant cycle to consider applications for LCDA funding. The program supports projects that demonstrate innovative ways of meeting *2030 Regional Framework* goals and strategies to achieve efficiently connected land-use patterns in communities throughout the region. This year's recommendations will include development and pre-development projects, to distribute grant funds among projects that will begin actual construction in under three years as well as projects that are in the earlier phases of planning and preparation.

Applications are reviewed in a two-step process: staff reviews the technical aspects of all applications and recommends for further consideration those that score above the minimum threshold. The LCAC, a team of 13 volunteer experts in the fields of finance, architecture, transportation, site design, local government, development, and the environment conducts the second tier of review and makes funding recommendations.

### Rationale

Several projects will be recommended for funding at the Community Development Committee meeting on December 5, 2011. Explanations of the rationale for each recommended project will be included with the business item for that meeting.

### Funding

The 2011 Livable Communities Fund Distribution Plan approved by the Metropolitan Council on April 13, 2011 included \$9 million for LCDA awards.

### Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.