

Renter Engagement in Brooklyn Park

Prerequisites to Renter Engagement Opportunities

1

- Send Park Pages to apartments
- Translate key documents, and meeting notices into languages of Brooklyn Park
- Extend Welcome Wagon to renters

2

Build Trust

Find low risk opportunity for engagement, such as mural design for Zanewood or the Brooklyn Blvd Police Station

Visit Afterschool programs at Apartment buildings and get initial drawings for mural

Have picnic, or taste of Brooklyn Park event, and have residents choose from selected options the youth proposed

Recruit potential building captains

Paint the mural

Empower

3

Direct Engagement

Visit Community Organizing Class at North Hennepin and property managers

Choose captains for each apartment building

Regularly meet with captains to talk about problems raised by residents with city government. Meet to develop surveys and plan engagements for them to lead in their apartment buildings

Captains are compensated to administer surveys and hold meetings with residents.

Captains promote events, like the tenant organizing table, and plan events that build ongoing trust

Collaborate

4

Ongoing Engagement

Set up rotating city tenant organizing table in areas of the city with a lot of renters

Provide education about tenant rights and city services in the neighborhoods renters live in

Have a regularly scheduled time renters can talk to city staff with questions and concerns

Inform and Involve

The project on which this report is based was completed in collaboration with the City of Brooklyn Park as part of the 2016–2017 Resilient Communities Project (RCP) partnership. RCP is a program at the University of Minnesota’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) that connects University faculty and students with Minnesota communities to address strategic projects that advance local resilience and sustainability.

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