

NEIGHBOURHOOD SELECTION CRITERIA

In order to make the final decision on which neighbourhood ANC would be best placed, it is useful to reflect on the original selection criteria, the overall objectives for ANC, and to consider what we wish to achieve in the next 10 months and beyond.

How does each of the neighbourhoods under consideration today align with the following objectives, and what limitations or opportunities do each present?

The Action for Neighbourhood Change initiative is to undertake strategic action research in order to facilitate improved living conditions for individuals and families in a neighbourhood in Surrey.

WHAT LOCAL UNITED WAYS AND NATIONAL PARTNERS HOPE TO ACHIEVE THROUGH ACTION FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE:

- The action research is intended to support capacity building among individuals, families and neighbourhoods, while also strengthening the responsiveness of collaborative strategies to address these issues in innovative and effective ways.
- The project will engage with residents enabling them to articulate their broad neighbourhood aspirations. This will enable the ANC project to capture new knowledge on approaches to improve the living conditions for individuals and families in distressed neighbourhoods.
- Various collaborative arrangements pursued through ANC will enable research, learning and information transfer on best practices and instruments to support this collaboration.

WHAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERS ARE HOPING TO ACHIEVE AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL THROUGH THE ANC PROJECT:

Increased community capacity building

- Overall, the project should focus primarily upon building the capacity of neighbourhoods to address their complex problems.
- Government partners expect to see at least a local decision-making body established for this purpose that includes diverse sectors and they expect to see clear community plans with specific projects, thus practicing inclusive processes and taking steps toward substantive changes within the neighbourhood.
- All of the pilot communities will confirm that involvement in the ANC project has increased their ability to identify and collectively begin to address the critical renewal issues in their neighbourhood.
- Projects and process should be community-driven; community needs are at the heart of this initiative.

ACCORDING TO THE OVERALL PROJECT INFORMATION:

- Neighbourhood renewal is meant in a broad sense (e.g., can focus on the meaning of creating safe, inclusive neighbourhoods as well as more direct issues like lack of housing)
- Build on what is already known and successful in the community
- Encourage use of existing partner networks
- Would rather see small, successful projects completed than ambitious initiatives that aren't completed

THE FOLLOWING FACTORS COULD CONTRIBUTE TO A COMMUNITY BUILDING PROCESS:

- A community association
- Identifiable community leadership
- Tenants' Associations in affordable housing projects
- A local business association
- Locally based social and recreation programs/ facilities
- A locally involved faith community
- Seniors groups
- Youth groups
- Land use patterns (mix of rural and urban)
- The rate of change/ growth over the last 10 years
- The availability or access to public transportation
- The rate of new business development
- The amount of graffiti on public buildings
- The nature and number of social services programs available and/or accessible to the neighbourhood
- Labour market information
- The availability of affordable or rental housing

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Given the information above, review the original criteria for discussion established by this group and consider what we have learned about Bridgeview, Bolivar Heights, Cedar Hills, Holly/Hjorth and WE Kinvig.

POSSIBLE INDICATORS FOR SUCCESS OF THIS PROJECT INCLUDE:

- 1. A SENSE OF COMMUNITY WELL BEING**
- 2. THE CAPACITY OF THE COMMUNITY FOR CHANGE**
- 3. COMMUNITY READINESS**