

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

for the

Omaha Lead Site

Comprehensive Plan Committee
Minutes from July 10, 2006 Meeting
Urban League of Nebraska Family Resource Center

Todd Davis (Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality), Kara Eastman (Director, Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance), Stacy Meacham (MFG, Inc.), Reid Steinkraus (Douglas County Health Department), Jennifer Rawley (MFG, Inc.), Marian Todd (City of Omaha Planning Department), Vernon Waldren (Douglas/Sarpy County Extension), and Cheryl Weston (Lead Safe Omaha Coalition) were in attendance.

Illinois Regulation

Mr. Steinkraus provided copies of the Lead Poisoning Control ordinance passed by the Douglas County Board of Health. It was noted that the ordinance applies to Douglas County, but excludes the City of Omaha. Mr. Steinkraus also provided copies of recent legislation enacted in Illinois, referred to as the Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act. It was suggested that the committee review the Illinois Act to identify items that the City of Omaha may wish to adopt. It was noted that, as the committee identifies items to pursue, it will be important to get acceptance from City and State officials and from elected officials such as Senators Preister, Kruse, and Chambers.

Mr. Steinkraus then briefly highlighted examples of activities/actions included in the Illinois Act that Omaha could consider. Sections specifically discussed included the following:

Sec. 6. Warning statement.

Sec. 6.2. Physicians to screen children.

Sec. 7.1. Child care facilities must require lead blood level screening for admission.

Sec. 8. Inspection of buildings occupied by a person screening positive.

Sec. 9.(5) Procedures on determination of lead hazard. (Mitigation notices)

Sec. 10. The Department, or representative of a unit of local government or health department approved by the Department for this purpose, shall report any violation of this Act to the State's Attorney of the county in which the dwelling is located, who has then the authority to charge the owner with Class A misdemeanor, and who shall take additional measures to insure that rent is withheld from the owner by the occupants of the dwelling or dwelling units affected...

Sec. 10.(12)(c) The Lead-Safe Housing Advisory Council is created to advise the Department on lead poisoning prevention activities.

Additional Input to the Comprehensive Plan Matrix

The committee discussed the status of the comprehensive plan matrix. It was noted that the Education Committee had prepared a budget estimate for the activities included in the education matrix, and it was suggested that the committee attempt to do the same for the comprehensive plan matrix. The committee agreed on the following revisions to the matrix:

Prepaid self test kits	The committee remembered Dr. Bornsheim of the University of Cincinnati stating that the cost for the kits, including analysis, is \$15 each.
Lead risk assessments	Ms. Todd agreed to provide a cost estimate for this activity.
Demographic study	The committee agreed to remove this task from the matrix as it is duplicated on the education committee matrix.
DCHD case management staff	The committee agreed to remove this task from the matrix as it is duplicated on the education committee matrix.
Housing Condition Survey	Ms. Todd agreed to provide a cost estimate for this activity. It was suggested that information from a past survey conducted by the City Planning Dept in the late 1980s be considered and also information from a recent UNO city scan.
Consumer Product Testing Station (to be located at current EPA Information Centers)	Costs for this would involve the purchase of testing equipment and training staff to conduct the testing.
Carpet cleaning/replacement Wet washing Mats	It was determined that these items should be moved to the education budget and such items should be provided in conjunction with providing educational materials on how to use the items.
Pipe replacement	MFG agreed to contact MUD for costs of replacing lead pipe service lines owned by MUD and to contact local plumbers for average costs of replacing lead pipes inside homes.
Demonstration homes	Mr. Waldren agreed to provide a cost estimate for this activity. It was suggested that he contact WasteCap of Lincoln, NE regarding a mobile demonstration home on a flat bed trailer that they recently used to demonstrate the use of recycled materials in home construction.
Case management	The committee agreed to remove this task from the matrix as it is duplicated on the education committee matrix.
Housing registry database Remodeler registry database	It was noted that such databases would be part of a larger, all-encompassing database. MFG agreed to contact other cities with registries and to determine costs for implementing and maintaining a database.

Action Items:

1. Committee members agreed to research various costs of items included in the comprehensive plan matrix, as listed above.
2. The committee was tasked with reviewing the Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act and identifying elements from the Act that the City of Omaha could/should adopt. The committee was asked to email Ms. Rawley any recommendations the committee would like to submit to the CAG.
3. Mr. Steinkraus agreed to ask Mr. Kevin Denker, with the City of Omaha, to review the Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act and provide any feedback.
4. In regards to Sec. 8. of the Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act, Mr. Steinkraus agreed to seek clarification regarding the level considered to be a positive screening in the act.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday August 7, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. at the Urban League of Nebraska Family Resource Center.