



# **2025 Upcoming Community Events and Annual Report**

Annual Meeting  
May 12, 2025

# PPA Welcome

## □ **Welcome Neighbors!**

- ▣ Renters
- ▣ home-owners
- ▣ Students
- ▣ Business owners

## □ **Welcome!**

- ▣ 2025-27 PPA Board Candidates
- ▣ Special Guests:
  - Angela Conley, Hennepin County Commissioner, District 4
  - Qannani Omar, Policy Aide, Ward 2 City of Minneapolis



# PPA Staying in Touch

## Outreach & Community Events

- ▣ PPA Board and Community Meetings
- ▣ Annual Meeting & Board Elections in May
- ▣ PPA Committee Meetings and Events
- ▣ Witch's Hat Water Tower: Renovations
- ▣ Earth Day Cleanup
- ▣ And coming this summer...



# PPA Staying in Touch

## Summer Community Events

- ▣ **Pratt Ice Cream Social & Picnic**
  - Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm-7:30pm
- ▣ **Garden Walk**
  - Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm
- ▣ **Prospect Park Yard Sale**
  - Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> 9am-4pm and Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm
- ▣ **TC Mobile Jazz Concert in Luxton Park with Britt50 Indigenous Health Initiative**
  - Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 4pm-7pm



## **BF50 Indigenous Health Initiative**

National Night Out Event  
Is teaming up with Luxton Park  
& the Mobile Jazz  
Summer Concert Series

4pm-7pm  
August 6<sup>th</sup>

**This is a Family Friendly Event!**

<https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/>

BF50 Calming Coloring Activity Table  
Featuring Our Urban Canopy Coloring Book  
A Collaborative Effort of: DNR, BF50, PSP  
Ages 7 to Seniors!





## BF50 Indigenous Health Initiative Curator of Agri-Cultural Events!

Learn more about BF50 Indigenous Health Initiative  
on their newly updated website  
(created by Macalester Environmental Justice  
Cohort)

[https://sites.google.com/d/1M-8afpFi50hkWByYTFTcUSqNpyWDmAJ-/p/1v0QLKXXpj5Vw-sHh9fd\\_bCCNJER\\_iVv9/edit?pli=1](https://sites.google.com/d/1M-8afpFi50hkWByYTFTcUSqNpyWDmAJ-/p/1v0QLKXXpj5Vw-sHh9fd_bCCNJER_iVv9/edit?pli=1)

Cultivating an Ecosystem around Food, Farming,  
Forestry & Finance





## Luxton Park-MPRB - Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

Learn more about Luxton Park Programming on their  
website

<https://www.minneapolisparks.org/>





Parcel Arts will be on hand to help  
Community Members create their  
own Art!

Learn more about Parcel Arts on their website

<https://parcelarts.com/>





**Hennepin County Arvonne Library**

**Generosity Integrity Inclusion!**

Hennepin County Arvonne Library will be on hand to share books & so much more!

<https://www.hclib.org/about/locations/arvonne-fraser>

Learn more about their Library Programs & Community Engagement on their website

Your Library. Here for you.





TC Mobile Jazz Concert in  
Luxton Park is always a Blast!

Join us for an evening of  
Exceptional Music & Good Vibes!

Learn about their Workshops & After  
School Projects on their website

<https://twincitiesmobilejazzproject.org/>





If you would like to table for this event, contact the  
BF50 Wellness Team: [UrbanFarmDirect@gmail.com](mailto:UrbanFarmDirect@gmail.com)  
or scan the QR Code on this page to connect with us.

*Thank You for your time!*

# PPA Annual Report

- **PPA Committee Activities & Events**
  - ▣ **Environment & Resiliency**
  - ▣ **Tower Hill Park Committee**
  - ▣ **Jackson Family Project**
  - ▣ **Transportation & Safety**
  - ▣ **Planning & Land Use**
- **PPA's 2024 Financial Report**
- **Special Recognition**

**Thank You!**





PPA Environment  
Committee

# PPA Environment & Resiliency Committee

## Achievements:

- Home Energy Workshop - February
- Earth Day Cleanup – April
- Garden at the Post Office - June
- 25% by '25 Initiative Celebration - October



Contact us at [environment@prospectparkmpls.org](mailto:environment@prospectparkmpls.org).

# Post Office Garden

Lydia McAnerney led the effort to beautify the post office on University by planting a pollinator friendly garden, including a cherry tree.

If you'd like to volunteer to help maintain it, please email us at [environment@prospectparkmpls.org](mailto:environment@prospectparkmpls.org).





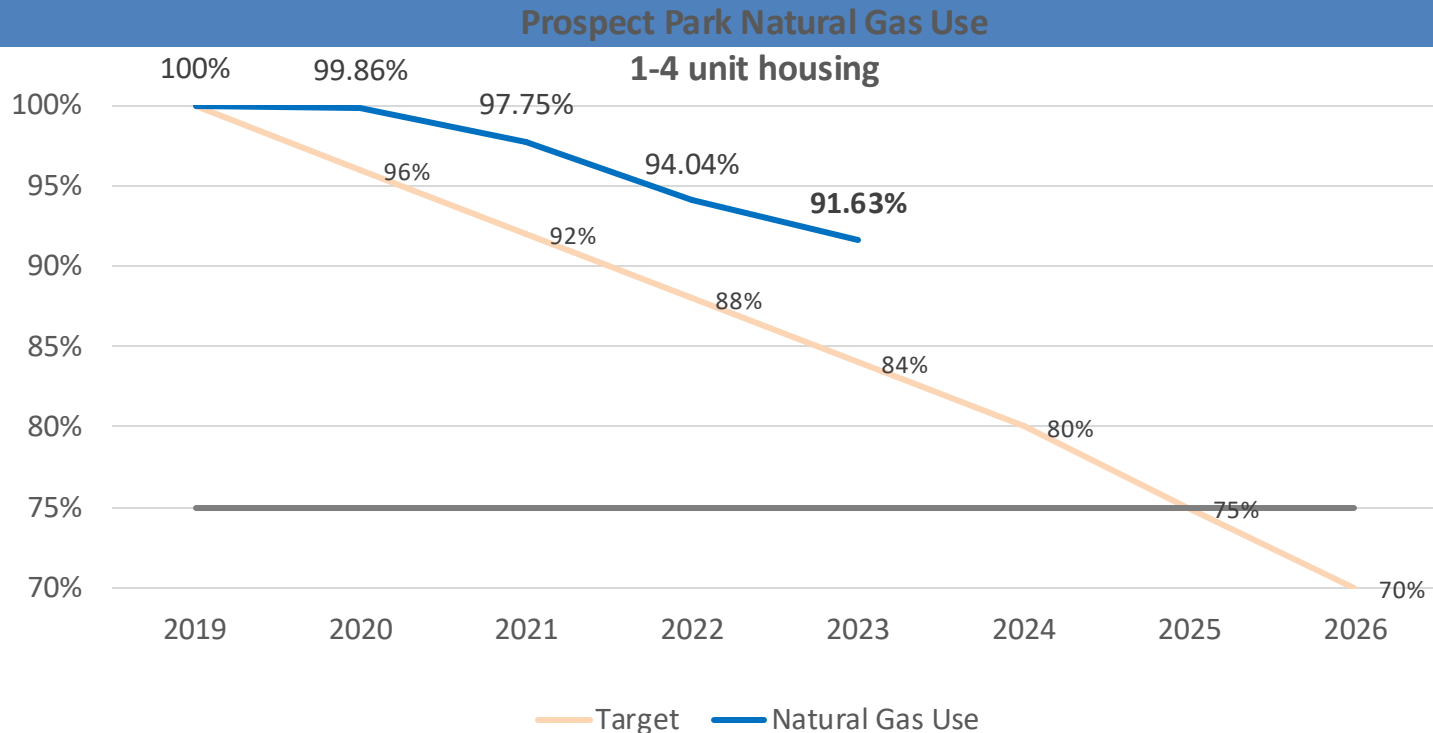
East River Parkway

Earth Day Cleanup  
Special thanks to Surly Gives  
a Damn!



Tower Hill

# Results thru 2023: Natural Gas Use Down 8.37%



- Equivalent of over **73 houses** being completely off natural gas
- In 2023 alone, **reduced CO2 by 526 tons**
- Results for 2024 will be available in September of 2025.

**Reminder:** Get your FREE home energy audit done! Renters too!

<https://www.mncee.org/home-energy-squad> or call [651-328-6220](tel:651-328-6220).

# PPA Tower Hill Park Committee

**Co-Chairs: Joe  
Ring and Steve  
Brackett**

**Buckthorn  
Removal Project  
Begins**



May 2025

# Tower Hill Park Committee

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## **Buckthorn Removal Project Begins**

- Partnership with Environment Committee and Garden Club
- Meeting with Parks Department
- Based on other volunteer projects
- Site visit and reality of the situation
- First workday
- The path ahead

# Buckthorn Removal

## **A multi year process:**

- Critical Cutting method.
- Removal of cutoffs by Parks department
- Spring and Fall cutting is essential
- PPA Volunteer workdays
- Opportunities for volunteer organizations
- How you can help. Take a walk though the park
- Future signage/project updates
- How the Parks Department will continue to help

# Jackson Family Project

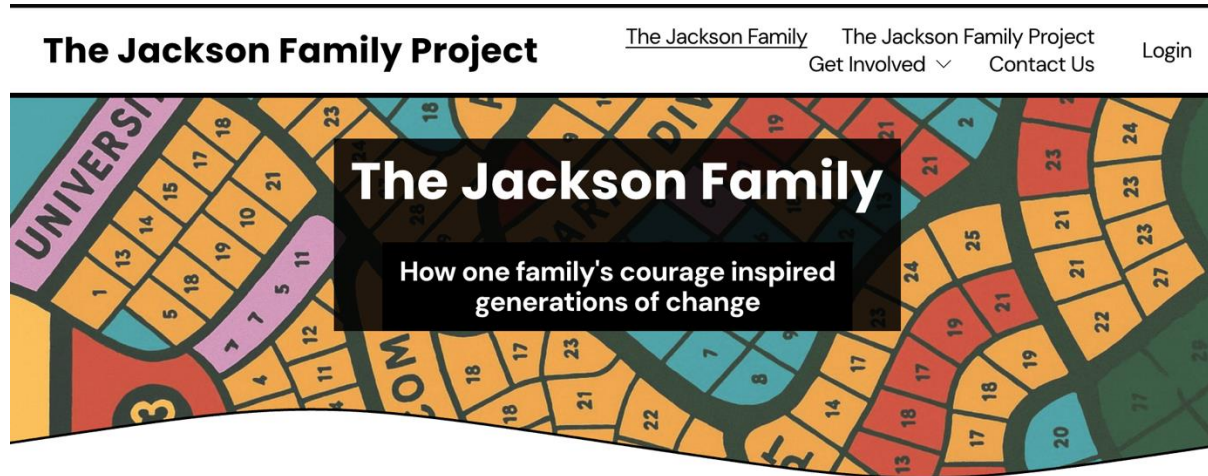
**Co-Chairs: Jerry Stein & Susan Larson-Fleming**



The Jackson Family Project is a collaboration of Prospect Park Association (PPA), Pratt Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), and Pratt Community School

# Jackson Family Project Story on new website:

<https://Jacksonfamilyproject.org>



## The Jackson's Story



### Welcome to Prospect Park

In 1908, Madison Jackson, Amy B. Jackson and their three daughters Marvel, Helen, and Zelma made history as the first Black family to move into Prospect Park, an all-white neighborhood in Minneapolis.

At the time, only 2,700 Black residents lived in all of Minneapolis. And the Jacksons faced intense racism, harassment and daily threats.

In 1909, neighbors warned Madison that if

The Jacksons' legacy remains a lasting beacon of inspiration and hope in Prospect Park.



# JACKSON FAMILY PLAYGROUND



Back row: Mother Amy, daughter Zelma, daughter Helen, father Madison - front row: daughter Marvel

The Jackson Family Playground at Pratt school is designed to honor the first African American family in the Prospect Park neighborhood. At this time, around 2,500 Black people lived in Minneapolis. The Jackson family built their home in Prospect Park in 1908. In 1909 large crowds appeared at their house on Franklin (formerly Hamline) Avenue telling them to leave because they were Black. The father, Madison Jackson, was told that no one would play with his children. In response Madison built a playground in their yard. This was before the neighborhood had park or school playgrounds. As he suspected, many neighborhood children wanted to play with his children on the new playground. The Jacksons lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and became important members of the community. Their daughters were the first African American students to attend Pratt school.

Resilience marked the Jackson family, not only in their Prospect Park years but for generations. Marvel, the oldest daughter moved to New York. She was in a writing group with Langston Hughes and worked for W.E.B. Du Bois. She became a well known journalist and wrote extensively on the condition of African American women. Helen, the middle daughter became the first African American President of the national YWCA, and led the YWCA out of its period of segregation. Zelma, the youngest daughter became a clothing designer in New York City.



To find out more about all the members of the family and their story throughout the generations, please scan the QR code.

## Jackson Family Playground at Pratt School

Picture of sign to be  
installed at  
playground

# Jackson Family Day Pratt School, May 2025



Judith Claytor & Sharon Peters, daughters of Helen Jackson, at Pratt School standing in front the 1909 photo of the Jackson family on the steps of their home in Prospect Park.

- **3<sup>rd</sup> year of Jackson Family Day at Pratt School.**
- **Pratt students create history & art projects, including videos, about the Jackson family, integrating their family history with significant civil rights and other historical events.**
- **Students present their projects.**
- **Jackson family members, MPLS School superintendent, school Board members, and Pratt teachers attended the May 9th, 2025 event.**

# **Jackson Family Project, Two Community Events, May 4<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Two community events, led by Melvin Peters (Professor of African American Studies & Jackson family member), gave community members the opportunity to learn about Roger Wilkins, Helen Jackson's son. Roger was the first African American Assistant Attorney General of the U.S. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his writing at the Washington Post. His autobiography "A Man's Life," was called "indispensable reading,...and a beautiful book" by James Baldwin, "An important groundbreaking work" by the New York Times, among many others.**

# Jackson Family Project



**Above: Amy and Madison Jackson with their daughters, Marvel, Helen, and Zelma in front of their original home in Prospect Park in 1909.**

**Picture on left: Judith Claytor and Sharon Peters, daughters of Helen Jackson (sitting next to her father in the 1909 photo above) in front of the original Jackson home in Prospect Park, June 2023. Photo by Jerry Stein**

**The Jackson Family Project is funded in part by PPA, Pratt PTO, the U of MN Good Neighbor Fund, PPCLF, City of Minneapolis Neighborhood Community Relations, and individual gifts.**





# PPA TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chair: Eric Lind

[Transportation@prospectparkmpls.org](mailto:Transportation@prospectparkmpls.org)



# PPA PLANNING AND LAND USE

2024 Accomplishments

Chair: Eric Amel

[landuse@prospectparkmpls.org](mailto:landuse@prospectparkmpls.org)

# PPA Planning & Land Use

## **PPA Land Use Committee purpose:**

- Neighborhood forum for land use issues & advocacy.

## **Witch's Hat Tower Repair + Access /Public Opening**

## **Minnesota Innovation Exchange (the MIX)**

 **⑥ 1.4 million SF>workplace and labs**

 **⑥ 1.0 million SF>housing**

 **⑥ “curated ground floor”/pedestrian focus**

## **3430 University Ave – Wells Fargo Site**

 **⑥ Project for Pride in Living (PPL) (developer)**

 **⑥ Springboard for the Arts (community engagement)**





# PPA FINANCIAL REPORT

Lynn Von Korff

Chair: Finance & Admin Committee

[finance@prospectparkmpls.org](mailto:finance@prospectparkmpls.org)

# Finance & Admin Committee

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**Responsibility for financial planning, budget, internal controls, accounting, and human resources**



# PPA's Financial Position

## Strengths

- ❑ **Current financial position sound**
- ❑ **Balanced budget**
- ❑ **Financial plan thru 2038**
- ❑ **PPA's budget supports our approved Equitable Engagement Plan**

## 2024 Accomplishments

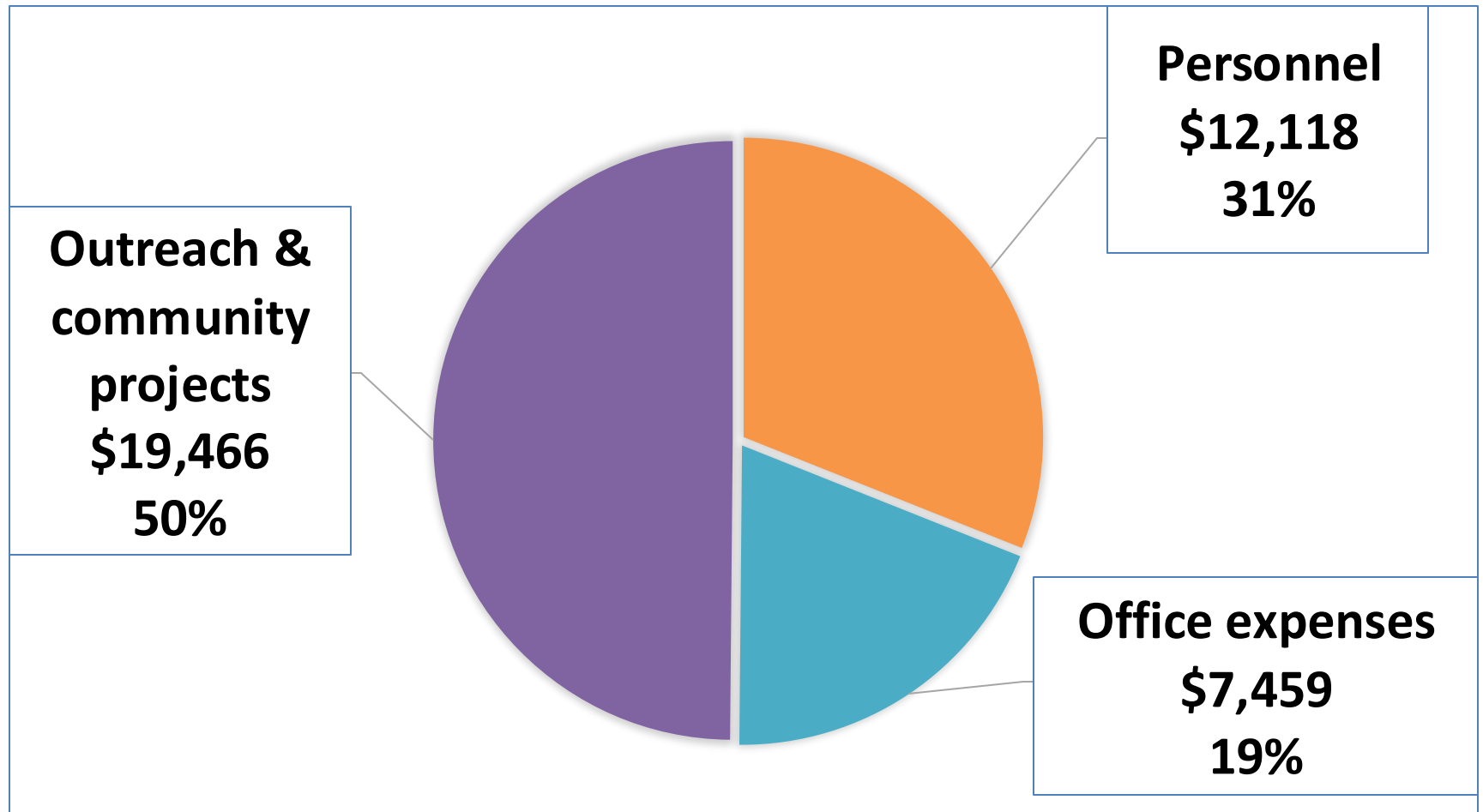
- ❑ **Hired renters' rights staff**
- ❑ **Long-term financial plan to address reduced city funding**
- ❑ **Preserved resources for neighborhood projects**

**Challenge:** very limited staff hours (4-6 hrs per week)



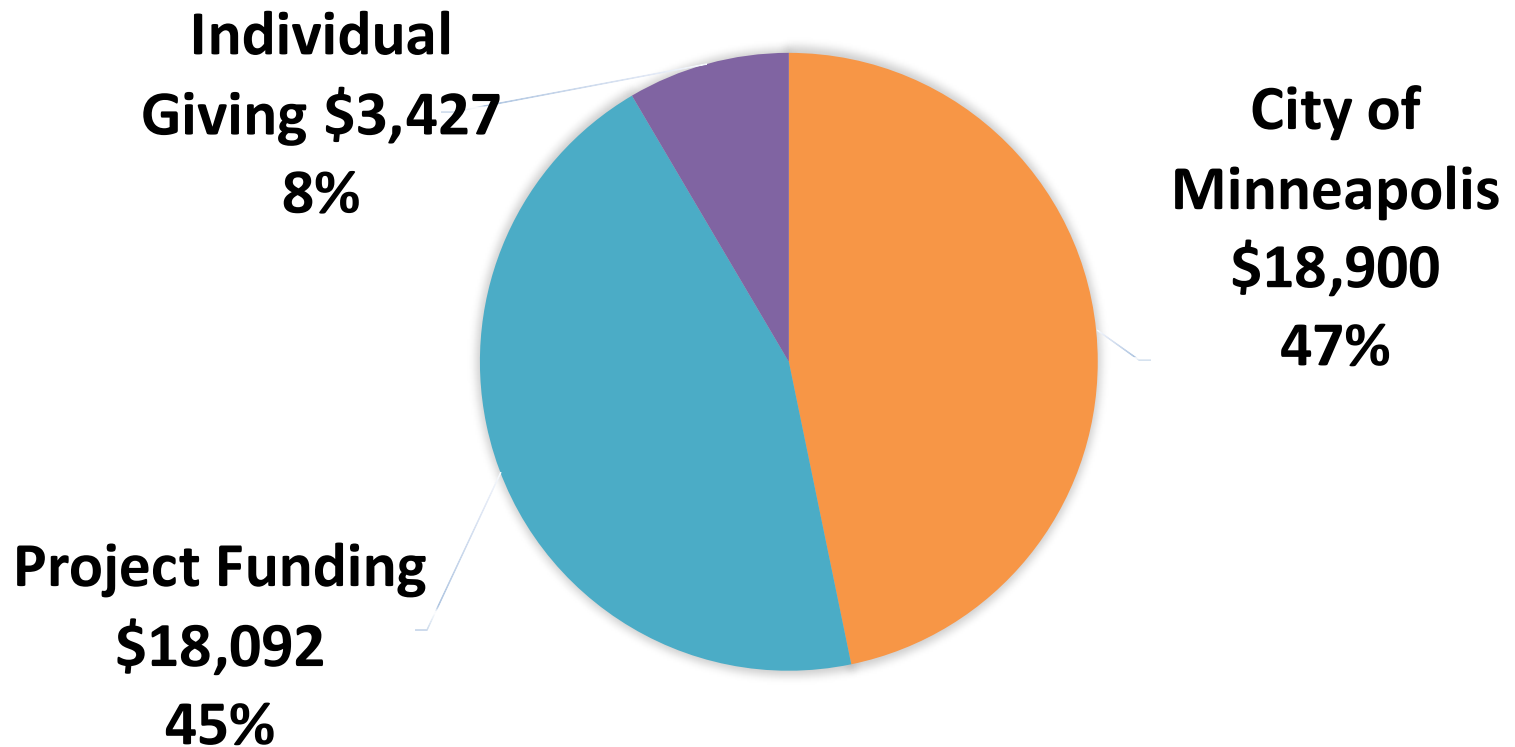
# Prospect Park Association 2024

## Total Expenses \$39,043



# Prospect Park Association 2024

## Total Income \$40,419



# PPA Board Service

Members rotating off board as of June 23rd, 2025 - thank you!

- **Jeff Barnhart (business rep)**
  - ▣ **Volunteer board member since 2017!**
- **Abraham Kao**
- **William Morris**
- **Niko Vasilopoulos (student rep)**
- **Lynn Von Korff**



# PPA Special Recognition

## Joe Ring

- Witches Hat Water Tower Renovation
- Glendale Townhomes Historic Preservation
- Buckthorn Removal Project





**Thank You!**