

# Project Narrative – anc1D 2008 Small Grants **anc1D** mount pleasant, dc

**Title:** In 15 words or less, give a title that describes the project's main beneficial result.

Incorporate All-Ways Mount Pleasant to Increase Civic Contributions

**Narrative:** 500 words or less, all on this page. Label paragraphs - A: Group. B: Project. C: Benefits. D: Leverage.

A: Group: All-Ways Mount Pleasant Neighbors Association.

All-Ways Mount Pleasant is 32 years old, and has grown from a block association (Formerly the 1600 block of Lamont Neighbors), to a federation of apartment buildings which holds monthly meetings, conducts surveys, develops resolutions for testimony, correspondence, and reports, mobilizes petition drives, candidate forums, workshops, voter registration drives, sponsors Building Association meetings, and many other volunteer services in conjunction with the ANC, PSA, Council member, and other civic organizations.

We have developed documentation used in court that led to a notorious landlord doing jail time. (Park Fair, 1611 Park Road, 2000). We also supported the formation of the Woodner Building Association in 2006, the largest apartment building in the District.

B: Project.

Until now, seeking funds and even incorporation was a distraction from the slow development of trust and momentum of our volunteer efforts. Instead we have held long and complex monthly meetings that we record and transcribe that helps us understand the complexities of a diverse urban community, and capture some of the truths and ideas that we find useful. So for several decades we have been developing a corpus of materials.

An ANC1D grant would pay for the cost of incorporation and notary fees, and help with some of the costs of reproducing and assembling materials such as by-laws and compiled resolutions, letters, and transcripts that serve as our base of intellectual operations.

C: Benefits.

On several occasions, we have missed opportunities or learned later we were disqualified because we are not an incorporated group. We had focused on the quality of our work, but have learned formalities matter too. Incorporation sometimes means you are on a list or not when it comes to political clout or availability of resources. While we hope to continue as a network of friends and neighbors, we have accumulated a lot of experience, resources, and our ideas often attract attention of other groups and sectors of the city when we participate in testimony and hearings, and city wide meetings. We hope to contribute to others with what we've learned in Mount Pleasant. AMP already has impacted lives of 10,000 people in apartment buildings, mostly in but some around Mount Pleasant. These new methods could double or triple our impact on this already large population.

D: Leverage.

Several of our ideas, such as Apartment Building Security Plans (there is no effective legislation requiring security or security plans in apartment buildings in the District) we feel could be of great benefit to the majority of the population of DC. We hope to attract further funding we may need for publication, website, legal fees, research, in order to make breakthroughs (like writing legislation that would be adopted).