

Municipal I.D. Program “We All Belong”



From the City of Northfield Strategic Plan 2018-2020:
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: A Community That Welcomes Everyone

Background

The first city in the United States to implement a Municipal I.D. program was New Haven, Connecticut, in 2007, The Elm City Card.

- Many cities around the country followed New Haven. Just to name a few:

San Francisco, 2007

Richmond, California, 2011

Los Angeles, California, 2012

Oakland, California, 2012

Mercer County, New Jersey, 2013

Greensboro, North Carolina, 2013

Washington, DC, 2014

Richmond, Virginia, 2014

Washtenaw County, Michigan 2014

Roselle, New Jersey, 2015

New York City 2015

Asbury Park, New Jersey, 2015

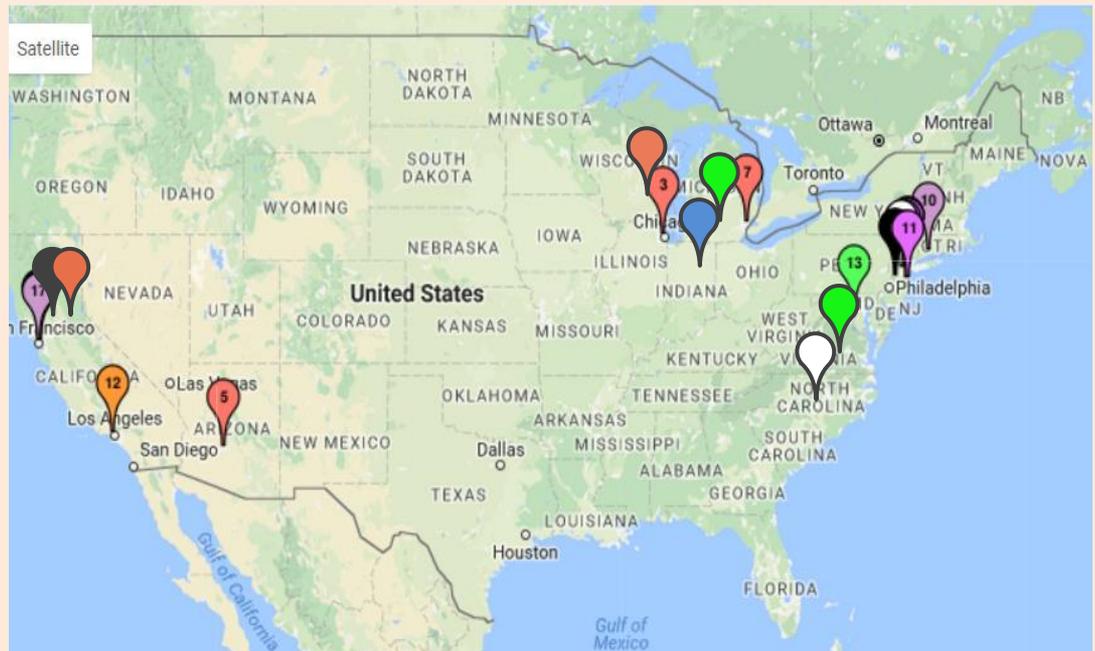
Phoenix, Arizona, 2016

Chicago, 2016

Detroit, Michigan, 2016

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 2016

South Bend, Indiana, 2017



2017-blue 2016-orange 2015-purple 2014-green
2013-white 2012-orange 2011-black 2007-lilac

Purpose

- To allow all residents in the city to have access to a picture I.D., no matter their age, their gender and their country of origin.
- To signal to all residents that they belong in the city and that we are all equals.
- To create a more cohesive community and support our local economy once the card has added benefits from local businesses.

What the Municipal I.D. Card is

- An identification card that, *at a minimum*, displays the cardholder's photo, name, date of birth, address, signature, issue and expiration date –
 - and *may also* include whether the cardholder is an organ donor, their medical information, their emergency contact information, official and non official name and chosen gender.
- Available to those who can prove identity and residence in Northfield.
- A tool to encourage more inclusive participation in Northfield.
- A way to enable marginalized communities in Northfield to have stronger feelings of belonging, less uncertainty, and greater confidence.
- A kind of identification that municipalities across the country have instituted and accepted since the early 2000s.

What the Municipal I.D. is not

- Is not prohibited by any federal or state law.
- Is not prevented by the REAL ID Act, because the REAL ID Act requires states to obtain proof of legal immigration status before issuing an ID *only if* the ID is to be used for federal purposes.
 - as a result, this ID is not suitable for travel or any federal purpose.
- Is not a source of state and local government benefits.
- Is not intended to give out the information of its applicants.
- Is not available to someone who does not live within the municipality of the ID.
- Is not a driver's license.
 - to get a driver's license, you have to present a primary and secondary document; the primary has to be US-issued.
- Is not a document that allows people to vote if they are not currently allowed to vote.
- Is not a way for people to obtain government benefits they do not have access to:
 - a person ineligible for government services before this ID would remain ineligible with it.

Requirements to get the I.D

- Residents applying for a Municipal I.D. will have to present:

Proof of identity

and

Proof of residency in the city

The difference with a State I.D. or Driving License is that the list of required documents to prove identity for the Municipal ID is much more comprehensive.

- The process of getting a Municipal I.D. is a rigorous process governed by city mandate. Most cities have ordinances that cover the process.

PROOF OF IDENTITY

- Documents allowed to prove identity:

Some documents from the city of Roselle, New Jersey, population 21,625:

a U.S. or foreign passport; or

a U.S. driver's license ; or

a U.S. state identification card ; or

a U.S. permanent resident card ; or

a consular identification card ; or

a certified copy of U.S. or foreign birth certificate ; or

a Social Security Card ; or

a national identification card with photo, name, address, date of birth, and expiration date ; or

a foreign driver's license ; or

a U.S. or foreign military I.D. card ; or

a U.S. Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) letter

PROOF OF RESIDENCY

- Sample from the list from the city of Roselle, New Jersey, population 21,625.

Items showing both the applicant's name and residential address:

a utility bill; or

a local property tax statement or mortgage payment receipt; or

a bank account statement; or

proof that the applicant has a minor child currently enrolled; or

an employment pay stub; or

a jury summons or court order issued by a state or federal court; or

a federal or state income tax or refund statement; or

an insurance bill (homeowner's, renter's, health, life or automobile insurance) ; or

in case of lack of fixed address, the Administrator may consider a care address (possibly an organization, shelter or similar) acceptable for the homeless and domestic violence applicants.

Community Support

- As of September 5th 2017 we have **620 signatures of support** from a wide range of community members.
- **Several organizations have sent already their letters of support:**
- Community Action Center
- Laura Baker Services
- HealthFinders
- ISAIAH
- SEED, Carleton Students
- Young People Action Coalition
- Northfield United in Love
- Freemasons of Social Lodge # 48 of Northfield
- The LINK Center
- Minnesota Board of Pharmacy
- Several Pastors from the Northfield Area Interfaith Association
- Mainstreet Project
- Others preparing their letters: St. Dominics, Cannon Valley Friends

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Will the card be used to vote? NO
- Is this a mandatory I.D. for all residents? NO
- Will it create a database that could be used against the card holders by accessing their identity? NO
- Why don't residents just get a State I.D. or a Driving license? The reasons vary:

Seniors who no longer drive, may find it difficult to get a State I.D. and may struggle to open bank accounts. Some seniors don't even have U.S. birth certificates.

Qualifying immigrants could get the Municipal I.D. while both State I.D. and driving licenses are not issued to them despite being Northfield residents for over 20 years.