

LEARNING TABLE #6: HOW DO WE HEAL IN ORDER TO BUILD? - NOTES

Minneapolis Public Works plans to reconstruct the intersection of 38th & Chicago (George Perry Floyd Square) and will begin this effort by engaging with the community. Engagement throughout the project is intended to help redesign the area in a way that reflects community needs.

Learning Table #6: How do we Heal in order to Build



Recent Learning Table:
How do we Heal in order to Build?
February 27, 2023



Upcoming Learning Table: How the Pieces Fit
March 27, 2023 ; 6pm; Sabathani Community Center

The Learning Table provides the “learning water”; a place to ask critical questions and develop the “learning glue”; a place to develop relationships, create partnership, share ideas, and make commitments, to explore for incorporation in the 38th & Chicago Re-Envisioned Project. At the Learning Table, we Learn Together; Create a Shared Approach; Coordinate Efforts; and Ensure Community Benefit.

The sixth learning table topic focused on healing, facilitated by Elder Atum of the Cultural Wellness Center, explored the question - What do we need to do to make sure we can heal in order to build vs. staying with the pain? This transformational session gave participants the opportunity to acknowledge the past, gain awareness of the present and seek visioning of the future.

All attendees of the sixth learning table participated in a community conversation and healing space, followed by attendees discussing the question prompt to explore at their tables in small groups.

Contact

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Sharice McCain, Senior Community Engagement Specialist - NEOO | 651-212-5129 | 38thandChicago@minneapolismn.gov
People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157. Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500



What We Heard

The 40 attendees were presented with the following questions to discuss in small groups.

What does healing look like/mean to you and what does it look like to build?

Table #1

Healing

- Take deep breaths
- Be honest with yourself
- Recognize where you are at
- Solidarity between communities to improve
- Intersecting issues- work together
- See past your own pain + mistrust
- Understand what pain we are carrying
- Pain+faith+love/empathy
- Understand what pain we are carrying
- See each other as people
- Own the wrongs Of the past and be honest about it
- Awareness how issues are still happening- not just in the past
- Listen to one another
- Reparations to those who hurt the most
- Actual resources to address housing harm to Black community

Building

- Everyone to get together to lift up the Black community
- Money, jobs,opportunity for youth to thrive
- Release the pain
- Celebrate our shared understanding
- Storytelling/sharing/remembering
- Create a space that is welcoming, especially for Black kids
- Payout to come from those who cause harm
- Collective vision
- Celebrate Community
- Invest in “undoing”
- Economic justice



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Table #2

Healing

- With folks leaning into the discomfort of critical and hard conversations about race relations
- Owning the parts of the discomfort
- idk-It's hard to say having never experienced it. We need to experience to know what it is. How do we heal when we are always fighting & hiding, apologizing, for who we are and even for what we are not.
- Healing ourselves (w. bodies) History of brutality, distrust
- Began with the youth with intentionality
- Dismantling of white supremacy
- Teaching, policing medical treatment-eliminate white fragility

Building

- Share space and eat good food
- Create sacred space for Black men to exist
- Relax build grow feel seen be heard BE to receive resources & Build centered ecosystems
- Repetitive learning with intention to heal interpersonal relationships
- Power among people
- Build trust portals that expose ugly truths & intentional and actionable solutions with encouragement to engage and center Blackness
- Child like joy-child like awareness of Joy and hope
- Look-feels like love...kindness exchange w/one another....peace - Building w/ one another

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Table #3



Healing

- Harm must stop before healing can start
- Deeper level of truth needed for building->Truth->Trust-> Healing->Building
- Commitment to Living Black lives while alive
- Learn the history of the neighborhood
- Talk to elders
- Zoning/Residential maps
- Extracting anti-blackness
- Decentering whiteness
- Support the investment in Black Businesses- Study Black Wall street
- Decolonize
- *repair is necessary for healing
- Invest in Black Excellence, not just black scarcity of equality/equity
- Hope is a seed that blossoms into healing Prioritize Black voices

Both

- GFS created as a pedestrian space
- Preservation of Art, community offerings
- Make space for new offerings
- Structure to acknowledge loss of black lives
- Building
- Let the wound knit
- People coming out of their homes and talking together at all times
- Truth Institute
- Info and exhibits exist
- I don't know***** (4x's)
- Foundation is the work we are doing at Sabathani- cornerstone

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Table #4

Building

- Listening- Acknowledgement of injury
- Looking to understand that you can't heal what you don't acknowledge"
- Healing is not linear
- Look at the harm
- metabolization of the experiences'
- An awareness and understanding of our history
- of our history
- Acknowledging the wound of the unhumane
- Commitment
- Connecting with neighbors
- Reparations
- reconciliation
- Internal work

Both

- Reparations
- Commitment

Healing

- Strengthening
- New possibilities
- Creating-growing-expanding
- Implementation
- Community
- Action, what is next
- Conversation
- An actual building holding space for healing activities



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