

LEARNING TABLE #13: George Floyd Square Community Engagement Framework presented by the City of Minneapolis Office of Public Service- **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 #13: George Floyd Square Community Engagement Framework presented by the City of Minneapolis Office of Public Service



Learning Table #13:
October 23, 2023



Upcoming Learning Table: Year in Review with Community
Stakeholders

November 27, 2023 ; 6pm; Sabathani Community Center

Created by Public Policy Project, 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.

At the thirteenth Learning Table, we looked at current and future City investment in the intersection at 38th and Chicago. The City of Minneapolis office of Public Service provided an overview of upcoming engagement and expansion of project direction, at the intersection of 38th and Chicago.

Following the presentation attendees were given question prompts to explore at their tables in small groups. The notes below provide the raw transcription of the public response to the prompts.

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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 28 attendees of the thirteenth Learning Table were presented with questions to discuss and answer in small groups.

What are your initial thoughts on the information you have heard today from the Office of Public Service?

- Come and meet community in the square. Immerse the city and consultants regularly.
- Historically, people from 38th and Chi have been displaced. Gentrification has been a problem.
- No teenagers or kids in square (youth are the future and the space needs to be comforting for all)
- Re: Nat'l Healing center "decorations with reparations". Needs to be inclusive and collect. There is a community there. There is a daily function already. Let the community facilitate
- Caution, anger, and frustration



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What does a thorough City engagement process look like to you?

- Reaching out to youth, painted with beloved community planters, creating space for elders - safe space
- Good to go to the people (ex: survey or canvassing)
- Door to door Surveying: Ask about what reparations look like and what does this mean to people.
- Involving and resources those that already did this work or are doing it: BLM saint paul and residents did door knocking in 2020.
- Expand beyond cosmetics reforms: include bread and butter issues (education, housing retention) and psychological issues (well-being, understanding power dynamics).
- Integrate understanding of history such as red-lining, racial covenants, the lee house, etc. Create clear and concrete categories of justice prompt spherical engagement such as healing, elder care, healthcare, loitering laws, education.
- Invest in the community-driven media projects that can tell the story of the neighborhood and residents. Appropriate MPD funds for this work
- It has already been endless. You serve good food.
- You should weigh stakeholders' voices accordingly to their connection to the issue (listen to people living, working right there, survivors of police violence, give less weight to random activists who live in uptown).
- I have taken so many surveys and gone to so many meetings since summer of 2020. What else do you need to know? Are you trying to wait us out?

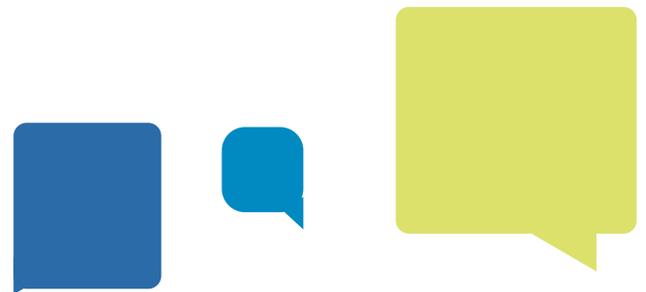
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What does the City need to take into account during this process?

- Stop wasting city members' time. How is the city going to define the city?
- Coordination, clear, and effective determination of information
- City most confusion and frustration (been working engagement for years, where is the progress, Are we going to keep meeting until we say what you want to hear?)
- How much help can we expect? What are we bringing to the table? How do we meet halfway?
- 24 demands. Recognize the marginalization of block folks and the others marginalized. Qualified immunity has to go. Having multiple city points to engage.



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What protections would you need to have in place to ensure that property owners, business owners and residents are stabilized throughout the many phases of this 38th and Chicago process?

- Transportation and Security. Financial Support/Investment
- Lighting, open businesses! City services people to spend money in the neighborhood
- Keep having multiple community forums. Engage more experts like Jeanelle Austin to operate a memorial in a decolonized manner.
- Genuine collaboration with each other before moving forward. Community voices (Past and present). People over property.
- Allow the process to be agile- change in flight based on what you've learned. Don't ignore the data you already have and the work already done. Clear and transparent road map for community engagement.
- Input of people who use the square (greater than people who visit or drive thru). Don't lose resources in space (Food distribution, gathering space, bathrooms, peoples closet, space for grief, healing, and celebration)
- This is a baited question. It is designed to gather info on fear?
- When resources are distributed to landlords and business owners, they are not really being held accountable to the results of supporting black owned businesses and entrepreneurs. Money is coming in, but what are the metrics of success?

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What resources are needed to achieve the protections that you listed above?

- Read community papers, speak to neighbors, candidate forums, communicate with mayor, council person
- Find the right stakeholder for the various aspects of the project. Respect the communities time and honor their input
- Legislation/training presentations access
- 24 Demands met
- Rent and mortgage freeze. 3 Categories for restoration action: 1. Education 2. Economics 3. Media

What role do you want to play as a community stakeholder in this process?

- Read community papers, speak to neighbors, candidate forums, communicate with mayor, council person
- I want to be heard



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