

# City of Minneapolis 3rd Precinct Community Engagement Report

Prepared by **DeYoung Consulting Services** 

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We acknowledge the diligence and support of the Longfellow Community Council team for its efforts in creating awareness and planning the community conversations. We would also like to thank the city employees who worked diligently to support and collaborate with us on this project with us to achieve the goals of the project.

Finally, we want to specially thank the community members who participated and made their voices heard in the survey, curated conversations, and large community group conversations. Without their dedication, persistence, and desire to move the city in the right direction, this project will not be successful.



# Introduction



# Introduction

# **Project Purpose**

The City of Minneapolis has engaged DeYoung Consulting Services to facilitate a community conversation to determine a new location for the 3rd Precinct Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) building. The building was damaged during the uprising that followed the murder of George Floyd by a member of the Minneapolis Police Department. Based on the desires of the City of Minneapolis, we developed the following purpose statement for the project.

#### **Purpose Statement**

The purpose of this project is to gather community input on the two sites selected by the City of Minneapolis to rebuild the Minneapolis Police Department's 3rd Precinct facility.

# **Reading This Report**

This report summarizes the findings from the community engagement through surveys and community conversations on the location of the MPD building. The report's flow is illustrated in the graphic below.





**Strength of theme** indicates the occurrence of the theme within the data collected. Please note that the "strength of theme" does not indicate that the theme is less severe or of less importance. It only represents the number of occurrences comments referred to that theme in the data collected. **These "Strength of Theme" categories refer to the number of comments made about a theme, not the number of people who supported that theme.** This means that one person could have mentioned a theme two times in a community conversation and two comments were added to that theme bucket. It also means the N numbers cannot be compared directly to the survey numbers.

For the purposes of this report, the Strength of theme categories are applied in the following manner:

Strength of	Strength of	Strength of
theme	theme	theme
STRONG	MEDIUM	LOW

- Strong: 75+ comments
- Medium: 25-74 comments
- Low: under 25 comments

The themes associated with these icons are **bolded** and followed by the (N=) symbol which signifies the number of comments in that theme. An occasional "+" sign means that this sub theme was created after multiple comments on that sub theme were put into a larger theme bucket.

These cut-offs were chosen based on the overall volume of qualitative data for this assessment and the relative number of comments between themes, making it so that themes with 75 comments or more really stood out as significant.

For ease of readability, the Strength of Theme icons are only applied to the Strong and Medium themes. Themes without icons can be assumed to be Low Themes (typically they are sub-themes within a larger theme).

# Methodology

#### **Project Clarification**

We met with the project sponsors to clarify the project scope and identify its goals. We also reviewed the findings of the previous engagement by the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) to have a better understanding of the community and how to engage it.

## Longfellow Community Council Community Engagement

LCC facilitated a community engagement process in 2022 to understand the perspectives of community members on the current 3rd Precinct site. The community conversation included an



opening statement, small group discussions, survey of participants, large group debrief of the small group conversations, brief comment from a council member, as well as a Q&A session with a City Coordinator's Office representative. The event concluded with a space for reflection for participants. The consultants reviewed the subsequent report in preparation for this engagement. (Additional details can be found in Appendix V.)

#### Data collection

For the DeYoung engagement we gathered data through community conversations and a survey with individuals who live, work, and visit the 3rd Precinct; this was the primary population for this engagement. We partnered with LCC to organize curated and large community conversations. LCC secured the locations and conducted outreach to the community members. The survey and community conversation protocols were developed in conjunction with City representatives.

#### **Community Conversations**

We conducted five large community conversations and eight curated conversations. The large community conversations were publicized and open to any member of the community. The curated conversations were designed to target historically marginalized communities, seniors, and the LGBTQ community. These conversations aimed to provide safe spaces in order to provide their input. The space was curated to be an intimate setting for conversations. Targeted outreach was done and community members who participated were not doing so to "represent" and/or "speak" for the community. More so, to share lived experiences, perspectives, and dynamics unique to their respective community. Representatives from the City of Minneapolis were present in all the curated and large community conversations to provide context and answer clarifying questions. Please refer to Appendix IV for the details and schedule of the community engagement.

#### Survey

We also designed a survey with the City of Minneapolis departments (Office of Public Service, Neighborhood and Community Relations). The survey was designed to collect information about participant's affiliation with the 3rd Precinct, MPD building site location, and respondents' demographic information. The survey was translated into Spanish, Somali, and Oromo and published on the City website. The breakdown of the survey respondents is in the findings section as part of our analysis. The table below shows the breakdown of the responses to the survey.

Paper copies of the survey were made available during the community conversation. We also had QR codes embedded with survey links to provide participants with opportunities to select their preferred location. Participants were also able to select locations by raising their hands. Below is the summary of the data collected from the survey:



Status	Relationship with 3rd Precinct	Count	Percentage
Completed the survey, Selected <b>Current Site</b> and <b>did not</b> indicate "Neither/No Precinct" in the open-ended question	Live, work, or visit	1591	44.0%
Completed the survey, Selected New Site and did not indicate "Neither/No Precinct" in the open-ended question	Live, work, or visit	821	22.7%
Completed the survey, selected a site but indicated Neither/No Precinct in the open- ended question Note: This is <u>not</u> a site option in the survey	Live, work, or visit	377	10.4%
Did not complete the survey	Live, work, or visit	447	12.3%
Completed or did not complete the survey	MLPS Residents that care	285	7.9%
Relationship with 3rd not indicated	Relationship with 3rd not indicated	99	2.7%
Total		3620	100.0%

This survey data is not presented in a chart because the survey design did not provide a "Neither/No Precinct" answer option.

To that end, this will not be an ideal comparison, and this table should be interpreted as such.

# Analysis Methodology

We downloaded the survey data from the survey software. The surveys that were completed on paper were scanned and the texts were extracted and cleaned up. The quantitative data was analyzed accordingly.

The qualitative data from the open-ended question was analyzed with the data collected from the community and curated conversations. To identify the responses of the participants that do not want the MPD building in the precinct or neither option, we scanned through the responses of the open-ended responses. Their responses were removed from the count of the participants that selected a location.

Project sponsors determined that the primary population for this engagement was to be individuals who live, work, or visit the 3rd Precinct. To that end, data from those who did not indicate a relationship with the 3rd Precinct was not included in the analysis.

All notes from community conversations, curated conversations, and the text from the openended survey question were uploaded into qualitative analysis software to be coded for themes. The findings in this report were based on the themes from the data analysis.



# **Limitations and Considerations**

### **Data Collection Limitations and Considerations**

- Some of the notes taken at community events were high level, and so the true meaning of all comments may not have been captured in the qualitative analysis process.
- One set of notes from a small group discussion was misplaced, and the backup audio had too much background noise to be understood.
- Data gathering should be viewed as a snapshot in time. The results could change if the process were conducted at a different time because viewpoints and opinions change.

#### **Survey Limitations**

- The participants were restricted to just two options on the required question about the location of the MPD facility. There was no option to suggest another location or express that no location was desired.
  - Some participants chose a location but provided other details in the open-ended question.
  - Some participants started the survey but did not complete the survey because the location question was required. Based on what was heard in community and curated conversations, we can infer that many of these surveys were not completed because the location question was required, and the survey design did not allow community members to express themselves.
- Because of the survey design, some people in the community and curated conversations encouraged a boycott of the survey. This could mean that many people who desire an "Option C" (be that a third location, a precinct only after other processes are complete, or no precinct at all) actively chose not to take the survey, thus skewing the results.
- We did our best to limit the survey responses to 3rd Precinct community members alone, but we understand that people outside the community could also have responded.
- Some people were able to take multiple paper or digital surveys (if they used different devices) and so could record their opinions multiple times. The analysts noticed several occurrences of very similar responses that were inputted into the survey software right after each other.
- Some groups organized other community members in an attempt to log as much feedback on a particular position as possible. Sometimes this organizing included advocating for others to take the survey multiple times, and other times it included advocating for others to boycott the survey.

Given these limitations, survey results must be interpreted with care and in the context of the qualitative data collected.



## **Qualitative Data Limitations**

- The same group of 10-15 community members attended multiple (most) community conversations and repeated their arguments. As individuals weren't tracked in these events, this might skew the data toward their viewpoints.
- Community conversations attracted mostly white people, which could create biases in the data
  - Many conversations contained (mostly young) White people speaking on behalf of others (their BIPOC neighbors).
- Conversations, other than the African American curated conversation, essentially lacked attendance by Black males. Therefore, a critical perspective on this issue is missing from the data.
- Because the beginnings of the community conversations were so heated, a fair number of people left before the small groups started collecting data. This also may have skewed the data.
  - Facilitators and note-takers noticed some bullying and shushing, which may have silenced certain perspectives and skewed the data.
  - Small groups allowed for people to listen to each other and bond, allowing for more viewpoints to be shared.

## Data Analysis Limitations

- There was only one session per demographic group for the curated conversations, so we cannot generalize the findings from those discussions to all members of that demographic group.
- Community members who attended community or curated conversations and took a survey and left comments, might have had their feedback qualitatively analyzed twice. Community members who left comments in their survey may have had their vote counted and their comments qualitatively analyzed.
- Some community members attended multiple community or curated conversations and therefore may have gotten their feedback qualitatively analyzed multiple times.
- Individual speakers were not tracked in the notes from data collection events, therefore qualitative coding was of mentions of topics, not number of people making a statement on a topic.
- Numbers cannot capture the passion of one's statement, nor the non-verbal reactions to community member's statements (e.g., nodding, twinkling, yelling, crying, getting up to leave etc.).
- For these reasons and more, numbers are not associated with qualitative themes.
- The findings were based on the perception of the respondents. While everything the respondents perceive may not be 100% factual, their responses represent their feelings. It is also a representation of their experiences, and their perception is their reality.





# Findings

# Finding 1: Site Decision

The primary purpose of this project is to engage community members who live, work or visit the 3rd Precinct to select the location of the MPD 3rd Precinct building. While many of the participants acknowledged that the process is far from ideal for various reasons, they made their respective choices ranging from renovating the current building to no precinct at all. The quantitative data on the site decision was derived from a survey completed online, on paper, and in-person votes during the community engagements. The qualitative data was derived from the community engagement meetings and the open-ended question from the survey.

In interpreting the result of this survey or the site decisions, it is important to remember the limitations of this engagement process. As described above in the methodology section, we must interpret the survey results as the results from a subgroup of the population that is in favor of Site A or Site B, while understanding there are other subgroups of the population that want something else. The tables and the charts below described the site decisions and relevant demographic information of the participants.

The primary population for this project were people who live, work, or visit the 3rd Precinct. Therefore, the focus of the analysis centers on the primary population that completed the survey or voted during the community engagement sessions. Please note that we cannot report demographic data for those who did not complete the survey because the questions that are used to collect the demographic data came after the required site decision question.

Because survey participants were restricted to just two options on the required question about the location of the MPD facility and they were not given an option to suggest another location or express that no location was desired, survey results must be viewed within the context of the qualitative data (open ended survey responses and community listening sessions).





The results from the mixed-methods analysis show that the City faces a more nuanced set of decisions around the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct rather than a simple decision between the original and new site. (Note: In the image above, N= refers to the number of comments made about a particular theme in the qualitative data.)

- Many participants believe that this process is being done in the incorrect order and that there are additional processes that should happen before a site decision is made.
- If the City decides to pursue additional processes before a site decision, the primary processes requested by community members include:
  - o 1) Police reform
  - 2) Truth and reconciliation
- After these processes are completed or sufficiently advanced, the City could either:
  - Engage in a site selection process again, this time between more options than just 3000 Minnehaha vs 2600 Minnehaha, including alternative sites and the potential for satellite hubs as requested by many participants; or,
  - The results in of the processes may lead to a decision to not have a 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct building and the community may pursue other options such as investing money in other services or programs and addressing root causes of crime, as requested by many participants. The community may also decide to pursue different alternatives to policing.
- On the other hand, if a site selection is necessary at this time, the City may choose between various options, including more sites than just 3000 Minnehaha versus 2600 Minnehaha per the community's request. They may also want to explore other ways for police to be present in the community e.g. through satellite hubs, a popular third choice option among participants.

Additional details follow.

# No MPD Building in the 3rd Precinct



The qualitative data from the community and curated conversations shows a significant number of participants do not want a 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct building at all (N=300). This qualitative finding is backed up by informal survey results. From the survey, 377 wrote some variation of a "No Precinct" vote as their responses to the

open-ended question. The number is likely a fraction of the real number because "No Precinct" was not an official option on the survey. These participants selected a location because it is required on the survey in order to leave a "No Precinct" message in the comments. The votes of the participants who wrote "No Precinct" in the open-ended question were removed from the tally of the participants who selected a site.



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The tables below provide the demographic data of the participants who live, work, or visit the 3rd Precinct and wrote "No Precinct" in the open-ended question in the survey.

Demographics- Gender	Count	Percentage
Cisgender- Women	1	0.3%
Female	170	45.1%
Gender non-conforming	28	7.4%
Male	118	31.3%
Nonbinary	3	0.8%
Prefer not to answer	54	14.3%
Queer	-	-
Transgender female	1	0.3%
Transgender male	2	0.5%
Total	377	100%

Demographics- Race	Count	Percentage
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	1.1%
Asian	5	1.3%
Black or African American	14	3.7%
Hispanic or Latino	7	1.9%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	-	-
Other races/ethnicity	4	1.1%
Prefer not to answer	60	15.9%
Two or more races	12	3.2%
White	271	71.9%
Total	377	100%

Demographics- Age	Count	Percentage
0-15 years old	8	2.1%
16-30 years old	40	10.6%
31-45 years old	179	47.5%
46-64 years old	86	22.8%
65 and older	29	7.7%
Prefer not to answer	35	9.3%
Total	377	100.0%



The participants who do not want a new police building either expressed their opinion via the survey, a large community conversation or a curated conversation. They cited various reasons for their decisions.

#### MPD is losing officers

Some participants feel there is no justification for a new building if the number of officers is declining. They believe it is a waste of resources that will create another problem.

With the Minneapolis Police Department down 300 officers, there's been no evidence showing Minneapolis is any less safe. If every precinct is down 60%, put them together. The Fifth Precinct sits on 35W. Why can't they cohabitate? There's no reason to spend money on a big, beautiful building for the police. They don't need it. They can cohabitate. They both have the same size area. And the Fifth Precinct sits on the east. Why can't they both be there? It's accessible. All the streets run parallel, without any delay at all. If they responded to calls, which they don't. These conversations are a total waste of time and money. It's infuriating witnessing this and insulting to every resident. They're adding fuel to the fire, 29 million dollars' worth of fuel.

Given the large reduction in officers, traumatic legacy of the 3rd Precinct, and adequate response times, I do not believe rebuilding the 3rd Precinct is a wise use of the City's financial resources.

#### Community public safety

Some participants believe that a community approach to public safety has been proven to achieve better results than the police. The community public safety model is built upon an approach that understands what the community needs better than the police. They believe that putting resources into such efforts is better than investing in a new building for the police.

Why put more money into something that is proven that it doesn't work? The organizations here prove daily that it works. Less crimes and getting high because of the MADDADS. I see people when programs are doing the intervention work, it works. We get to know each other and build foundations with people, so they come to us. How can we assist these people? It's about resources that we can't give to them because we don't have enough money. We don't have what we need to give. I want more resources. No more YMCA or Boys and Girls Club. They took away opportunities and replaced them with empties. They gave these kids nothing else to do.

When the neighbors see the police, they tell the police not to stay there and the neighbors are keeping their selves (sic) safe.



#### New building is a reward for bad behaviors and incompetence

Some participants believe that a new building is a reward for badly behaved and incompetent police officers. They believe that MPD officers have already cost the City a lot of money, and a new building is insulting to community members who have endured their incompetence and aggressive behaviors.

I would say they don't even deserve a new precinct, but I know you'll build one anyway. Don't spend a single extra cent on the MPD. They have already cost the City so much money and pain.

They should not be rewarded with a brand-new building. The City needs to build a new school and ask the MPD to use existing infrastructure.

The police should not be rewarded with a fancy new "office" until they can be trusted by the community.

#### Police are criminal, scary, and racist



Many participants believe that MPD should not get a new building because they cannot be trusted (N=44). They stated that the ineffective, criminal, scary, and racist police department should not have a place in the community. (See section on 'Community Perception of MPD' for more details.)

The racist, criminal MPD should be nowhere around here.

There is no legal requirement for it (building) to exist. The City of Minneapolis and MPD should focus on the ongoing problems of MPD, not trying to expand the reach of this notorious, violent police force.

There should be NO 3rd Precinct after the shocking behavior around George Floyd's death. The history of the 3rd Precinct is one of corruption, non-service, and disrespect of neighboring businesses. The 3rd Precinct has brought little service to the surrounding community.

There should not be a 3rd Precinct. The people of Minneapolis have made demands for public safety, and none of them were met by the MPD. MPD continues to brutalize people and would murder again as long as they can get away with it.

#### Policing is not the solution to public safety

Some participants believe that policing is not the solution to public safety issues. They stated that a new building for the MPD will not improve the safety of the community. Some suggested alternative services to policing.



Police don't keep us safe. Don't invest in them. A new precinct won't make us safer.

No new precinct. Every dollar that goes towards building a new precinct is a dishonor to all those that have been killed, maimed, and harassed by MPD. This money should be spent by and for community projects that actually keep us safe.

The 3rd Precinct building is a liability for the community & businesses surrounding it. It does not increase safety. Neither is the building nor the police force.

#### Community is safer without the 3rd precinct building

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants feel that the community is safer without the police (N=32). Some believe that the police do not really solve crimes while some believe that the community has been safe without them.

I feel less safe when the police are present.

No new precinct. The community is safer without the MPD. The Third (precinct) has been functioning without MPD presence.

The MPD and policing system is terrible at solving crimes. When you add that to all the damage they cause, we are safer without them.

Some participants cited statistics that crime is actually down which indicates that the community is actually safer without the police.

I do not believe a new precinct is needed. Crime has not risen in our precinct in any greater proportional way than other precincts in the City, despite there being no precinct here.

When you look at actual statistics, the police narratives in the news cause emotional responses, when local media is reporting about what the police say is happening. Crime is going [to] sell in the news, but the actual statistics (show) that crime rates are down. Crime is always in the news to capture attention. However, the true issues that are in our neighborhoods have never been in the news. There is going to be crime no matter where you are.

#### Protesters will burn down a new precinct building



Many participants feel that there is no justification for a new building when protesters will burn the building again no matter where it is located (N=29).

It was burnt down the first time, why do you think it wouldn't be burnt down a second time if you built it in the same place?



No 3rd Precinct building. No matter where it is located, rebuilding the 3rd Precinct will result in civil unrest at that location – potentially burning the building to the ground again. Why would the City invest taxpayer dollars in a structure that would be short-lived?

This was burned down for a reason. I don't want this to come off in the wrong way, but what is anyone doing to make sure this one doesn't burn down, too.

What is the point of building a new precinct if it is just going to get burnt down?

# **Neither Site**

#### Strength of theme STRONG

Based on the conversations during the community engagement meetings and some responses in the survey, a significant number of participants indicated that they do not mind having a precinct but not on either proposed site (N=244). The participants cited various reasons for their opinions.

#### Concerns for people who are already traumatized

Some participants believe that the location of the MPD building should not be closer to the current neighborhood where many people have been traumatized. They believe that the City should consider the impact of these events on the community when making the decision about the MPD building.

I am disappointed that these are the only two options because they are geographically basically in the exact same location. I would have hoped that we would have one choice that was geographically farther than the current choice for a new location because of the memories associated with the [civil] unrest after George Floyd's murder.

Why are we still placing the police station in this area where people are traumatized? Was there any talk in the neighborhood on this issue? Feels like the choices have been decided already. I am so disappointed. Why are we going to be forced to accept just two locations? And in the same neighborhood?

#### Both sites are majority BIPOC and low-income communities

Some participants believe that the choice of locations is insensitive, considering that they are both located in majority BIPOC neighborhoods. They added that these communities are the most affected by the murder of George Floyd.

Premature to choose a site, but wherever it is, the neighborhood should be confident the precinct will be a good, respectful neighbor. Based on history & MPD culture, this should not be in a majority BIPOC neighborhood.



The thing I want to observe about these options is, it is focused on the northern portion of the precinct, which is more diverse, near Little Earth community, a historic recipient of injustices. I am concerned it will contribute to biases. Wonder why the southern portion is not being considered. Due to the relative property values?

As a community, to have to reopen this building, it seems to me as an insult and inhumane. It's the largest precinct of all the precincts, it is right in the heart of the Native American community. You can see this is the heart of the BIPOC community where the Native American community is displaced. The historically Black population on Snelling Avenue, we know the story of discrimination in housing and unemployment. We all know that we are completely segregated more than any city in the United States. We are so segregated here on that historical note, and the only employment is the railyards. There has to be some sensitivity and some humanity. Do not put the precinct (building) in that same damn location.

Some participants are concerned about how the building would further exacerbate environmental racism in communities already burdened by environmental pollution.

There was some talk about environmental harm or remediation on a site like this. The concentration of trucks in a Green Zone where children are dying of asthma and violent police increasing harm in an already harmed community.

Suffering pollution, fighting the MPD and the City. We have laws to protect our neighborhood from more poison and emissions from more trucks. How many vehicles are running a day? Don't know what vehicle volume was during the old precinct.

#### A truly central location

Some participants believe that the City should look for a truly geographically central location for the MPD building. They feel that a more central location will make it easier for the police to reach all the neighborhoods.

Why are your location options only in the NE section of the precinct? I was shocked that your newest proposal is even further in the corner. I live south of Diamond Lake and with no traffic, it's 14 minutes to cut through town to my house. Why don't we have actual neighborhood precincts where the police officers could become known to the neighborhood? (see Brooklyn, NY, precinct divisions) I wish I was at least part of the 5th Precinct, which is six minutes away. At least redraw the lines, please, this is unsafe.

I'm looking at the map, and neither location east is really central to the precinct. Now I'm thinking of that, that's what I want, not one or the other. What about something that's more centrally located? And we need a big parking lot for squad cars.



Some participants believe that the sites are intentionally chosen because they are BIPOC neighborhoods, and a geographically central location would be in a white neighborhood.

The new building is not centrally located. In the centrally located areas, they are too White, and they want the 3rd Precinct to be in neighborhoods of color because they associate people of color with crime. If this building has to be built, put it in a centrally located area. Who cares if it's mostly white people? Then in a year from now, let's ask those same white people if they even feel safe.

#### Other location options

Some participants provided suggestions on other places where the police could be located instead of a new building. Some suggested that the police should share buildings with other government entities.

When I grew up in a small town, the police station is co-located with the fire station. Is there an opportunity?

For the police station to be co-located with fire stations, ambulance dispatch centers at 38th and Hiawatha, near scooter store. There is an advantage to working with other services.

Some suggested that they should stay downtown where they are currently located, at least for now.

Let us keep the officers of the 3rd Precinct downtown in the doghouse where they deserve to be punished in perpetuity until there is some possibility of restorative justice. But we are well away from that.

*I believe the 3rd Precinct police do not need to move from their current downtown location. The precinct will bring violence to the area.* 

#### Decentralized police with satellite hubs in communities



A significant number of participants suggested the idea of satellite hubs instead of a police building (N=84). They feel that smaller offices are more welcoming and effective for the police to work with the community. Others mentioned small satellite offices would be cheaper than one large building and that the police

response time would be faster across the precinct when police are dispatched from various locations.

I don't think either of these locations are good. Instead of a fortified police building, the City should consider a series of smaller offices that are welcoming to everyone where people can go for actual help and services. A precinct building is not part of the



community and is a slap in the face to everyone who has been working on antiracism and community building, mutual aid, and healing from the trauma of police brutality.

Officers are not dispatched from precinct. They can fill out paperwork in any office building.

If you could have satellites in multiple locations, I like that idea.

Use existing precinct buildings or look into other satellite options for the 3<sup>rd.</sup>

I'd prefer no centralized physical location due to the symbolism involved and also the nature of work and communication in this day and age; it would be interesting to explore decentralized options that have officers out in the community and communicating with each other and higher ups through electronic and radio means.

# **Current Site or Newly Proposed Site**

Based on the result of the survey of the respondents who live, work, or visit the 3rd Precinct, a total of 2,412 selected a location without indicating that they do not want a precinct at all. Out of the respondents who selected a location, 66% (1,591) of respondents selected the current site (3000 Minnehaha Avenue). The newly proposed site (2600 Minnehaha Avenue) was selected by 34% (821) of the respondents, as shown in the chart below.

The table below summarizes the factors that the respondents cited for choosing one site over the other.

	Original Site (3000 Minnehaha Ave)	Newly Proposed Site (2600 Minnehaha)
Cost	<ul> <li>Cheaper, and savings can be used to fund police training and community programs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More expensive and will cost the City resources that can be used for other purposes</li> </ul>
Completion Time	<ul> <li>Faster completion to get the police back in the neighborhood sooner</li> </ul>	Will take longer to complete
Symbolism	<ul> <li>Symbolizes trauma, police oppression and brutality</li> <li>Disrespectful to the community</li> <li>Signifies law and order and standing up to the rioters</li> <li>Will help healing and repair harm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fresh start without the negative symbolism of the original site</li> <li>Embolden anti-police rioters who would believe that they won</li> </ul>



	Original Site (3000 Minnehaha Ave)	Newly Proposed Site (2600 Minnehaha)
Location	<ul> <li>Centrally located in the heart of the neighborhood</li> <li>Near light rail station</li> <li>Located in the business district</li> <li>Easily accessible</li> <li>Congested intersection</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Location near residential area, schools, and religious institutions is not appropriate</li> <li>Not centrally located</li> <li>More difficult to access</li> <li>Traffic and LRT can delay police response</li> </ul>
Visibility	<ul> <li>Highly visible, easy to identify, and can deter crime</li> <li>Holds the police more accountable</li> </ul>	
Other Considerations	<ul> <li>More likely to be destroyed by rioters</li> <li>Reusing the building improves environmental sustainability</li> <li>Immediate neighbors do not want police</li> <li>Lacks parking</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Less likely to be destroyed by rioters</li> <li>Already in a plan to build East African Market on the site</li> <li>Environmental racism due to proximity to BIPOC neighborhood already burdened by environmental pollution</li> </ul>

## Current Site (3000 Lake Street)

The tables below show the demographics of the participants who prefer rebuilding the MPD facility on the current site.

Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
American Indian or Alaska Native	18	1.1%
Asian	16	1.0%
Black or African American	55	3.5%
Hispanic or Latino	32	2.0%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1	0.1%
Other race/ethnicity	17	1.1%
Prefer not to answer	349	21.9%
Two or more races	63	4.0%
White	1040	65.4%
Grand Total	1591	100.0%

Gender Identity	Count	Percentage
16-30 years old	65	4.1%



Gender Identity	Count	Percentage
31-45 years old	351	22.1%
46-64 years old	528	33.2%
65 and older	438	27.5%
Prefer not to answer	209	13.1%
Grand Total	1591	100.0%

Gender Identity	Count	Percentage
Female	745	46.8%
Gender non-conforming	19	1.2%
Male	553	34.8%
Nonbinary	1	0.1%
Prefer not to answer	266	16.7%
Transgender female	5	0.3%
Transgender male	2	0.1%
Grand Total	1591	100.0%

The majority of the participants who selected a location chose the current site for reasons such as cost, completion time, location, and visibility. Many of them want the police back in the neighborhood due to rising crime and insecurity.

Better location, quicker response time to light rail station and commercial businesses, cheaper costs, lower carbon footprint, far faster timeline, greater visibility for community.

#### Location



A significant number of participants believe that the site is centrally located at the heart of the neighborhood, which makes it visible and accessible through public transportation and major roadways such as Hiawatha and Lake (N=473). They also believe that people are already familiar with the location.



Many said the location is close to where **most crime is occurring, which is along the** Lake Street commercial corridor (N=33). Some cited the Lake/Hiawatha Light Rail Transit station as an area in particular need of policing to improve safety in the area (N=48).

Everyone already knows where the station is located there as well as being close to welltrafficked part of the City.



The original location is more central to the precinct as a whole. I feel it is important to maintain a presence on Lake Street to support the community and show that the station has been rebuilt despite the damage done to it.

#### **Completion Time**

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of participants selected the current site because it would be completed faster (N=193). They feel that police presence is critical in the neighborhood and the earlier the building is completed because earlier normality is preferred.

We need a precinct now, not in three years. Build on the existing site and get it done quickly.

It's cheaper and faster. To me it's common sense. That said, a fresh start in a new location could carry different sentiment. I just want more police presence and less crime. It's not good out there right now!

It is the most time-efficient solution. The neighborhood needs more law enforcement presence right now. An 18-month timeframe (vs. 36 months) will help to improve safety sooner. And the additional 18 months without an on-site precinct could turn out to be a critical period where things either get better or get worse based on police presence.

Residents of the 3rd Precinct have experienced limited police service for almost three years. It is outrageous and an abrogation of the City's responsibility to continue this limited service. Another three years is too long.

I live in the 3rd Precinct, and the timeline for 2600 Minnehaha is way too long. We need a precinct NOW. The area 3000 Minnehaha sits in needs the presence of a precinct most. I have had property stolen, and feel after looking at the facts, timeline, and budget that this is the most feasible option.

Some selected the site because they want something to be done quickly with the current location because it is a symbol of trauma.

The current site is triggering for us as a community and the sooner something is done with it, the better. I would fear additional years of delay on doing something with the current site if the alternative site were to be selected.

#### Cost

Strength of theme STRONG A significant number of participants cited a cheaper cost as the reason they prefer the original site (N=578).



#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

From a cost perspective, many believe that there is no reason to waste City resources and the \$10 million saved by re-building at the original site could be used for other productive purposes, such as police reform, police training, poverty and crime reduction projects, etc. (N=49)

Relocating would be twice the budget? Don't waste time and money thinking that a new location will produce new results. Instead, use the saved money by staying put and focusing on training & retaining staff.

I would rather see the extra \$10 million for a new building being spent adding the departments that are trained to handle drug abuse, homeless camps, car theft, muggings, garage break-ins, etc. plaguing our area.

The 3rd Precinct should be located at the original location, 3000 Minnehaha Avenue. Don't spend a single extra cent on the Minneapolis Police Department. They have already cost the city so much money and pain. The cost difference between the two proposed locations of \$10 million dollars could make so much difference for so many people. How many people could be housed, clothed, and fed for that money? How many schools could benefit from that money? Please spend the absolute bare minimum on this new building. They don't deserve anything more.

#### Positive Symbolism



There is a divided opinion on what the current site symbolizes. A significant number of participants believe that it represents something positive because it indicates that the city is standing up to the rioters and upholding law and order. Some believe that it will help heal and repair the harm done to the community, and

some also believe that it will represent a new start and a return to normal for an area that was destroyed (N=178).

Feel like staying put also sent out a statement to our community, and the thugs that wreaked havoc on that property, that we are stable, persistent & diligent and we can overcome without moving.

We need to return to a new normal. Give us back our station. Our area around the station still looks like a war zone. Fix it.

Rebuilding and renovating that site would be an equally powerful reminder that change is possible, and we need to move into the future.

If the Precinct is moved, I feel like it is giving in to the people that caused so much damage to our community. From the news coverage, I believe most of the fires were not set by citizens protesting, but by outside agitators. This feels like they win if the building is removed.



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#### Negative Symbolism



A significant number of participants who believe the original building represents something beyond just a building also believe that it is a negative symbol (N=277) and believe that rebuilding on this site would be a symbol of trauma and disrespect to the neighborhood (N=83). Some believe that the site represents

police brutality, the status quo, and the negative experience of the uprising. Some stated it symbolizes that the City and the MPD have not learned anything from the experiences the community went through and that rebuilding on that site would be an insult to the memory of George Floyd. Still, others shared building at this site will agitate protestors who may want to burn the building down again. Also, the current site was a symbol of police brutality even before George Floyd was murdered.

Rebuilding on the existing site feels like it would incite retaliation. The City may be taking steps to repair police practices, but they've done very little to show what that will look like, beyond some press releases. This space remains a visual reminder of what pain has not changed or been authentically acknowledged. As someone who lives in this neighborhood, that police precinct is like our Kent State. At Kent State they relandscaped after the shooting because it would be too painful to see the same landmarks each day. Who is tending to the hurts of those of us who drive by those burned out spaces for the past three years?

The 3rd Precinct police station was a threatening presence in the neighborhood before the George Floyd murder. But after the police chose to arm up with riot gear, in formation and use tear gas on peaceful protestors, the corner became a warzone, and our neighborhood was traumatized. The police were nowhere present after they abandoned the building. Bad memories!

Rebuilding the precinct at its original location – a prominent corner on a busy and central intersection – is essentially the city saying they don't care about the citizens of Minneapolis and the collective trauma the police department has caused on Minneapolitans for decades.

The current location will forever be associated with how the MPD treated the neighborhood and what they thought of the citizens and residents of the area. It will forever be associated with the events of 2020 and should be a reminder to the City of its failings to its citizenry.

The original location is a site of immense community trauma. Rebuilding the 3rd Precinct there is as much as to say, "We learned nothing from the uprising, and we think everything should go back to the way it's always been." The community deserves to see change.



### New Proposed Site (2600 Minnehaha Ave)

The tables below show the demographics of the participants who prefer rebuilding the MPD facility on the newly proposed site.

Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
American Indian or Alaska Native	10	1.2%
Asian	19	2.3%
Black or African American	26	3.2%
Hispanic or Latino	9	1.1%
Other race/ethnicity	7	0.9%
Prefer not to answer	131	16.0%
Two or more races	42	5.1%
White	577	70.3%
Total	821	100.0%

Age Range	Count	Percentage
0-15 years old	2	0.2%
16-30 years old	69	8.4%
31-45 years old	279	34.0%
46-64 years old	250	30.5%
65 and older	138	16.8%
Prefer not to answer	83	10.1%
Total	821	100.0%

Gender Identity	Count	Percentage
Female	388	47.3%
Gender non-conforming	23	2.8%
Male	296	36.1%
Prefer not to answer	110	13.4%
Queer	1	0.1%
Transgender female	1	0.1%
Transgender male	2	0.2%
Total	821	100.0%



The participants who selected the newly proposed site believe it represents a fresh start for the community and the MPD. That it is free of the emotions and negative memories associated with the current location. While some of the participants acknowledge that it is expensive, they feel having a symbolic fresh start after a traumatic event is worth the extra cost.

#### Fresh start



A significant number of participants believe the newly proposed location is a symbol of a new start for the community and the MPD (N=211). It's viewed the old building is burdened with a negative connotation and does not represent what they want to see in the future. A new building in a new location will be the beginning of a

healing process for the community.

A new location feels like the start to a better future for the neighborhood – more of an emotional relocation and moving away from negative pasts.

I think our neighborhood needs a fresh start. I think building the 3rd Precinct at a new location will promote healing and is a good step forward.

There needs to be a rebirth of the precinct, a new beginning. That will not be accomplished for either the Police Department or the community by attempting to rebuild at the burned out current location.

The new location is good for a new precinct and is symbolic and will give an opportunity to break with the previous toxic culture that gave rise to the repeated abuses suffered by citizens of color and those who advocate for better community-engaged policing.

#### Away from public view

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants believe that it is located away from public view and business districts and that its obscurity is a good thing (N=39). Additionally, stating the area is less congested and will better support police operations.

This is a better location that removes the building a bit from public view and from a major community intersection and also provides police presence in close proximity. Also, the less congested area seems better for operations and traffic (vehicles getting in and out) than Lake/Minnehaha.

This location seems more accessible, less crowded, and less congested.

Strength of theme MEDIUM Many others believe that the more obscure location will be less obtrusive and evoke less trauma for community members (N=47).

The location of the new site means that other properties will not be affected if another uprising ensues.



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A fresh start. The location is a bit more unobtrusive (less in-your-face with folks still angry about George Floyd and the riots).

Of the two options given, the second one is farthest away from other buildings that could be devastated when the police eventually give another reason for protests to happen.

Some also feel that the old site is a waste of valuable real estate, and the new location is better placed.

I've always felt the current location of the precinct was a real void that detracted rather than added to our neighborhood commercial district. I would prefer another location other than the current location so that it would free up that current location for an organization or business befitting that location, and an entity that would engage and add to the community/neighborhood.

#### Opportunity for better design

Strength of theme MEDIUM **Many** participants also believe that the new site will have more space for parking and for community-centered design (N=48).

A better option would be to design a larger space and have additional parking.

It (the new location) has wider street and [is] less congested, larger acreage for operations and public access, parking space for the public and easier access to major streets of the other parts of the 3rd Precinct. It has a more open area and would be more welcoming to pedestrians, bikes and the seniors who drive.

*I think it should move to allow for any new improvements and access problems the old building might have had.* 

The new location provides more space and will allow for a police station to be designed for the future.

# Factors to be Considered in Site Selection

Participants suggested some factors to be considered when constructing the MPD building. Some included type of location, design considerations, and safety considerations.

#### Avoid residential areas or commercially valuable areas

That the City should avoid selecting residential areas or business districts to protect the safety of people and properties.

We do not want to have conflict. There are so many people living around the original location. We do like to have peace and safety for all the people in the area.



I want it farther away from my house. I don't want to be too close to the station; it could be dangerous to be their neighbor if unrest happens again.

As a business owner, I have always wondered why they put government buildings on high value commercial property. To me it doesn't make sense to put it there, right on Lake Street. There are other city government buildings there, but it doesn't make sense from a business perspective.

#### Welcoming facility building

#### Strength of theme

Many participants want the building to be designed in a way that makes it welcoming to the public (N=65) They emphasized the building should not be a

fortress that discourages people from engaging the police. They also added that the building should have adequate parking.

How about creating a different kind of building that incorporates a variety of community services and encourages a more community-minded approach to policing? Or several smaller buildings rather than one large "fortress"?

My hope is that the building will be easier to access for those of us who live in the neighborhood. The old building was both intimidating and difficult to use. I hope this one is more open.

It would be a meaningful action to rebuild a better and more responsive building than the fortress that stands now (sort of). It would need to be reimagined as more of a community resource than a punitive bunker for bad and dangerous people and things, and it would need to look the part, too. I've only been in that building once or twice in my 24 years here, and despite being part of a pretty non-threatening demographic, it was intimidating. We need "welcoming" and "safe" to be what people think of.

*I just hope something gets built with parking for the public and to include the community in the building.* 

#### Community-focused building



# Many participants suggested the MPD building should be community focused with a mixed use of community, retail, or green space (N=42).

I would like to see a smaller footprint for the precinct building and shared public access to the space. I don't want another entrenched fortress in my community, and I encourage the city and designers to be mindful of the need for more community access. I hope that relocation can provide some of these options.



I think that we should expand our use and will need a larger location. Look at the Bloomington center for concept. Fire, police, city offices, art and theater space, public space. George Floyd community center. Don't limit it to one use.

I don't have an opinion about the building, but I don't want to see it as an authority. I would like to see a park around it, a Starbucks, community service, and a library. Not a big authority. I don't want it to feel distant from the community. Have connections with the community. If it is not that, it will look like fighting enemies pushing against each other. It is time to move on and find healing.

Contrarily, some participants do not believe that a mixed-use building is feasible because people will not feel comfortable in the space.

Even if there were "community meeting spaces," many organizations would not feel comfortable using a police precinct as a community space.

I wanted to talk about the mixed-use aspect of it. I used to be a social worker with the county. Even the county would say don't meet with clients in our building because it is sterile. I don't know any social service agency that would intentionally put itself in that building.

#### Engage local architects and artists to design the building

It was suggested the City should engage local architects and artists of color in the design of the building.

More conversation should be about implementing architects of color. Not make it look like a jail. Give it some new life.

*I would like to see the engagement of local minority artists and horticulturists to transform the existing cop shop.* 

#### Time factor



One of the major reasons why a significant number of participants selected the current site ahead of the proposed new site was the completion time (N=79). These participants desire to have the police in the neighborhood as soon as

possible due to growing insecurity in the area.

I am in favor of the building being built at the same site. The main reason is the 18 months. A new site would take years. It's important to have a police presence. The other building is a downtown kind of building. It doesn't seem like a community building. I think we need a building as soon as possible.

Getting the precinct back should be considered with urgency.



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I believe that it is important to keep a police precinct in this area to ensure that officers can respond in a timely manner to critical incidents e.g., gun violence in our community.

Some participants believe criminals are taking advantage of the lack of police presence and slow response times to carry out illegal activities. (See section 'police response times' https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/3rd-precinct-building/purpose-impact/)

The bad guys know that the 3rd Precinct is closed, response times are down, and the precinct is not as safe as it once was.

*I live in the area and am unhappy with response times from the police over the last two years. We need the 3rd Precinct police back in the 3rd Precinct.* 

Some participants want something more urgently, even if they are temporary sites, to improve security in the area.

The reason I encouraged precinct satellites is that we need at some point to actually enforce the law. In 2021, 4,300 cars were stolen in Minneapolis with 16 arrests and only five were prosecuted. Now, it's 8,000. Kids are making bad decisions over and over again because there are no consequences.

That's why I'm thinking that we should have a temporary place for the precinct while this is happening. I think that's what we need for better security for my business and my family.

#### Cost factor

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Strength of<br/>themeSome participants want city leaders to be conscious of the cost of developing a new<br/>MPD building (N=53). They are wary of how the cost will affect Minneapolis<br/>taxpayers.

The cheapest option. In fact, if it could be a more fiscally responsible 3rd option, I'd vote for that. Having to foot the bill with public funds is a shame.

Why would you even consider a proposal to spend nearly double my tax money on that? It's frankly insulting.



Participants stated the money could be put to better use. They also feel that the MPD does not deserve extra funding considering the atrocities they have committed and the cost of settlements that the MPD has cost city taxpayers


My primary motivating factor is cost. The MPD should not have the public fund an expanded precinct as an indirect result of the murder of George Floyd.

I do support going back to even questioning why we need to spend even more money on a new building for a police department that is effectively defunding the city with its constant drain on the budget with all these settlements from misconduct and abuse.

# **Alternative Use of Current Site**

# Finding: The community wants to do something with the 3000 Minnehaha site & wants to do it quickly





A significant number of participants suggested alternative uses of the current site instead of an MPD building. Many feel repurposing the site for other uses will be more beneficial to the community given its symbolism and the events of the past 26)

years (N=226).

#### Desire to do something with the former site urgently



Many participants emphasized the urgency of dealing with the original site because it has been an eyesore and a symbol of trauma for the community for many years. They want the City to take care of the site as soon as possible (N=56).

I want to know why that building is still such an ugly eyesore with razor wire on it. I understand it can't be torn down, but do we have to have it remain looking like a war zone?

This eyesore has now been sitting there untouched for nearly three years. I fear if the new location is chosen, this highly visible corner will continue to be just another eyesore or empty lot at a very visible location in what was once a busy neighborhood hub.



#### Memorial for George Floyd and/or monument for the uprising



A significant number of participants feel the space should be used for the memorial of George Floyd, a monument to the uprising, or a museum of police

**STRONG** brutality. The site symbolizes something vitally important and should be used for that purpose given the events on the site. The site should be a reminder of everything that happened in 2020 so that history does not repeat itself (N=94).

It (current site) would be better used for a memorial of some sort, and a perpetual reminder to MPD of the impact of its actions.

The space at Lake & Minnehaha should be donated to George Floyd Global Memorial or a community mutual aid/policing alternative organization that would bring community members together to create a space of healing and strength.

The existing 3rd Precinct building should be left as a monument to police brutality and as a sign of violence created and encouraged by the police and national guard.

The original location should be turned into a monument to the uprising against police abuses.

#### Garden or green space

The current site should be developed into a garden or green space that the neighborhood needs.

As for the 3000 Minnehaha corner, a very sensitively designed, healing garden might be the way to develop that area. More green space is needed in that part of the neighborhood, anyway.

The Lake and Minnehaha location should be repurposed as much needed green space at a very busy, concrete heavy intersection. That green space needs to memorialize what happened there in June 2020 and why. It needs to be turned into a place of peace and reflection instead of the flashpoint for violence and police brutality that it was.

While some participants agree the site should be developed into a green space, they want it to be monitored so it does not turn into a hub for illegal activities.

I would like to see 3000 Minnehaha turned into a green space for community, but if that happens it needs to be monitored so it doesn't become a location of unsavory illegal activity like the space under the Hiawatha underpass (by Target) has become.



#### **Community center**

Strength of theme MEDIUM Many participants would like the current site to be redeveloped as a community center that serves the neighborhood (N=64).

The original location will be transformed into a center that benefits the community (just not in a law enforcement way). We would love to see, for example, a YMCA or public defender's office in the original location.

The old building should become a community center with meeting rooms, activity rooms, counseling offices, etc. Better way to honor the needs of the community.

Some want the site to be developed into a multipurpose community center that will enhance the development of the community.

Given the history of the uprising, this corner may better be suited for something new (that) is community oriented or allows for more expansion of the community engagement already started with Hook and Ladder, Hub, Farmer's Market, etc.

The old location can be converted into a combination of a garden with native plants, a community gathering space for meetings or exercise classes, a coffee shop that can hire and train foster-care teens with life skills (e.g., job skills, fiscal literacy, etc.), and a research-archival institute that documents and innovates efforts around the country and world to re-imagine police, restore police-community relations, etc.

The current location should be converted into mixed use community and commercial spaces, to promote healing and renewal, with green spaces across the street.

Some participants feel the site should be a community center that helps with the prevention of crime and violence or promotion of public safety.

Something positive should be done with the site, though. Mental health outreach services? Home base for nonpolice violence interrupters like Mad Dads?

#### Business or commercial center

The site should be converted into a business or commercial center given its prime location. Having a business or commercial center in the current site is a productive and progressive use.

The original location is symbolically an open wound. It should house some of the businesses that were destroyed during the unrest. Then it can be a symbol of healing.

My Longfellow neighbors and I really want to see the building demolished and the space given to some businesses so we can turn the location around for the better.



*I think if you think of the progress of the city, that space should not even be a precinct building. Make it a business.* 

#### Affordable or transitional housing

Some commented it be better used for affordable or transitional housing because of its proximity to businesses and public transit.

The original location is also a high-traffic location close to retail and transit and, as such, would be better suited to low-income residential use.

I don't want the precinct to be rebuilt and want it to become affordable housing for the unhoused and continued evicted camps.

Turn the housing down the street into transitional housing or a safe space. It doesn't take money away from taxes and get them into housing. Let's repurpose that building for good.

# **Alternatives to Spending Money on Precinct**



A significant number of participants with different views on the new precinct suggested ways to spend money to improve safety and community connections rather than just a police precinct (N=188). These include those who do not want a

new precinct at all, those who want neither site, those who selected the former site, and those who selected the new site.

#### Addressing the root cause of crime or alternatives to policing



Many participants feel that the money spent on policing has not yielded the desired outcome. Instead of spending more money on policing, the City should use the resources on crime prevention purposes (N=118) such as economic

support and addressing poverty, increasing food access, funding restorative justice, affordable housing, mental health and addiction funding, schools and education, and youth activities.



Affordable housing (N=38) and mental health and addiction support (N=30) rose to the top of the list for participants.

Serious consideration of using the resources that would be used for a precinct building for the behavioral crisis response teams, mental health responders, and other proven public safety measures that will promote community safety far more effectively than armed police.



It seems like saving by building at the existing site would make a lot of sense with a sincere commitment to community policing, using money saved for investment in the community, particularly affordable housing.

There needs to be resources put into support for the infrastructure in our community, community engagement, housing, etc.

The process should slow down and listen to the community and should not build any new precinct and should use the money towards education.

Behavioral crisis response teams need better equipment. There is clearly a need for more support for individuals in Minneapolis. I'm interested in seeing the response team get more resources, especially around Lake Street. I'd like to see a better response team in Lake Street. I don't want to see more armed police.

It's been torture for all of us. I can't think of anything positive I can say about it. The conversation should be about the alternative we need, mental health behaviors specialist, we should be looking at other resources, we need an AC in the schools. I have been around this stuff since the early '90s, so we need to talk about alternatives.

#### Funding police reforms

Some participants felt a better use of resources would be to fund police reforms and training. They believe investment in police training and cultural reforms will yield better outcomes than more investment in buildings.

I think it is disgusting we are spending all this money on buildings to house police that will continue to harm our communities. We need reform of the police before we continue to invest in infrastructure.

It will cost \$10 million less for the building to be located at Lake and Minnehaha Ave. Perhaps with the \$10 million difference between the two sites, you could actually spend money on retraining your officers.

The 3rd Precinct should be located at the original location. The money saved can be put to good use such as recruiting, training, community safety programs, etc.

We can use the money for other necessities, like more officers and training, etc.

The money could also be used to hire community liaisons who could work with the police as part of an improved staffing initiative. Community liaisons help build relations between police and the community members.



Police and community staffing is more important than the (3rd Precinct) building. They got rid of community liaisons in the neighborhoods. Getting rid of community crime prevention officers was a bad idea. They're the interface with community block clubs.

#### Funding community beneficial projects

Some would like to fund projects that are beneficial to the community and support healing.

The building at 3000 Minnehaha Ave should be a site of community services & healing, or additional housing. Please put the millions of dollars this project will cost into services that are actually beneficial to our community.

Please turn the old 3rd building into a place that will heal the community.

Some suggested funding community spaces including a George Floyd Memorial Square.

Reading between the lines, citizens in this group do not want to "reward" the police for their actions and provide them with a sparkly new building. They would rather put that money into training, community building, alternate response offices/actions/people, and also money for George Floyd Square.

# **Compromises in finding 3rd Precinct Location**

Some participants wanted to find a compromise between the vastly differing viewpoints surrounding the issue of rebuilding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct and policing in Minneapolis. Some suggestions include building the precinct while engaging in profound police reform simultaneously, build on the new site for less than \$26 million, and rebuild on the original site with a tribute to George Floyd. Others may see building cheaper satellite hubs around the precinct as a compromise solution (see section on 'Neither Precinct').

#### Rebuild with police reform

Some participants would like the City to rebuild the MPD building simultaneously with a reformed police force.

Focus should be reforming the police, not "punishing" building where police misconduct occurred.

*I prefer rebuilding in the same location with an emphasis on building positive relationships with community members.* 

I'm okay with either location and would like to see police that are responsive to the community that is missing.



#### Rebuilding on the original site with a tribute

Some participants want the City to rebuild on the original site and create a tribute for George Floyd and the uprising so that the past is not forgotten.

There could be a memorial to George Floyd added to the original location, something to make it special and a reminder of how the city and its people persevered after such a tragic event.

I prefer to have the shorter timetable IF this space includes a significant memorial to help us honor George Floyd and others who lost their lives or dignity to racism.

Rebuild but make it look different and memorialize the history in an honorable way.

There could be a memorial to George Floyd added to the original location, something to make it special and a reminder of how the city and its people persevered after such a tragic event.

#### Low-cost smaller building

Some participants suggested the City should consider a less expensive and smaller MPD building on the new site.

It seems like cutting the footprint down by half or more would be a really simple costcutting measure and be a powerful acknowledgement of the need to reduce policing.

I would like to see a better exploration of a third choice or reduced cost at 2600 Minnehaha. I would be in favor of a site at 2600 Minnehaha with similar costs to the proposed rehab on Lake Street.

Some would like to see a cheaper and less intimidating design.

Quoting a former City Councilmember, "I wish the city would use this opportunity to try something different. I think it is time to rethink the model of large fortress-like police stations".



# Finding 2: Community Responses to the Engagement Process

The participants expressed skepticism about the engagement process. Some do not trust anything coming out of the City or MPD. Many feel the City has not done anything to help people overcome the trauma of the lifechanging events. They expressed their amazement about how the City concluded that replacing the building comes before a process of truth and reconciliation. Most participants also feel the City is not giving them a real choice in determining the location of the MPD building by only offering two sites to choose from.

# Lack of Trust in the Process



A significant number of the participants expressed a lack of trust in this process (N=626) based on the City's handling of the murder of George Floyd and the uprising that followed. Participants felt this is an inauthentic process with a

predetermined outcome and the community engagement is just lip service. Many people do not feel heard, claiming the survey design was highly problematic because the choice was between just two sites without an "other" option. Many people chose not to participate in the survey, while some started the survey but did not complete it. Some participants are suspicious of the reason a choice on the new site is now being rushed despite the lack of communication about this issue from the City over the last three years.

#### Inauthentic engagement

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of the participants consider the process to be inauthentic (N=259+). Some are skeptical and suspicious of the process altogether, believing a decision has already been made, and the City is just manufacturing consent.

You have created a survey with two terrible options, and that is going to guide the results you get. You're going to say, "The community wants. . ." when you have set the terms of the conversation so that we cannot suggest a new or alternative way of doing things and we are going to be stuck in the same spiral of problems as before. We know change happens slowly. Building new systems takes time. But we are ready for change. Much of the community wants an option that is not being discussed.

*I refuse to answer question 2 until the MPD and City engage in a process of accountability and repair.* 

This is a manufactured false choice. It seems like the City has already decided.

I think this entire survey is a sham designed to manufacture consent and not a serious attempt to engage with the community.



But the community is upset that engagement includes "where" and really all the decisions have been decided. False engagement was a topic that the group agreed was the purpose of this meeting.

# A significant number believe this is a forced choice between two sites without giving people an opportunity to actually express their opinions or preferences (N=174).

This is a false choice. The community has not been consulted about whether or not a precinct should be built. The process of gathering "input" about this issue (where a precinct should be built) does not allow input about whether it should be built. It forces people to choose one site or the other, which will generate misleading data about what the community wants.

Why was the community not involved in deciding on those locations? After three years, this feels rushed in terms of community input. Are these meetings just a farce?

Some view the City's approach to this process as gaslighting, paternalistic, or manipulative.

I think it seems like the City sees us as a population to manage and not a community. That's the situation. I don't feel like they recognize the community.

Classroom management, experts on this they are trying to control us like school children.

It's like gaslighting a whole population of people. They (the police, city) don't want solutions. If they were looking for solutions, it would be different. We would not be talking like this.

#### Problematic survey

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of participants expressed the survey is problematic (N=75+) and some refused to participate because the question about the site is required to complete the survey online. Some decided to complete a paper survey so that they can write a third choice.

I'm a Minneapolis resident who tried to take the 3rd precinct survey online but stopped because it was structured in a false way that didn't give me an option to provide my true input.

I started the survey but was not allowed to proceed without making a choice between the two locations.

I was trying to fill out the Minneapolis third precinct survey, but it forces me to choose one of two predetermined locations. I don't think either location is good, but I can't



proceed if I don't select an answer. Can this please be fixed so that a response to question two is not required?

Some selected a site and wrote in that they did not want an MPD building in the precinct or either site in the open-ended question.

I only picked one in the question above b/c it's required to on this survey.

Based on the design of this survey, I was forced to select an option for question number 2. But if a third option was offered, maybe something like "None" or "Other", I would have selected that.

I don't think two options are sufficient and we shouldn't be forced to choose one of these.

This question is required and does not give me an option to provide feedback that a third choice is necessary.

#### City's lack of communication



A significant number of participants feel that the city is not communicating, listening, or providing relevant information regarding the process and public safety (N=76). They believe that the city is not engaging people to understand the issue or actually listen to the people that are mostly concerned.

I was a part of an LGBTIQQ, people of color, Trans group. The people who were most impacted. Biggest concern that we are not listening to people who are being impacted the most.

I kind of feel dejected. Like, I just have lost kind of hope that this process is going to result in what the citizens actually want. I feel like the City is just going to do what it wants, and we're just barking at a concrete wall. It has been going on for a while and it doesn't seem to be moving in the direction that I'm hearing the community saying it wants to move into. It's just moving in the direction the City wants it to move into.

Some community also expressed their frustrations that the mayor is not addressing the issue with community members directly.

I am yet to see the mayor try to rebuild trust, so I think I just really want to elevate how they are trying to rebuild trust. I want to see how you are investing money in the reconciliation process. They are not being accountable to the community. I have yet to see the mayor come to any sort of community meeting and listen to the people. You can't say you want to rebuild trust if we are not seeing any work being done toward



that. If the mayor doesn't take accountability, the mayor needs to take action to make accountability.

Can we please make this true community engagement. The mayor needs to come out here to listen and explain things to people. We know we can't always get what we want, but the mayor is not listening to us. He is gaslighting us. Come explain things to us instead of telling us what is going to happen. It is a twisted view of reality, and it is making us rage. I just want an honest conversation. It is the fourth time I'm sitting in a circle and talking and not getting any questions answered.

Some participants feel the process feels rushed after years of silence.

Part of my frustration is we've had to talk about what the building looks like and what it should entail. We're here again. I've sent emails and letters to the city. They don't respond. They don't listen to me. Then boom, we need a decision by June 1. Why does he want to get this done in two months? [The mayor is] not doing anything for years. I feel like we've been talking about the same thing for years. I'm concerned that a decision has been made already, and he'll do what he wants. It's supposed to be transparent, but the wrong time and location [for the meetings] are broadcast to the community. I'm encouraged by the new police chief. There is hope. (Strides) have been made, but we're still struggling to get the city to help us and listen.

The City is attempting to get away from legal sentiments, and why the rush.

They also are rushing this process! We need time to come up with the best solution before putting millions of dollars into something that no one wants.

#### Lack of information on the sites

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants expressed their frustrations at the City for not providing enough relevant information on the two sites for the people to make informed decisions (N=38). They want to know more about the criteria that were used to determine the locations and a deeper analysis of the costs. They felt that there was

a dearth of information offered about the other 27 sites that were not chosen. The lack of information causes some to be skeptical about the process and the intention of the City.

I'm neutral and trying to learn what the options are. I want the best solution. I would like to know more about what was presented as a third option. (The out of the box option.) There's a disconnect between the city council and this process. I feel like I don't have all the information.

Transparency of the estimate will give a better option in making the decision, or redesign option of the building.



I heard earlier some thoughts about like, why are there only two locations in the materials put out. Part of me wonders, if you always find the solution that you're looking for, right? So, why would these criteria necessarily be developed and why was it that through such a narrow lens that brought us the only two options?

I want to know why there are only two choices. I understand the five criteria limit the options, but I don't agree with the criteria and would like to know more about how they were developed. The appearance is that options were artificially limited.

#### Culturally unresponsive and community inconsiderate engagement



Many participants feel the engagement was not culturally sensitive and inconsiderate of the community trauma around the issues of policing in Minneapolis and how it may be re-traumatizing for participants (N=27). They believe that this process ignores the trauma that many people experienced during

the murder of George Floyd and the unrest that followed.

I want to hear them articulate the process. Is there assumption that our scars have healed; do they think that police brutality is gone? I acknowledge that we need to be safe. What is the difference between onsite precinct? Tell us the pros and con. I still see cops. What is the difference between the conversation we had three years ago and now and what has been done?

So you are actually liable for mental health issues that come out of these things. You're asking folks to relive their trauma, ongoing trauma, and speaking as someone who has a brain injury survivor to police department violence. You're asking us to come in and relive everything and you're not asking us to do that in an ethical way. I know there are a ton of care providers here and I'm sorry you're here.

*I understand we wanted everybody's input. Was it ever considered how it could trigger this community? How it could bring anxiety and depression, was this considered?* 

They also stated that engagements are not culturally responsive to include everyone. The means of communication were not inclusive and the engagement times were inconsiderate.

You sent out emails. Our community doesn't use emails. We need to be cognizant of that.

You have two meetings during our Iftar and Ramadan hours. This happens every year when it comes to the community locations. You hold community meetings, send emails, you send these meetings in the 3rd Precinct without respect.



#### Biased engagement

Some felt the data collection process is biased because the outreach was not well conducted. That the outreach excluded BIPOC communities whose voice are crucial in the conversation.

Hard to get into these meetings. Who did you reach out to? How do you reach out to people of color?

I heard someone shaming about how many white people are at this meeting. Where is the communication through any of these meetings? I heard about it through Twitter. The word about these meetings did not get communicated enough.

We are an entire group of white people. What about our BIPOC people? How have they felt? How have black people felt? Think about this. It's a complete erasure of the entirety of everything we went through.

#### Poor organization of community events

Some participants criticized the organization of the community events. They stated that their experience during the events affects their trust in the process.

This is my first meeting and I'm just bewildered at one microphone - that they share. Nothing for the audience? I mean um - they collect tax money. Our church is small and we at least have two mics you share back and forth. So, I can't say I saw anything that ... made me feel confidence in the city.

If you really want a good discussion, there are the schools. Because they picked this place. At Roosevelt they started 40 minutes late. If you put people in this structure, you give them permission to do what they have done for 100 to 200 years.

## **Feelings About the Process**

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants expressed their frustration and anger about the process (N=35+). They stated that they do not believe the City actually cares about their opinions or feelings. When asked about how they are feeling, some participants expressed that they are sad, conflicted, angry, disappointed, curious, scared,

irritated, or anxious. Some participants also expressed their feelings about the process physically by crying or yelling.

*I am very disappointed with the process of how to determine the future of policing in the 3rd Precinct.* 

This whole process is a sham. The in-person event at Roosevelt HS was a sh\*t show. No other words to describe how the community was "heard/involved."



I am comfortable to be angry with the City.

I feel angry, sad, and don't trust the City.

Despite the frustrations and anger, some participants expressed that they appreciate the process because they were able to hear from one another, learn new things, and express themselves. They believe that more of these conversations are needed to move forward as a community. One participant said that it was refreshing to see the council members in the meeting, another felt hopeful that the community can come together to heal, and another felt that the meetings were productive.

Communication was more mutual, more working together, and having ideas towards a common goal. The idea of community outposts seemed to keep coming up and excitement was palpable.

I wish we could have more of this kind of conversations.

We have lived on both sides of the precinct. For me there is a lot of grief. I'm grateful that we are having this conversation. I feel like we just need a lot of time. I'm short of words; I feel grief and hope.

Some participants said that the small groups allowed them to express their thoughts and not be overridden by the "loud" voices.

I think having small groups are good. You take a breather and then start putting answers on the table. Then someone else puts answers. Listen. Share.

I don't like it when people don't let other people speak. I like small groups. I think this is a good approach. I love the city. And looking forward to conversation.

I have been exposed to 45 minutes of people yelling, and some we can't hear them. I would like these group meetings to be done first before the gathering meeting. Some people left already because they were so turned off by the argument and with that their voices were not heard.

# Process in the Wrong Order (cart before the horse)

A significant number of the participants believe that wrong questions are being asked, and the City is "putting the cart before the horse." They believe that healing, truth, restorative justice, and reconciliation process should precede any conversation about the building. The participants believe that the City and MPD should take responsibility for the death of George Floyd and the destruction that followed. They feel that the City owes the residents an unreserved apology for the trauma that the people experienced during the uprising. Many also said that instead of asking about Site A or Site B, the conversation should be about the future of



public safety in the city. They believe that the discussion should center on what makes people in the 3rd Precinct feel safe and what public safety should look like. This will allow the community to develop ideas for public safety and discuss what police reform and renewed trust between the MPD and the community look like.

#### Acknowledgment and healing before building



Acknowledgment, healing, truth, and reconciliation should happen before there could be any conversation about the building, according to a significant number of participants (N=136). A significant number of community members said they are

still hurt and traumatized. Many feel that conversation about the building is not appropriate at the moment because no one has taken responsibility for what happened, and community members have not been apologized to by the City or MPD.

Restoration then building, that's the order, the order of events, Why are we giving them a fancy building without focusing on police brutality and healing everyone who was traumatized.

It's kind of ridiculous to be asking us this without doing any healing with the community and making any substantial changes to the police system.

Many participants stated that a healing and reconciliation process is critical to the community members to rebuild trust with the City and MPD.

I don't think we should be having this conversation until truth and reconciliation work about what led to the building being set fire has happened. My kids and I were gassed and shot (when) peacefully protesting the murder of George Floyd. The police had clear contempt for the people of this town, and no one seemed to be in charge. Why have you not established a commission to explore what happened? How can you talk about bringing back the precinct before you've listened to people and done the work needed to repair relations? This is so offensive and insulting. And this two-choice survey adds insult to injury.

I don't think any 3rd precinct building should move back until there has been a serious truth and reconciliation process.

I refuse to answer question 2 until the MPD and City engage in a process of accountability and repair. While truth and reconciliation sound good, it begins with the harm-doer acknowledging the harm. We are waiting.



#### Police reform before building



A significant number of participants feel that police reform should happen before a new building is considered (N=160). They do not believe that a new building will make the MPD better or improve public safety. Some also believe that a new precinct should not be considered until trust is rebuilt with the community, police

culture has changed, and there is accountability. Some community members are calling on the City and MPD to actively involve the community in creating effective police reform (see Finding 5 for participants' ideas on effective police reform). Some community members feel abandoned by the City and MPD because nothing has fundamentally changed to improve the MPD since their murder of George Floyd and that recent attempts at police reform have not been effective.

As I look at all that's going on, I think the wrong question is being asked. Do we want the precinct here or do we want it there? If you have bees in the hive and you take them to another hive, will they become butterflies? No, they will still sting. We have to convert them to another situation. In this, the bees are called cops. People are going to get anary; they are going to explode. We need reform, we need police, we need bullets. We need good bullets and we need good police. We would love them. We would support them. If they were good. I ask: Has the city and the police department met with the neighborhood? The answer was no. You need to come and talk with us. We need to put together a small group to talk and itemize points that we need to reform. Let us sit down and discuss. This is the way we think we should have the office operate in our community. Do we want the next police station to be burnt down? More people are going to die. If it happens again, it will be worse. It will be horrible because we have not gotten rid of the bees that caused it. So let us get together and start from the bottom. We come together and come up with some ways, small outposts, every two or three blocks have a representative. We don't want a big fortress for our police; we want a small group to work together.

The City must commit to reforming the police and publicly and transparently address the significant human rights violations before attempting to present options to spend my property tax dollars to build a new precinct. You must restore community trust first.

There should not be a physical location in the 3rd precinct at all until the community feels that police culture and accountability has changed.

I want to focus on trust, and you are right, we have not had a part of trust. I am seeing this process tonight as an example of that lack of trust. You have before George Floyd, and you have after George Floyd, but we still have the eyesore and tragic reminder of the building that remains. That undermines my whole frustration. I know they said they would make a change, but it seems the chief has not stood there and supported the consent decrees. And then the city comes along with a very restrictive choice of buildings



and process, in a very short timeline. It does seem to be a matter of the cart before the horse. There are people who don't feel safe with the police and don't feel safe without the police service. Car stealing – over 2,000 stolen and 18 arrests. How can I have trust in them if they are not showing up to do the job, and that raises a whole level of anxiety in lots of people. The police have to get themselves right with the community before anything else happens.

Some participants feel that the consent decree should be implemented before any conversation about the building.

Minneapolis should not spend millions of dollars on a building a new 3rd Precinct building or renovating the old one until the MPD substantially complies with the terms of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights consent decree and repairs its relationship with the local community.

It is too soon to talk about building something when we don't know what policing in Mpls will look like after the two consent decrees are satisfied.

Some feel that the consent decree will not change the police culture or solve all the problems.

I'll also just say the fact that they signed the consent decree does not automatically change the culture of the Minneapolis Police Department. Then there's still a federal consent decree. it seems like they're maybe putting the cart before the horse.

# **Conducting a True Engagement Process**

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of participants had ideas for how they think the City should have designed this engagement process (N=91). Several participants suggested that the City should conduct a true engagement process, and let people from the

affected neighborhood decide what they want to do about the 3rd Precinct MPD building. Some believe that:

- The City should conduct a deep engagement process, canvassing, adopting community innovation
- The City should truly listen to the community
- The City should completely reimagine public safety
- The City should stop this process and start again
- The City should involve the community more in the decision-making process
- The City should listen most to those who are most affected by police violence
- The City should bring the MPD building decision to a vote in the 3rd Precinct





Many community members want the City to involve the community more in the process to rebuild trust and decide what to do about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct building (N=30). This deeper involvement would involve including community members earlier in the decision-making process, such as allowing community members to

give feedback on the criteria used to choose prospective sites.

I would like to see a vote within the 3rd Precinct, whether it would be in the 3rd Precinct and, if not, where.

We need months and months of conversations and a process that will allow for healing to happen before we are part of something like this. Ideally, the community will be a part of it from the beginning (selecting criteria and other).

The City has skipped over a crucial part of this process inviting the community to participate in conversations that informed options for the 3rd Precinct. Failing that, the City has breached our trust again. This process should be paused, reevaluated, and redesigned to actually engender community buy-in.

Turn this part of the city into a pilot program for true police reform & community engagement! The city should spend money on canvassing every resident & business owner (in every language!) to find out what they want for a safe community. From that data, the city should draw up a "list of preferred conditions" and search for potential sites.

#### Ask Different Questions and have a different conversation

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants believe the City is asking the wrong questions in this process (N=50). They had many ideas on other questions that would be more fruitful:

- What does the community need?
- Should there be a precinct?
- What police reform do we need?
- What would make you feel safe?
- What does public safety look like?



# Finding 3: Community Impact of George Floyd's Murder and Ensuing Unrest

The murder of George Floyd and the unrest that followed left a long-lasting mark on the community, according to the participants. The murder of George Floyd brought the attention of the whole world to the neighborhood, and the uprising that followed caused fear and trauma and damaged the economy of the neighborhood. Many of the participants felt betrayed by City leadership and decried the responses of the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) to the uprising and the murder. Many felt abandoned during the uprising and are still feeling abandoned because the City has not done enough to help the neighborhood recover emotionally or economically. Many of the participants described the trauma of the murder and the destruction that followed. Some also added that the aftermath of the events has led to increasing crime and insecurity in the neighborhood, which impacts community members and businesses.

# City and MPD Response to George Floyd's Murder

A significant number of participants expressed their disappointments about the Strength of response of the City and the MPD to George Floyd's murder and the uprising. They STRONG stated that the City failed to effectively address the murder or the uprising that

followed. (N=144) Some participants were astonished at the contempt that the city has for human life.

It is shocking to me that there was so much hemming and hawing over whether or not police could murder someone in public after George Floyd was murdered. The sounds from the city were deafening silence about whether or not these people did anything wrong and should be punished. The media too obviously are in close ranks with the city and police. So any and all trust in local media in this town also went out the window with the trust of the police and the trust of the government. They are all just one symbiotic system. A way of distributing the blame among agencies so one can be fitted with all of it. Then, of course, I saw the police assault my community for weeks, but the days got quieter. Then just seeing the police get away with abusing this other person or didn't charge the pawn shop owner who shot a guy in the back. Just seeing the contempt that the city has for the people who live here has really opened my eyes.

#### Abandonment by the City and MPD during the uprising

Some respondents felt that the City and MPD intentionally chose not to respond to the suffering of the community during the uprising. They believe that the City and MPD abandoned the community to punish them for the response to the murder of George Floyd.



theme

You know there was the report you referred to that was done by the human rights commission on the police. They found there was an intentional hold-up on the police's end. Regardless of how many people were there, it feels to me through this report that that was retribution to the community. What other profession can do that?

Yes, and the whole city became victims of them using their resources to punish all of us for the response to the event. Honestly, the police response after the murder has informed me about the way the police really respond.

We could see flames and smoke and could smell it. One of the things that came out of that was how our block and our community came together to keep us safe when MPD not only didn't show up, but they had started the crisis. I am feeling rage that this is the process. You can come here and talk, but we don't care. Leaving us in a situation again where we have to take care of ourselves. I feel disrespected by the city.

I guess for me, it was one of the worst things that could have ever happened to somebody. I felt we were abandoned. Got calls the national guard would be there and did not come until the building was burning. I called 911. The press got the phone call in distress when they were taking the post office vans and slamming into buildings. I was there the whole time.

#### **Escalation by MPD**

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants blamed the MPD for escalating the protests after the murder of George Floyd (N=27). They stated that the police turned peaceful protests into a riot by their actions and responses to protesters. Many shared accounts of the MPD showing up in riot gear and spraying tear gas at peaceful protestors or even

bystanders. Participants also described the MPD hunting down and shooting community members during the protests, including the account of live ammunition being shot toward a toddler. One participant described how they were shot in the eye by MPD during the protests, losing an eye and their sense of smell and having their life completely changed.

The 3rd Precinct Police station was a threatening presence in the neighborhood before the George Floyd murder. But after the police chose to arm up with riot gear, in formation and use tear gas on peaceful protestors, the corner became a warzone, and our neighborhood was traumatized. The police were nowhere present after they abandoned the building. Bad memories!

I will speak about the impact of the police action. I was there the next day at the march at the precinct building. I had been at the 3rd precinct years before for the police killing. The MPD fortresses up. This profound experience ripped the social fabric apart. People from out-of-town were looting, burning buildings down. In response to instead of coming out and talking to us. Instead, they tear gassed the people. The social fabric just ripped further. There is a layer of the city that does not care if it is ripped over and over again as



long as certain people feel safe. To know that there will not be justice for this is the anger I feel.

I remember standing on that roof (of our brewery business) and watching the police line directly outside of our door getting their whatever teargas or their less-than-lethal weapons aimed at me on the roof. We were all up there, but because I was holding a cell phone and maybe a beer in one hand, you know, like just recording. They turned their spotlights and their weapons on us when we were just standing on the roof, and we were like, "Woah, woah, woah."

#### Distrust of City and MPD

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of participants stated that the response of the City and MPD to the murder of George Floyd and the following unrest and destruction causes them to have a deep distrust of the City and MPD. (N=500+) There was mistrust of the City and MPD before the event, but their response to these traumatic events

caused many people to make up their minds.

The trust of the community has been broken, and you hear a lot of angry people because the trust has been broken. We don't believe they will protect us due to the way they have been treating people in the community, especially the black folks.

The community does not trust MPD.

# Limited Police Response and Increased Insecurity



In the aftermath of the uprising, a significant number of the participants **indicated that there have been limited responses from the police, which has led to increased crime and insecurity in the 3rd Precinct (N=138).** Business owners reported an increase in crime due to the lack of police presence and slower

response times. Some individuals also stated that they do not feel safe and are experiencing trauma due to high incidents of theft, carjackings, drug use, and dealing, etc.

#### Limited police response

The reduced response from the police is affecting the regular course of events in the area, according to some participants. Some participants stated that police are no longer patrolling the area, which is affecting the neighborhood negatively.

The police monitoring of the residential portions of the neighborhood is almost nonexistent compared to the before times.

The biggest thing is that we lost two things: the precinct and the post office. I use the post office a lot. I had a car accident, and I could not get to the police. I usually go right



to the precinct and fill out a report. Now I can't get the form online; I have to go to the state office. We have lost government services.

I used to see police cars cruising through the neighborhood every day. Now I don't know what a police car looks like. How much does it cost to house them elsewhere? The police need to be connected to us and we to them.

#### Growing insecurity

Some participants stated that crime has been growing rapidly in the neighborhood since the incidents. Many participants no longer feel safe because the police are no longer in the neighborhood. They added that many residents are moving out of the neighborhood due to the growing insecurity.

The crime along Lake Street has increased since the police station was overtaken by protesters. I avoid Lake Street as much as possible, as do most of my neighbors. We live within walking distance. As much as I would like to frequent the small businesses along Lake Street, it is not safe to do so.

I was sitting in my kitchen this week and two people came to my neighbor's Hyundai, so I called 911 and the phone rang eight or nine times. What was going on? And in the past, cops would come soon and now not. In the meantime, the neighbors came home, the thieves scattered. The car was not stolen but damaged.

My two sons, again adopted black men, have decided to leave the city because it feels awful and dangerous. He is afraid of how things are degrading without any sort of structure.

Car thefts are so common that we avoid going to certain places in the city, especially since we have a KIA. We have lived in the city and loved it for almost 20 years, but recently we have begun to look for housing in Burnsville, Eagan, and Apple Valley due to the increase in crime. We were really hoping to see change, and we want tougher crime laws.

#### Impact on other basic services

Some participants stated that the limited police presence and the ensuing growing insecurity is affecting other basic services. Basic services that they used to have in the community are no longer available. Some participants stated that the LRT station is no longer safe due to the riot and criminal activities.

Lake Street and the transit station have become totally unsafe since the murder of George Floyd and the resulting protests. Community members no longer take the light rail, nor do many walk or bike up to Target, Aldi, or Cub Foods. In fact, many neighbors



go to stores outside of our neighborhood because they don't feel safe in the parking lots near home.

I feel we have been without a police presence for too long already. We need to hire, build a 3rd Precinct, and live our lives again. At the moment, we still have no Post Office, Walgreens, or 3rd Precinct. I know many others my age feel like I do but we are not aggressive in shouting wars.

I cannot say enough about the behavioral crisis response teams. Many responses we go on, I'm amazed at what our dispatchers do. We can't respond if there's information about weapons. There has to be some sense of safety. There has to be a security process. Timely. Needs to be a law enforcement presence to respond quickly. I agree they need to have a change in how they respond. I need law enforcement side to do my job and try to serve the city.

A service provider shared the experience of working without the police in the area

The next day I was out on the street trying to put out fires in our city where I live with my family. (Sometimes) we could not respond because it was not a secure area. I understand the emotion that led to that, but I also know the side of trying to provide service for the city. There's lots of problems with law enforcement but we can't get service in certain scenes that aren't protected. I love my job and try to do the best I can, but it's a hard job.

# **Economic Impact**

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

Many participants discussed the economic impact of the uprising on the community. They stated that little has been done to help struggling businesses in the community (N=33). A lack of police presence in the community has affected small businesses negatively, especially the Latino and American Indian businesses

concentrated along the Lake Street corridor. They added that some big companies have left and believe that others might be considering leaving the area.

For the sake of the businesses who are struggling to get going again, they should have nearby protection and greater security confidence with less fear.

After Floyd, the auto repair business opposite mine had to close two years ago because their cars kept getting stolen. A lot of businesses have been closed due to theft, and a lot of people don't feel safe.

It's great to have a new building, but I'm so scared of what's going to happen before it's done. We get spray painted. It's like you have a brand-new building and people are going to wreck it. For other business owners in Lake St. Alignment process, we are hiring a consultant to help the business owners go through the trauma. When we have all these computers in there and we get broken? We pay the highest insurance to do



business on Lake Street if we don't have the presence of police at all. We have American Indian business in the area. Lake street alignment process. Longfellow rising. We're coming together as one and hiring a consultant. Of all the 430 businesses involved in this is the crime that happens every day. The other Indian organizations are not dealing with what we have to deal with. We are paying ridiculously for insurance. Instead of building a \$5 million building, it's a \$7 million building. Constant claims. We're not the only business it's currently happening to. The current location, if it costs more to rebuild farther away, the presence is needed (current spot). We are right across the street and the businesses are gone. I'm speaking on behalf of most businesses of color on Lake Street.

We are afraid our shops will close down. Taco Bell just closed down. Right now we are providing transportation for our grandma and mothers because we need to get them there (to the store, etc.). We are afraid of what will go next. I can't go down the street at 4 p.m. I walk into the Holiday on Franklin, "Are you here alone?" they ask. We have had three carjackings in one week. One just pumping gas, another just facing west. Now the question is does Holiday stay open? The only place to get gas is past Chicago Ave. We became a food dessert, no grocery stores. On Lake Street you have Walgreens rebuilding, and they are trying to decide if they will open. The years of challenges continue, when will it stop?

I went to the farmer's market. Starting to look like a great urban area. Gandhi mahal, Mexican restaurants, Native American. Feeling like a nice urban area. And now it's gone, nothing has replaced it. The whole intersection has been destroyed because of bad actors in policing.

In Aldi, a security guard stopped a person carrying two bottles of laundry detergent. Will it close like in north Minneapolis? What will happen in our neighborhood? It's not algebra, it's calculus dealing with this.

## **Emotional Impact**

The participants described how the events affected social life in the area. Many of the participants reported the trauma they felt by the death of George Floyd, the uprising that followed, and the police response (or lack of response) to that uprising. The participant stated that the murder of George Floyd was horrific and awful to watch.

The George Floyd murder I think we can all agree was horrific to watch and awful for all.

The murder of George Floyd affected me with great sadness and shame for my city and the police dept.



#### Impact of community members



Many of the participants indicated that they still live in fear and struggle to move on from the events. The experience is still haunting and traumatizing many people (N=56). Some bemoan the losses in the community and struggle to see how the community will move forward.

I live around a block from where the police murdered George Floyd and I got to see Lake Street go on fire. It's where people who speaks Spanish get to gather. Seeing that go away is sad. I think that the trauma people have been speaking about reminded me of how I felt in 2020. The trauma isn't going away anytime soon, and that is what I feel ever since then.

There are so many triggering noises. I've hit the floor whenever I hear helicopters.

I live in Phillips neighborhood. I've been a block leader. On my board, Weed and Seed in the' 90,s and we helped get a lot of the immigrant businesses and restaurants. And when I saw that cop kill George Floyd. I got sick to my stomach. It's the worst thing I've ever seen other than in the movies. I got sick to my stomach. But then, when I saw Lake Street burning down, I just looked and said there goes 40 years of work.

I cried. I watched my neighborhood go into flames. It was awful.

I was probably the only person there that wasn't afraid and was there. It was very disturbing. Seeing that video...my son who is in 5th grade and he goes, "That looks like dad." My husband is a large, bald black man. It was very challenging personally and I worked so hard in getting that new building for the organization within the community. Everything was brand new in there and to watch it burn was devastating. [Starts crying].

#### Long-term impact on trauma on youth and children

Some participants are concerned about the long-term impact of the trauma on youth and children who lived through the events. They believe that this even will have long-term effects on these kids.

My 5 year old was 2 when George Floyd was murdered. He knows what a flash bang sounds like, what tear gas sounds like. He can identify a military helicopter, a police helicopter, and how they are different from a medivac helicopter. This is not what the residents want.

A lady talked about the impact it (the event) had on her students and what she hears from them is that most of them live within the precinct. The trauma has the biggest impact on her student.



I was a 4th grade teacher in south Minneapolis. Kids are already severely lacking in civil decorum. Now those 8th graders, 7th graders, and 6th graders are in high school, and they are still grappling with how to participate, given the distrust they have learned.

### **Social Impact**

#### Strength of theme MEDIUM

While most of the experiences of George Floyd's murder and the aftermath are negative, some saw some silver linings. Many participants said that members of the community came together to protect one another during the uprising (N=51).

The Longfellow Market didn't get damaged because neighbors stood out in front and the fact that this strength is in our community says a lot. The city should lean on us and not just sit back. There are awesome smart people that live in the neighborhood. Let us lean into that, our neighborhoods, our neighbors.

Some believe that the uprising built a sense of togetherness that helps community members know each other better and communicate more.

Neighbors communicate more and feel a sense of safety because of the uprising and the pandemic. That's been moving. Neighbors are much more active in getting to know each other. I feel much more secure on my block. One of many pieces that can be held in our community.

It brought our community a little bit closer together, and we were able to talk about some of these issues that have been kind of lying under the surface, so I feel like that was a great learning opportunity. I think a lot of growth has happened in the community.

Others said that the events also positively affected the discussion about race and white privilege.

I'm biracial. Black parent and white parent. Part of my childhood was interacting with the police. I grew up being nervous about my father being stopped. Imagine what it would be like to have your life ruled by that. I think the uprisings were many things and one part is genuine excitement about what it would be like to have real dialogue. People have new consideration for what it means to be a person of color. That's a big change. An opportunity for change.

I would be excited to engage with groups to talk about smaller enterprises. I do think the time is ripe now. The aftermath of George Floyd is that things blew open and the good thing is that it blew things open. I want to discover what I can do to engage and initiate change. It may ripple to big effect.

Another participant believed these events have divided the neighborhood.



The leadership was working to have police be more serviceable. Developed crime prevention program. Designed 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct and had community meetings in original 3rd Precinct in the '80s. I don't think that's what happened in the last 20 years. And when you elect people, it makes a difference. And we're divided in the city right now, and we have council members who hate police. We cannot say that we don't police; we need better police.

# **Out-of-Town Rioters**

Some of the participants felt that the protesters and "rioters" were not speaking for the community or protesting for George Floyd. They believe that the protesters who participated in the destruction were not community members but opportunists from outside of Minneapolis who were only interested in destruction or personal gain. These people were characterized as having the privilege to come in, start a fire, and leave.

I stayed up all night. On the way here, I went to Cub Foods and the community was astonished about what was going on. The people who lived in our neighborhood where the riots were taking place were <u>not</u> people from my neighborhood. The people from my neighborhood were shocked.

I do believe there were outside groups coming in and taking advantage of the agony and grief of the neighborhood. I do believe it was planned by them.

Out of town gangsters were buying propane tanks and 2x4's at my Richfield Menards to blow up cars. Most stayed up for nights and watched the coverage on all the local channels. Just horrible behaviors from alleged humans.

Yeah, there were a lot of people from out of state, and we were actually recording license plates for those that did have license plates on them. Evidently there were seven different radical groups from both sides of the spectrum that were told to come to Minneapolis because that's where it's all happening. And there was one guy with a pickup truck out in my neighbor's front yard and he had a big gas can in his back. He had Oklahoma license plate, and they went out and they said, "Um, can we help you?" because he was sleeping in his car that night – in his truck. And he says, "Oh, I'm just here to help." ...Oh, yeah, right. Some other people from out of state parked right on our block and one guy ran right through my yard, I said, "Um, did you just run through my yard?" and he goes, "Yeah." He has an out-of-town plate, and he goes, "We're just picking up my cousin." They were from all over and were just all converging.

One participant believed those who burned buildings in the 3rd Precinct after the murder were frustrated and did not feel heard, and therefore felt property destruction was the only way to be heard.



I think sometimes that (riot) is maybe what it takes for people to listen. My opinion is that people weren't being heard.

Another participant expressed concern that the City/MPD will use the "outside instigator" narrative to control opposition, allowing them to say that the local community is supportive of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct and policing.

It is a prevailing theme they will use the language of the outside instigator to control opposition.

# Summary

The impact of the murder of George Floyd and the unrest that followed is mostly negative and has lasting effects on community members, according to the participants.

# Finding 4: Community Perception of MPD

The participants described their perception of the MPD and its activities as the City's law enforcement agency. Many participants feel the MPD is ineffective, overly aggressive, and dehumanizing to certain communities, in particular BIPOC communities. Some participants feel that closer proximity of the precinct will not affect response times because the police were not actually responsive before the building was burned. Some also said the police were selective and unfair in their responses to calls for help. A small number of the participants had positive views of the MPD and empathized with the difficulty of officers' jobs. They added that the police are understaffed and many of them are dealing with their own mental health concerns. Many agreed that some level of police reform is needed, regardless of where the new precinct is located.

# **MPD is Ineffective**



A significant number of participants felt that MPD has not been effective for some time and its presence in the area has not really helped (N=163). Some participants shared that their cases were never resolved, or the police do not take their cases seriously. They said the MPD does not prevent or solve crimes and officers'

approach is mostly nonchalant and sometimes dismissive. Some participants also added that police presence does not prevent crime on Lake Street. The perception of ineffectiveness made some participants lose trust in the MPD, and many do not believe that a new MPD building will change anything or improve community safety.



#### MPD is unresponsive

Some participants feel that the police did not respond to calls even before the murder of George Floyd and the uprising. They shared experiences of times when they had reached out to the police but did not get responses. Some also shared instances where they called 911 and calls were not picked up or no one showed up to help them. The participants added that some of the situations were fatal. This lack of effectiveness is one of the main reasons many participants no longer call the police for help.

My experiences have shaped where I want the new location. For me, before George Floyd, they never answered their phone. I remember calling once 10-12 times a day. I had to get in my car and go over there. Then there's no place to park. I ended up parking in the lot not knowing if I was legal or not. I don't consider that to be accessible. When listing criteria, easy access in and out of the building, and I thought for whom? Police. Or citizens? Or both? And is there going to be somebody answering the dang phone that time around? And then I showed up and there is a glass wall and they barked at me like your questions are stupid, just do this. Really unfriendly. Other experiences where there is a cop parking a car and I walk by with a dog, and they just sneer at you. And I'm like, aren't you here to serve the public and why can't you just be like, polite and friendly? And in the '80s I'd go to Cub Foods, and I realized he was bopping around at the end of the cash aisles, bagging people's groceries for them, saying hello, being kind and friendly. And I thought I can't be too mad about this, just trying to be a community cop, keep order.

As Africans, when we ask, we need to get an answer for it. In this area, there are a lot of kids who died in this area. In this area, if the police are far away and take time to rescue us, it will not be safe for our community. They weren't going to come anyways.

We have always seen people shot by around my area and the police won't show up.

Many participants emphasized that response times were slow in South Minneapolis (and elsewhere) even before the 3rd Precinct building was burned, and that police are selective in what and who they respond to in an unfair way.

*My experience is that the response times have always been bad, four years ago bad, bad now.* 

There was already violence happening when police were there. Responses were always late, businesses getting broken into.

In my experience as a Minneapolis resident, the cops don't respond to calls, or help at all. Invest this money into the community instead.



#### MPD is unhelpful

Some participants find the MPD to be unhelpful and believe police do not respond to issues positively. Some participants feel that the MPD treats the caller like a criminal, causing people to think twice before calling the police. They shared stories of the MPD actually instigating trouble and making situations worse.

My experience downtown.... We moved a year after George Floyd's murder. My car was stolen, my husband's laptop stolen, in our home, somebody came into our home. The police did not come. It took them four months for the 3rd Precinct to call me back. I have very little faith in the way 3rd Precinct polices its residents. It compounds the trauma. I have very little faith in the way the police treat residents that are victims of crime.

I had a situation with a friend who was missing, and I went to the 3rd Precinct to make a report, and the police officer was watching TV and didn't attend to us. We had to pay a drug dealer to help us find our friend.

I walked into the 3rd Precinct when a bike was dumped in my yard. They said they couldn't send anyone to pick it up and my best bet was to have someone bring it in. That's fine, I will. I was greeted like a criminal because where did I get the bike? I filed a report with 311 with the police. With that as a white woman, with all the privilege along in there.

This one time, I was like 19 [years old], and my little sister was getting messages from an older man. We knew who he was and where he lived. We went and told them [the police] we were scared. They said, "It's your phone, and you have him on social media. Just block them." And I said, he knows where we live. They said, "If he does something, call us." So, I didn't feel protected ... like they cared about me. I've experienced situations where I've called the police, and they treat me like a criminal. When I reported someone being dragged down the street, they treated me like I did something wrong. I don't want to call them anymore. My friends that are black are in more danger. It's just crazy.

#### MPD officers do not do their jobs

The police officers do not perform their roles in the community, according to the participants. Some feel that they are negligent and sometimes sit idly rather than fulfilling their duties, even when they are called. Some participants shared stories of police officers not doing their jobs. Others said they don't believe that the MPD actually prevents any crime.

Don't know if you remember, but in the gas station the police used to get together in big groups, like 10 or 15 officers for like half an hour, an hour. One time there was a black kid on my porch looking for a way to get in. But when I called the police, no one ever came. And when I went by the gas station, there were like 10-15 cops there. I had to run the kid off myself.



I want to share a personal experience from this week. My car was stolen and turned up yesterday. It had been on a crime scene with guns, drugs, windows blacked out and the keys are gone. Insurance says, "Get police to look at the evidence." They [police] laughed at me. I called the 5th Precinct four times. I called 411 and they said they [police] won't do anything. I spoke to an officer and told him everything that was in my car. He said, "Yeah, put it in a bag and drop it off at the front desk" [of precinct]. They don't solve or prevent crimes. They make it worse. And I'm saying that as a wealthy white man. They don't care.

Violent interrupters harm people, and when you get harmed by them you must go through a lot of issues to report them. My daughter was a community service officer, and she comes back home telling me how she eats all day and I reported that. Our community officers are not working but are getting paid. There is no accountability.

#### Lack of accountability in the MPD

Some participants feel that lack of accountability enabled bad behaviors within MPD because the officers can get away with anything. They added that badly behaving officers were never disciplined or corrected.

The chief of police doesn't discipline the officers who have bad behaviors, and the bad officers keep getting their jobs back.

I've never had a good connection with the police. I had an issue with an officer, and I called his sergeant. The sergeant said, "Well, why would I believe you over my officer?" This was many years ago, so it's been going on like that for quite a while.

#### Police living outside of the communities they serve

Some participants feel that the MPD officers do not connect with community members because they do not live in the community. They stated that officers only come to the community to police people and go back to the suburbs.

96% of police don't live here? Is that correct? I don't trust them. They've done nothing to earn my trust.

You want to build a \$26 million fortress to have your officers who don't live in this community and are unapproachable.

They don't live in the community they serve. They go back to the suburbs. Then come here and put a uniform on and police our people.

*I'm concerned about living in a neighborhood with police who don't live in it and cause harm to those who do.* 



Some feel that police should be required to live in the community.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct police don't know our neighborhoods anyway. They aren't living in our neighborhoods. They should be required to live in our neighborhoods and connect with the rest of our small communities for us to feel safe with them. Right now, they make us feel like intruders in our own neighborhoods.

Police need to live within the community they serve. They need to get to know the community and build a connection and give a damn and want to be involved.

# Violence and Excessive Use of Force

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of participants believe that MPD officers are historically and currently violent and excessively use force against residents (N=130). They described the atrocities that they have witnessed, experienced and are still experiencing from police. Some participants said they are hesitant to call the police

given how violent or racist they can be. They stated that MPD officers are predators and criminals who intimidate, harass, and traumatize people. There is a concern among some participants that the career of policing attracts people who want power and are willing to abuse their power.

#### Aggressive and violent behaviors

Some participants stated that they are not surprised by the murder of George Floyd because MPD officers are historically violent and aggressive. Some of the participants shared experiences that have left them with long-term trauma. Some of the experiences includes threats, loss of loved ones, and physical assault.

I wasn't surprised when George Floyd got murdered. The beatings, the harassing, they have been news stories since it became apparent in my mind since many years ago. On the one hand, it did not surprise me. It outraged me but did not surprise me.

I have had a lot of bad response with the police even before George Floyd died. I am always tense when I see a police car around. I always have to take a breath and calm down. I have had friends who have been brutalized by the police.

The last three years of dealing with the police have left me traumatized. My family experienced threats and violence from the police. I'm in therapy now.

I lost the father of my son due to police violence.



#### Excessive use of force and brutality

Some participants felt that MPD officers use force excessively and unnecessarily. Some of them shared their experience and said they are not confident in the MPD. Some believe the MPD has a lot of work to do to restore confidence in the community.

Personally, my partner and I were both hurt physically by MPD (thrown to ground, pepper sprayed, shot with marker round and rubber bullet) while peacefully protesting for George Floyd.

I remember a time at a gas station by Lake Street. Several people were walking to the gas station for video games and drinks including me, my cousin, and my brother. The police stopped us and said get on the ground and patted us down and personally grabbed us and got in my space. They put me in a police car and tried to shut the door and it was on my foot. They took us to the police station downtown and asked what we did, and we said we were walking to the store. They then said, we got the wrong guy, but you are out after curfew.

I can say of all the police that came through, the MPD were the worst. Always brought in people that were beat up and with dog bites. I had never seen dog bites before until I worked at the jail. I got a chance to see it when I worked at the jail. One of the nurses told me, watch the MPD. If they bring someone in with a hat, make them take it off. If someone has been in the hospital, make them show you their wounds. If they wear long sleeves, make them take it off. There are some good ones and not-so-good ones. The thing that surprises about our police is that they are militarized. If you remember protests at the government center and all that military stuff. It is frightening to see them with all that armor.

The 3rd Precinct had a pretty bad reputation for excessive force years ago and it will take time and a lot of concerted outreaches, community-building efforts, partnering with neighborhoods, community conversations, and showing up with humility and professionalism to start to heal from this reputation.

#### Costs city too much money



Many participants stated that the violence and brutality of the MPD officers already cost the City a lot of money (N=25). They added that it will be unwise to spend more money on them, especially on a new building.

Rebuilding at the current site is more favorable, cost-wise. Especially with all the money that the City is having to pay out for police brutality. The residents of this city who pay for the costs of these things would appreciate not having to pay more than necessary.



Telling that they had two settlements last week with Chauvin's victims. So my question is, what is being done right now that will result in settlements? That is 120 million in settlements in the last three years.

We heard 20-30 million and it will go to 50 million for the building. We also need to pay 120 million to cops that we paid out for their payouts. That investigation is \$20 million to George Floyd, \$22 million to Justine, \$7 million to Soren Stevenson, and \$600,000 (to) Linda Tirado wearing a press badge. You cannot in any way(or) shape reward the police with a new locker room until you address the systemic reasons that caused this.

## **Dehumanization of Certain Communities**

#### Strength of theme STRONG

A significant number of participants said that the MPD is a racist organization that dehumanizes members of certain communities (N=102). Some BIPOC individuals stated that they debate whether to call the police because the police might turn on them and be violent toward them. They believe that the MPD sees members of

BIPOC communities as adversaries. Some stated that the MPD dehumanizes women, disrespects homeless people, members of the LGBTQ community, and people with mental health issues.

#### MPD is racist

Many participants believe that the MPD culture is racist, and the police officers embrace it. They feel that police see people of color as adversaries and treat them as such. They stated that officers profile people of color and believe that people of color are criminals, even without evidence. They stated that MPD officers will arrest or harm people of color but will do nothing to white people in similar circumstances. They added that the institution of policing itself in the United States has racist and violent origins.

I have experienced profiling myself in Longfellow in my own driveway. I was getting into my car to go to work and two cops stopped and asked me what I was doing, as if I didn't belong there and was up to something, and it was my own home. And they had an intimidating attitude. It was insulting and humiliating.

I was the chair of my neighborhood organization and I inadvertently set off the alarms in the office and the police showed up. I walked out, said nothing happened, and they left. The executive director of an organization who is Black did the same thing and she was almost arrested. She had the keys, biz cards, her name was on the door. I had nothing and could not prove that I was supposed to be there, and I was able to send two squad cars on their way.

I want to uplift the damage that happened before George to the black folk. They targeted black kids every time.



I am content, but at the same time not. We're in this contradiction. We do need it, but because there's been a lot of racism, and we live it every day, we're fearful, I think all the races. When you are driving, you feel afraid, because many times, even if you're doing the right thing, you get stopped. Other times we see folks doing things we would never do, and they never get stopped.

Some participants stated that MPD officers are taught to see black people as criminals.

I was in a police program and all the police officers there are racists. What they teach us is that if you see a car full of black kids, pull them over. As I was growing up, I started to feel like all black kids are bad. I met with a police officer that said when you see a community with a poster that black lives matter, you know it's a violent community. If not for my parent who talks to me, I would have been a racist.

Teacher said in my [policing] class they teach cops: Three White kids is "okay," three Asians means "gang," three Blacks means "drugs." Bias.

#### Disrespect of Women

Some participants stated that MPD officers disrespect women. Officers degrade and sexually harass women. They added that MPD officers do not believe women's stories when they report sexual harassment.

Someone caught the police urinating on people on camera. They do degrading stuff to our people. They were calling her (participant 3) the C word, which was traumatic. She can't even say it.

Total disrespect for the women of our community. At the resource center, a lot of people go to the Holy Rosary to eat. I was standing right in the corner with my work badge. Car rolls up next to me, they (MPD) have no respect. How can you help us find one of our young women? They (MPD) pulled up on the 18th and said, "what are you doing here, trying to sell yourself on the corner?"

I was in the police explore program for five years when I was in high school. When I was 16, I went on a ride with two MN officers, and I was at the back and we got a call about sexual harassment. The police officer said the people make up the accusations, but I know that is wrong and the police officers who I went with weren't listening to the girl, and all the police officers who sexually harassed me when I was young were in the 3rd Precinct, and I think that is the culture. They are all bad.

I know one of the officers well, she is native. She is gone (left MPD). The officer said, "You are riding with a commanding officer. You have to give it up (have sex with me)."



#### Afraid of police

Some participants said they are afraid of the MPD officers because of their experiences with the police, while some are afraid to ask for help because the police will make things worse.

I'm terrified of the police. In no situation would I ask for their help. I will not call them. As a family man, I have to take care of my house. If something happens, I know they're [the police] not coming, and that's a terrible burden to carry. They're not helping. It's frustrating and burdensome. If I have a problem, I have to defend myself. I own guns now. I've never owned guns before. We were told during the uprising that we were on our own. It scares me, but not as much as the police scare me.

I ... had a lot of bad responses with the police even before George Floyd died.

Her family member has schizophrenia, and he was holding a gun and he's a brown male. They couldn't call the police; they had to call a mental health facility because they don't think calling the police is safe for her family member.

A lady mentioned that her neighborhood said they can't call the police about a lot of issues they are supposed to call them for due to the fear that they may kill someone or do something they are [not] supposed to do.

# Experience with MPD Officers and the former 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Building

The participants shared their specific mixed experience with the MPD. Some business owners and other participants shared that MPD officers are bad neighbors who have little regard for human life. Many participants stated that they are afraid of police and do everything possible to avoid them. They added that many police officers do not take time to know their neighbors or develop relationships with them. While the experiences were mostly negative, a small number of the participants shared their positive experiences with the MPD. Some stated that the police prevent crimes in their homes, and some added that the 3rd Precinct building saved them from some criminals.

#### Negative experiences with Third Precinct MPD officers



Many participants shared personal negative experiences with officers who worked at the former 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct station, expressing that they have a bad reputation, poor customer service, and are bad neighbors (N=59).


Some shared experiences of unruly behaviors by the police, poor treatment, negative interactions, etc. Some added that the police have poor customer service and sometimes tell residents that the crimes are their problem.

A Minneapolis officer shot me in the face, and I lost my left eye and sense of smell and more. The officer shot 1200 rounds of rubber bullets in two days, and we are going to build a new precinct and this officer is still on the force?

I've had a lot of experience with the police (at the third precinct). Even five years before everything happened in 2020. My wife was leaving for work at 9 a.m. and she found our parking lot filled with police. Except this time, they were all out there drinking since 6 a.m. She told them they had to leave. They gave her the finger and said, "F\*\*\* you!" and made fun of her and our business, then drove drunk back to the precinct. My wife was followed home by the police. Then during the last three days of the protest, they [the police] were throwing tear gas through our window. They teargassed my staff. They were shooting customers that were picking up their pizzas. I've also been to nice meetings at the precinct, but my experience overall is very negative. I'm also concerned with it being next to a middle school and high school. It bothers me.

I live on 36th and Cedar. Derek Chauvin was a known asshole for years. I filed a complaint against him. He practically hit me in the crosswalk. He hung out at Holiday (Gas Station) a lot. A lot of police did. My partner is a person of color. That's not a safe intersection for the average public. They would get calls about break-ins into Holiday and Subway and come with guns drawn at Subway. People could have been killed. Vans of six or seven came to our house after George Floyd, opened the gate, knocked on the door, refused to tell us what was going on.

My wife and I own a business on the block of the 3rd Precinct. We had a lot of interaction with them using our parking lot without our consent before 2020. Our parking lot is a shared lot and would be full of police. We paid 1000 (dollars) for a parking lot. We and other businesses had problems with them. I had a friend beat up by Bob Kroll for touching his car. A naked guy in the rain was very drunk pounding on the door. We asked each other should we call 911? Finally, the guy went back to the 3rd Precinct. It was a drunk cop after work. This kind of escalated. No police officer ever came to us to introduce themselves.

My partner was struck by a car with her bicycle. She dragged herself into the precinct because she happened to be close, and they said you were in the wrong place and would not call an ambulance. The employees in the 3rd Precinct got mad at my wife for getting blood on the floor. She then dragged herself back to the street and had to call an ambulance on her own.



# Trauma from MPD officers' conducts

Some participants shared experiences of trauma inflicted on them based on the activities of the MPD officers.

I have had closer and closer personal connections to many people that have been murdered by the police. I live within a triangle of George Floyd square and the precinct at a point. I can't remember, but I live right in the center of it. I live three blocks away from where someone was murdered (Cedar and 36th). I'm a teacher, and Amir Lock was executed because of a no-knock warrant for someone in my school. Every murder MPD commits gets closer in my circle. Every murder gets closer to my students, and it hits their souls. Darnella Frasier ... had the wherewithal to document the murder and keep her niece safe and then lost her uncle to the recklessness of this police department.

I also have a 5 year old who was 2. Earlier this week, we were driving along Cedar and there were three squads and an ambulance. My older child said, I just want the cops to stop killing people. And my 5 year old said, I hope the police do not kill my friend. They see it and they know it. I was teaching students who had graduated two weeks before George Floyd was murdered, and they were leaving the school. They reached out to me. I had national guard and MN police act like convoys down my street, shooting 40 caliber marker rounds in my front yard. Exactly eight days ago, a black man was almost murdered in my front yard because they pulled him over by gunpoint.

I was four blocks from George Floyd Square. Cup Foods was my place, and I was just floored by the police actions that were such sadism, such violence. It was terrible, this death happened. My son and I were victims of what happened at George Floyd Square two and a half months later. We had violence done to us. Certainly, the trauma was horrific and reinforced every bad thing we have heard about the MPD.

# Positive experiences

Despite all the negative experiences, a few people shared positive experiences they had with some MPD officers at the Third Precinct station.

But, I did have one positive experience where there was a specific detective at the precinct that lives in the neighborhood and had a lot of connections in the neighborhood, and was legitimately trying to solve some crimes, and he did contact me once and was like, explaining to me what they were doing, and like – but this wasn't again, this was a person that was from the neighborhood, knew the neighborhood, was [inaudible] in the neighborhood, and that person clearly was actually doing a good job. And that was one positive experience that I had... [inaudible] Minneapolis Police.

When I would walk home from work, I was harassed, and I used the 3rd Precinct for protection.



# **Difficult Job with Little Support**

### Strength of theme MEDIUM

While many participants have a negative view of the MPD, many others are sympathetic toward them (N=48). They believe that police have a difficult job with little support. They added that the MPD is understaffed, and the police are burned out.

I think we should acknowledge that being a cop is a hard job. Focus perhaps on engaging in a more humane atmosphere. All the brick-and-mortar stuff is great, but I don't know to what end it will come. It would be nice to have more legs under it and get it more focused. It needs to gel and get a better sense of direction.

I just hope we are not making a decision ... only tied to that instead of reimagining the service to the community. It's a constant petty crime because we refuse to get rid of guns. We have to demand better of law enforcement. They need social service and psychological help. They need help to deal with drug abuse. What are the percentage of calls needing an officer vs not? We need to put our energy into getting the support they need, to meet the demands of society.

I work every day in North Minneapolis. Every day I see there is no trust between the police and the community. They aren't around as much anymore because they are so shorthanded. You call and they say, 'we are sending someone', but it is not for three hours, but that does not build trust. And it gets to the point where they (people) think they don't need the police and try to get things done themselves. And we are all paying taxes for the services, but if we don't get the services, what do we do? I understand the chain of command. If the police say we are not doing this anymore, that is what happens. They get to the point where they are not doing their job anymore because it will be on them. I think more officers will help, but it depends on the officer. Two officers showed up after a call I made, and they did not even talk to me. When people are getting robbed and the police say, "we have other priorities we are dealing with", what can we do?

### Police mental health issues

Some participants believe that some members of the police have mental health issues, trauma, and untreated PTSD because of military backgrounds and the stress of the job. They called for better support and training for the police.

Many of them are from the military. That in itself is a problem. Different treatment, different people. Certain responses from inmates would bring out certain responses from people. Then you find out this person was from Afghanistan.... wherever. These are the people that are protecting people. A lot of them have PTSD. The city has 268 officers with PTSD. They haven't changed any procedures to alleviate that problem. How are you going to get there?



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I don't care if the police officers have showers. I am concerned that they are stressed out and have the highest rates of suicide.

### American gun culture

A few participants believe that the gun culture in the United States makes the job of the police more difficult. They believe that members of the police force are also afraid for their lives, in part, due to the high prevalence of firearms.

I have a feeling for those individuals that also put their life on the line as well. Because we live in a society that's very violent. There are probably five hundred million guns in the street. And you know, when you have guns, there's going to be violence. It's going to happen all around this neighborhood. What's going on around the country is looking like an epidemic.



# Finding 5: Solutions to Public Safety Issues

The participants suggested several solutions to improving public safety in the community. They believe that reforming the police department and changing its culture is critical to building trust with the community, which is a fundamental building block to improving public safety outcomes. Some participants also suggested that the City should consider alternatives to public safety, which might or might not include police.

# **Police Reforms**



Police reforms top the list of solutions suggested by a significant number of participants. A significant number of participants believe that serious reforms are required to transform the MPD into a community-supporting police force (N=269). Some believe that the current MPD culture is not sustainable and does not support

public safety because the police are corrupt, aggressive, violent, and racist. Many participants said the police need to change their attitude, build trust, and relate better to the community.

Many participants believe that effective public safety is attainable, but it starts with serious and intentional police reforms. They stated that police reform should focus on systemic, policy, and cultural change, improving training, changing policies and procedures, weeding out bad apples, and holding the police accountable. Some participants believe there's a need to support the good officers on the force, especially the newer women and BIPOC officers. Otherwise, they will also leave the force.

Rethink how policing is done. Every resident should be able to know the police who might show up at their house or business.

Everyone in my small group wants police reform before building, but that reform is going to take a long time. People feel unsafe and we need police, but a different police person to protect, save, and engage with the community.

All of this is for naught if the MPD doesn't undergo serious and radical improvement as servants of the people and protectors of the peace and models for anti-racism.

Until the police are actually reformed, their presence only makes the community less safe.

# Change of attitude with trust and relationships building



A significant number of participants believe that MPD officers need a change of attitude and to build relationships with community members. They believe that the job of the police is to protect the community and that they should try to know

the community (N=87). Some participants mentioned community policing programs that used



to have funding but no longer do, and a desire to return to a former time when policing was more community oriented.

We do not need a new building for the same occupying force that has no connection to our community and does not care to serve our community's needs. We need a new force with tighter ties and accountability to the community it serves. Start there and get back to us about a building.

I want and appreciate good community-focused police presence, not police merely looking for trouble and making assumptions about people.

MPD needs to re-engage with the community. You easily gave up the precinct. Please come back to it, re-establish, and improve the connection between the precinct and the community.

According to some participants, the police need to rebuild trust and relationships with the community. Some feel that MPD officers have not done enough to build relationships with members of the community and their recent actions have negatively affected their relationship with the community. They feel that trust is broken and needs to be repaired as part of a larger reform.

It's really hard to put into words. I'm very conflicted. I've heard about things like abolishing police, and we need police. I'm conflicted. The trust is gone. The community overwhelmingly doesn't trust the police. Trust is gone.

Regardless of location, MPD and police need to work with community members to strengthen relationships among community members, police, etc.

The police and community members should work as a team to redefine community policing.

For the police to interact with the community, I think it would be good to have ways to build trust, send people to our community, and find out what people need.

Another participant believes having police in the community will build relationships with the members of the community. That will reduce fear and improve safety.

If we had outposts in different parts of the community with cops who have been trained differently, I think relations would be better. We know people who were killed because they were scared of cops. Instead of doing what they were told, they ran or pulled a gun, which is dumb. You're never going to win. Fear makes them run and do the wrong thing. The idea should be "He's no longer a cop, he's John" because you know him, and he knows you.



It would be nice to see the police and City be accountable to educate the police that work in the community. They come here to work. But then it's like when I was a kid, officer friendly would just come to the school. There should be an officer friendly in this community room where you don't feel nervous. Educate the cop, too. They are human beings. You're policing the neighborhood. They don't live in the community they serve. They go back to the suburbs. Then come here and put a uniform on and police our people.

# Culture and Systemic Change

Some participants believe that the MPD needs a significant culture change. Many feel that the current police culture supports abuse, violence, racism, and other bad behaviors. Some feel that racism is embedded in the culture of the MPD, and a radical systemic change is required to treat everyone with dignity. They added that there needs to be police accountability and a significant change in the way the police view and treat people of color.

Police culture has been a problem in Minneapolis. We need people who care about the city, to fulfill the version of protect and serve. I worked in hierarchical organizations. It doesn't have to be there. Nineteen complaints against him (Chauvin). In the military and in nursing, if you see something wrong you speak up. That needs to happen in the police department. Better training. Not sustainable. It doesn't have to be the situation that we are in.

The philosophy of policing is a bigger issue and needs to be reformed.

We have to reimagine how we deal with trauma, crime, and public safety. We have to do more to prevent crime & harm. We have to have people in public safety who are there to help people, serve them, and recognize the humanity in everyone. We don't need people who like power, authority, and pushing people around.

The staff who are assigned here should remember the history and behavior of the past officers. They should expect to work to change that behavior and serve the people with respect, dignity, and kindness.

Some participants also added that there should be no building until the MPD culture is addressed because a building is not the issue.

The cops need reform and cleansing; they need to change the way they do things. The building is not the issue but who you put in the building.

There should not be a physical location in the 3rd Precinct at all until the community feels that police culture and accountability have changed.

No building should occur until the systemic problems of the MPD are fully addressed.



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### Better recruitment, training, and oversight

Some of the participants believe that poor training contributes to the problems in the MPD. They said that police officers are trained to shoot quickly or use excessive force. Some of their training is fear-based, which leads to unnecessary killing of residents. The participants believe that reimagining police training with the community in mind will improve public safety and police culture. They added that improved recruitment, training in de-escalation, and better oversight by the City and police chief would be a better investment than a new building.

I'd also rather have taxpayer money spent on police recruiting and anti-escalation techniques than on a new building.

We are hiring officers too young, and our brains are not developed. We need to stop the youth recruitment program. People with life experience know how to problem solve, and people who are too young don't have those experiences.

*I think to make things better, maybe the chief of police could communicate better, and have training.* 

They train us to shoot quickly. All you have to say is "I feared for my life and the life of others", that is why I shoot.

Part of the problem is training. They're taught to fear for their lives. That's what happened with Philando Castile. That police officer was urinating in his pants, he was so scared. He'd been trained to be afraid. That's how you react when you're trained that way. On YouTube, there's the "bulletproof officer" who says after you've killed somebody, you have the best sex of your life. That kind of thing.

Strength of theme MEDIUM Many participants feel that better training will improve MPD officers' reaction to different situations (N=25). They added that improved training will improve trust and relationships with the community.

We think the whole of policing would be more accountable if we had specialized areas and more specific training in different areas. It is also important for the community to know that the person who is going to help you is not going to pull force on you for something else. I think there needs to be more training on the force to deal with the community. And some people don't hear about things or are in survival mode. I wonder if there are other ways for people to share. There are still lots of people still impacted and may want to be heard.

I would ask that the police get better training so they can provide a better service to the community, and we could work together. There could be trust, and we could work together better.



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Some participants will only support a new building on the condition that there will be better police training.

Rebuilding there with the understanding that there will be better training and oversight is a good compromise.

# Weed out "bad apples"

theme

MEDIUM

Many participants would like to see the MPD get rid of the bad cops. They believe Strength of that those cops are a major part of the problem (N=26).

Is there anything being done to address some of these issues with officers who are bad eggs and what suggestions, if I have a bad experience, are there measures being put in [place]? And I wonder with the new police chief if things are being addressed, City Council, what steps are being taken today? Is there optimism moving forward?

The police are to keep us safe, so I can't say no police. I think they need better training. There has got to be a way to get rid of bad cops. Who do I call in a bad situation if we say no police.

I would like to see change. Yes, I do. Replace the crooked police. Some are just not nice. They need to protect the community more. They come rude. They should be more respectful.

# **Policies and Procedures**

Some participants would like to see better policies and procedures for the police. Their suggestions include residency requirements, a ban on no knock warrants, etc.

I don't think we'll ever get rid of the police. We need residency requirements. Because 7% of cops live in the city, we need cops that live in the city, are invested in the city, and represent the city.

In the 1980s, the city passed an ordinance that the police had to live in the city. The police federation brought it to the state, and they overruled them. It was a bad mistake.

When I was growing up, officers lived in the neighborhood, and went to our school. You knew who your police officer was. It made a big difference. It was a lot safer. People felt more comfortable to live around. When the police lived in the city and they were your neighbors, it made a huge deal. A big deal. I don't know if we can go back in time, but something does need to change. I feel bad for the younger people. If our children and young people can be safe, then all of us can be safe.



I'm sick of the city appointing people to change the police handbook, someone who is going to campaign on no-knock warrants and then someone gets murdered three months later on a no-knock warrant. We need to take control away from them.

### **Real Accountability**



Many participants want the police to have real accountability for their actions to deter bad behaviors (N=30). Their suggestions included personal police insurance, real oversight, and a police governing board so that residents can report badly blice officers.

behaved police officers.

There's a board of nurses where if you have misconduct, it doesn't affect anybody than me. So, I have to take on liability insurance. If I hurt somebody, I'm the one ... and when I found out that the police have no governing boards and I was like what the heck. They have the potential to kill people for real. Doctors, lawyers, chiropractors, every other position has a governing board they have to report to.

Every police and sheriff's department is doing whatever they want. And that is crazy. I started doing research after George Floyd and I assumed and not one police department in the U.S. has no governing board. That's frightening and terrifying. And I don't know what we can do about it. Something needs to be governed.

The city needs to ensure accountability with the community. I will not support a new home for armed, white supremacist cops.

Police need to be accountable. At the end of the day, why are we responsible for their actions? Police should carry their own insurance.

I wrote the police oversight and sent a transcript. To this day there has been no acknowledgement. They have been ignoring it for four years. Aides lied to me. Links show me the article; they didn't answer any questions. My problem is not with the police department, it's the oversight. I have great hope for the new police chief. He shows up in the community.

# **Reimagining Public Safety**



Many participants want the City to reimagine what public safety looks like (N=63). The re-imagination of public safety from their perspective includes a re-examination of the role that the police play in the community, abolishing police, and

demilitarization of police. Others include the introduction of social services, mental health services, and crisis response teams.



# Abolish police

A few participants want the police to be completely abolished because they just cannot imagine police culture changing. They believe that violence is embedded in police culture, that it is beyond reform, and that even the state and federal consent decrees will not result in meaningful change.

When I lived in Maryland, I was part of a group that sued the police for their "camps." We sued for a consent decree. Nothing changed.... All new people, all new staff, same abuse. When you continue a normative culture that has abuse as part of its culture.

The police are irredeemable. We need real alternatives to heal the harms we have endured. There should be no 3rd Precinct.

Please abolish the murderous police already.

Abolish the cops. No good cops.

# Demilitarize police

Some participants believe that police officers need to stop carrying weapons or at least military weapons. They stated that when the police show up with miliary weapons, it scares people and unnecessarily escalates conflicts. Another participant said that they needed community presence and not military presence.

Is this building going to come in and be the place of helicopters and the military gear they have? When these police show up for national night out, they look like they are going into guerrilla warfare. Do you think that doesn't scare people?

I do think there is a small need for officers to do some things but not carry weapons and certainly not the military style way.

Do they have a military presence or a community presence?

What really makes me safe is not showing up with guns.

# Social Services and Mental Health-Alternative Response Teams

Some participants suggested that the introduction of social services and mental health services to public safety services could improve public safety outcomes in the City of Minneapolis. Some participants feel that these services should replace the police, while others believe that the services should complement the police force.

Another thought I have is that we need more human services. Those of us in nonprofits are going to different areas and reaching out. I wonder if we should have satellite



buildings. I think having more opportunities to have human services respond to calls is good. I get uncomfortable thinking that everyone has to call the police. I have had poor experiences with the police, and I think as people think through this, there may be other ways to reach out. I know a lot of people that would go the route of human services.

The precinct should be reimagined to include multiple community safety satellite locations that include law enforcement, social services, mental health workers, and in general a much broader concept of community safety.

There is a role for networking, for communities to work together to find and meet needs. We have met with liaisons and social services, and they have been very helpful. The idea of decentralization is important to me. Having people that we can go to first.

Increase crisis response teams. The residents of south Minneapolis require safety, but in a form that is not armed police. We require healthy responses to our needs, such as mental health stabilization and crisis response.

Some feel that a decentralized public safety system includes alternative or behavioral response teams who will work with the police.

Addiction is an illness, it's not a character. I'm saying that because it is indicative of the police can't do everything. We need training and social workers working with them.

Spend the money on more qualified police, social workers, and healthcare professionals who can help people in need and in crisis.

# Addressing the Root Cause of Crime

A significant number of participants felt that supporting the community and addressing the root causes of crime such as poverty, illiteracy, mental health, and homelessness will reduce crime (N=118). They believe that the lack of basic

services is increasing crime and police arrests.

78 of my students (11th graders) who live within the 3rd Precinct were asked to create a community resource for public safety. Neither student created a police station, a jail or prison. Our community needs housing, education, warm transportation, mental health services, libraries, pools, recreation centers, and preschools.

I want to connect that this is happening at the same time as the city policy on homeless encampments is drilling down. It seems we are not even capable of housing people and yet we are spending so much time on housing the cops. It seems the displaced people are the ones arrested over and over again. We keep spending money on police and money on displacing the same people.



I also work with unhoused people. They are not here or at many of the meetings. They were at an encampment near the 3rd Precinct that was broken up and dispersed into the neighborhoods where neighbors were helping them. The city doesn't help. There were five evictions in Minneapolis this week. This just feels like here we go again.



# Finding 6: Unique Perspectives from BIPOC and LGBTQ+ Community Curated Conversations

The curated conversations with the BIPOC communities yielded some unique perspectives. The participants shared views that were different from the community conversations, which generally attracted largely white community members. It is important to note that these BIPOC curated conversations were small, and the views expressed here do not represent the entire communities.

Comments in several of the BIPOC curated conversations demonstrated that some BIPOC communities would like to have a police presence in the 3rd Precinct as soon as possible to help protect businesses and people from ongoing crime and insecurity in the area. In the same context, they stated that they want the police to respect and protect people and businesses rather than harass or endanger their communities. They acknowledge the harm that has been done to their respective communities by the police and would like to see a change.

There was a concern in several of the BIPOC curated conversations that the outreach to their community was not sufficient in this process and that more effort should be made to reach out to get their community's input. One example would be the need to reach more of the BIPOC-owned small business owners along the Lake Street corridor.

# Latino Community Curated Conversation

Most people in the Latino curated conversation wanted to see a rapid return of a police presence to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, with close proximity to the Latino businesses experiencing high volumes of crime on the Lake Street corridor.

The participants acknowledged the problems with police conduct as well as the impact of their absence on the community.

I think the whole situation is lamentable. As we all know, this comes as a consequence that the police haven't followed the requirements to respect others. They have acted arbitrarily and disrespected the people they are required to protect. I have a small business on Lake Street which is experiencing lots of insecurity. I hear young folks talking about how you can get a gun and rob a store without problem due to the lack of police response. There has been lots of stress and depression for people due to the dangerous situations we are facing. This is a consequence of actions that people have taken, erroneous actions in the wrong place. Sometimes the police don't come, or they come slowly. That's why I'm thinking that we should have a temporary place for the precinct



while this is happening. I think that's what we need for better security for my business and my family.

It's been very difficult for small business owners these past three years. I have been seeing psychologists to try to balance out the trauma. I think that we on Lake are in more danger than the surrounding neighborhoods. We need this as soon as possible. We need the city to find a way to solve this, to support us, not in five or three years, but next year. I have been assaulted and robbed many times in my business. I feel that we need the city to find a solution for the merchants and we that are paying our taxes. It's not just the big businesses that are paying into the system, but also us small people. But the city just overlooks us. I was robbed last week. Three weeks ago, I was robbed. Other people there are scared there, too. We are left uncovered there all along Lake Street. There are many times that we call the police, and they aren't going to come. Sometimes they come but don't do anything. Sometimes I ask about the 10 times this has happened at my business and they tell me "It's under investigation." The City doesn't give us the same value as larger businesses.

Some of the community members have conflicting feelings about the police. They feel that they need the police for security but are also afraid of them due to racism and profiling. Some added that better training and increasing trust between the police and the community could help.

I am content, but at the same time not. We're in this contradiction. We do need it, but because there's been a lot of racism, and we live it every day, we're fearful, I think all the races. When you are driving you feel afraid because many times, even if you're doing the right thing, you get stopped. Other times we see folks doing things we would never do, and they never get stopped. I feel happy but at the same time not. I would ask that the police get better training so they can provide a better service to the community, and we could work together. There could be trust, and we could work together better.

After George Floyd, at first we were feeling fear, then a little confusion, and we learned that we need the police to have security. We also have conflicting feelings because you know that the police are there to protect you but also fearful of those same police.

# **American Indian Community Curated Conversation**

Most people in the American Indian curated conversations wanted to see a return of police presence in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct urgently (especially to protect businesses on the Lake Street Corridor), but some did not want the precinct near their residences, given the police harassment some of their community members experience.

The participants stated that police response time has been a major challenge because crime is increasing in the neighborhood.



We'd have people that are robbing and hurting clients, and workers getting assaulted outside. It makes me shake thinking about it. The response time was just 15-20 minutes before. Now, we don't have a response time. It hurts as a community. We have to gather together, protect each other, watch our backs, and watch our windows. We know that if we call (the police), someone might be dead.

As a business owner whose building was burned down, and it's still a vacant lot there, we sold the lot. Our new business is consistent, and every other night I get a call about breaking in and problems. It's a stressful place to be as a business owner.

We work with youth, 60 or so kids coming to our building. And the new building, 100 kids could be coming from South High. Doesn't feel safe. All there, all open. Our kids have to use public transport to go to high school; it is not safe. I met with the chief and said you have to have protection. I don't want my son there, my kids' very strong, know how to protect themselves. I don't want my kids going on that transportation. It's so important. Everything that's going on that we see, it's a lot. Our kids need to feel safe. Our little ones have to use that to get back and forth to school and that whole area.

Some participants also acknowledged how the history of police shaped their behaviors and culture.

*Obviously, it's the term, the general police department, and their practices. That's been going on ... forever (since they were chasing slaves). Beat up, brought to the river.* 

The history of police is from slave patrol and that evolved into modern police patrol.

Some participants acknowledged that it will be difficult to build trust with the police considering everything that has happened.

That has been a big issue since George Floyd was murdered. It has impacted our community because there are so many police officers that we had developed relationships with over the years for our community and organizations. There are so many that left, and it is hard to rebuild that trust. To rebuild it with people you don't know. So many of the people you don't know were inside the building when it was burning, or they've left. It is about trust between the community and the officers. How do we get back to where we were before this? The community was doing a good job with relations with law enforcement. This set us back a long time.

A lot of progress was made. Now a lot of mistrust. Are they actually going to come or show up? Just what I was saying earlier, the problems we've had with all the break-ins. I'm going there at 2 in the morning and waiting for the police. That's why I feel there needs to be help. Especially those who are along the corridor. It's been tough to stick it through and be here and that is why I think a lot of businesses left. We're going on year three. A lot of us feel that same way.



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# Asian American Community Curated Conversation

Most of the participants in the Asian American curated conversation want police presence but also want police to help and not hurt the community. They acknowledge the harm that the police have done to the community.

I live all over the place and am now close to the 3rd Precinct. We are quiet because we don't want to say anything because we think we will cause trouble or people will think we cause trouble. Our family did not cross the Mekong River to come over here and be treated badly and have things happen as they are here.

I am telling you about a bad thing that happened. When I came from my own country, people were friendly. But now that is not the case. How can we trust the police when we see them using too much excess force? Nobody is above the law, and we need to have it. But for now, how can we feel safe? We need good policemen, but we need work in the community too, to help each other be safe.

They also noted that response times are also bad in other precincts such as North Minneapolis. They said many of their community members are moving out of the community while some are no longer engaging in their communities because of safety concerns due to growing crimes and insecurity.

I work every day in North Minneapolis. Every day I see there is no trust between the police and the community. They aren't around as much anymore because they are so short-handed. You call and they say, "we are sending someone" but it is not for three hours. And that does not build trust. And it gets to the point where they (people) think they don't need the police and try to get things done themselves.

I pretty much lived in North Minneapolis and now I work in Minneapolis, and I am feeling burned out. I try to get families in, to engage with them, but people don't want to get out of their houses and go to meetings because of safety. We have seen so many people move away. Families don't want to leave the home. And virtual options have not been working well either. There are so many uncontrolled things, so many things I can't control.

They want police officers who actually interact with the community and who are willing to work with them.

For the police to interact with the community, I think it would be good to have ways to build trust, to send people to our community, and find out what people need.

You are talking about community-oriented policing. That's how it used to work, each police department had a five- or six-block area. They got away from that because of decreased manpower and increased crime.



We want to meet once a year and talk about issues and building relationships. We have festivals and we invite them (the police) to join us so they can better understand the culture.

# African American Community Curated Conversation

There were differing viewpoints represented in the African American community conversation. Some participants do not want a precinct. They do not believe that the police are effective but rather see them as dangerous to their community.

Sensitive subject for me. (I was) present when he was there. George spoke to me right before the police came. Since that happened, I almost got murdered twice. In the 3rd Precinct, they could have prevented a lot of stuff. A lot left the force. Definitely, the community boots on the ground are saying they don't want the precinct.

When you make a call to the police, they sometimes don't come or come late. We need more security.

*Police aren't helping. We can reach people in different ways. I don't see a change. What do you need police for?* 

These participants would rather invest in programs that prevent crime in the first place (e.g., youth mentorship). Some wanted to wait until the police are reformed and take a better approach to policing in their communities before giving the department a new building.

On the other hand, some of the participants would like to see a precinct building and more police presence, even though they see the police as potentially dangerous to their community members. The general sentiment was that more police are needed, but they need to change and actually protect the African American community rather than victimize it.

We need more support from the police because we are dealing with a lot of racism. We don't need to have another George Floyd case. We just don't want more deaths.

I own three businesses on Lake. I feel very sorry about George Floyd. It was a tragic incident, but I believe it's important to have police, to understand that we have good police and bad police. I really believe that we need more policing.

We do need the police. Not if they are doing the same thing. They are supposed to protect us. Shouldn't be assuming I did something. Innocent before guilty.

*Replace the crooked police. Some are just not nice. They need to protect the community more.* 



# East African Community Curated Conversation

The East African community conversation was held in the 1st Precinct but attended by community members from both the 1st and 3rd Precincts. Some participants in the East African conversations stated that there are not enough police in the community and the crime rate is very high. They feel that the police do not see them as a priority and rarely respond to calls.

There are many people in this area, because of not enough police. There are no police in this area, there is no peace. We need the police to be in the area.

I'm from the 3rd precinct, Lake Street Council. Work every day with residents, and business owners. Respectfully you have already made up your mind. There was already violence happening when the police were there. Responses were always late, and businesses getting broken into.

As Africans, when we ask, we need to get an answer for it. In this area, there are a lot of kids who died in this area. In this area, if the police are far away and take time to rescue us, it will not be safe for our community.

Participants in the East African curated conversation expressed concern that the 2600 Minnehaha proposed site had been promised as an East African Mall for their community. During their curated conversation, they rejected the 2600 Minnehaha location in a vote and asked for an Option C. They felt strongly that the larger East African community would oppose a new precinct built at 2600 Minnehaha.

There is no point in reinvesting and recreating the wheel and reinvesting in previous or new property. From the 2600 Minnehaha, there was a study done in 2018-2019 on implementing an East African market in that space. How is that being factored in when there is accountability that is owed to this community? That is something to really consider.

Some participants added that poverty in the community contributed to increasing crime in the community and the police are mostly unresponsive.

Crime is a byproduct of poverty. Response time is bullshit. Friends of mine have died bleeding on the ground because they take [their] time and don't want to show up at an active crime scene. Money and resources, this community is deprived of resources but not just this community.

# LGBTQ+ Community Curated Conversation

The majority of participants in this conversation do not want the MPD station to be rebuilt. They expressed their outrage at the engagement process and believe that the options provided



do not address the pressing issue at hand. They would rather spend money on things that help people that are struggling in the community

I want the entire MPD to be gone. I want [the mayor] to be gone. I want the council board gone. This is how I feel, and this is where I stand. We cannot heal collectively while the higher-ups keep beating us down. It is clear they don't care about poor people sleeping on the streets, drug addicted people struggling to survive, Blacks, Natives, Muslim queer and trans people especially. Personally, I am so sick and tired of us just fighting to stay alive and I'm also tired of also seeing people trying to survive keep getting beaten down over and over again. And for all the money where it's going to instead of using that to build another precinct.

That will be about 26 million dollars. I want to see that go toward people having a home they can be proud of, folks can access medical care they need, everyone able to get tasty warm meals they want to eat, or transitional housing clinic. I would be happy to support things like that. Create what we really need and keep all of us safe. That is what I would like to see these buildings turned in to.

One of the participants, who is a person of color, wants community members to control the process because they do not trust the City. They noted that the yelling and screaming that took place during the meeting will not help.

There's a lot of white people arguing right now. These are people of color. I'm not going to stay in this room and hear white people yell. We understood. We don't like the two options, but what is our call to action? I know you all got a place of privilege. If you all got a place to go to tonight, you got money in your belly and food in your belly. What are your demands so you can take it back to the city? I see a lot of white privilege. As a black person, I want control over all these processes. I'm sick of the city taking control. We need to have a different process, need a different mechanism. It can give us control over the processes.



# Appendices

# Appendix I: 3rd Precinct Location Survey

# Introduction

The City of Minneapolis is seeking feedback from those who live in, work in or visit the 3rd Precinct area. We'll collect information to inform the future 3rd Precinct building location.

This survey will allow the community to give us input on:

- Where the 3rd Precinct building should be located
- More feedback on location preference

# Survey details and instructions

This survey will take less than 5 minutes. There is one open-ended question where you can explain your decision.

# Location option decision-making

We've researched an alternative site option. You can <u>look at the one-pager at your table for details</u> about:

- The two potential locations
- Criteria we used to make our decisions
- Zoning, restrictions and design
- Final decision-making

# **Survey Results and Confidentiality**

A third-party firm, DeYoung Consulting Services, administrates and monitors this survey. Your responses and comments are confidential. DeYoung Consulting Services will compile responses into averages. They will report back general themes to the City. The City will not see individual responses.

# **Relationship to the 3rd Precinct**

- 1. Please circle the sentence that best describes your relationship with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct:
  - I live in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct geographic area.
  - I work (I'm employed or own a business) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct geographic area.
  - I visit the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct geographic area.
  - I am a Minneapolis resident who cares what happens to the 3rd Precinct, but I do not live, work or visit that geographic area.



• I am not a Minneapolis resident but I care about what happens to the 3rd Precinct.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Location

2. Where should the 3rd Precinct be located? Please circle your choice.

(See the one-pager at your table for option details.)

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct should be located at the original location, **3000** Minnehaha Avenue (Minnehaha Ave. and Lake St.).
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct should be located at the new location, **2600** Minnehaha Avenue (Minnehaha Ave. and **26th St.)**.
- 3. In the space below, please share anything that would help us understand why you selected the option above. Please limit your answer to 500 characters.

### **Getting to Know You**

We want to be able to understand your answers in the context of who you are and where you live. The following is a list of demographic questions. We hope you will complete them. We make sure you remain anonymous; your location will not be associated with any of your specific responses above.

- 4. Please circle the neighborhood where you live or work.
  - Bancroft
  - Bryant
  - Central
  - Cooper
  - Corcoran
  - Diamond Lake
  - East Phillips
  - Ericsson
  - Field
  - Hale
  - Hiawatha
  - Howe
  - Keewaydin
  - Longfellow
  - Midtown Phillips
  - Minnehaha
  - Morris Park
  - Northrop
  - Page



- Phillips West
- Powderhorn Park
- Regina
- Seward
- Standish
- Ventura Village
- Wenonah
- Other (please explain)
- 5. Please circle your zip code.
  - 55404
  - 55405
  - 55406
  - 55407
  - 55408
  - 55409
  - 55417
  - 55419
  - Other (please explain)
- 6. Please circle your ethnicity.
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Hispanic or Latino
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - White
  - Two or More Races
  - Other race/ethnicity
  - Prefer not to answer
- 7. Please circle your age range.
  - 0 15 years old
  - 16 30 years old
  - 31 45 years old

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- 46-64
- 65 and older
- Prefer not to answer
- 8. How do you identify? Please circle your response.
  - Female
  - Male
  - Transgender Female
  - Transgender Male
  - Gender non-conforming
  - Prefer not to answer
  - Other (please explain)
- 9. What is your orientation? Please circle your response.
  - Lesbian
  - Gay
  - Bisexual
  - Queer
  - Asexual
  - Heterosexual
  - Prefer not to answer
  - Other (please explain)

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey!



# Appendix II: 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Community and Curated Conversation Agenda

Date:

Time:

Location:

# List of Materials Needed

- Sign-in sheets
- Large printouts of renderings
- 25 Paper surveys
- 25 Pens for paper surveys
- 12 QR Code with Survey Link
- One-pagers from City describing options and process
- 8 Easels
- 12 Facilitator agendas
- Flipchart paper
- 100 Name tags
- 12 + Markers

# AGENDA

# Introduction (5 minutes)

DeYoung Consulting Services team member conducts the introduction.

Thank you for being part of this important conversation as we collectively determine the future home of the Minneapolis Police Department. We understand that the tragic event that led us to this place has had a tremendous impact on our communities and we are not taking it lightly.



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My name is ------ I am with DeYoung Consulting Services, and we have no special interests or affiliation with the City of Minneapolis. We were asked by City leaders to facilitate conversations about where the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct MPD building should be located. This conversation is one of the series of large and small conversations where we are listening to the perceptions of community members, business owners, city staff, and others.

In just a minute a City representative will be providing background information about how we came to this point, but our key question today is where you think the MPD building should be located. Based on all the information we gather, our team will draft a report with findings and recommendations that will be submitted to City leaders, who will make the report available to the public.

# Welcome (15 minutes)

- Opening statement by City Staff (Office of Public Service)
- The murder of George Floyd
- The impact on individuals and the community

# **MPD Location (10 minutes)**

- The purpose of the Minneapolis Police Department and why they need a building in the community
- Process to select the alternative location (Finance and Property Services)
- Open the floor for very specific questions: location process and criteria

# Focus Groups (1 hour, 30 minutes)

Closing- Someone from the city will go to respective groups to talk about next steps



# Appendix III: 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Small Group Conversation Protocol

# Introduction (5 minutes)

Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to be part of this important conversation. I am with DeYoung Consulting Services, and we have no special interests or affiliation with the City of Minneapolis. We were asked by City leaders to facilitate a conversation about where the MPD building should be located. In our broad sessions, we are listening to the perceptions of community members, business owners, city staff, and others through a series of community engagement conversations.

I will ask you questions about where you think the MPD building should be located. Based on all the information we gather, our team will draft a report with findings and recommendations that will be submitted to the city leaders, who will make the report available to the public.

Our conversation should take about an hour and a half. Your participation is voluntary, and you can decline to answer any questions without giving a reason. The input you provide is important and will be combined with information we hear from others to highlight common themes. We will do our best to ensure your anonymity but be aware that these conversations will be available to the public. The ideas you share will not be associated with your name or listed in our report. If you are worried about anything you may say or how I will use it, please let me know. If you have a unique perspective that would be valuable to share, but you are not comfortable sharing in this group, we can find a way for you to share it privately.

Let's agree on some ground rules.

# **Ground rules**

- Limit distractions such as the use of cell phones and side conversations where possible.
- Listen actively -- respect others when they are talking.
- Speak from your own experience or perspective instead of generalizing ("I" instead of "they," "we," and "you").
- Speak the truth with kindness.
- Respect the truth in everyone's perspective and stories.
- Respect other people's feelings when sharing your truth and perspectives
- This is an opportunity to listen and to be heard. Try not to be defensive or try to validate your position.
- Participate to the fullest of your ability -- community growth depends on the inclusion of every individual voice. In this context, we are all equals. All perspectives are welcomed and valued.



- Be conscious of body language and nonverbal responses -- they can be as disrespectful as words.
- Maintain confidentiality; what is said here stays here.
- Assume positive intent, while also striving for positive impact.
- Practice self-care (e.g., step away if needed).
- Avoid ascribing motives to behavior we can't know why people act the way they do.
- Avoid absolutes and exaggerations, such as always, never, etc.

Does anyone have a ground rule they'd like to add?

# Moment of Reflection (5 minutes)

Before we begin, I would like all of us to take a moment (a minute or two) to reflect on the events that led us here: the murder of George Floyd and the civil unrest that followed. We are here to find a way forward and I understand that it will be difficult considering all the emotions attached to the event. We want to acknowledge those emotions and experiences. The City does plan to have a separate process for sharing those experiences.

After the reflection, ask individuals to share their names and use one word to describe how they are feeling.

Based on what individuals share......

As we can infer from what we all share, we feel differently about this issue. This conversation can be more difficult and sensitive for some than others in ways that many of us cannot understand because of their lived experience. Let us do our best to share our perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.

**Questions** (Suggested times: 45 minutes for questions 1 and 2, 25 minutes for question 3 and 10 minutes to complete the survey)

- The murder of George Floyd had an impact on the United States and the world at large. As a member of the community where this world-changing event happened, can you tell me how this experience has had an impact on you/your business and your community?
- 2. The MPD facility has been in the community for some time, can you share/recall experiences with the former 3rd Precinct Facility?
- 3. Considering the two locations in this conversation, from your perspective what makes one site better than the other?



- 4. Where should the new MPD building be located? (Participants complete the survey only if they have not already done so.) Voting can be done in three ways:
  - Participants vote with their phones using QR codes that are adhered to each table. (Hover their phone camera over the code and click on the link that appears. This takes them to the online survey, which takes about five minutes to complete.)
  - ii. Paper copies (online survey is preferred, but if participants want to do a paper survey they can)
  - iii. Verbal vote (if participants do not want to do the online or paper survey)

Option I. Current location Option II. New location

5. Is there anything else that you would like to add that I did not ask?



# Appendix IV: 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Community Engagement Schedule

The table below provides the details of the community conversations including date, locations, and audience.

Туре	Date	Location	Audience	Attendance
Community	April 11, 2023	The Hook and Ladder Theater & Lounge	Business Owners	
Curated	April 12, 2023	Westminster Presbyterian Church	Seniors	
Community	April 13, 2023	Midtown Global Market	All	
Curated	April 14, 2023	American Indian Community Dev Corp	American Indian	
Community	April 15, 2023	Roosevelt High School	All	
Community	April 18, 2023	Keewaydin Recreation Center	All	
Community	April 19, 2023	Sabathani Community Center	All	
Curated	April 20, 2023	Quang Restaurant Nicollet Ave	Southeast Asian	
Curated	April 21, 2023	Waite House Pillsbury United	Latino	
Curated	April 25, 2023	Moon Palace Books	LGBTQIA+	
Curated	April 26, 2023	Bryan Coyle	East Africans	
Curated	April 27, 2023	Virtual	American Indian	
Curated	April 28, 2023	Sabathani Community Center	African Americans	



# Appendix V: Summary of Longfellow Community Council Community Engagement

LCC facilitated a community engagement process in 2022 to understand the perspectives of community members on the current 3rd Precinct site. The community conversation included an opening statement, small group discussions, survey of participants, large group debrief of the small group conversations, brief comment from a council member, as well as a Q&A session with a City Coordinator's Office representative. The event concluded with a space for reflection for participants. The consultants reviewed subsequent report in preparation for this engagement.

In the small groups, the participants were asked about:

- Where they would like to see the 3rd Precinct Site rebuilt
- What they would like to see in the space if not an MPD building
- Ways in which the City could serve residents with trauma support stemming from the civil uprising

During the post-event reflection, the participants were asked to share the difficulties and frustrations they have had since the uprising, their feelings about the session, and the message they have for the City.

Based on the survey, 75% of the participants felt that the MPD building should not be rebuilt on the current site because:

- MPD going back into that building would be insulting and further traumatize the community.
- The building as it stands is a source of PTSD to community members.
- MPD returning to that location would not serve the community and is asking for more trouble.

The 25% that felt that the MPD building should be on that site indicated that:

- The location is visible, centrally located, near public transportation, and rebuilding will be cost-effective.
- The community needs a police presence to deal with crime in the area.

The respondents shared some ideas on what the space could be used for if not reopened as a police building:

- Community space for healing and history
- Affordable housing



- Multipurpose building for social services organizations such as mental health, public assistance, and general healthcare needs
- Job training centers and space where BIPOC residents can have access to resources and get training on entrepreneurship and wealth building.

The respondents also said they believe that:

- The City owes the residents an apology by taking responsibility for the harm that was done and acknowledging the trauma to give space for healing.
- The City leadership failed the residents because of its inaction on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct space.
- MPD needs a radical reform irrespective of the location.
- MPD should establish satellite locations around the City to build relationship with the residents instead of a large "fortress."

The participants also asked questions about how the City of Minneapolis intends to allow the community to dictate process, description of plans, MPD oversight, final decisions about the site, project funding, etc.

# Note:

- The number of participants in the survey is not in the report
- 99% of the participants were Minneapolis residents and 71% live in the 55406-zip code
- Median age was 49 years, 77% white respondents, 83% homeowners and 65% with household incomes of \$75,000 or higher

