



George Floyd Memorial Report

8.6.2020

Overview

As we mourn the loss of George Floyd at the hands of police, a memorial has been organically created and maintained by volunteers at the intersection of 38th St. and Chicago Avenue. PPNA worked to gather community voices around what the future of this memorial could look like in the short and long term.

133 VOICES

This represents just a small sampling of people who live in Powderhorn Park and the surrounding areas. We recognize that there are efforts by a variety of individuals and organizations to collect this kind of feedback, and this report should be used in combination with findings from other groups and individuals

PPNA held three town halls to hear from community voices about their vision for the George Floyd Memorial. Two were over zoom, and one took place at Powderhorn Park. We heard from 43 community members.

JUNE 27 TOWN HALL

15 attendees

JUNE 30 TOWN HALL

14 attendees

JULY 8 TOWN HALL

14 attendees

A digital survey was created by PPNA to solicit broader community voices. The survey was posted on our website, sent via email to PPNA newsletter subscribers, and shared on social media. In addition to the data below, the survey asked the following open-ended questions:

What are one or two benefits from taking steps to preserve the George Floyd Memorial?

What are one or two benefits from taking no action to disrupt the George Floyd Memorial?

Do you have other ideas or comments related to the George Floyd Memorial?



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Survey Results

90 Survey Responses Total



Survey Respondents who identify as residents of Bancroft, Bryant, Central, or Powderhorn Park Neighborhoods: 76%

90% support taking steps to preserve memorial in current location.

72% support beginning a process of preserving memorial offerings at new location until decision are made about permanent memorial

22% support leaving the memorial as is and taking no additional steps to preserve it

42% have visited the memorial 1-3 times

41% have visited 4 or more times

9% visit the memorial daily

8% have never visited the memorial

These results reflect responses received as of 7/21/20. We recognize that the situation related to this memorial, as is true about many of the realities in our neighborhood, is evolving quickly.



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Types of Comments - includes comments from survey and town halls

- 59 Comments desiring **preservation of the memorial** as it currently exists
- 47 Comments about desire to **send the right message** to the world in honoring the death of Mr. Floyd
- 47 Comments asking that **community voices**, particularly Black, POC, and neighbors living around the intersection, as well as George Floyd's family, are **driving decision making**
- 35 Comments recognizing the need for a **community space to grieve and heal**, and the idea of creating more community space at the intersection
- 28 Comments related to concerns about **increased traffic, opening traffic, and opening local businesses**
- 27 Comments identifying an opportunity for a memorial to **educate and raise awareness** of racism and police brutality
- 17 Comments related to the idea of a **roundabout** at the intersection of 38th & Chicago
- 12 Comments expressing desire to leave the memorial alone and **let it grow organically**
- 11 Comments about current and historical **safety concerns in the area**
- 11 Comments about **alternate locations** for a memorial, both nearby and farther away

There are a variety of ongoing and new crises that impact the neighborhoods and people around the George Floyd Memorial. This does not mean that the memorial is a cause of these crises, but we know these issues need to be addressed.



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The following are key insights and themes from a series of town hall discussions and survey results conducted by the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association

While there are a variety of views as to how to honor George Floyd and other victims of police violence, several key themes and steps emerged. These are described below.

Not Ready to Reopen

Most people agreed that they are not ready for the intersection at 38th and Chicago to reopen for car traffic.

Memorializing Matters

It is essential for the health of our community that a place to grieve and remember George Floyd exists.

Temporary Preservation

Many community members would like to see a strategy to protect and preserve parts of the existing memorial from the elements while long-term memorial options are being explored.

Include Community Leadership

It is important that community leadership shapes the direction of this memorial. Community leadership includes the family of George Floyd, Black and Brown leaders, and South Minneapolis.

Location

Sites like the 3rd Precinct or the entrance to the State Fair Grounds could be used to create a larger memorial or museum. Other sites could be in addition to 38th and Chicago efforts.

Deeper Issues

There are underlying concerns about pre-existing crime, police brutality, justice, and supporting small businesses at play that relate to why a memorial is needed and how it should be designed/created.

We hope the City of Minneapolis will partner with community members to create a strategy that will ensure that a memorial for George Floyd is formalized. This includes the ongoing work of supporting healthier and more equitable communities across the city. PPNA will continue to capture community voices and support memorialization efforts.