

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 citywide neighborhood organization meeting

Hello, neighborhood representatives.

Thank you for joining us for the second meeting of this series on Wednesday night and for sharing your questions and concerns. Below is a summary of what we presented and what we heard back from you.

Moment of mourning and acknowledgement of traumatic mass shooting of Asian Americans in Atlanta

NCR sends our thoughts to our Asian, Southeast Asian and Asian American residents. We recognize the events Tuesday are just the latest in an alarming increase in racialized attacks against our Asian, Asian-Pacific Islander, Asian American, Southeast Asian communities over the past year. Tuesday's tragic event appears to not only be racially motivated but also rooted in misogyny and sexual violence by targeting Asian women. According to [Stop AAPI Hate](#), there has been a 150% increase in hate incidents targeting the Asian American community, with Asian American women being twice as likely to be targeted. In the last year alone, there were 3,800 reports of anti-Asian hate. These incidents have happened across the country and here in our own community. Our thoughts are with you.

Guests

Alongside NCR's facilitators and notetaker, Casidy Anderson from the Fire Department and Crime Prevention Specialists Abdirashid Ali and Jennifer Neale joined this meeting.

Website

- The City is in the process of adding translations for several of the webpages in this websection: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/trial-support-safety/>
 - The translated pages will be linked in the City news kit email for community organizations once they are available.
- While professional translations are in pending, you can view the information in other languages using Google Translate by clicking the globe icon and selecting another language (except for Oromo, which is unavailable in Google Translate).

Radio

The City's multi-lingual radio programs are posted to Youtube after airing.

- KMOJ 89.9 FM (English) - "Minneapolis 360" on [KMOJ](#) (Wednesdays from 1:30-2 p.m.)
 - [KMOJ playlist](#)
- La Raza 95.7 FM (Spanish) - "Mi Ciudad" [La Raza 95.7 FM y 1400 AM](#) (Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m.)
 - [La Raza playlist](#)
- KALY 101.7 FM (Somali) - "Magaaladayda Minneapolis" [KALY](#) (Thursdays, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8 and 4/22 from 2-3 p.m.)
 - Unavailable
- WIXK AM1590 (Hmong) - "Kuv Lub Nroog Minneapolis" [WIXK](#) (Thursdays from 2-3 p.m.)
 - [WIXK playlist](#)

Emails to organizations.

- Notes from this meeting series are sent out as courtesy copies to neighborhood organization board chairs and lead staff, City Council staff, crime prevention specialists, NCR staff and the City Clerk.
- "City news kit" emails with mostly the same content as other City newsletters (see "Other ways to find information" section), but in a Word document and with recent social media posts that can be retweeted or re-shared if you so choose.

- NCR encourages you to send ideas or feedback on this tool to steven.gallagher@minneapolismn.gov or karen.moe@minneapolismn.gov.
- Participant asked if both emails can be uploaded to the City's website somewhere.

Other ways to find information

- City newsletter on Wednesdays & Fridays. [Subscribe here](#).
- NCR newsletter (monthly). [Subscribe here](#).
- Press conferences once a week, Thursday mornings at 10:30 via Facebook
- City social media
 - <https://twitter.com/cityminneapolis>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/cityofminneapolis/>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofminneapolis>
- **Operation Safety Net:** Includes Hennepin County Sheriff, Metro Transit Police, Minneapolis Police, Ramsey County Sheriff, Saint Paul Police, Minnesota State Patrol, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Minnesota National Guard.
 - Website: <https://safetynet.mn.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Social media
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [Twitter](#)
 - [Instagram](#)
 - [YouTube](#)
 - Mondays at 2 p.m. press conferences watchable on Operation Safety Net social media and posted to website.

Questions about uses of neighborhood Community Participation Program (CPP) and Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funding

- Send any questions you have about eligible purchases to Steven.Gallagher@minneapolismn.gov.
- Steven Gallagher is compiling neighborhood questions and has started an FAQ with help from other City departments (see attachment).
- Before making any purchases, you can contact your neighborhood specialist to ensure your organization has available funds in funding strategies.
- Participant asked if the guidance in the FAQ about traffic calming and public works only applies to city of Minneapolis streets. What guidance is available for streets controlled by Hennepin County?
 - Yes, the FAQ just applies to Minneapolis streets.

Community safety groups, block clubs – Q&A with Abdirashid Ali and Jennifer Neale

- Crime prevention specialists can do trainings or presentations about how to implement and activate a block club. If you have questions about the block club leader trainings, you can reach out to your local crime prevention specialist for more information.
- Last week, neighborhood leaders wanted information about how to reach out to block club leaders. Crime prevention specialists (CPS) do not disclose block leaders' contact information as part of the volunteer agreement, but you can reach out to your CPS, who will then give your contact information to the block club leader to follow up on. Generally, block club leaders are happy to engage with neighborhood organizations.
 - Link to find your crime prevention specialist: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/police/crime-prevention-specialists/>
- In response to a question about multi-family residences and apartment buildings, yes, many multi-family residences have block clubs and leaders. Depending on the building size, they might have one block leader per floor or multiple leaders for the entire building. Sometimes the building manager or owner is a block leader.
- How are block leaders found?
 - Block leaders can be recruited by crime prevention specialists if there is no existing block leader on the block. Sometimes new block leaders are connected with a specialist at

neighborhood meetings, safety workshops, after calling 311 or after being the victim of a crime. Existing block leaders can recruit another resident on the block to replace them or be a co-leader. Generally, a block leader is someone with an interest in improving safety and raising awareness on their block. They are willing to work in partnership with MPD and attend the block leader training.

Other questions from neighborhood representatives

- It's important that any "neighborhood watch" style groups guard against profiling and vigilantism.
 - The City is looking into de-escalation training for community members.
 - Another participant shared a Google Doc entitled "[Don't Recreate Policing With Our Community Watch](#)"
- Is it appropriate for neighborhood organizations to forward the City news kit for community organizations to building managers?
 - Yes, you are encouraged to share it with anyone in your networks who is interested in sharing City news.
- What advice can we give youth about participating safely in protests?
 - Casidy Anderson of the Fire Department provided advice that applies to any activity when you're in a large group:
 - Always let an adult know where you're going, who you're going with and how long you'll be out.
 - Keep a cellphone on you and memorize the phone numbers of some people (not at the same event) who you can call for help if needed.
 - Always have a sense of your surroundings and identify exits when you're in a crowd.
 - Another participant recommended [this infographic by pikisuperstar on freepik.com](#).
 - [Operation Safety Net tweeted this infographic](#).
 - A participant suggests that every neighborhood should think about having a council made up of youth with some autonomy, not just as a committee of the neighborhood organization.
- A participant requested that neighborhoods gather after the trial is over to talk about lessons learned and debrief one another.

Other updates

- Because no major updates are expected next week, the 3/23 meeting of this group will be canceled unless a significant issue arises before then.
 - Neighborhood organizations are still invited to either session of the regular monthly neighborhood meeting. The evening session is the 4th Tuesday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. The morning session is the 4th Wednesday of the month from 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m.
 - The monthly neighborhoods meeting started after the pandemic, and the invitation was sent to neighborhood board chairs and lead staff. Email steven.gallagher@minneapolismn.gov if you would like to attend on behalf of your neighborhood organization.
- Future guests: NCR has invited the Fire Department to speak about emergency preparedness, the Office of Violence Prevention to speak about safety patrols and violence intervention, and Public Works to talk about road related emergency preparedness (including what happens if street closures, clean-up or traffic calming devices are needed).
 - Participant requested a schedule of these guest presentations once they are confirmed.

Thank you,

City of Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department

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