

38th and Chicago Re-envisioned

Questions and answers - April 13 virtual pre-construction open house

The questions below have been compiled from the April 13 virtual pre-construction open house for 38th & Chicago Re-envisioned. Wording may have been altered for clarity and accessibility.

Q: Who is the contractor?

A: All construction work will be completed by City crews. There is no contractor for this project.

Q: What is included in the work at the intersection of Elliot and 38th?

A: We are adding traffic calming elements for drivers approaching the intersection. To complete that work, we will need to close the intersection of 38th Street and Elliot Avenue.

Q: Will bus shelters remain in place during construction?

A: Existing bus shelters will be removed during their corresponding construction phase. We will continue to have conversations with the community about the preservation of the shelters and their future. New shelters for the D Line Bus Rapid Transit stops will be installed during Phase 2 of construction.

Q: Will the Peoples' Closet remain?

A: The bus shelter that currently holds the Peoples' Closet will be removed as part of construction. We will continue to have conversations with the community about the future of The Peoples' Closet.

Q: How will the bollards be integrated to allow community control of the street?

A: The mechanism for closing the street is still being evaluated. It will be determined as part of Phase 2 final design and engineering later this year.

Q: Why are bike lanes in the final design?

A: Bike lanes exist on Chicago Avenue. We are upgrading them to meet the City's All Ages and Abilities standards.

Q: How will the intersection around the Memorial site be raised?

A: There will be an incline as drivers enter the intersection. A raised intersection lifts the entire area to sidewalk level. This design slows vehicles and provides a continuous, level surface for people walking or using mobility devices.

Q: How will the space around the center fist be changed in the final design?

A: The size of the area around the fist will be slightly smaller to allow buses to move through the intersection safely.

Q: Is the plan to have Metro Transit come back to 38th?

A: Yes. After construction, the D line and route 5 will return to service on 38th Street and Chicago.

Q: What is the difference between Phase 1 work and Phase 2 work.

A: Phase 1 includes construction on 38th St, between Chicago Ave and 10th Ave and Chicago Ave from 39th Street to the BRT Stations south of 38th Street. The intersection of 38th and Chicago is not included in Phase 1.

Phase 2 includes construction on 38th Street, between Park Avenue and Chicago Avenue and Chicago Avenue, from 38th Street to 37th Street, including the intersection.

The phases are defined by area.

The adopted concept layout shows what work are included in each phase.

Q: Is the Peoples' Way included in the 38th & Chicago Re-envisioned project?

A: No, the Peoples' Way is not included in the 38th & Chicago Re-Envisioned project. The 38th & Chicago Re-Envisioned project will reconstruct about 0.5 miles of Chicago Avenue and 38th Street. Minneapolis [City Council approved the Council-adopted concept layout](#) On December 11, 2025.

Q: What will happen to the memorial for Murphy Ranks?

A: The portion of the Murphy Ranks memorial that was in the street and on the sidewalk has been removed. If his family or anyone else wants a new memorial in the right-of-way installed after construction, they can apply for a permit. It would not be allowed in the street.

Q: What is the budget for memorial re-installation work?

A: Arts & Cultural Affairs has \$300,000 in their budget this year.

Q: Where will the memorials be located during construction?

A: The temporary locations for memorials during construction have not yet been determined, but they will be in the George Floyd Square area.

Q: Where will the list of names be re-installed as part of construction?

A: Not as part of reconstruction, however the artist has indicated interest in repainting them in the future, and has met with the design team about the future footprint of the names as it relates to the new street design.

Q: What is the Rise & Remember memorial?

A: Rise & Remember is doing a design competition for a new memorial in the area where George Floyd was murdered: <https://riseandremember.org/project-brief-call-for-design-proposals/>.

Q: What is the status of The Peoples' Way?

A: The City is continuing its review of the Peoples' Way development applications, considering: experience, financial qualifications, stewardship plans, and community feedback. The Mayor and City Council will make the final decision on the developer and future owner.

Q: Will there be a justice center?

A: Some of the ideas for the People's Way site that the community engagement prioritized included space for a memorial, racial justice and healing center, and healing and reflection. Applicants incorporated these ideas into their stated intentions for the Peoples' Way to varying extents. A selected developer of the site will need to finalize their plans for their mix of uses.

Q: Will the City remove the underground tanks?

A: The City will work closely with the selected applicant and an environmental consultant to formulate a safe and cost-effective strategy for removing the underground tanks located at The People's Way site.

Q: Will open fires still be allowed at The Peoples' Way?

A: The City is aware that fires have been occurring on site and will likely continue to happen while the site is in its current condition. What happens with fire pits after the site is transferred to a new owner is to be determined.