

## ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY: PROJECT VISIONING - CONTINUED FALL 2022 / SPRING 2023

### What Engagement Has Occurred?

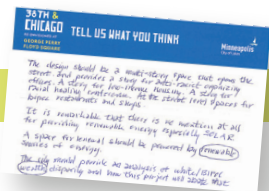
Minneapolis Public Works and the Community Co-Creation Team hosted several engagement events to continue project visioning for the 38th & Chicago, Re-Envisioned project. Community stakeholders were invited to share their perspectives at the following events:

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  <b>Learning Tables</b><br>6 events |  <b>Focus Groups</b><br>2 events |  <b>Block Groups</b><br>10 events |  <b>Open House</b><br>1 event |
|--|---|--|--|

Over 365 people participated in these events

### What was the Approach to Continued Visioning?

Engagement techniques included small and large group discussions, presentations from the project team and specific practitioners, comment cards, and question and answer opportunities. **Similar hands-on activities included:**



Sample comment card

### Street Puzzle

The street puzzle activity was used to gather input from community on their ideas for a street layout. People chose from a variety of street elements such as bike lanes, sidewalks, public gathering space, and transit. They arranged these elements to layout a street that aligns with their vision and values for this area.



Sample street puzzle



Family working on street puzzle

### Contact

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Sharice McCain, Senior Community Engagement Specialist - NEOO | 651-212-5129 | 38thandChicago@minneapolismn.gov  
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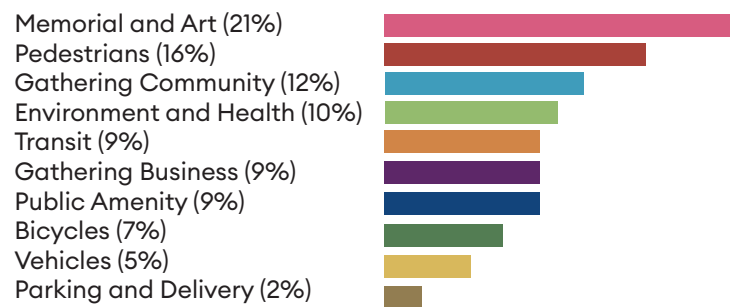


## Marble Prioritization



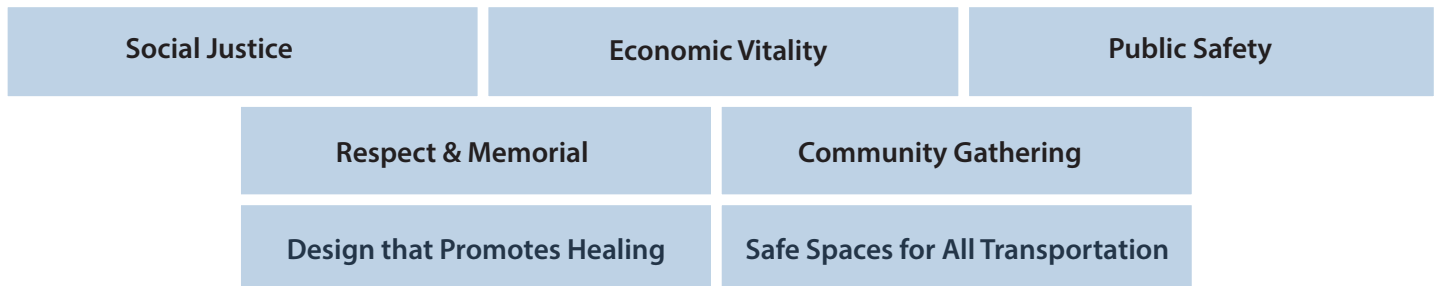
The marble prioritization activity was used to determine which design elements the community would like to see prioritized. Community members were asked to **prioritize ten categories they felt could improve or enhance the intersection and community.**

The most recent (as of June 2023) results are shown below (percentage of total marbles):



## What Themes Emerged?

The feedback received from the above engagement events was assessed, and several common themes emerged. These are listed below and example feedback related to each theme presented on the following pages.



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## COMMUNITY GATHERING

Feedback from the community included prioritizing community gathering space within George Perry Floyd Square.

*"Space for community to gather and watch movies, 3rd space."*

*"Make GFS a unique destination. With living landscapes and art! Pedestrians only. A national archive of black lives lost to police brutality."*

*"There should be a place for guests and contemplation, not for bustling commerce."*

## SAFE SPACES FOR ALL TRANSPORTATION

There are still many different viewpoints as to what types of transportation should be allowed within George Perry Floyd Square, ranging from a pedestrian-only mall to a fully re-opened intersection with full vehicle access. The project team will work to provide draft sketches and concept layouts that show these different ideas.

*"Allow the buses to use the roundabout through the intersection."*

*"Please open the street to BRT. long-term, this is needed for people who depend on it from outside the immediate neighborhood."*

*"Major Traffic calming + pedestrian safety measures along Chicago and 38TH (4-way stops, pedestrian signs, and lights at all 5 intersections)."*

*"Pedestrian bridges across busy streets-with flowers/gardens."*

*"People have to go 6 blocks for bus - need transit."*

## DESIGN THAT PROMOTES HEALING

Community members asked for a design that promotes healing. The square should promote healing from the murder of George Floyd, the impact to the immediate community, and the larger social implications of police violence and racism.

*"A memorial and a place of healing, not business as usual."*

*"Don't glamorize GFS. It represents the raw truth. The people's truth. It is not always pretty, and that is okay."*

*"Center worldwide movement for racial justice."*

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## RESPECT & MEMORIAL

Although stated in a variety of ways, one of the most recurring comments included ensuring the future George Perry Floyd Square functioned well for users while still respecting the social movement and pain that occurred there.

*"This is an internationally recognized space that we need to memorialize and recognize."*

*"Place dedicated to living along with memorialize what was lost."*

*"A way to mark the site of the murder (statue and Markers) without taking up traffic lanes."*

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Stakeholders would like to see George Perry Floyd Square become a safe place, no matter what time of day, activity, or mode of transportation being used.

*"Increased lighting in the area."*

*"Crime Increases -- No Access to resources."*

*"The longer the intersection is closed to traffic, the longer people feel unsafe. The intersection needs to be open to traffic and remove the barriers that block it."*

*"Main concern from someone living in the community is traffic flow. Side streets have more traffic which demands more safety precautions (Cross walks, street lights, street signs)."*

*"Feels unsafe-lawless and dangerous, have a speed limit."*

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## ECONOMIC VITALITY

The economic health of businesses within the 38th & Chicago area continues to be a common concern raised by community stakeholders. The pandemic, murder of George Floyd, subsequent civil unrest and the closing and reopening of the intersection have all severely impacted local businesses. The businesses that remain continue to struggle through these challenging economic times.

*"Who's benefitting from the current grant and application? There have been people who have already suffered and been pushed out."*

*"Invest in the people who live here now. Not the people you want to live here in the future."*

*"No developers or others that would take away from people who live work, or spend time in the neighborhood."*

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Justice, anti-racist investments, atonement, and healing are common comments expressed by community stakeholders. The murder of George Floyd ignited a global awakening of the inequalities that exist in this country and world, and the intersection of 38th and Chicago continues to be an important place for the voices of community stakeholders that want continued social justice improvements. Community stakeholders also highlighted that a memorial for George Floyd and others should be a critical component for the area.

*"Welcoming, safe, happy for all - Includes 24/7 houseless, addicts, hard times, young black men."*

*"Anything about healing/justice is premature while police are still killing people with impunity. City can't mandate healing, economic justice is not addressed, not just about George Floyd but about other stolen lives."*

*"I hope this project remains centered around the colonized and BIPOC community members. The square should be a peaceful destination for healing and safety, accessible to walk, and promote local businesses."*

*"Own the wrongs of the past and be honest about it."*

*For a detailed record of all recorded comments from the engagement events, please contact the project team via the following email address ([38thandchicago@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:38thandchicago@minneapolismn.gov)). Please note that information provided will be shared as it was received and does contain inappropriate language.*

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## HOW TO STAY INVOLVED

Please visit the project website to learn more about upcoming events, provide your feedback, and stay up to date on project updates.

<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/38th-chicago-ave/>



### Overall Project Schedule



Scenes from Open House Event in June

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