



City of Minneapolis Minnehaha 3000 Project Report

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Acknowledgments

The City of Minneapolis and DeYoung Consulting Services are extremely grateful to the partners and collaborators who supported and dedicated their time and knowledge assisting with this community engagement project to assess the proposal for redeveloping the former 3rd Police Precinct building into a Democracy Center.

We would also like to thank the City employees who worked diligently to support and collaborate with us to achieve the project goals.

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



Introduction



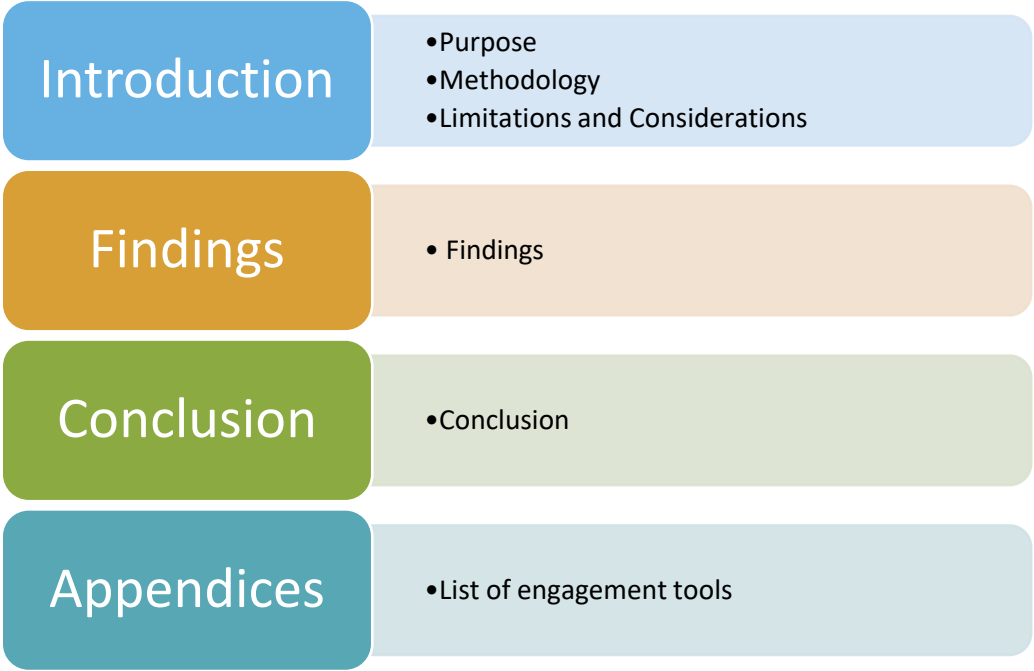
Introduction

Project Purpose

As a part of the City of Minneapolis’ Minnehaha 3000 project, it engaged the community about its proposal to redevelop the former 3rd Police Precinct building into a Democracy Center that would house the Election and Voter Services Department and provide ground-floor space for community use. The engagement began with an open house in June 2024, during which community members were invited to offer feedback on the City’s plans, followed by an Engage survey that was open to the general public and available on the Minnehaha 3000 website. A Pulse survey conducted city-wide via precinct maps followed (the report summarizing both surveys is available as a separate document). DeYoung Consulting Services was engaged to conduct curated conversations with targeted groups and gather further feedback on the vision and opportunities around the community use space.

Reading This Report

This report summarizes the findings from the curated conversations while comparing those findings to those of the open house and survey. The report’s flow is illustrated in the graphic below.



Methodology

1. **Project Clarification and Documentation Review:** We met with the project sponsors to clarify the project scope and identify its goals. We then conducted a documentation review to better understand what had been done to date.
2. **Surveys.** Two surveys were conducted to seek the community responses to the redevelopment of Minnehaha 3000.
 - a. The *Engage Survey* which was open to the general public received 1148
 - b. The *Pulse Survey* which employed quotas to match the distribution of race, ethnicity, age, and gender in Minneapolis to ensure that the sample represents the entire population of the city and at the precinct level received 913 responses.
3. **Open House.** The City hosted an open house in June 2024 to present the plan to the community and polled the 76 attendees on the possible use of the building and its exterior features.
4. **Curated Conversations Engagement:** Seven curated conversations were conducted. The chart below shows when and where those conversations took place, the audience, and the number of attendees.

Type	Date	Location	Audience	Attendance
Curated	8/7/24	Waite House Pillsbury United	Somali-speaking community members	16 <i>Note: of the 16 in attendance, only 8 spoke</i>
Curated	8/8/24	Powderhorn Recreation Center	At-large businesses: Lake Street Corridor	3
Curated	8/8/24	Waite House Pillsbury United	Spanish-speaking community members	3
Curated	8/12/24	Squirrel Art Haus	Residents of Longfellow, Corcoran, Seward, East Phillips and Powderhorn neighborhoods	6
Curated	8/15/24	Moon Palace Books	Businesses	4
Curated	9/5/24	Sabathani Community Center	Walking Group	4
Curated	9/5/24	Sabathani Community Center	Youth/Young Adults	0
Total Number of Participants				36

5. **Comparison of Data Across Data Points:** DeYoung then analyzed the curated conversation data and compared it to that of the other engagement efforts.



Limitations and Considerations

- The curated conversations had only 36 participants. While the curated conversations generated the majority of the comments in this report, the limited number of participants should be taken into consideration when interpreting the result of this engagement.
- Data gathering should be viewed as a snapshot in time. The results could change if the process were conducted at a different time.
- The findings were based on the perception of the respondents. While everything that the community members perceive may not be 100% factual, their responses represent how they feel. It is also a representation of their experiences, and their perception is their reality.
- “Respondents” refers to the community members that respond to the survey.
- “Participants” refers to the community members who participated in the curated conversations.
- In the open house and engage survey, the percentage is an aggregate of the responses because some respondents selected more than one option for the possible use of the building and the exterior features.



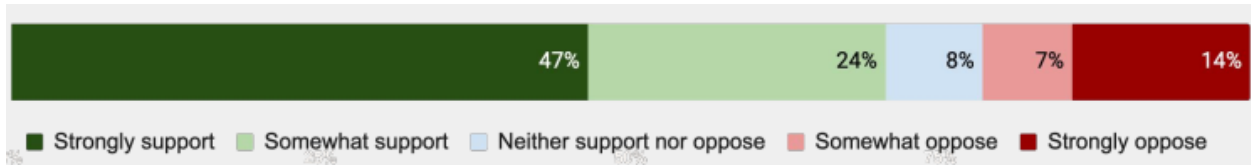
Findings



Finding 1: Election Center and Voter Services

The community members were asked to weigh in on using the Minnehaha 3000 building as an election center. As noted above, the community members' engagement level affected their responses.

In the engage survey, 71% of respondents supported using the building for an election center while 21% opposed the use. Only 8% of the respondents were indifferent about the use.



In the Pulse survey distributed a month later, the percentage of respondents who supported or opposed the use of the building was reduced compared to the previous survey. Just 63% of the respondents supported using the building for an election center while 17% opposed the use. The percentage of the respondents who were indifferent grew to 20%.



In the community conversations, there were mixed reactions to using the building as an election center. Some of the participants saw the value in using the building as an election and voting center, saying the relocation of the democracy center would provide more space for the voting center.

They are crammed in there (voting center). I like the idea of the precinct being used as a democracy center. Having worked as an election judge in past elections, what strikes me is how much equipment, training, and challenges you face in a polarized environment. So, I'm glad the training is there and so frankly I think it's a great idea that the city has an area devoted to voter/civic engagement.

Other participants had mixed feelings about the use of the building as an election and voting center. While they understood the need for a voting center, they did not feel that the building is ideal considering the limited value the election center would bring to the community as well as the location of the building.



I understand the need for a good voter center, nothing wrong with that. But 16 permanent staff is not a big draw. We're struggling with a growing population with under-housed, unhoused, and has no healthcare in the community. What exactly that would be or how will it run?

I have mixed feelings about making this space a voter services building.... When I look at the warehouse, my issue is the lack of beauty. I am a community developer, and a windowless warehouse right on the [Lake Street] frontage is not attractive. Does the building fit the city's requirements?

If you look at that map: Phillips has low voter turnout. Longfellow doesn't. Yes, if it was on the other side, I could see that making sense.

Some participants also said that a voting center will not make the neighborhood lively because it brings few people to the building, which is in a prime neighborhood location.

I think the idea of having a democracy center will be [OK] if it takes a small portion of the building and only brings 16 people to this corner at a time. What I want as a business owner is for things to feel alive, vibrant, and a welcoming community. I don't see a lot of vision here.

It's such an important intersection, to have it be storage for voting machines.

Honestly, I am not happy about the decision to turn the building into a voting center. It will require a great amount of influential people to create this space in a different way. How can we make the best use of what we have... fitting our dream into what we have here? We have a great opportunity here to apply better features over the voting center.

Participants also said that the election center does not help businesses in the area.

This is the most visible corner. The principle of a voting center could be [OK], but I generally agree with the minimal injection of energy into the neighborhood.

We label it downtown Longfellow, and parking is utilized for small businesses. To see them taken away for voter services might be detrimental to businesses and the environment.

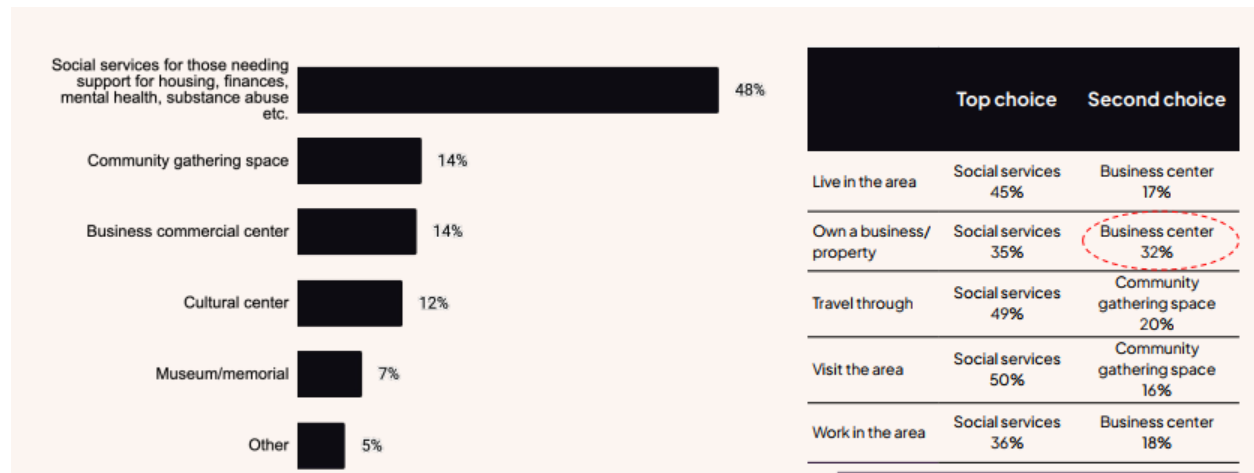


Finding 2: Community Use Space

The community members were asked in the engage survey about how the section of the building allocated to the community should be used, pulse survey, open house, and curated conversations. The responses of the community members also varied according to their level of engagement with the City.

In all the engagement methods overall, social services is the most preferred choice that the community members want to see in the community space.

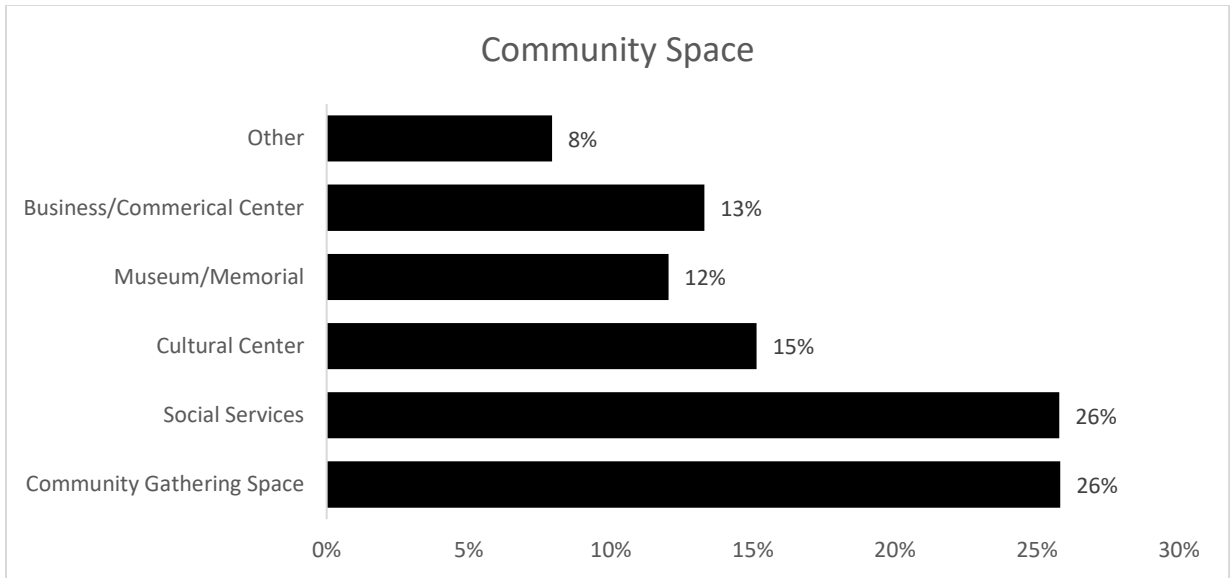
When asked in the pulse survey about what they would most like to see included in the building’s community use space, almost half of the respondents said they would like to see social services for those needing support for housing, finances, mental health, and substance abuse.



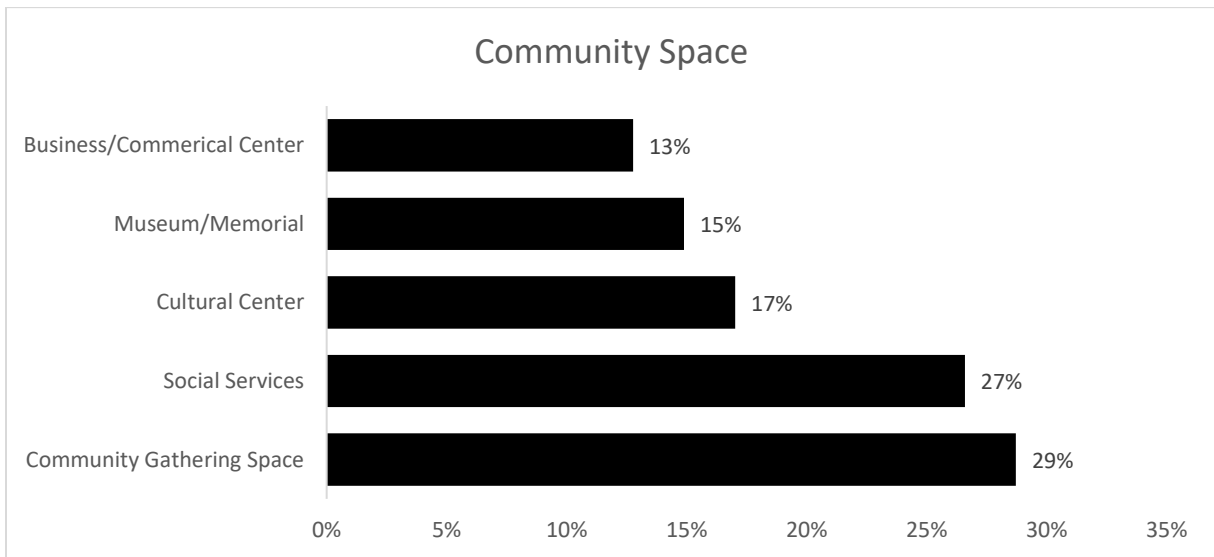
As shown in the chart above, the responses of the respondents also varied by their relationship with the community. While all the respondents selected social services as their top choice, almost an equal number of business owners and homeowners selected the business center as their second choice.

In the engage survey, the community gathering space and social services were the top choices of the respondents.





At the open house, participants selected community gathering space as their top choice at 29%, while social services was a close second at 27%.



In the curated conversations, social services and a museum/historical center were the top choices.

Social Services

The participants said it is important that the space be used to provide services that meet the needs of the community. They said services in the building need to be provided by people who are culturally competent and understand sensitive topics. Others added that education must be included in the space because of what the building represents.



Need for cultural competency in the building. We need people who can understand culturally sensitive topics.

Whatever that space represents has to be the center of what it serves. If there is no education on what caused the uprising, there will be no change. Promoting education has to be the biggest piece.

Others said that services should include mental health services, after-school programs, and essential services that support the community.

After-school programs will make the community happier.

For me, it is necessary to have essential services to support the community from the roots. We need gyms, recreation centers, and a safe and respected space for use in the community.

Some participants also said that the space should be used to provide services for those who are homeless and need basic services.

The space could be made into a pathway center for community members who need help with substance abuse, housing, and food insecurity. They will have a place they can go to where they know there will be some resources.

Maybe turn it into a community center that focuses on helping people. There [is] a significant amount of people who are addicted on the streets. Something to help with basic needs.

Unhoused people also need a lot of help. This project should include resources that can immediately help them. We shouldn't only consider the opinions of people who can advocate for themselves, we also need to consider the opinions of those who cannot advocate for themselves.

I think there should be more like a shelter or something. A homeless shelter or place where people could go get drug counseling or something.

Some participants would also like the space to be used for community navigators who could help new immigrants and people who need social services.

I would like to have a space where we can help immigrants and where we can help new arrivals. The organizations that help recently arrived immigrants are not enough. It can also be a space for social services with navigators to help people with jobs, housing, etc.

Museum and Historical Center

Many curated conversation participants said the space should be a museum or historical center to preserve the history of what happened in the building.



My proposal for the cultural community center is a museum that portrays black culture and history including transatlantic trade, Jim Crow, and a memorial to black people killed by police nationally.

It has to have something there relevant in the building – a museum about Minneapolis policing concentrating on 3rd (precinct). How they operated shouldn't be forgotten. I've been in the 3rd (precinct), what an awful experience it was.

Not just a destination but a significant destination, the museum would be one of a kind.

A library or museum would be a great use of the space. People should know the brutality done in the 3rd Precinct.

Other participants would love the space to be a historical center to preserve history where black people can reflect, grieve, and heal. They also added that the place may not be ideal for social services due to the brutality that happened in the building.

Why not turn it into a black cultural and historical center? A lot of people are calling for a black space of healing, a place to grieve.

The 3rd Precinct wasn't a place I would go for any social services. I'm not sure why the Council doesn't understand that the precinct isn't a friendly place. The building needs to be symbolic with its history front and center! It sounds like there is a lot yet to be discussed, and we need to start having these discussions ahead of time!

In Islam, there is a concept called Sadaqah Jariyah. When people die, we can preserve their legacy by doing good things (giving charity, planting trees), and providing benefits for the community. That is something we can do here. If this [building] is not serving the community, it will be very tone-deaf.

Other Uses of the Community Space

The participants also said that the community space could be used for other purposes. Some said the place could be a meditation room where people could pray and reflect.

We should have a meditation room where people can go and pray or meditate.... Having more meditation rooms, especially in that building.

I would like to see a place where people could mediate.

While some would like to see a meditation room in the space, some said that already exists in the community.

They have one at a Labyrinth. They are rooms where you walk around and meditate.

Some participants would like to see a public bathroom in the space.



Bathrooms are huge, if it's going to be a transit hub. Target closed bathrooms for a long time. People need a place to change diapers. Right now, it's the brewery or library.

Once you have a kid, public restrooms are huge. At least a place where we'll be able to change diapers.

Some would like to see the space as a fun center where kids and adults can have fun. They feel that is a way to give back to the community.

What's so wrong with a bowling alley or a skating rink? We have to give back to these kids. The kids are going to need something if you're going to take something.

I would like to see some creative lighting where you can interact with the lighting or music to connect with the younger generation.

Some would also like to see the space as a business center, which could add value to the community and where people can also have fun.

A coffee shop would be cool.

It could be home to a theater company.

A business and commercial center, people just want to go in there and hang out for a while.

Size of the Community Space

While the participants had different opinions about what the community space should be, they said the percentage of space available for community space was too small. They said taking 80% of the building as an election center is too much. This limits what can be done in the community space.

The building is not divided up enough for us to use for community purposes. It feels confined by the limit of 8,000 square feet. How can we work with the community and still have the voting center? The community should have a bigger space and be prioritized.

8,000 sq ft is a seventh of the space, not even half or a quarter to the community.

The 80/20 split is unfair. It feels like the city just wants to tick off a checkbox.

Other participants added that there are so many things that the building could be used for in the community and allocating just 20% of the building to the community is insulting and dismissive.



If the majority of the space is going to be dedicated to becoming a democracy center, that feels like a slap in the face to the community because there are so many more pressing needs, and this area should be dedicated to the community.

Addressing the root cause of what started this is the main thing. If we are not going to be addressing that, we will just be perpetuating the same cycle. The space should be mostly for education, not just leaving 20% for the community. If so, it is just dismissive and covering up and putting a bandage on the problem. It is as if they are saying, "they have 20%, that is good enough," instead of actually putting money into racial healing.

Complementing, Vibrant, and Not Duplicating

Some participants said that whatever will be in the community space should complement what is already in the community rather than duplicate what is already there. They said that the services in the new building should add value to the community and make the place livelier and more vibrant.

This is a unique opportunity. It's a gateway to this section of Lake Street if you get off the light rail.... It could be super attractive to visitors to this area. Whatever is in that space would be a gateway to this community. It could be a special unique thing the city could provide to our city and guests here. It's a main pathway to downtown and the north loop, all part of highlighting our city. That's a huge intersection for that. What do you want people from around the country, around the world to think? They're hopping off and what are they thinking?

Having something that drives people to the neighborhood will help create better economics. We all know more people out and about can reduce crime and other issues as well. Seeing something of that nature to bring people back would be awesome. It's been rough for a while. A lot of people don't want to hang out at this intersection anymore for whatever reason. It would be nice to have something cool happening there to engage the city. The Coliseum building is doing a great job at that. Inspiring business owners to get their empty buildings running again could be a big booster.

They said that the City should not create a building that duplicates current things because that would compete with businesses in the area.

We just had this beautiful building (The Coliseum) reopen, and the city's response is to open a space across the space in direct competition.

A big part of what we do for the brewery is to rent out community space. That would take a hit on that if people went there for meetings instead of our space, Hook and Ladder, and Coliseum. For meetings and events, the Coliseum has a huge space. I'm like, "oh, we've finally done the work of having a Black-owned business building and the city wants to make the same space available across the street."



Meanwhile, across the highway is the plaza, the farmers market plaza. Theoretically, that's a community event space, [but] there are never any events there. I just look at that and am like do we need another failed community space, broken drinking fountains? I want specifics.

Participants added that the City should consider using the space for business development activities in the area.

Give opportunities to people and organizations that are starting out and don't have a place to help people.... We want a space where they don't charge to organize a meeting.

To me, it seems like a space that would be an incubator space. It brings back life and gives people the chance to come back.

Building Exterior

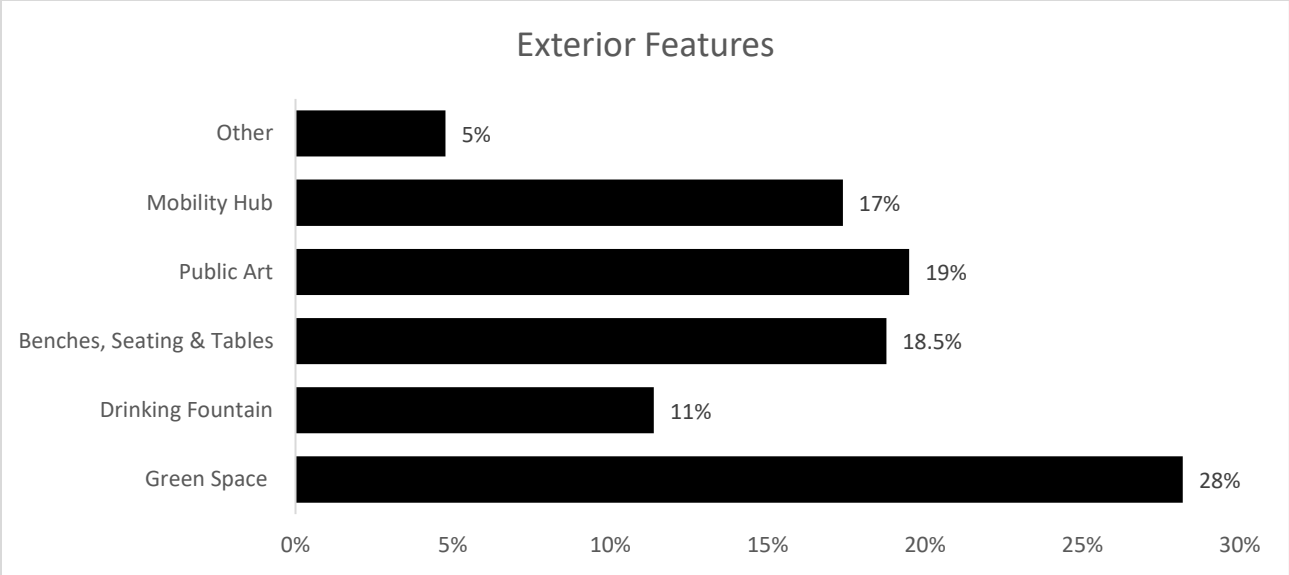
In the Engage survey, Pulse survey, open house, and curated conversations, respondents were asked about the features they would like to see outside the Minnehaha 3000 building.

In the pulse survey, a mobility hub was the first choice of the respondents with 30% while green space was a close second with 28%.

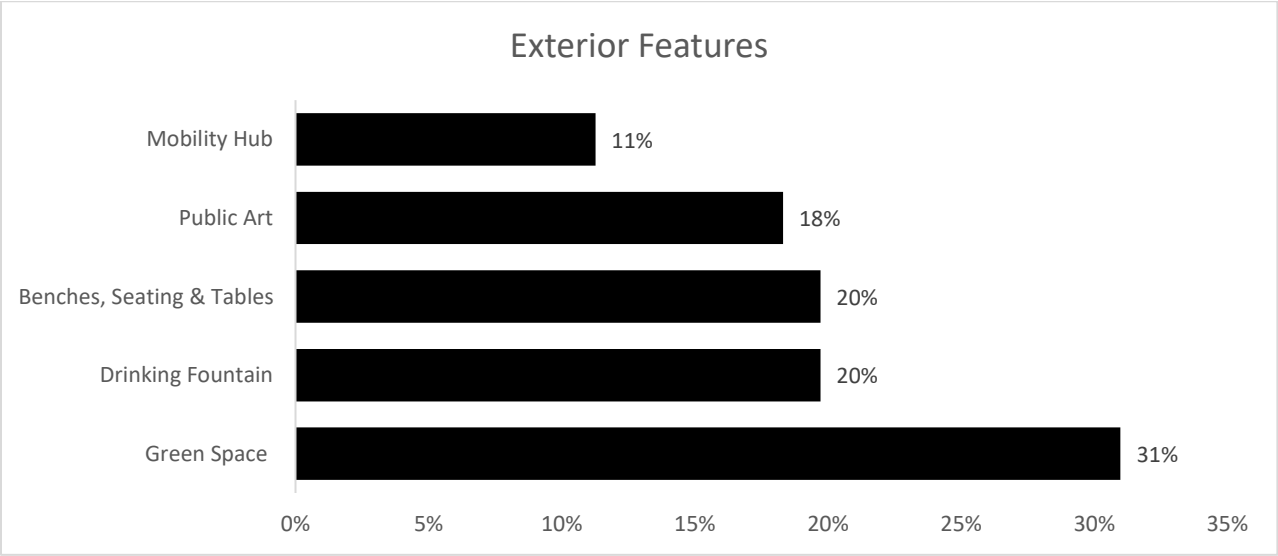


In the engage survey, 28% of the respondents selected green space as the first choice. Public art was the second option at 19% and benches, seating, and tables as the third option at 18.5%.





In the open house survey, green space was the top choice, with 31% of the respondents selecting the option. Drinking fountains along with benches, seating, and tables were joint second options at 20% each.



Some of the participants in the curated conversations said the property does not have enough space to add external features.

Green space has lots of dots, where is the green space? It's all towards the edge.

The structure architecture doesn't leave much space for outside.



Some of the participants said the City should not put benches, seats, tables, and drinking fountains in the space. They said it is a waste of money, encourages homelessness, and will become a convenient spot for drugs and other bad behaviors.

Don't do the benches, seats, tables, or drinking fountain. You're wasting your money. My babies had a drinking foundation at Whittier.

I've heard of other places that are just banning them (benches). There are reasons why our homelessness problem won't go away. This might be making the problem worse. Make sure the benches are squared up so they can't sleep there.

If you're going to have tables and benches, have them in a spot where you could only be in the yard or by the building, like a garden or a patio or something instead of putting it out where everybody will come and misuse it. Kids will come to smoke weed and sleep there. If there's like a fenced area.

Public arts and green space

A significant number of the participants at the curated conversations prefer public arts and green space as the external features of the building.

I love it when the chalkboard art goes up and creates a sense of life. When it comes to public art and green spaces, we need more of them.

Go with the art and green space. You want to bring life to the situation. The community space is going to look awesome.

Green space is number one for me.

As a resident, I love seeing art. It's an amenity that brings people to the area. Green spaces and places to rest make it walkable. I hope the City is flexible with the site plan, so whatever goes on the Lake Street side complements the area.

When Target put the murals up, it changed the area. That is what I envisioned for it.

Some participants said that the City should find local artists who understand what the space represents and the history of the location to design the building.

They need to be thoughtful in their design. Or find an artist who has experience and can understand the grief of that space.

The City should be really careful and thoughtful about who you invite to design it (the space). Find one of the artists who worked on George Floyd Square, someone who experienced hardships with the police and understands the grief.

The issue of setting up chairs and tables, I don't see a point in having chairs and tables if it doesn't feel like a community. I would rather reflect the art of the community, not only Latino, but in general. Representation of cultures, the building looks more beautiful with murals made by young artists.



Parking spaces

Some participants said parking spaces will be useful for businesses in the area while others feel that parking spaces would not be necessary.

Taking the parking lot back is important.

I'd like to see what happens with the huge parking lot we're all using right now connected to the 3rd Precinct. If the city wants to put structured parking there for use by local businesses so we can build without worrying about parking, delivery vehicles can stop there.

Right now, there's plenty of parking because everything is burned down. When I looked at the plan and saw how much parking there was, I thought why is there so much parking at this intersection that's supposed to be used for public use, transit, and walking? Parking shouldn't have been part of this. That would have been great if we were doing this 20 years ago.

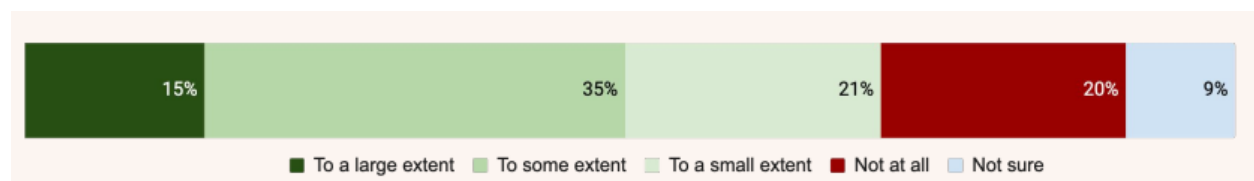


Finding 3: Contribution to Racial Healing

Community members offered a variety of opinions about whether redeveloping the space would contribute to racial healing. Some believe that it will contribute to racial healing, some do not see the correlation between the development of the space and racial healing, while some feel that it will not contribute to racial healing.

During the Pulse survey, 50% of the respondents said the proposed redevelopment of 3000 Minnehaha Ave. may contribute to racial healing within the City of Minneapolis to some extent. 21% said it may contribute to some extent while 29% were unsure or did not believe it would contribute.

These percentages varied greatly between the analyzed race/ethnicity groups. Specifically, Black/African American respondents reported the largest percentage of "to a large or some extent" (64%) and a notably low percentage of "not at all" (6%). Conversely, White respondents reported the largest percentage of "not at all" (21%).



Perspectives on contribution to healing

The curated conversations participants had varying perspectives on how the redevelopment will contribute to racial healing. Some participants said the trauma that a lot of people have experienced from that building makes it difficult to see the redevelopment of the building as something that contributes to racial healing.

Racial healing will come from that? I do find it disingenuous. If I've been beaten up by the police, I'm not going to heal; we have not changed the circumstances. Every time I hear healing, it makes me bristle. The same thing as truth and reconciliation. It doesn't work if the same people do the same thing. It has to come from changes in power before you have a reconciliation.

Honestly, my guts say no (racial healing). I have heard so much from the community; they have some bad names for that building.

We can put anything in that building such as a museum, food, social services, parenting classes, trade classes, and other things that the community could be excited about. Some people have told me that they could put a gold mine in that building, they would never ever enter that building.



Some participants said a lot goes into racial healing more than just the redevelopment of a building while some cannot see the relationship between the building and racial healing.

No, I don't think it (racial healing) is relevant. I don't think there is a connection. In some places, it's a move from one city space into another. Not saying they couldn't find value. It doesn't feel to me connected in a meaningful way. It feels like a convenience that is not connected in a meaningful way to racial healing

In terms of how people heal, I don't think there is a broad consensus on what racial healing is. That's challenging to have a building project do something about that. I think racial healing feels very abstract. I can see how there's an argument that could be made.... I don't know how this building addresses that.

Some participants said that it is important to honor the location. Some said making the place a Black center would contribute to racial healing while some said there should be something that describes what the place was and is.

I agree we have a Danish American center so having something that ties into the George Floyd Square would help with the healing and would help cleanse some of that.

There has to be something outside, whether that's a memorial to know what this was and what this is now.

Circumstances need to change before healing can happen. The word healing makes me bristle because it can work to a degree, but it won't mean anything. The building needs to be symbolic with its history front and center! It sounds like there is a lot yet to be discussed and we need to start having these discussions ahead of time!

Move from hate and injustice to something that helps the community, and it replaces the bad memories associated with it [3000 Minnehaha Ave.] and speeds up healing.



Finding 4: Community Perception of City Efforts

Genuine Engagement

The participants in the curated conversations shared their opinions about their perception of the City's engagement efforts. Some participants said the City is not genuinely engaging with them. They said decisions about the site were already made before the public heard about it. Others said the City is not engaging people who are actually affected by the issue.

It sure sounds like there are a lot of things we are not ready to discuss yet. That is understandable, but if we do not get to those one day before the final decision, then we have a problem. I see that happening all too often. Another decision was made before the public heard about it.

More than anything it is the decisions, and the people of the community were not informed when these things happen. The City does not go where the community is. They are isolating the voices of those who are really affected.

If the City can just be mindful of everyone here, please be in dialogue and be willing to negotiate with people like hook and ladder. People moving or trying to rebuild here.

It would be nice to know what is being done, on the website or on the building.

Some participants want the City to listen and be open-minded. They said that the people who are affected want the City to be a partner but feel that the City is not willing to listen to them.

We just want some help over here. Since this neighborhood was destroyed, we're trying to run our businesses, but we're also doing crime prevention, beautification, and social services. We just want the City to work with us and be a partner. I get the people in this room are trying to do that, but I feel like you're the flap catchers [the City] sends to hear us. Jacob Frey comes to the council meeting, speaks for 10 minutes, and runs out the door. Can't talk to him. Only one to seem he has authority, but you can't even get him to listen.

What upsets most of us who walked through the fire, had smoke coming into our building, and felt the trauma is that we weren't listened to.

Others added that people are tired of continuous engagement with no tangible result of the feedback they have provided. They said that the turnout is lower because they feel unheard.



We feel unheard. A lot of us are traumatized, so even speaking about it can be difficult. It is hard to come back to these meetings and continually talk without a change happening. We've given our feedback.

I think the community is burned out from doing all this, this is why you only see seven community members. They won't go to more since their opinions are spoken. You have us come back to restate what we've said, and some are still unheard.

Mistrust of the City

Some of the participants do not trust the City to do what people want. Some said that people with resources influence the City, which means regular citizens cannot have their desires.

My confidence that we are going to get anything we've asked for is pretty low.

In my mind, I see many powerful people behind this. What reasons, I have no idea. They have the ears of the mayor versus us people doing regular stuff. We can't just say "Hey Jacob," we can't do that, but people can with deep pockets, and we can't fight them.

What occurs to me is the feeling that this is set in stone. It seems to me there is a process laid out and these marks that you are aiming to hit. The product isn't set in stone, but the process pretty much is.

Others said that they are not confident that the City will not put the police back in the building.

I do hear from folks coming into the bookstore when talking about this proposal often. They don't trust the City isn't going to put the police back in later. They see undefined sections of the proposals as potentially a place where police could later be put.

I guess part of it is for me is understanding that the 3rd Precinct has been, to put it simply, a bad place. So how can we transform that into something that belongs to the community instead of this bastion of racism, rigidity, and power? I have given it a whole lot of thought and the concept of voter services is important in empowering people, but I can understand where it can feel bulldozed into that decision.

Long process without action

Some participants also expressed frustration with the City about the length of the process. They said it has been taking too long for the City to do something about the building.

I was disappointed to see things happen in the spring but know nothing till next year.

I would like to do something short-term before the winter. When I hear 2026, I hear when is this? Before or after the flying cars?

It's been too long.



How long does it take the City to decide whether the homeless encampment [will] be cleared? Why in two weeks can they not board the windows and doors and remove the cement? We've been asking for four years.



Summary



Summary

The City of Minneapolis engaged the community on the proposal for the mixed-use of the Minnehaha 3000 project as an election center and community space. The City conducted an engage survey which received 1148 responses and a pulse survey which received 913 responses. The City also hosted an open house in June 2024 that had 76 attendees and conducted seven curated conversations with a total of 36 participants.

The engagement methods yielded slightly different responses to the use of the space for an election center. In both the engage and pulse surveys, a significant number of the respondents favored the use of the space for an election center while the curated conversation participants were less favorable. While some of the community members saw value in the use of the space for an election center, others pointed to the lack of economic value that the election center would bring to the community. Additionally, some community members were not pleased with the proportion of the space allocated to the community space as compared to the space allocated to the election center.

Across engagement methods, community members mostly preferred that the space be used to provide social services to the community. Social services will add value to the community, they said, bring more people to the space, and improve community outcomes. Community members who responded selected green space as the top choice for the building exterior. There were mixed opinions on adding benches, seats, tables, and drinking fountains to the space. Some saw the value in that while some said it may make the space desirable for unproductive activities. Community members also want whatever is in the community space to complement the assets that already exist in the community rather than duplicate what is already there.

Across engagement methods, the community members had varying reactions when asked about the contribution of the development of the space to racial healing. Some could not see a correlation between the development of the space and racial healing while others said it contributes very little. Some also said honoring the space could contribute to racial healing.

Generally, the community is frustrated with the City's efforts in engaging the community in good faith. They were skeptical of the City's intentions and said that the City was not listening to the community. Community participation in the curated conversations was lower than in the project's first phase. Community members indicated that this is because the community's interest in engaging with the City is waning.



Appendices



Appendix

Appendix I: Minnehaha 3000 - Community Conversations, Small Group 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 the redevelopment of the former 3rd Precinct building. In our broad sessions, we are listening to the perceptions of community members, business owners, and others through a series of community engagement conversations.

I will ask you questions about what you think about Minnehaha 3000, opportunities for the community space, and its contribution to racial healing. We will submit the information that we gather to the City project team who will combine the information with the survey results to draft a report that will be 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

Participation

- Participate to the fullest of your ability -- community growth depends on the inclusion of every individual voice.
- In this context, we are all equals, and all perspectives are welcomed and valued.
- Limit distractions as much as possible. Avoid side conversations, put phones on silent or vibrate, and step aside if you need to take calls.
- This is an opportunity to listen and to be heard. Try not to be defensive or try to validate your position.
- Speak one at a time and do not interrupt the speaker.

Expressing Perspectives



- Speak from your own experience instead of generalizing ("I" instead of "they," "we," and "you").
- Avoid absolutes and exaggerations, such as always, never, etc.
- Speak truth with kindness and respect the feelings of others.

Respect and Assumptions

- Respect the truth in everyone's perspectives. Do not judge others or criticize their opinions. Disagree with the topic, not the person.
- Be conscious of body language and nonverbal responses. They can be as disrespectful as words.
- Assume positive intent, while also striving for positive impact.
- Avoid ascribing motives to behavior. We can't know why people act the way they do.

Self-care

- Practice self-care (e.g., step away if needed).

Confidentiality

- Maintain confidentiality as much as possible

Comments/Additions

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

Moment of Reflection (5 minutes)

The Minnehaha 3000 building (former 3rd Precinct building) is very symbolic in this community. It was damaged during the uprising that followed the murder of George Floyd. Since then, the building has been lying fallow which causes many to relive the horrors of the murder and the destruction that followed. We also recognize its history prior to 2020 and its impact on the local community; especially members of the African American, Native American, Latino, East African, and LGBTQ communities to name a few.

There was a desire to rebuild the property as a police headquarters, but strong opposition from the community members pushed the City leaders to reconsider their position.

As we enter a new phase of discussion about the property, I want you to reflect on what this building symbolizes for you.

After the reflection, ask individuals to share their names and use one or two words to describe what the building symbolizes for them.

Based on what individuals share.....

As we can infer from what was shared, the building means different things for all of us. This conversation may be more difficult and sensitive for some than others because of their lived experience. Let us do our best to share our perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.



Questions

1. **There is a proposal to redevelop 3000 Minnehaha Ave. (the former 3rd precinct building) into a mixed-use Democracy Center and community space. 8,000 square feet will be the community space. To what degree do you support this proposal and why?**

2. ***Show the five images of the proposed options for use of the community space – one image for each option: The allotted space is 8,000 square feet of indoor ground floor space:***
 - a. Business/commercial center
 - b. Cultural center
 - c. Community gathering space
 - d. Museum/memorial
 - e. Social services for those needing support for housing, finances, mental health, substance abuse, etc.

Which of these options resonates the most with you and why?

How would you see your community using this space (however you define community)?

Which of these options resonates the least with you and why?

What options, if any, are not represented in these images?

3. ***Show the five images of the external proposed options for use of the community space.***
 - a. Benches, seating & tables
 - b. Drinking fountain
 - c. Mobility hub: a place where people can connect to many modes of transportation (car share, bike share, bike parking, etc.)
 - d. Green space
 - e. Public art

If we had to prioritize among these features, which of these options would you most like to see and why?

How would you see your community using one or more of these options (however you define community)?

What additional external features, if any, are not represented in these images?



Racial Healing

- 4. We asked you earlier about what the City should take into consideration in the redevelopment of this space. The need for racial healing could certainly be one of those things. To what degree can the actions proposed for Minnehaha 3000 contribute to achieving racial healing within the City of Minneapolis?**

Note: Racial Healing is defined as the following: the process of recognizing, addressing, and reconciling individual and collective racism, its historical roots, and its current impacts on society. It involves acknowledging past injustices and harm caused by racial discrimination and working towards repairing the damage, fostering understanding, empathy, and respect amongst racial groups. This process aims to heal the wounds created by racism, build bridges across communities, and create an inclusive society where all individuals belong and can thrive without the barriers of racial prejudice and inequity.

**If racial healing is one of the goals, what should be included in the process?
If racial healing is one of the goals, what should be avoided?**

Close

