

Pedestrian Advisory Committee Resolution

To: Minneapolis City Council, Minneapolis Public Works

From: Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Date: July 7, 2021

Subject: George Floyd Square

George Floyd Square

The Pedestrian Advisory Committee believes that the City, along with Public Works, acted in opposition to its policies when it removed the barriers at the memorial at 38th and Chicago in order to open the street to private motor vehicle thru traffic.

1. Opening the street to traffic without including any safe pedestrian spaces is asking for a pedestrian injury by a moving car. The current design of the intersection with the memorial does not allow people to safely move or engage with this historic place. This action defeats the policies of Complete Streets and Vision Zero: to establish and respect public spaces.
2. Vibrant pedestrian community spaces are what both the Transportation Action Plan and Minneapolis 2040 point to as the future of our public spaces. Removing a community space in this way is antithetical to how the City and Public Works should operate, based on its policies and our collective future as a city.

There are many ways to bring safety, harmony, revenue, and beauty to this place that has been a healing gathering space for so many. We are disheartened by the ongoing actions of the City and Public Works, and we hope to see a reversal of this decision soon, with investment given to the community in ways that are not dangerously car-centric and that honor the history and significance of this place for the future.