



Charter for Change



Unity Community
Mediation Team

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Minneapolis community organizations announce shared vision for the city

Diverse groups representing every part of Minneapolis working together to create positive change as city faces challenges

Minneapolis — Minneapolis community organizations today announced a shared vision for the city as they work to create positive change. The diverse group is engaged in a variety of activities with residents and elected officials.

The groups were represented at a downtown Minneapolis press conference by Louis King (MPLS Together), Rev. Ian Bethel, Sr. (Unity Community Mediation Team), Sondra Samuels (Minneapolis 8 & Operation Safety Now), Greg Hestness (Charter for Change), Catherine Shreves (Charter for Change), Steve Cramer (A New 612), and Jonathan Weinhagen (A New 612). The following organizations came together on the collective statement:

- A New 612
- MPLS Together
- Charter for Change
- DFL Senior Caucus
- Operation Safety Now
- Minneapolis 8
- Unity Community Mediation Team

Collective Community Statement

The organizations and initiatives represented here are a **city-wide coalition** representing every sector and part of Minneapolis.

We seek **stability** and **safety** throughout our diverse community, while striving to create **prosperity** and **opportunity** for all our neighbors.

Creating change in Minneapolis is imperative. There is no more status quo. To do so successfully will require engaging the entire community and embracing approaches that work for everyone, not just the loudest voices.

Today, we are uniting around these commitments.

We are united in demanding transformative police reform, not defunding the police.

- We support the DOJ Pattern or Practice investigation into the City of Minneapolis and the MPD and will work within that framework to improve the public safety of our community.
- We are in full support of Chief Arradondo's leadership and MPD transformation work.
- We support the "both/and" approach to public safety many of us advocated during the 2021 budget process as the best way forward.

We are united in strongly endorsing the Charter Commission's amendment to strengthen city government and opposing amendments which offer false promises of greater safety.

- "Defund" and other simple slogans, and ill-conceived and incomplete plans, will not make our community safe.
- This leads us to oppose the Yes4Mpls petition and a similar idea offered by some City Council Members and others in the community, which do not address structural racism, will not transform policing, and in fact question the need for law enforcement of any kind for our City.
- We support improved governance in Minneapolis by defining the role of executive leadership for the Mayor, and legislative and policy leadership for the City Council.

We are united in elevating the priority of greater economic progress for black, brown, and indigenous members of our community.

- The Minneapolis Regional Chamber and the Minneapolis Downtown Council are announcing their endorsement of Summit Academy OIC's "Minnesota@Work" jobs campaign, and partnership with Summit and others in the business community to create 1000 jobs in coming months for City residents.
- We support use of American Rescue Plan dollars to support the 1000 jobs goal.

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