



PHILONISE & KEETA FLOYD

— INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE —

“TURNING OUR PAIN INTO PURPOSE”

Letter of Support for Agape Movement

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Philonise Floyd, brother of George Floyd, and I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt support for the Agape Movement and the work they are seeking to do in Minneapolis.

Our family stands with Agape in full solidarity as they pursue the opportunity to oversee and develop the Speedway property located across the street from where my brother George lost his life. We believe this space has the potential to become a place of remembrance, healing, education, and unity for generations to come.

I want the residents of Minneapolis to know that the Floyd family has never forgotten everything Agape has done for us during one of the most painful periods in our lives. Following George's death, when our family was thrust into the national spotlight and faced many difficult challenges, Agape was there. When tensions arose with local street organizations and others in the community, Agape stepped forward to help ensure our safety and security. They helped coordinate and secure media access, assisted with logistics, and most importantly, they welcomed us with genuine compassion, kindness, and hospitality.

During a time when our family was grieving and overwhelmed, Agape treated us like family. Their support was not temporary or performative—it was sincere, consistent, and rooted in love. Even after the cameras left and public attention faded, they remained in contact with us and continued to offer encouragement and support.

If Agape is granted the opportunity to oversee the Speedway property, I, along with other members of my family, look forward to working hand in hand with them to help create a beautiful memorial space where George's life, legacy, and the lessons learned from his tragic death can be remembered with dignity and respect.

I also want to address a matter that has been discussed publicly. Yes, members of our family do live in Minneapolis, and we recognize there are many voices and opinions surrounding this project. However, I can only speak from my own experience and from what I have witnessed firsthand. Throughout our lives, there were times when our family struggled and faced hardship. Some people who later sought to benefit from George's death were nowhere to be found when our family needed support. Yet Agape stood with us when they had nothing to gain. They offered kindness, protection, guidance, and friendship when it mattered most.

The bond between our family and Agape was forged through tragedy, but it has endured because it is built on trust, respect, and genuine love. We firmly believe in their commitment to the community and their vision for creating something meaningful and lasting at this historic location.

It is our sincere hope that the people of Minneapolis and community leaders will recognize the positive impact Agape has had on our family and the broader community. We believe they have acted with integrity, and we are confident they will continue to do great things for the city they serve.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and willingness to hear our perspective.

Philonise Floyd

Brother of George Floyd
On behalf of members of the Floyd Family
With gratitude and respect,

From: [Central Neighborhood](#)
To: [Frey, Jacob](#); [Anderson Kelliher, Margaret](#); [Payne, Elliott](#); [Ward 2](#); [Ward 3](#); [Ward 4](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Ward 5](#); [Ward 6](#); [Ward 7](#); [Ward 8](#); [Ward 9](#); [Chughtai, Aisha](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#); [Ward 10](#); [Ward 11](#); [Ward 12](#); [Ward 13](#); [Stevenson, Soren D](#); [Chavez, Jason](#); [Warren, Pearl Y](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RESPONSE TO LEGISLATIVE FILE 2026-00603
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 3:08:05 PM

Minneapolis City Clerk's Office
350 S. Fifth St., Room 312,
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1382

June 10, 2026

ATTN: Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey;
Council Members Elliott Payne (President), Jamal Osman (Vice-President), Aisha Chughtai (Majority Leader), Robin Wonsley (Minority Leader), Michael Rainville, LaTrisha Vetaw, Pearl Warren, Elizabeth Shaffer, Soren Stevenson, Jason Chavez, Jamison Whiting, Aurin Chowdhury, and Linea Palmisano;
CPED Director Erik Hansen; Manager of Economic Development, Miles Mercer

RESPONSE TO LEGISLATIVE FILE 2026-00603
AWARDING EXCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS TO MINNESOTA AGAPE
MOVEMENT

Dear Mayor Frey, Members of the Minneapolis City Council and Minneapolis City Staff,

Our organization has paid close attention to the conversations being shared by community groups, stakeholders, city staff and businesses in this city – and beyond – when it comes to the development of the People's Way. At no point during the engagement/selection process did the community feel that we were on equal footing with the city as a partner. The city demonstrated top-down and chauvinistic practices when dealing with our community organizations, which contributed to a lack of trust on this and other projects regarding 38th and Chicago Avenue. Because of this, we cannot in good conscience take the results from the city's engagement process as a definitive reflection of what our community wants. We have listened carefully to our residents. We have examined the results of the survey and conducted our own qualitative surveys within the neighborhood to determine if a community consensus is present – it is not.

Several facts are abundantly clear:

1. Our neighbors believe that stewardship of the People's Way should be in the hands of those most impacted by anti-Black racism and state violence.
2. The process of the redevelopment of George Floyd Square including the People's Way has been retraumatizing for Black people who live and work in our neighborhoods.

3.

A complete lack of care has been demonstrated at multiple points throughout this process, causing further emotional and financial stress and harm by:

- a. Repeated delays and lack of communication regarding the selection process, timeline and development priorities for the People's Way;
- b. Ongoing lack of communication around street construction timelines, processes, resident impacts and business supports;
- c. Ongoing lack of transparency of the funding and implementation of the 38th Street Thrive Strategic Development Plan;
- d. A special assessment of \$636,447 levied against predominantly Black and immigrant neighbors living and working in the intersection of George Floyd Square;
- e. Non-Black Council members degrading Black institutions in press conferences.

Our neighbors do not believe that the Minneapolis City Council is the appropriate body to hold a decision about the future of the People's Way or 38th and Chicago.

We invite you to an alternative solution.

The Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization (CANDO) formally calls for a halt in the decision for the People's Way. We request the reestablishment of the Community Co-Creation Team. Our community needs careful, mediated time to arrive at a solution without external pressure.

The **38th and Chicago Community Co-Creation Team** will oversee the selection and development processes for the People's Way and implement a community benefits agreement for the site. This Commission will implement the 38th Street Thrive Strategic Development Plan through collaborating with city staff and residents to develop and implement policies and procedures that support community development, facilitating public information and education along the way. The primary objective of this Commission is to return the decisions being made about this community – back to the community – promoting and facilitating racial healing and justice through building trust, transparency and

accountability for the people of Minneapolis.

We believe that we are stronger when we work together, and we understand that this process has been driving us apart.

Our recommended stakeholders for the **38th and Chicago Community Co-Creation Team** are as follows:

1.
Neighbor - 3700 Block Columbus Avenue South
2.
Neighbor - 3700 Block Chicago Avenue South
3.
Neighbor - 3700 Block Elliot Avenue South
4.
Neighbor - 3800 Block Elliot Avenue South
5.
Neighbor - 3800 Block Chicago Avenue South
6.
Neighbor - 3800 Block Elliot Avenue South
7.
Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization (CANDO)
8.
Bryant Neighborhood Organization (BNO)
9.
Bancroft Neighborhood Association (BNA)
10.
Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA)
11.
38th & Chicago Business Coalition (38TH+CHI)
12.
Community Visioning Council (CVC)
13.
Worldwide Outreach for Christ (WWOC)
14.
Calvary Lutheran Church (ELCA)

15. Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en Lucha (CTUL)
16. Minnesota AGAPE Movement
17. Rise & Remember
18. Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED)
19. Hennepin County District 4
20. City Council Ward 8
21. City Council Ward 9

We believe in collaboration, not competition.

We believe that another world is possible.

Do you?

Respectfully,

Lane Brown and Mickella Rolfes

Co-Executive Director Leadership Team

Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization (CANDO)

lane@thecentralneighborhood.com

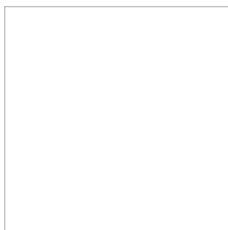
mickella@thecentralneighborhood.com

**CENTRAL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION**

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Nicole Holliday, Sunshine On Our Face
Minneapolis, MN | 507.350.9415

Minneapolis City Council
Minneapolis Senate Leadership
Gov. Tim Walz
Attorney General, Keith Ellison

RE: Support for Minnesota Agape Movement and 3744 Chicago Avenue (“The People’s Way”)

Minneapolis City Council Members, Minnesota State Leadership, and Interested Parties:

I am writing to express my strong support for awarding the proposed development rights for 3744 Chicago Avenue, known as “The People’s Way,” to the Minnesota Agape Movement.

As a longtime Minneapolis business owner, Community Advocate, and Legal Liaison, I work closely with families navigating grief, incarceration, poverty, and systemic barriers. Throughout that work, I have consistently witnessed Minnesota Agape Movement serving where it is needed most.

Agape’s leadership is present in community outreach, mentorship, violence prevention, spiritual guidance, reentry support, and family advocacy. They do not simply talk about community—they actively invest in it.

I have personally witnessed their commitment to families in crisis. While assisting a family following the loss of their son in a police-related incident, their pastor unexpectedly became unavailable. After contacting Agape leadership, they connected the family with another pastor within 24 hours, ensuring their loved one could be laid to rest with dignity and care.

I also recognize and respect the important memorial work of Rise & Remember and the Floyd Family Foundation. Their efforts preserve memory and create space for reflection. However, Minnesota Agape Movement offers something equally important: ongoing work that protects, heals, restores, mentors, and strengthens the community while creating opportunities for future growth.

What makes Agape uniquely qualified is its deep connection to South Minneapolis. Its leaders know the neighborhood because they have lived its history, faced its challenges, and remained committed to its future. They have also expressed a willingness to collaborate with other stakeholders, including Rise & Remember.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Business, Housing and Zoning Committee and the Minneapolis City Council to approve the proposed contract and award development rights for 3744 Chicago Avenue to the Minnesota Agape Movement. South Minneapolis deserves leadership that honors the past while actively building a stronger future. Minnesota Agape Movement has demonstrated its commitment to doing both.

Respectfully,



From: [Grant Johnson via Smartsheet](#)
To: [Council Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment: 38th & Chicago Business Coalition
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 4:53:42 PM



Public Comment: 38th & Chicago Business Coalition

Date: 06/03/26, 4:51 PM

2026-00603

Minneapolis, MN - The 38th+Chi Business Coalition announces its support for the City of Minneapolis's recommendation to award the Minnesota Agape Movement exclusive development rights for the Peoples' Way site at 38th Street and Chicago Avenue.

The city's recommendation, announced on May 14, 2026, would grant the Minnesota Agape Movement exclusive rights for two years, with the possibility of a one-year extension, to develop the former Speedway gas station site into a community asset, including plans for a multi-use building with space dedicated to civil resilience.

The 38th and Chicago corridor has a deep and vibrant history as a hub for community, culture, and commerce long before it became known to the world. The Coalition's support reflects a commitment to honoring that legacy and building on it: not simply as a place of remembrance, but as a thriving corridor where Black-owned businesses, community organizations, and residents continue to shape what comes next.

"The businesses on this corridor have been here, building, serving, and investing in this neighborhood through every chapter of its story," said Chef Lachelle Cunningham of the 38th+Chi Business Coalition and owner of City Food Studio at 3722 Chicago Avenue. "We support the Agape Peoples' Way Proposal because it reflects the vision of the people who are doing the work every day to move this community forward."

With infrastructure improvements set to begin on June 8, 2026, and expected to continue through 2027, the Coalition recognizes the

importance of coordinated, community-driven development alongside the construction. The 38th+Chi Business Coalition believes the Agape Peoples' Way Proposal represents an opportunity to strengthen the economic vitality and cultural legacy of one of Minneapolis's most significant corridors.

About the 38th+Chi Business Coalition

The 38th+Chi Business Coalition is a coalition of business owners and entrepreneurs operating along the 38th Street and Chicago Avenue corridor in Minneapolis. The Coalition advocates for business retention, growth, and community investment.

Contact: Chef Lachelle Cunningham
38th+Chi Business Coalition
chelleskitchenllc@gmail.com

Ward:

Business, Housing & Zoning (BHZ)

<!--[if !mso]-->

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From: [Grant Johnson via Smartsheet](#)
To: [Council Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Phi Khalar
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 11:07:41 AM



Public Comment: Phi Khalar

Date: 06/02/26, 11:05 AM

2026-00603

As a neighbor of George Floyd Square, I urge you to reject the city's recommendation of Agape Movement as the developer of the People's Way site at 38th St and Chicago Ave. The reasons being as follows:

1. The clear choice based on the survey last year was Rise & Remember's proposal: <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/28124467-peoples-way-community-survey-results/>
2. This all-in-one complex is inappropriately sized and duplicates resources already in the neighborhood including but not limited to Sabathani Community Center, KRSM, and Pillsbury House
3. Neighboring residents are facing \$3000-\$6000 tax assessments for the road redesign itself with a 2-year completion window which would then be followed by construction of a 6-story building that will rattle and crack 100 year old home foundations.

Please consider these arguments in your decision. I hope you can trust and side with residents in making the right choice.

Ward: Ward 9

Business, Housing & Zoning (BHZ)

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From: [Laura Fries](#)
To: [Council Comment](#); [Payne, Elliott](#); [Ward 2](#); [Ward 3](#); [Vetaw, LaTrisha](#); [Warren, Pearl Y](#); [Osman, Jamal](#); [Shaffer, Elizabeth A](#); [Stevenson, Soren D](#); [Chavez, Jason](#); [Ward 10](#); [Whiting, Jamison](#); [Chowdhury, Aurin](#); [Palmisano, Linea](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Reject Exclusive Development Rights to Minnesota Agape Movement for 3744 Chicago Ave
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 5:20:13 PM

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Dear Minneapolis City Council Members,

My name is Laura Fries and I'm a resident of Eden Prairie and although I am not in Minneapolis, I stand in solidarity with my Minneapolis community. If this past winter and ICE occupation has taught us anything, it's that we have to stand together when injustice occurs. I'm writing to urge you to oppose granting exclusive development rights for 3744 Chicago Avenue — The People's Way — to the Minnesota Agape Movement.

The future of this site has been the subject of dozens of community meetings, and the clear, consistent message has been that we want Rise and Remember, the George Floyd family foundation, to develop and operate the building. Decisions about this site should reflect the will of the community that has gathered and grieved there, Minneapolis residents and surrounding residents as well.

I'm especially troubled by turning this site over to the Agape Movement given their role in accepting \$359,000 in COVID relief funds to force open the intersection of 38th and Chicago, at the expense of activists who had been holding the space. I respectfully ask that you and your colleagues reject the proposed contract with the Minnesota Agape Movement and instead pursue the proposal from Rise and Remember.

Thank you for representing our community.

Sincerely,
Laura Fries
9090 Gould Rd
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

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Laura Fries
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