

Background: On May 25, 2020, George Perry Floyd was murdered by four former City of Minneapolis Police Department officers. In the days that followed, the 3rd Precinct facility, at the southwest corner of Lake Street East and Minnehaha Avenue South, was vacated by police and experienced significant damage. MPD has since operated the 3rd Precinct out of a downtown facility, which is well outside of the precinct’s geographic boundaries in south Minneapolis.

The City of Minneapolis (City) is committed to ensuring that community services are restored to the 3rd Precinct geographic area. The City is seeking input from people in that area to inform the decision for the precinct’s future building location.

[View the 3rd Precinct Geographic area.](#)

1. Will the City re-establish the 3rd Precinct at the Lake & Minnehaha location?

That has not yet been decided. The City is looking to hear from community members about re-establishing precinct functions at the Lake & Minnehaha location. The City hopes to have formal feedback to help drive decision-making in 2023.

2. Has the City identified other potential locations for a precinct facility?

Yes. The City has done research and identified a possible alternative site using the following criteria:

- City-owned properties within the geographic boundaries of the 3rd Precinct.
- Available space to accommodate building and parking and site circulation.
- Centrally located within the precinct boundaries to best serve the community.

Information on site options can be found on the project webpage.

3. Why do we need a 3rd Precinct facility?

Because officers from the 3rd Precinct are now operating out of a downtown facility, people within the precinct’s geographic area do not have the same level of access to public safety services as compared to people in other areas of Minneapolis. A police precinct provides 24-hour walk-in access to obtain public safety assistance and referrals for other services, as well as community use of the facility space for a variety of needs. A police facility serving the community based within the community helps facilitate connection and partnership with the community as well as ease of access to City services.

4. If not at Lake & Minnehaha, what will the City of Minneapolis do with the current facility?

If the City chooses to not re-establish precinct functionality at the Lake & Minnehaha location, the City will need to identify options for the property. The City will first need to determine whether the property is needed for another City function or whether it can be deemed as excess property. If the latter, the City must follow its disposition policy.

5. How can I comment on where I think the 3rd Precinct facility should be located?

In 2023, there will be multiple ways to comment on this question. To stay informed about opportunities, please go to project webpage.

6. What can a precinct facility look like? Are there zoning or other restrictions that impact what can be done?

The facility will need to conform to land use policy, zoning, and built form regulations. Additionally, there are restrictions related to the inside of the facility and are related to confidential data access. This restriction will need to be met, regardless of where the precinct is located.

- The parcel of the former 3rd Precinct facility at Lake & Minnehaha is zoned as C3A (Community Activity Center District).
- The alternative location at 2600 Minnehaha Ave is zoned as I1 (Light Industrial).

Learn more about [Community Activity Center District](#) and [Light Industrial District](#).

7. What is the budget for the City re-establishing the 3rd Precinct facility?

The budget has yet to be determined and will depend on various factors. Location will be a primary factor. There will be budget savings if the facility is re-established at the current location, as much of the old facility can be salvaged. If the City establishes at a new location, there will most likely be additional financial impacts associated with “starting from scratch.” The final budget will depend on the actual facility and location.

At this point, the former precinct site is assessed at upwards of \$12 million to re-establish functionality as a police precinct. The City estimates that a new precinct facility would cost somewhere between \$22 million to \$26 million.

8. Is there a timeline? And if so, what is the timeline?

There is no specific deadline established at this time. Once a decision has been made about either re-establishing the precinct on the Lake & Minnehaha location or at the alternative location, a timeline will be created for the development of the new 3rd Precinct facility.

9. Did the City collect insurance money for the building at Lake & Minnehaha?

No, the City is self-insured.

10. Is the City required to have a 3rd Precinct building in the 3rd Precinct geographic area?

It has been the City’s practice to provide a physical location within each precinct boundary to provide service conveniently to the community it serves.

11. Does MPD have a preference on location?

MPD supports having a police precinct facility within the geographic boundaries of the precinct area it serves, whether it's at the previous facility at Lake & Minnehaha or at the alternative location. Having a precinct facility in the precinct itself improves police presence, partnerships, and connectivity to the community.

12. Who is going to make the final decision on the relocation of the 3rd Precinct facility?

The final decision will be made by the mayor and City Council. As a City-owned property, there will be certain components that need council approval.

13. How does this project, which seems focused on infrastructure, relate to a future vision for policing and community safety in Minneapolis?

While this project is centered on infrastructure, it aligns with the greater community safety vision for the City of Minneapolis: to provide a high level of service to Minneapolis residents and visitors. This project allows the City, particularly, the Minneapolis Police Department, to provide greater accessibility and create a space where staff can connect easily with community members. Additionally, “Community Safety and Police Reform” is one of the five top priorities for Mayor Jacob Frey and the Strategic Race & Equity Action Plan’s policy priority to improve public safety.

Police precincts are the main points of contact on a day-to-day basis for community members and the police officers who serve them. With this project, we have an opportunity to construct a precinct building that not only aides in the execution of police operations in the 3rd Precinct geographic area, but just as importantly serves the community and facilitates effective partnership between the officers of the 3rd Precinct and the people they serve. The vision for the future of policing in Minneapolis must be created in partnership with the communities served and bringing the 3rd Precinct facility back to that precinct is an important step.

[Mayor Frey outlines priorities for 2023-2024](#)

[Learn about the Office of Community Safety’s on the Mayor’s strategic priorities.](#)

14. There are renderings of new facility ideas, for both locations. It appears the City has already decided what the facility will look like. Is that true?

No, the City drafted renderings to assist with the conversations about potential locations. In our experience, it has been helpful to provide information in various formats, including written, oral, and visual documents. The City does have renderings of the two potential locations and what they could look like. Many decisions have yet to be made that will ultimately inform the final facility design.

Some examples of what could be included in either scenario, could be office space for community-based organizations, community meeting space, workspace for non-MPD city programs as well as off-street parking to better serve the community. The program inclusion has yet to be determined. Once these elements have been decided, the City will solicit an architect through a Request for Qualifications process. That information will be posted on the City’s procurement website. If you would like to stay informed of updates, you can sign up to receive updates on the project webpage.