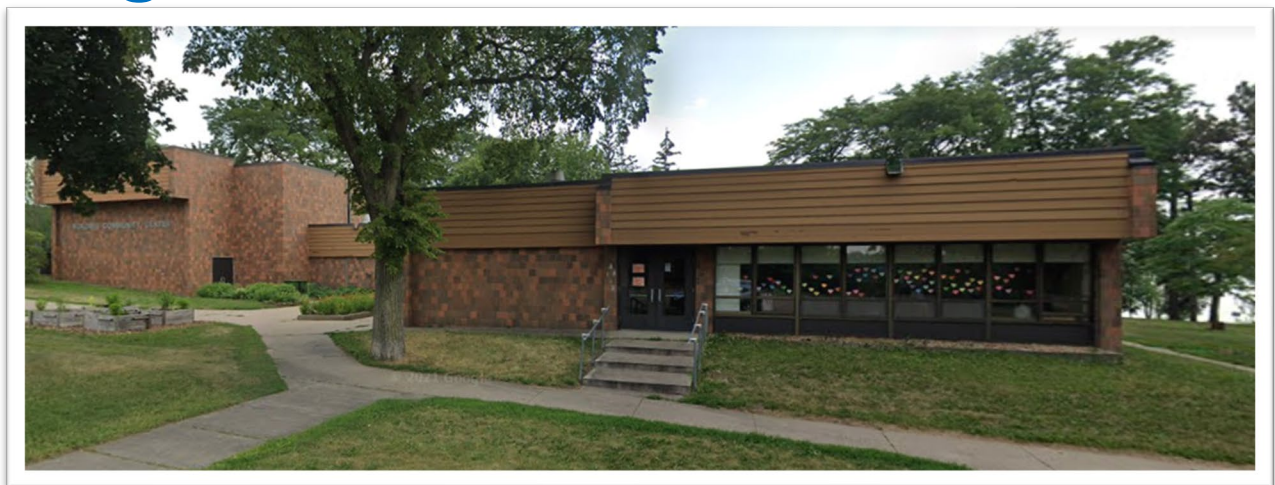




Conversation with the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association and the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association



May 23, 2024

On Thursday, May 23, Office of Community Safety (OCS) staff co-hosted an event with Council Members Chowdhury and Koski, the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA), and the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA). The event had over 75 people in attendance.

Council Members Chowdhury and Koski kicked off the event followed by a presentation by OCS staff. During the presentation, OCS discussed the concept of community safety centers and what themes community had already shared about desired services. Participants asked questions and then engaged in conversation at their table groups to discuss what social services and resources are important in the South Minneapolis Community Safety Center. After the event city staff stayed to answer additional questions and hear feedback from the attendees.

Based upon their discussion, the following social service themes emerged as important to this community:

- **Addiction**
 - Not just treatment but resources and intervention
 - Anonymous help
- **Affordable Housing**
 - Priority for unsheltered community
 - Referrals
 - Eviction diversion
 - Housing navigators
- **Mental Health**
 - Help finding resources/resource center
 - Referrals and crisis team
 - Hub for BCR
 - De-escalation
 - Supportive services for the family
 - Place to go for help in a crisis or routine for prevention of a crisis especially kids and teens
- **Unsheltered homelessness resources**
 - Navigation center
 - Referrals
 - Not a shelter but refer individuals
 - Shelter
 - Mailboxes for unhoused people to provide an address
 - Phones
 - Minneapolis LEAD
- **Youth**
 - Training
 - Employment
 - Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board connection
 - Help finding purpose
 - Tutoring and mentoring
 - Education support, GED
 - Services for teen moms
 - Resources for youth in abusive situations

- Teen services

Based upon the discussion, the following other building uses and resources emerged as important to this community:

- Space for supervised parental visits
- Space for community meals
- Giving out opioid overdose medicine
 - Opioid overdose medicine may create tension being co-housed with Minneapolis Police Department
- Resource hub
- Community meeting space
 - Trainings (including mental health)
 - AA 12-step
 - Education
- Legal services

What's missing:

- Domestic violence
 - Referrals
 - Resources
 - Place for children to report abuse
- Necessities
 - Access to food and meals
 - Public restrooms
 - Free water
 - Low-cost snack bar
- Other building uses
 - Coffee shop
 - Auto repair
 - Hotline and resources for elder abuse/education
 - 3rd party misconduct reporting centers
 - A place to volunteer
 - Multijurisdictional collaboration
 - Vision for police and community working together
- Services
 - Sex trafficking services
 - Public service information and resources
 - Safety for seniors at home and in the community
 - Support for seniors especially those who live alone
 - Triage to other services
 - Interpretation and translation services
 - Embedded social worker
 - Immigration services
 - Include county services in the center
 - Wellness massage/wellness therapy massage

- Access to menstrual products
- Restorative services and victim programs
- Crime/victim support
- Community safety officers
- Resume writing resources
- Space for NENA/SENA
- Renter support

Other discussion items related to the center:

Entering the center:

- Welcoming
- Friendly
- Inviting lighting around the building
- Bike racks
- Culturally appropriate
- Green space with plants, trees, and aquariums
- Outdoor space with flowers, art, benches/tables, and fountain
- 311 services and longer business hours
- Evening hours for the center
- Staffed with navigators who can do follow-up and triage for services

Center use:

- Collaboration space for different organizations and police
- Community based services
- Community ownership of space – people feel ownership of space
- Collaboration space
- Violence prevention contractors
- Providers gather to share ideas and learn from one another

Quotes

- “Many options listed are provided elsewhere.”
- “Do not duplicate services that already exist in the 3rd precinct.”
- “Referrals to other organizations and resources to come from the building would be beneficial.”
- “There seems to be too many services in one building. House these services within other locations rather than with police.”
- “Vision for police and community working together.”
- “I don’t think social services will be effective with police and guns.”