

DMNA 2020 Public Safety Task Force Report by Chairperson Tom Schmid

The Public Safety Task Force has been operational since August 26th. Our work addresses these purposes: **Within the framework of the DMNA mission and goals, the Task Force on Public Safety works to advance the “Guiding Principles for Police Reform and Public Safety” and to facilitate active community participation in the ongoing debate about public safety in Minneapolis.**

The Guiding Principles referenced in this statement are a set of principles the board adopted on July 6th. They are:

- A Clear Accountability for Oversight of Police & Public Safety;
- MPD Reform & Reinvention;
- A Continuum of Safety Strategies;
- An Undeniable Role for Law Enforcement;
- Working Toward a Broad Consensus on the Path to a Safer City for Everyone.

In the 8 weeks the task force has been together, we have initiated several projects to address our two stated purposes. These include:

- 1) Establishing communications with a wide range of community groups whose activities embody the guiding principles.
- 2) Designing 3 research initiatives for collecting & analyzing relevant neighborhood data.
- 3) Assembling a collection of resource materials on public safety issues & practices.
- 4) Developing & distributing public information materials.
- 5) Encouraging active participation in the public safety debate, by the downtown community.
- 6) Advising the DMNA on public safety actions (including the annual meeting safety forum).

These past 8 weeks have been a period of concentrated work by the task force. Our group consists entirely of downtown residents who have given generously of their time and talent. I want to thank them, on behalf of the DMNA, for their considerable contributions to our downtown neighborhood. If there are other members of the downtown community who wish to join in this important (but labor-intensive) effort, we would be happy to talk with them. We also invite everyone to regularly check the task force page of the DMNA website, for public safety news and information.