



# 38TH AND CHICAGO AVENUE

## A Guide for White Allies in Black Spaces of Mourning

### SIGNIFICANCE OF SPACE

The space you are entering is the place where George Floyd took his last breath under the knee of former MPD officer Derek Chauvin and under the watch of three other officers. While Central Neighborhood has always been a diverse community this corner has become a place of mourning for many Black and Brown people. It will go down in history as a reminder of the systemic racism that has gone unchecked for so long.

### WHAT WILL YOU SEE?

Out of trauma you will see an abundance of beauty. In the time following the murder of George Floyd many people from near and far have visited this sacred space. A makeshift memorial has been resurrected with flowers and art. You will hear many local BIPOC speakers, singers and artists that set the tone and usher in a spirit of change and or speak to the collective grief that we all feel. Sometimes it feels celebratory in nature. This is a space community members want to decentralize white feelings and prioritize Black pain. We ask that you honor the space.

### ENGAGE WHILE YOU ARE HERE

White allyship is important in movement spaces when it seeks to protect the thoughts and needs of communities of color. Now is the time for you to respect the space as you would any space dedicated for mourning and remembrance. Think Vietnam Veteran's Memorial or visiting Auschwitz. The highest form of humility and reverence is expected. Also BIPOC communities of color are under attack, please be mindful of other white folks that may be here to bring further harm. Notify neighborhood leaders of suspicious activity.

### AFTER YOU LEAVE

Black pain is on display here. It is a privilege to witness but you have a duty to your BIPOC neighbors to not tell their stories but affect change within your own community

- Commit to being ANTI-RACIST
- Begin working to educate your immediate family
- Consistently analyze your thoughts, ways of engagement and the power you have as a white person
- Decentralize your feelings and prioritize the thoughts, stories and leadership of BIPOC folks.
- Work to create systemic change

### CANDO/CARMEN MEANS

Central Area Neighborhood Development Center (CANDO) is the neighborhood organization that is responsible for organizing in this community. Resources, questions and media inquiries should be directed to Executive, Director, Carmen Means 612-824-1333

