

**February 8,2021**

***Revised March 9, 2021***

**RE: Minneapolis Citizens Patrol Project Proposal**

**Submitted by: Mr. Spike Moss**

## **I. Summary of the Minneapolis Citizens Patrol:**

### ***Purpose:***

During the 2020 uprisings after the death of Mr George Floyd, residents and community members of various corners of Minneapolis, got together with the intention of safeguarding their communities and neighbors. Men and women gathered together, created a plan and used their own resources to safeguard buildings, neighborhoods and businesses during the uprisings. They communicated with each other through various methods of FaceBook, cell or texts. This proposal is to expand upon the methods used during that time, and sets upon creating a united collaboration to work in unity in the coming months of the officer trials and well into the summer months. A unified collaboration will not only keep Minneapolis residents and businesses safe, it also enables residents to continue doing their shopping and business as much as possible without interruption, in a safe atmosphere.

## **II. Description:**

### ***Target Description:***

Currently, there are a few known community groups that are preparing to voluntarily patrol streets, and neighborhoods in Minneapolis during the Chauvin trial. One such group is located in North Minneapolis along the West Broadway business corridors and another is located in South Minneapolis along the Lake Street business corridors, and the 38th and Chicago area neighborhood. The groups in South Minneapolis are African American, Somali and Latino residents who are dedicated in providing security for their communities. African American community members began patrolling around 38th Avenue S, under the direction of *Change Inc - Agape Movement*. The group of active citizen patrols in both North and South Minneapolis are patrolling their communities through *We Stand for Peace*. Two more community citizen patrols in South Minneapolis are organized by AIM, with another Native American community group known as *The Little Earth Protectors*. To date, we know that there are Minneapolis Latino and a Somali community groups patrolling in the Cedar-Riverside area that we are extending a connection with, and are working now to find these individuals to be included in all the above named community groups. .

### ***Goals & Services:***

If we establish that each community patrolling group has 50 persons, we can deduce that the total is estimated at 250 men and women, representing the African American, Native American, Latino and Somali communities.

In a conducted conversation with the current African American patrollers, we learned that an hourly rate of \$40.00 was desirable. Considering they put themselves in danger while patrolling during an uprising, the hourly amount is understandable, and warranted.

By creating a Minneapolis community based collaboration of all the community patrolling groups, a unified training and management would enable a smooth operation and cohesion of duties, responsibilities and patrolling areas, hours and related expenses, such as safety gear, and other necessary resources.

### ***Leadership Coordination:***

Under the direction of Mr Spike Moss, with collaboration from the Unity Community Mediation Team, Mr Moss would oversee the training, management, scheduling and oversight of the Minneapolis Community Patrols.

Mr. Moss, would oversee a development to recruitment and would develop a way to recruit the patrollers utilizing a flour sifter like system. This system allows for determination of whether the individual can perform the duties. Another oversight factor is maintaining a drug and other dependency and background concerns that may impede the performance of their work as a citizen patrol. Studies maintain that gainful employment and job satisfaction can assist an individual in maintaining a clean and sober lifestyle.

Each citizen patrol unit would be broken into sets of 10, with a group leader who would have a radio and create a schedule. This allows for immediate and continual communication to disperse the groups when and where they are needed within the city, as well as our own community. The citizen patrol will have “their ears to the ground”, so to speak, and will be able to keep each unit group leader apprised of situations in areas of the city that need immediate and active attention.

Training would begin immediately once funds become available. Mr Moss will continue to monitor and assist in the training and learning of the role and responsibility of a citizen patrol, including how to do the job successfully, and how to get the most out of what we are collectively doing to bring city crime levels down. This involves; one-to-one conversations, informational meetings as well as being visible on the streets in our own communities to provide support.

This oversight and group leadership practice would help solidify the program’s success.

### ***Collective benefits to Minneapolis communities:***

These community patrol groups would be in position to perform their jobs during the trial of the individuals (i.e: the former Minneapolis police officers) who took the life of Mr. George Floyd.

These community citizen patrol groups will be needed to continue to patrol in areas and within communities that are already having problems related to drug, crime and gang related problems. The citizen patrols would ensure that Minneapolis will have patrols on a permanent basis to take care of our city and it's communities; and thus, we were looking at a *Five Year Plan of Action*.

Each citizen patroller would be issued a badge, with their picture, to identify themselves and avoid harassment while out in the street working on behalf of our communities safety and welfare.

Each of the communities involved, would have their own autonomy and leadership teams in accordance with knowledge of needs in their respective community. Those leaders would report to an executive body in collaboration with the Unity Community Mediation Team, and the executive body will work closely with each group to assure uniformity, leadership and problem solving. A problem solving grid will be created to allow an open and transparent conversation to problem solving.

Policy and Procedures would be collectively created to ensure that issues, such as no drinking, or any other substances are used, while acting in a citizen patrol capacity. A disciplinary action will be put into place to avoid these situations and to rectify a concern up to displacement of the position as a citizen patrol. Each community group will be responsible for these actions, if they arise and action becomes necessary. The Unity Community Mediation Team has members from the Mental and Behavioral Health professional fields and will assist, as needed.

### ***Structure:***

As stated, Mr Spike Moss will provide counsel and oversight. He will be the point person, working closely with each community group to provide training, scheduling assistance and how to gauge the current climate of the streets. Each community unit leader will be responsible for receiving and distributing information of activities in the communities that need immediate attention and/or action.

The purpose of taking the temperature of each community allows allocation of patrols to areas, businesses, neighborhoods and streets that are vulnerable, and raise an immediate reaction of concern.

The citizen patrol will not only keep the areas of the city safe. But their presence will enable the area residents to continue to utilize their businesses in a safer environment. It helps the business owner, and it let's would be criminals know that they are being watched and reported.

Most importantly, the citizen patrol assists in keeping area businesses less vulnerable, and open for the benefit of its neighbors, the business owners, business staff and the economic welfare of Minneapolis.

***Financial:***

There are a lot of steps remaining. Most importantly, financial.

Mr Moss will be working with *The Stairstep Foundation*. *The Stairstep Foundation* will be responsible for fiscal management, such as payroll, recorded hours and dispersing of the checks. *The Stairstep Foundation* has already been funded by the State for other programs.

The question remains, where is the funding coming from for this program ?. Ideally it will come from either the State or the City of Minneapolis, or both.

Another challenge is getting the groups gathered, trained and prepared to do the work by the previous projected date of March 1, 2021. We now have a new proposed date of “as soon as is possible”.

Considering we are currently estimating at least 250 men and women, at \$40 per hour, with a shift of about 8 hours per day, we are seeking funding from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 for the initial start-up and management.

We are seeking to run this citizen patrol for approximately five(5) years time. We will review for additional funding during these five (5) years to maintain the services.

A portion of the initial start-up funds will be used for administrative costs for the oversight and management. Additional funding will continue to include administrative costs. The category of administrative costs includes, but is not limited too:

- Oversight Management
- Recruitment
- Speaker/Trainer stipends
- Office supplies and materials,as needed
- Office space
- Patrol Equipment, as needed
- Room/Location/Building costs
- Cell phone subscription
- Advertisement and Media maintenance
- Food/Meals, as needed
- Travel, as needed

After the five (5) year period is over, a review of the project by a group of residents and/or business at the discretion of the funder, will be done.

The end result of this Minneapolis Community Patrol project is for the safety and benefit of Minneapolis residents and business owners, not only during the murder trial of Mr Floyd, but for the future and continual safety and well being of the Minneapolis businesses, residents and visitors. With a smaller police force, community policing is necessary. The citizen Community Patrol will work closely with the Minneapolis police and it's Chief, Mayor and city council, to ensure that Minneapolis remains a viable, livable city.