



Office of Mayor Jacob Frey
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Dear Eckankar Seminar Attendees:

First and foremost, I want to thank you for your continued commitment to the city of Minneapolis as your preferred destination for the annual ECKANKAR Soul Adventure Seminar. We want to continue to earn your visits and plan to serve as host of your event(s) for many years to come.

I understand that attendees at last year's conference experienced some negative incidents and have questions about the current and future state of public safety in Minneapolis. We appreciate the details shared and want to assure you all that we are continuing to work diligently to reduce crime and improve livability throughout the city. While we are currently making significant progress in reducing violent crime – which is down 12% overall from last year to its lowest point of the 2020s – we know there are opportunities for improvement.

Specifically, the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) and the Metro Transit Police are coordinating additional patrols around light rail stations and downtown areas with noticeable issues. Together, we're directing additional resources to address those issues.

Following are some additional examples of strategies and steps that we are implementing to increase public safety:

- [Metro Transit's Safety & Security Action Plan](#) – The [current version](#) identifies 40+ actions that build on Metro Transit's work to improve public safety on transit.
- Continued aggressive recruitment and retention of MPD officers.
- [Safe and Thriving Communities](#) – A three-pillar plan to provide services like violence prevention groups, responsive services that provide real-time assistance to people seeking emergency services, and restorative services that heal trauma and find root causes of community safety challenges.
- Downtown Nightlife Plan – Partnership between the City of Minneapolis and our [Downtown Improvement District \(DID\)](#) to provide a coordinated safety approach throughout the evenings and early mornings.

I can't speak highly enough about our partners leading this work, especially MPD First Precinct Inspector Billy Peterson. I know that Inspector Peterson, Chief Brian O'Hara, and our new Commissioner of Community Safety, Todd Barnette, have discussed some of these issues with

Eckankar leadership in more detail. In addition, I know executives from the Minneapolis Convention Center and Meet Minneapolis will continue to work closely with Eckankar leadership.

I am thankful for your steadfast partnership and commitment to the City of Minneapolis.

Yours truly,
Jacob

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JF', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mayor Jacob Frey,
City of Minneapolis