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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Saint Paul Recovery Act Community Reparations Commission Harm Report RFP Update

Policy Committee April 15, 2026

HARM REPORT

Project Scope & Methodology

City's Objective

Develop a comprehensive, evidence-based report documenting historical and ongoing harms impacting American Descendants of Chattel Slavery (ADoCS) to guide equitable City policy and reparative action.

Consultant Team

African American Redress Network (AARN) for 6 years lead impactful reparative justice. Began in 2020 producing Evanston, Illinois' landmark harm report documenting discriminatory housing policies from 1919–1969 leading to one of the first housing reparations programs. Their work helped set a precedent for other cities like Detroit and Kansas City (2024), along with Park and Greenbelt, Maryland (2025). They are backed by experts in human rights and reparations and deliver community-centered harm reports that drive real policy change.

Methodology

Research & Data Collection

- Literature review and historiography analysis
- Analysis of quantitative datasets (housing, education, healthcare, etc.)
- Archival and genealogical research to validate historical context

Community Engagement

- Oral histories, interviews, and focus groups
- Community research liaison to ensure access and trust
- Public meetings and stakeholder collaboration

Governance & Coordination

- Ongoing collaboration with SPRCOR
- Monthly coordination with City staff
- Structured communication to ensure transparency and accountability



A view shows houses in the 5th Ward in Evanston, Illinois, last week. Eileen T. Meslar/Reuters

HARM REPORT

Deliverables, Timeline & Policy Impact

Project Phases & Outcomes

- **Phase 1–3:** Harms assessment, community engagement setup, archival & genealogical research
- **Phase 4–5:** Oral histories and Historical Context Validation Report
- **Phase 6:** Impact analysis across key sectors – economic stability, education/healthcare access, neighborhood conditions, and social/cultural impacts
- **Phase 7:** Reparative policy recommendations and implementation plan & public engagement

Investment & Accountability

- Timeframe: **April 15, 2026 – April 14, 2027**
- Total contract: **\$229,669**
 - Milestone-based payment aligned with deliverables

Policy Outcomes for City Council

- Verified historical harm documentation
- Quantified disparities across key sectors to guide decision-making
- Actionable reparations framework aligned with international standards:
 - Restitution
 - Compensation
 - Rehabilitation
 - Satisfaction
 - Guarantees of non-repetition

