



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
200 South Biscayne Boulevard
Suite 3300
Miami, Florida 33131

Dear Knight Foundation,

Thank you for selecting *Bring Pop Up Meeting and Power to the People* as a finalist for the 2017 Knight Cities grants.

As Mayor of Saint Paul, racial equity is my top priority. I believe that a prosperous Saint Paul must address racial disparities in our city, and we seek to be a city where race does not predetermine opportunities in education, employment, housing, health and safety.

Central to the success of our racial equity work is our work in community engagement and outreach. The original Pop Up Meeting provided us with an innovative, effective method to meet our residents where they are and engage them in our city planning processes. Pop Up Meeting has proven to successfully bring more people and more diverse people into conversation with staff regarding City projects.

We are thrilled to submit this proposal for *Bring Pop Up Meeting and Power to the People*. This proposal allows us to build on the success of the original Pop Up Meetings, while pushing the boundaries of the initial model to offer residents the opportunity to host their own Pop Up Meetings. We believe this project will advance a culture of civic engagement in Saint Paul, as well as offer many valuable lessons to the field of local government and civic innovation.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman
Mayor