

All

It has been a whirlwind of week here in Melrose. First, I wanted to thank everyone for the patients and support that has been given so far. It is an amazing thing to witness everyone work together. I am pleased to report that several of the businesses from the 400 Block have found places to operate. However, there is still work to be made in this area. City Staff, SBA, Local Lenders as well as concerned people have all stepped up to aid in this recovery. Catholic Charities has agreed to serve as case managers for the displaced families. We have heard that all families are being taken care of.

I have been told that nearly \$16,000 has been raised and distributed to the 9 families so far. Plus, I have also been told that as of today, \$16,000 has been raised for the Melrose Fire Relief Fund. Plus, \$25,000 from AgStaff to help support the businesses that commit to reopen. Again, this is just inspiring to hear about the generosity of the Community and Businesses. However, there is still much to do to help recover from this event. Contributions are still needed. At the bottom of this e-mail is a link that can be used if you would like to contribute via the web. To avoid any processes fee, checks can be mailed directly to the Initiative Fund. It is not just money that is needed, but personnel and direct support to the people affected. If you are able to help with demolition or have experience in recovery, please let those affected know directly.

This past week, we held a “Walking Tour of Melrose”. We had well over 30 people attend. They toured the 400 Block, St. Mary’s Church, 5th Ave Bridge and Melrose Lake. All of our Elected Officials for Melrose either attended in person or had a staffer attend. They toured the 400 Block, St. Mary’s Church, 5th Ave Bridge and Melrose Lake. The help from these people have helped shape our efforts. Due to their guidance, we have started an application today for an Emergency Economic Impact Analysis that will aid us in understanding the impact to the Community as a whole. We have also been given several ideas for Special Legislation that could be asked for. Additionally, the City Council has formally appointed 7 people to the Melrose Fire Relief Fund to help shape the efforts on the Fund and ensure that there is a fair and open distribution of the generosity received.

- Update on 5th AVE
Bridge: <https://www.facebook.com/220929447918543/videos/1347931905218286/>
- Melrose Relief Foundation Giving Portal: <https://www.ifound.org/news-events/melrose-fire-5000-matching-grant-helps-stimulate-long-term-r/>

Direct Mailing:

Melrose Area Relief Fund
Initiative Foundation
405 First St. S.E.
Little Falls, Minn. 56345

Thank you all again for your support of Melrose.