

September 1st, 2008, we, the RNC Welcoming Committee, invite all anarchists and anti-authoritarians, all radicals and rabble-rousers, all those who are fed up with government lies and spectacles to show up ready for action and ensure that we leave no place for these expired politicians. What we create here will send the convention crashing off course into insignificance.

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[www.recreate68.org](http://www.recreate68.org)  
[www.zinelibrary.net](http://www.zinelibrary.net)

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**SEPT.FIRST-FOURTH**  
**WE'RE.GETTING.READY.ARE.YOU.?**  
**MPLS.STP.MINN**



## WHY THE RNC?

The 2008 Republican National Convention, in St. Paul, MN, will be the focus of huge protests whether or not we as anarchists are there. This provides a rare opportunity- one we can't produce on our own- to assert the viability of anti-authoritarian organizing and action, and demonstrate that anarchists are a force to be reckoned with. And we've reached a stage in our movement where the high we experienced in Seattle and the corresponding low-point we call Miami are distant enough that we can apply the lessons learned to executing a new, effective, mass mobilization. Mass mobilizations done well are powerful arenas for radicalization, sites for personal and collective capacity building, and points of inspiration and renewed energy. We only stand to gain from such an event.

# WHO WE ARE

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## POINTS OF UNITY

The RNC Welcoming Committee is an anarchist/anti-authoritarian organizing body formed to prepare for the 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota. Composed primarily of Twin Cities-based anarchists and anti-authoritarians, the WC functions as an informational clearinghouse for RNC resistance; is facilitating the development and execution of a nationally-developed strategy for RNC resistance and will organize spokescouncils in service of that strategy; is coordinating logistics and infrastructure; and engages in capacity-building education and outreach.

Without falling prey to the centralized, hierarchical tendencies that have dominated such convergences in the past, we hope that the RNC-WC will maintain a unified, anti-authoritarian presence at the 2008 RNC. Our numbers are huge, and it's time that our actions reflected that.

Those who work within the RNC-WC agree to:

1. **A rejection of Capitalism, Imperialism, and the State;**
2. **Resist the commodification of our shared and living Earth;**
3. **Organize on the principles of decentralization, autonomy, sustainability, and mutual aid;**
4. **Work to end all relationships of domination and subjugation, including but not limited to those rooted in patriarchy, race, class, and homophobia;**
5. **Oppose the police and prison-industrial complex, and maintain solidarity with all targets of state repression;**
6. **Directly confront systems of oppression, and respect the need for a diversity of tactics.**

Though the RNC-WC is focused on a specific event, we hope that our work transcends the convention by contributing to the development of anti-authoritarian movements and mutual aid networks both locally and globally. We are no more opposed to the Republican Party than we are to the Democratic Party. Affiliations and labels aside, we invite all who share our vision to join us in resistance.

# PLUGGING IN

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## WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. **Get it together:** Have regional consultas, organize in your communities, and form your affinity groups. We are expecting people to come with concrete plans for action that they have devised and the capacity to carry them through.

2. **Lead up actions:** Practice makes perfect. Use this entire year leading up to the RNC to develop and practice your own tactics and strategies that step things up a notch and build true alternatives. Resistance doesn't start and end at 'the next big protest'; it's a way of life.

3. **Fundraising:** We're not saying to let your community projects flounder, but we're going to need some serious cash to help arrange legal support (we're still looking for a lawyer dumpster), a convergence space, and a thousand other logistical puzzles. Pass the hat at every regional consulta and meeting you attend, hold fundraisers, and send a chunk of it in our direction!

4. **Communicate:** Maintain strong security-culture values, but let us know your capacity and needs. If you want a single point person to communicate with, we can arrange it. What you say you can do and will need shapes the collective course we take.

5. **Come to the Twin Cities:** Come early and come often! Take advantage of that "Minnesota Nice" and come long before the convention to help make things happen. Also, put May 3<sup>rd</sup> on your calendars- send a representative or two from your group to the Twin Cities for our next networking and strategizing event. Watch our announcements list and website for forthcoming details.

# ACTION FRAMEWORK

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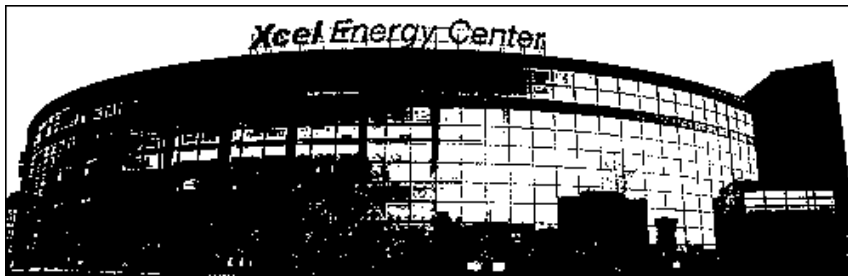
## BLOCKADE STRATEGY

On the first day of the convention, participants will employ a three-tiered direct action strategy to disrupt the RNC. The tiers are organized in order of priority according to the number of participants; if a small number of participants show up, only the first tier will be carried out, but if the numbers are on hand, all three tiers will be in effect.

**TIER ONE** Establish 15-20 blockades, utilizing a diversity of tactics, creating an inner and outer ring around St. Paul's Xcel Center, where the RNC is to take place.

**TIER TWO** Immobilize the delegates' transportation infrastructure, including the busses that are to convey them.

**TIER THREE** Block the five western bridges connecting the Twin Cities.



Those plugging into this strategy will be free to shape their actions as they see fit, using the tactics they consider appropriate. "Red," "Yellow," and "Green" zones are being mapped out to accommodate a wide variety of creative tactics and involve individuals with differing risk and arrestibility factors.

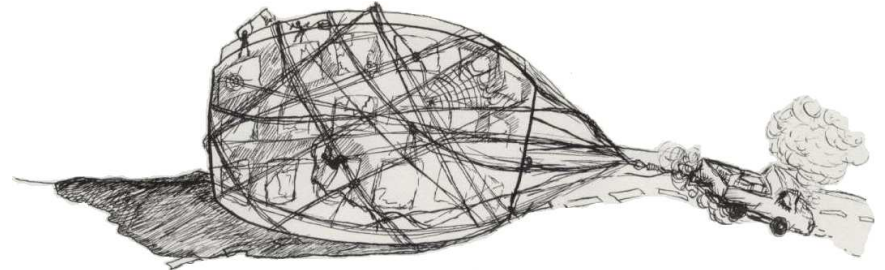
# WHAT WE WANT

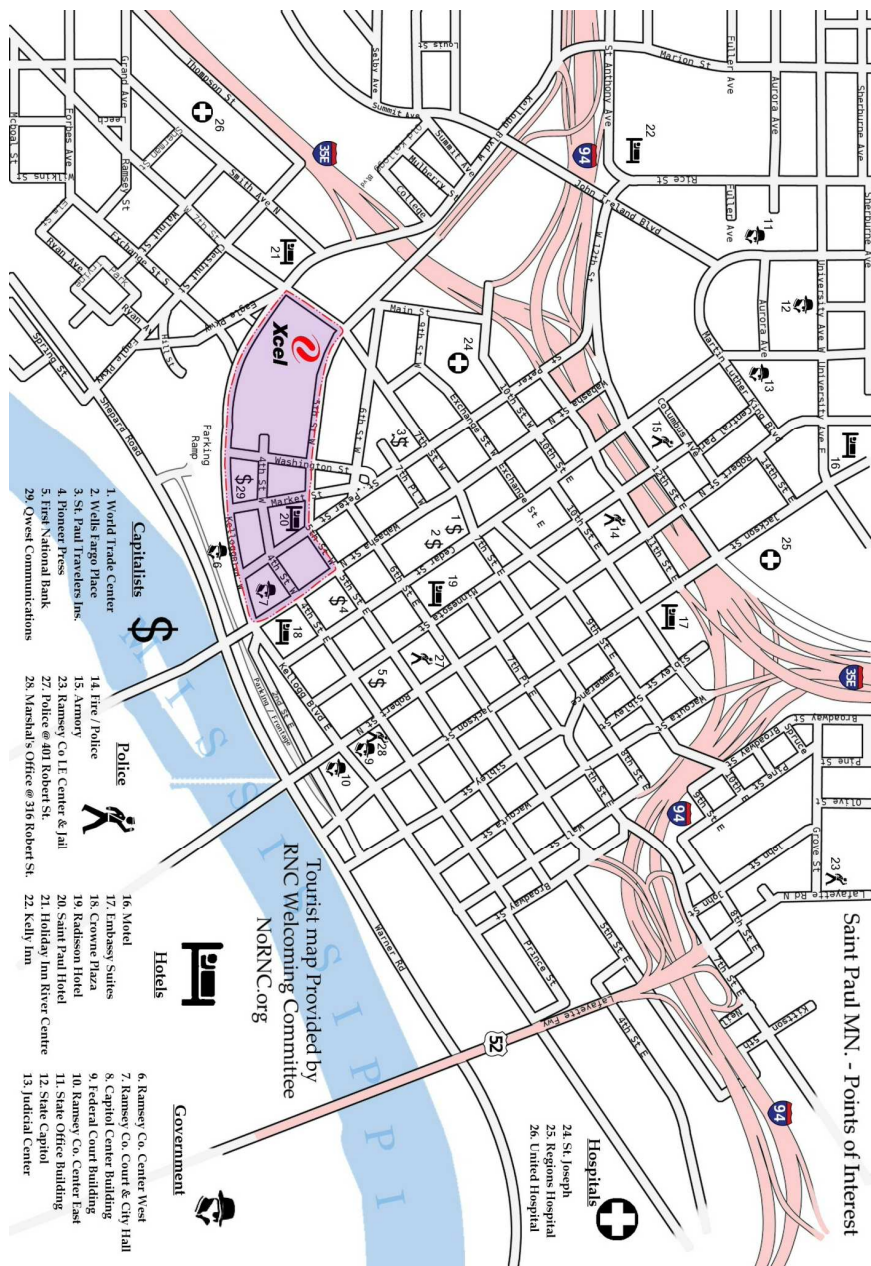
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## GOALS

1. **Build Our Capacity:** A new reality will not emerge by simply stopping the 4-day spectacle of the RNC. We need folks with an alternative vision to come to the Twin Cities and turn their dreams into reality. Start something new, be creative, and come ready to build sustainable alternatives worth fighting for and defending. The new skills that we teach, learn, and put into practice here will allow us to return to our communities stronger, smarter, and more empowered.

2. **Crash the Convention:** We didn't get an invitation, but we're showing up anyway. This party will be what we make of it. We don't want to confine our potential by imposing a single vision of what success will look like. We recognize that there will be a lot of people coming with their own agendas and carefully laid plans and want to be open to the diverse tactics that will be necessary to accomplish our many goals. Together, we can derail the purely ceremonial show of this repressive system and remake it with our own hands and according to our own visions.





(map available for download at <http://www.nornc.org>)



## HOW WE GET THERE STRATEGY

1. **Start Strong:** Throw all of our energy into the first day. We'll kick this off right and stretch the militarized police state out so far that it can no longer contain and suppress our voices and desires.
2. **Transportation Troubles:** This includes blockades downtown (at key intersections), on bridges (10 bridges over the Mississippi River in the metro area), and other sporadic and strategic targets (busses, hotel and airport shuttles etc).
3. **Respect, defend, and be prepared for autonomous self-sustaining alternatives:** Lasting projects and spaces will be born out of our actions and will need to be protected. We also won't knowingly bring the hammer down on existing long-term community projects. It doesn't matter if we win the RNC battle, if the war for our lives is lost.
4. **Be inclusive of local communities and respect alliances:** We are all on the same side of the barricades and are trying to build lasting bonds for future mutual aid. We may not agree with each other on all of our tactics, but that doesn't mean there aren't venues for us to work together and build on the trust and community that already exists.