



Transforming Community Safety: Engagement Plan and Deliverables Outline

September 24, 2020

Grounding and Context



Pursuing additional ways to cultivate safety is not new.

- Additional community safety approaches have come through avenues such as:
 - Policy-oriented actions
 - Staff directions
 - Resolutions
 - Ordinance changes
 - Investments
 - Other Council and/or Mayoral actions
 - Programmatic initiatives across the enterprise



There have been policy-oriented actions.

- Some examples of policy-oriented actions include:
 - City Council declaring youth violence a public health issue (2006)
 - City releases Blueprint for Action to Prevent Youth Violence (2008 and 2013)
 - Establishment of the Office of Violence Prevention in the City Code of Ordinances (2018)
 - Staff direction creating 911 response workgroup (2018)
 - Conduct on Licensed Premises Ordinance change (2018)
 - Staff direction calling for MPD staffing study (2019)
 - Problem Nature Code Study (2019)



There are programmatic initiatives.

Some of the many examples of programmatic initiatives from across the City enterprise include:

- Blueprint Approved Institute
- Pop-Up Parks
- Group Violence Intervention
- Next Step
- Inspiring Youth
- Juvenile Supervision Center
- Violence Prevention Fund
- Mental health co-responder teams
- Community Navigators
- Pathways to New Beginnings
- Domestic Violence Outreach
- Animal Care and Control Domestic Violence Program
- YCB Outreach Teams
- Journey Forward



Community engagement around additional ways to cultivate safety is also not new.

- Engagement on safety-related issues has happened through other avenues such as:
 - Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan
 - Strategic and Racial Equity Action Plan (SREAP)
 - Violence Prevention Steering Committee
 - Promise Zone
 - Police Civilian Oversight Commission



While this work has grown, there is still considerable room for additional growth.

The Transforming Community Safety resolution calls for additional engagement to help “develop and present strategies for building this new model for cultivating community safety.”



Existing Infrastructure





Engagement: Principles, Areas of Focus, Outcomes, and Challenges

Principles

Accessible

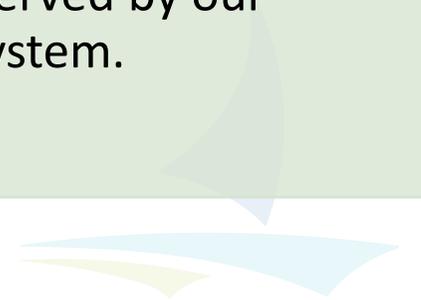
Engagement opportunities that are varied and designed to be accessible and meet people where they are.

Meaningful

The community feels that the dialogue has been meaningful and relevant, that it informs actions, and that their contributions are reflected in recommendations for new systems of public safety.

Inclusive

Engagement opportunities that reach the full diversity of our City and center the voices of Black people, American Indian people, people of color, immigrants, victims of harm, and others who have been historically marginalized or underserved by our present system.



Engagement will seek input on:

- *Primary*: Alternatives to policing/police responses
- *Primary*: Public health-oriented violence prevention
- *Secondary*: Law enforcement reforms/changes to protocols and practices
 - The Mayor's Office will continue to lead engagement and efforts around any changes to the police department.
 - The Minnesota Department of Human Rights also plans engagement for their patterns and practices of racial discrimination lawsuit to inform changes to existing law enforcement systems.



Recommendations will focus on, but may not be limited to:

Intermediate policy changes, investments and partnerships that center a public health approach to community safety and support alternatives to policing.

Research and engagement to inform the potential creation of a new City Department of Community Safety with a holistic approach to community safety, including a review and analysis of relevant existing models and programs and practices that could be applied in Minneapolis (*staff will focus on presenting information to inform these decisions, not specific recommendations about a proposed department structure*).

Recommendations that advance the work of the 911 working group and other strategies for transitioning work of the Minneapolis Police Department to alternative, more appropriate responses to community requests for help and identifying the resources needed to perform this work in City departments, other agencies, and/or community partners while the work of creating a new public safety system is in progress.

Recommendations for additional community safety strategies that build upon existing work across our city enterprise that approaches public safety through a public health lens.



Challenges

- **COVID-19**

- Pandemic conditions will create limitations

- **Pace and Expectations**

- For many, a desire to address recent acute trauma and persistent and historical trauma may drive an urgency to act.
- For others, those same traumas may drive a lack of desire/readiness to engage with systems that have played a role in creating and perpetuating the traumas.



A wide-angle photograph of a park in winter. The foreground is covered in a layer of snow, with several large, leafless trees and a few evergreens. A path winds through the snow. In the middle ground, a large, frozen body of water is visible, surrounded by more trees and some low-lying buildings. In the background, a dense city skyline with various skyscrapers and high-rise buildings is visible under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is a mix of natural winter elements and urban architecture.

Engagement: Plan and Deliverables Outline

Phase I – Initial Information Gathering

Phase I: October – December 2020

Purpose

- Provide baseline contextual information on existing efforts, statutory requirements, and best practices
- Conduct initial engagement to capture input on the current model of community safety, opportunities for changes, and ideas to be included in a new model.

Strategies

- Community survey
- Community forums, including multi-ward sessions and community-specific sessions
- Additional strategies to promote accessibility as suggested by engagement experts

Deliverables

- A preliminary synthesis/consolidation of initial themes from engagement to be reported to Council in early December.
- Draft vision and goals statement for consideration and adoption by policymakers

Phase II – Reflection/Draft Recommendations

Phase II: January – March 2021

Purpose

- Re-engage community to confirm that Phase I preliminary synthesis/consolidation of initial themes, vision and goals accurately reflects input
- Dive deeper on specific ideas and action steps for new model

Strategies

- Community forums, including multi-ward sessions and community-specific sessions
- Additional strategies to promote accessibility as suggested by engagement experts

Deliverables

- Summary of themes from Phase II of engagement
 - Draft recommendations of action steps to realize vision and goals
- 

Phase III – Community Refinement

Phase III: April – May 2021

Purpose

- Collect feedback on draft recommendations

Strategies

- Community forums, including multi-ward sessions and community-specific sessions
- Web-based opportunity for review and comment
- Additional strategies to promote accessibility as suggested by engagement experts

Deliverables

- Compilation of feedback and input from community on vision, goals and action steps
- 

Phase IV – Revision and Final Recommendations

Phase IV: June – July 2021

Purpose

- Refine and finalize recommendations

Strategies

- Review and incorporate community feedback on draft recommendations collected during Phase III

Deliverables

- Final report to Council on strategies for building new model for cultivating community safety



Resources Needed

- **Research and evaluation support**

- Survey design
- Question design
- Engagement activity design
- Synthesis
- Analysis
- Writing

- **Project Management support**

- Ensure project stays on timeline
- Monitoring and reporting progress
- Activity planning and sequencing
- Resource planning and management
- Coordinate/facilitate internal and external partner meeting logistics
- Coordinate communication

- **Community engagement support**

- Facilitators for engagement opportunities
- Connections to communities of focus/intermediaries

- Promotion and communication of engagement opportunities
- Guidance on strategies for promoting accessibility

- **Communications support**

- Promotion and communication of engagement opportunities
- Keeping community apprised of progress along the way

- **IT/Web services support**

- Assist with making engagement opportunities web accessible
- Web presence for keeping community apprised of updates

- **Content experts**

- Internal City experts
- External local experts
- External national experts



Thank you.

