



**TASK FORCE TO REIMAGINE
PUBLIC SAFETY**

FEBRUARY 14, 2024

WWW.DENVERTASKFORCE.ORG



Public Safety Website & C.A.P.S

Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing and Public Safety
www.DenverTaskForce.org



AGENDA

- Meet The Team
- The Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing and Public Safety
- Our Definition of Public Safety
- Phase 1
 - The Vision
 - Website and Dashboard 1.0
- Phase 2
 - C.A.P.S
- Next Steps
- Resources



MEET THE SWG-UNBOXED TEAM



Executive Director
Robert Davis, DMin



Lead Researcher
Joanne Belknap, PhD



Community Storyteller
Sam Carwyn, MA



Community Engagement
Alex Landau



Interfaith Coordinator
Rev. Terrance Hughes



Mental Health Coordinator
Jason Vitallo



THE DENVER TASK FORCE

The Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing and Public Safety formed in response to the George Floyd protests as a community-led initiative to develop a comprehensive and sustainable community-based approach to policing and public safety. The Task Force was convened for the purpose of providing to the Denver city government and the Department of Public Safety a series of salutary recommendations and proposals that are informed, actionable, and sustainable.

Over eight months, the Task Force collaborated with experts, activists, and city officials to develop 112 recommendations in the spirit of reimagining a public safety model that fundamentally prevents, reduces, and heals harm.



DEFINITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Public safety ensures that all members of the community decide how to organize a social environment that provides the freedom to live and thrive with the protection and support of social, physical, mental and economic well-being.

Safety is not a function of armed paramilitary forces with a proven track record of racism and violence. Public safety prevents, reduces, and heals harm.





PHASE 1

COMMUNITY-CENTERED WEBSITE

WWW.DENVERTASKFORCE.ORG

LAUNCHING FEBRUARY 2024



VISION FOR OUR WEBSITE

Trying to access data and resources around public safety, or engaging in effective collaboration can be a headache for community members and organizations.



VISION FOR OUR WEBSITE

The Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing and Public Safety will be the central hub for community engagement and collaboration. We will provide a one stop online resource to help the community understand the truth of what is happening with public safety in Denver, where to go to get the resources they need, and tools to engage in effective collaboration.

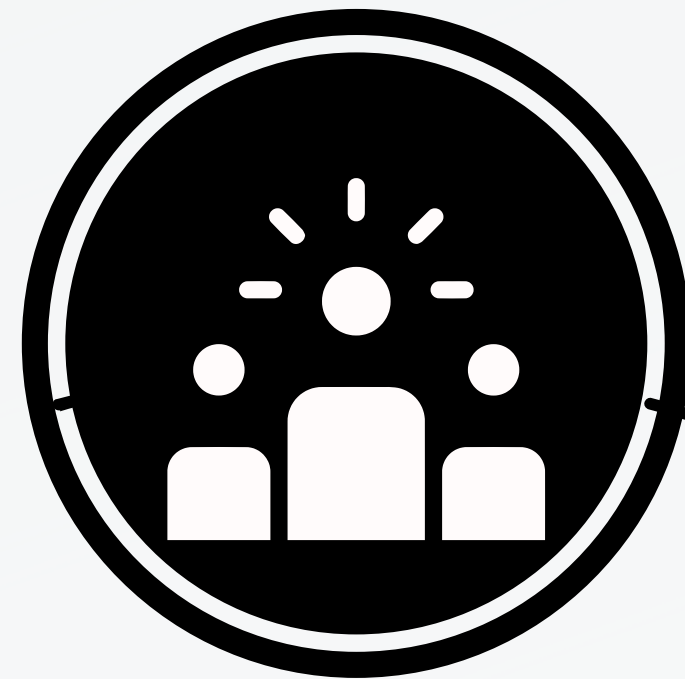
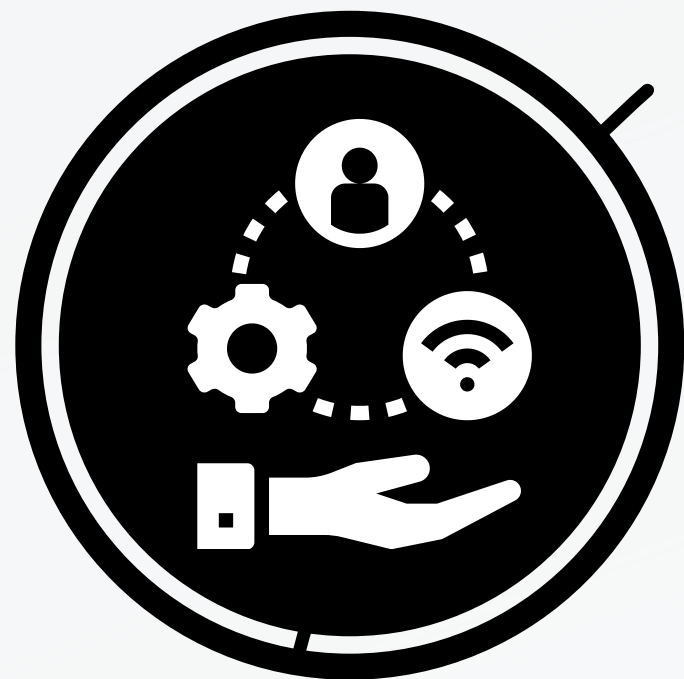


www.DenverTaskForce.org

Resources

Collaboration

Data



LAUNCHING
FEBRUARY 2024

OBJECTIVE #1

DenverTaskForce.org will serve as a community public safety resource hub. People accessing our website will have a full directory of public safety organizations and leaders in the Denver area, such as: Direct service providers, Violence intervention and prevention, Youth, Reentry, Addiction support, Housing, Mental health services, Social justice, Community Organizers, etc.



OBJECTIVE #2

DenverTaskForce.org will foster stronger community collaboration through our “Community Activities” portal, which will keep the community up-to-date on events, activities and initiatives being conducted by public safety focused organizations.

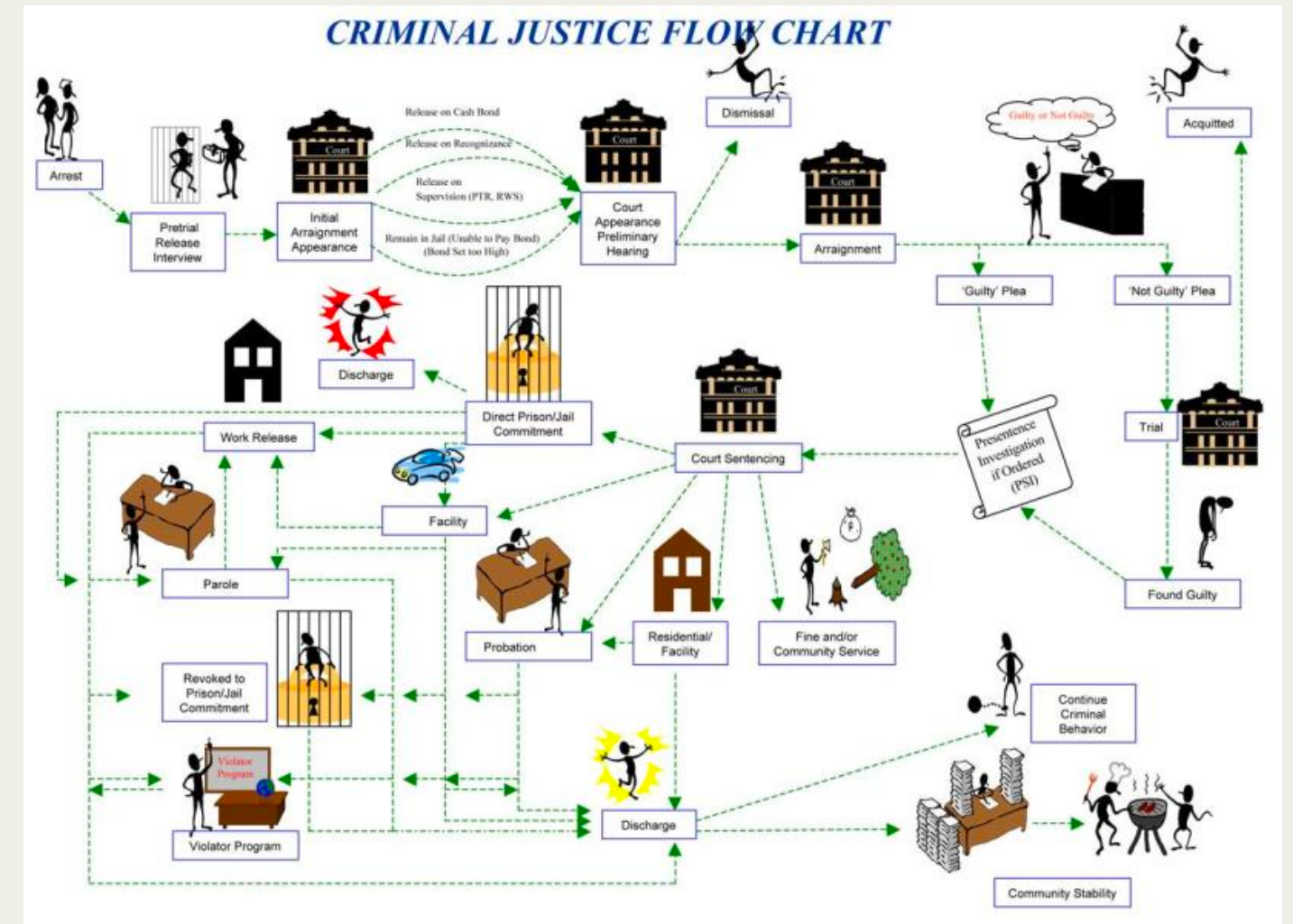
Organizations will have an online platform to connect and collaborate with each other and community members. We will foster greater awareness, stronger policy advocacy, increased support for events and activities, and collaboration around public safety initiatives.



OBJECTIVE #3

DenverTaskForce.org will be a one stop public safety data dashboard. Community organizers, researchers, policy advocates, service providers, and community members will have access to date data around policing, prosecutions, and judicial processing.

We aim to collect and analyze data to tell a complete, community-facing story that maps the experience of citizens from interactions with law enforcement, to how cases are handled in the DA's office, to how cases are adjudicated in the courts. We elevate community voice around the data to ensure the information is trauma informed and accessible to community members.



Denver Police Pedestrian and Vehicle Stops

Pick a Neighborhood

All ▼


 Stops on the Map

 How are the Stops trending ?

 Finer Details and Policing

 Neighborhood population

 Compare Neighborhoods

 Other dashboards and links

 Community surveys

1,063,569
Total Incidents

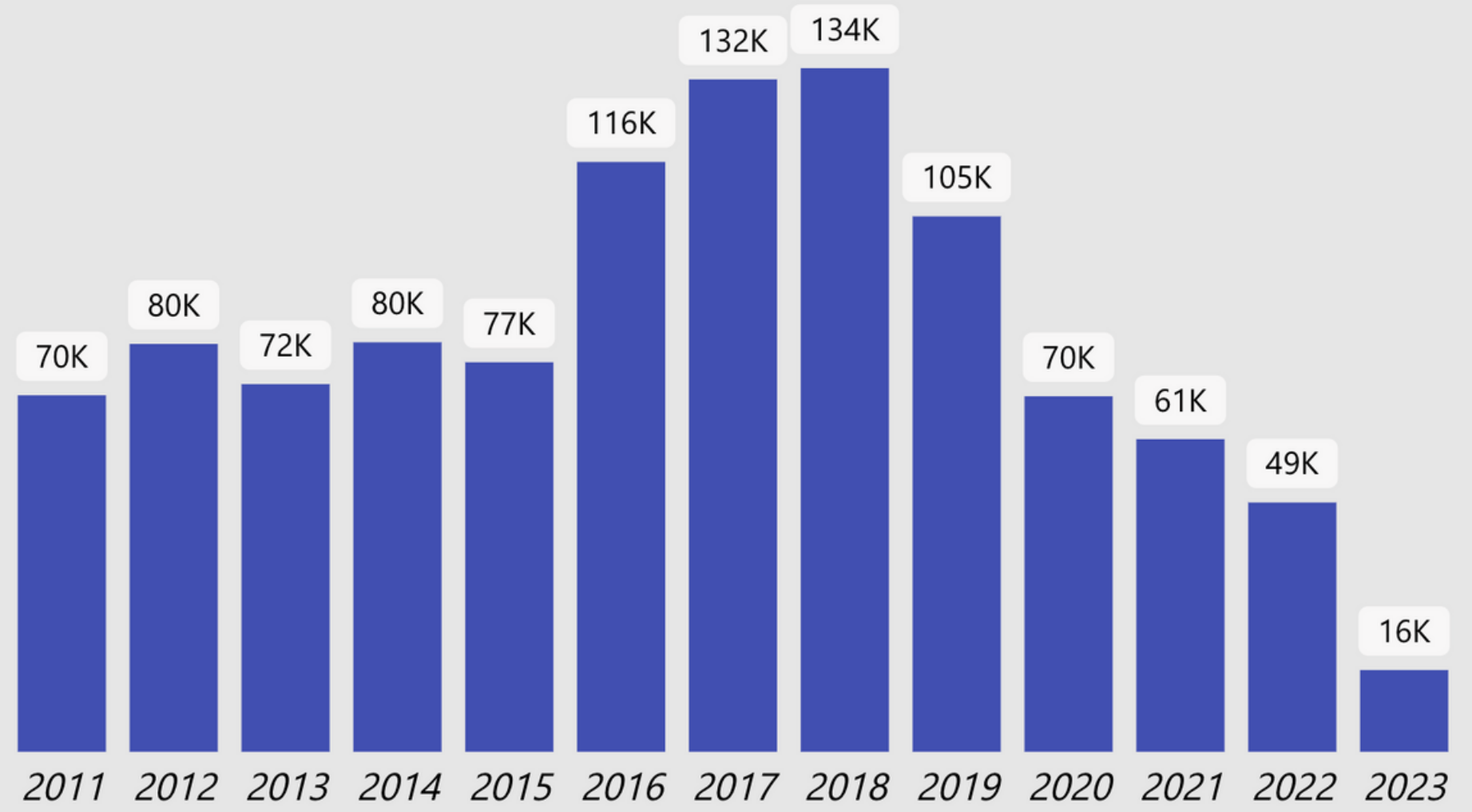
793,449
Vehicle Stops

270,120
Subject Stops



Welcome to our dashboard based on pedestrian and vehicle stops based out of Denver. The dataset behind the dashboard comes from the [Denver Open data catalog](#).

All data shown and used in the dashboard is from the beginning of 2011 to mid 2023



Note : All of the images used in this dashboard are royalty free and are a part of [Pexels.com](#)

TRANSITION

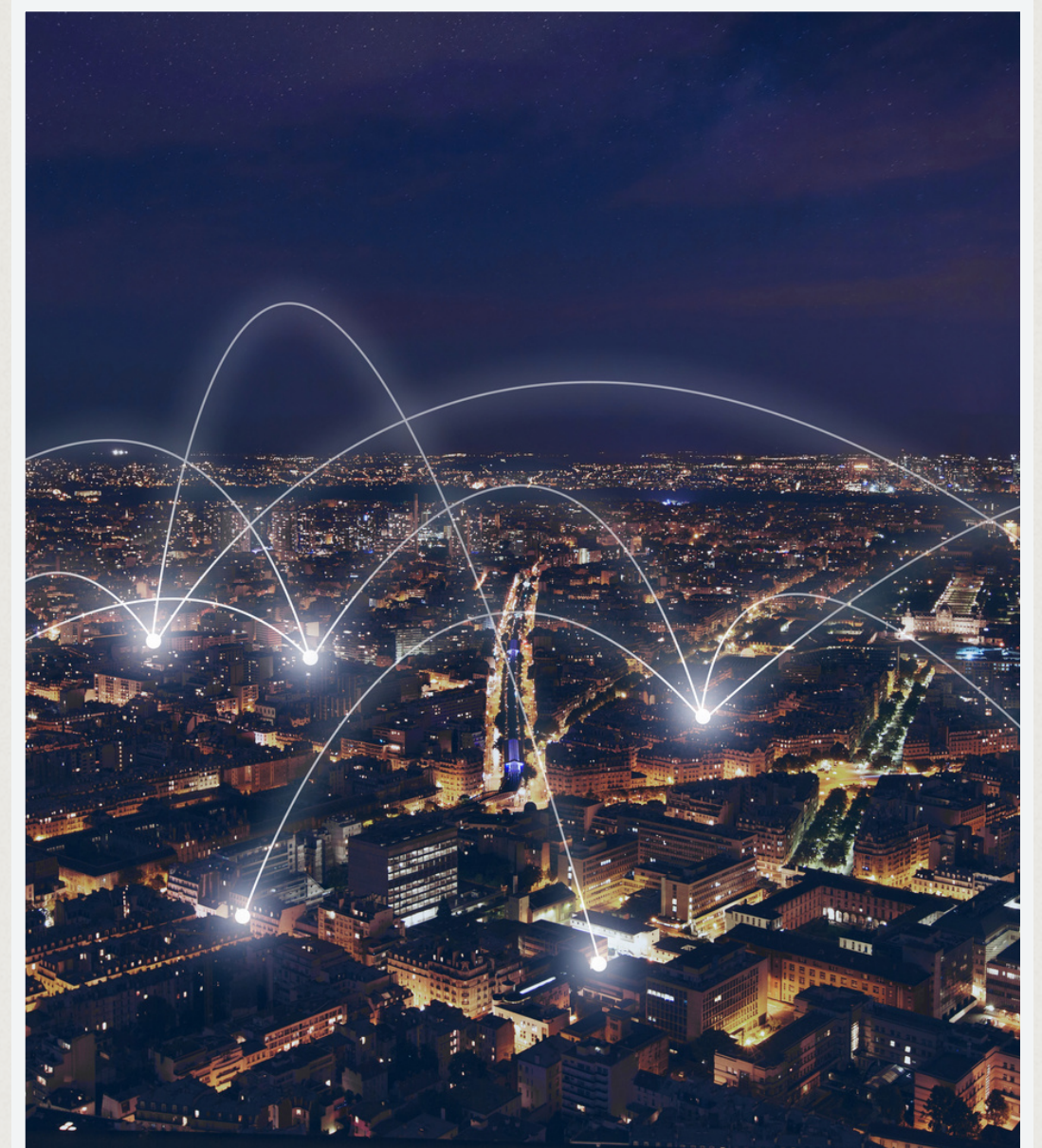


WEBSITE

Expands the work of the Task Force in bringing community together to collaborate and create community-centered public safety solutions.

C.A.P.S

Build on the work of the Task Force and the website to bring community together to collaborate, create, and evaluate community-centered public safety solutions.





PHASE 2

COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES
PARTNERSHIPS & SOLUTIONS



VISION

The Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing and Public Safety will be the central hub for community engagement and collaboration around public safety solutions. We will accomplish this through the community-centered initiative called Community Alternatives, Partnerships and Solutions (C.A.P.S).



THE ROLE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Currently, at its best, policing is designed to patrol communities with the hope that police presence will deter crime. Second, police investigate crimes that have been committed. Third, police apprehend criminals who have committed crimes. Lastly, police intervene to disrupt crimes in process when possible. The training and tactics of law enforcement is centered around these responsibilities.



THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY

This initiative would seek to develop solutions that would ease the burden on law enforcement resources because there will be less crimes for them to investigate, and fewer criminals for them to apprehend because of preventative strategies and alternatives to mass incarceration. It would also turnover the primary responsibility of public safety to communities and neighborhoods to develop effective solutions.



COMMUNITY & PUBLIC SAFETY

Expanding the work of Phase 1, the Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing and Public Safety is developing a community-led (CBO) Office of Neighborhood Safety and Violence Prevention, centered in the Task Force, called Community Alternatives, Partnerships and Solutions (CAPS).





COMMUNITY & PUBLIC SAFETY

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Community

Centered in the community. Led by the community. Designed for and by the community.

Alternatives

Moving away from an over-dependence on law enforcement as the primary means of public safety .

Partnerships

Developing strategies to bring organizations and leaders together. Transitioning from silos to effective collaboration.

Solutions

Implementing evidence-based, non-law enforcement solutions, and evaluating its effectiveness.

C.A.P.S

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CAPS would elevate the voices and initiatives of historically marginalized, disenfranchised, and displaced communities overrepresented in police arrest, prosecutions, and incarceration.

CAPS would bring together community organizations, direct service providers, policy advocates and researchers, community organizers, and activist to address public safety challenges through a community-centered, ***non-law enforcement*** lens.



C.A.P.S

ALTERNATIVES

CAPS will function as Denver’s community-centered think tank, dedicated to developing alternatives to policing and the criminal prosecution system as the primary means of addressing public safety.

CAPS will identify the underlying socioeconomic determinants of violent crimes and develop community-centered solutions that keep people safe, rather than punishing them after the damage has already been done and lives have been destroyed.



C.A.P.S

ALTERNATIVES

Goals of Alternatives:

1. Create an equitable infrastructure for non-punitive, holistic and healing approaches to public safety by addressing violence as a public health issue.
2. Provide proven violence prevention and intervention strategies that are gender-responsive, culturally and linguistically relevant, and trauma-informed.
3. Encourage communities and neighborhoods to develop non-law enforcement solutions to their public safety challenges.



C.A.P.S

PARTNERSHIPS

- Facilitate and evaluate collaboration among city agencies responsible for public safety and human services to guarantee a cohesive strategy when implementing non-law enforcement programs and initiatives that prioritize public safety.
- Identify and foster partnerships among nonprofits and community organizations to optimize community resources for non-law enforcement programs and initiatives on public safety.



C.A.P.S

PARTNERSHIPS

- Provide a one-stop support to nonprofits and community organizations to identify and access funding opportunities, and develop collaborative participatory budgeting strategies to strengthen funding, eliminate organizational silos, maximize resources.
- Conduct citywide community engagement and networking activities to co-create policy development and evaluation.



C.A.P.S

SOLUTIONS

CAPS would serve as a research incubator and laboratory for developing new community-centered, non-law enforcement, evidence-based initiatives that address public safety and community well-being challenges. Additionally, it would foster a community of learning between community, nonprofits, and City agencies.

Simply put, CAPS would propose new programs and initiatives to address public safety challenges, and evaluate these programs to measure their effectiveness.



National Offices of Violence Prevention Network

A national learning community of local government agencies
working to reduce violence and improve lives.





Our Ask

- **CREATE DEFINITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

We are asking that you adopt our definition or develop a definition of public safety to be used as the official definition for the City.

- **ONGOING COLLABORATION**

We are asking this committee and each Council member's office to schedule regular meetings with the Task Force to continue collaborating around this initiative.

- **ASSIST WITH IDENTIFYING FUNDING**

We are asking for assistance and support around identifying private and government funding for this initiative.

Discussion

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NATIONAL MODELS FOR COMMUNITY ONS

- <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/271/Office-of-Neighborhood-Safety>
- <https://www.brickcitypeacecollective.org/>
- <https://newarkcollaborative.org/>
- <https://collective.coloradotrust.org/stories/the-push-to-create-an-office-of-neighborhood-safety-in-denver-and-put-more-power-in-community-members-hands/>
- <https://evidentchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Over-15-Years-of-Creating-Innovative-Solutions-to-Gun-Violence.pdf>
- <https://ovpnetwork.org/>

