

2021 Comprehensive Report

Presented to:

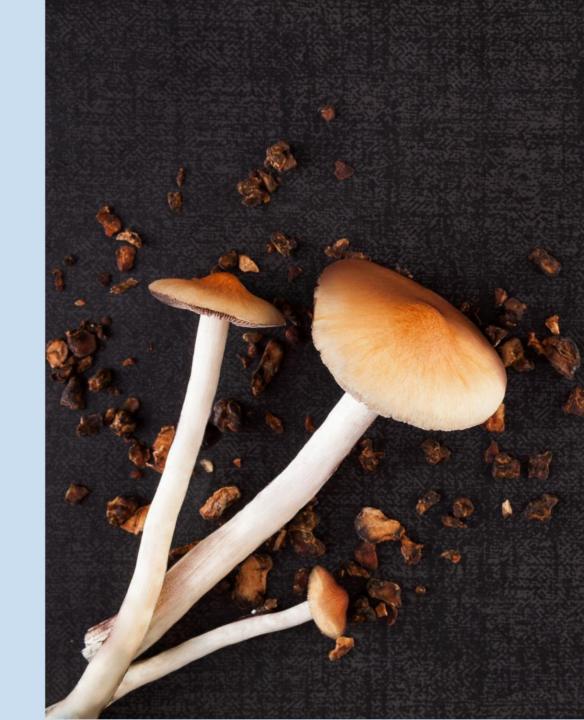
The City and County of Denver Denver City Council Finance & Governance Committee

> November 9, 2021 Denver, CO





- >> What We've Learned Since May 2019
- >>> Multi Responder Training
- >>> Arrests, Safety, & Psilocybin Use
- >> Our Recommendations
- >> Conclusion & Next Steps





- Psilocybin mushrooms have been used by human cultures for millennia and are considered the safest of all recreational drugs
- Nearly 20 years of modern clinical research demonstrates psilocybin's efficacy for mental & behavioral health therapy
- Denver catalyzed and helped inspire a nationwide movement





MULTI RESPONDER TRAINING

- >>> Training for first responders focused on effective approaches to deescalate psilocybin-induced crises
- >>> The Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) has been working with Denver first responder departments since September 2020
- Without appropriate support or education, psilocybin use can result in psychological or behavioral crisis
- >>> Wrongful death lawsuits from emergency response in the US have an average settlement of \$2.28 million





MULTI RESPONDER TRAINING

- >>> The goal of the training is to enhance first responders' knowledge and skills to identify and respond to crisis incidents involving psilocybin and other psychedelics
- The training is being developed with and for law enforcement, EMS, and mental health co-responders
- MAPS, in close collaboration with city first responder department leads, has committed considerable resources to curriculum development
- As of November 2021 training and development is proceeding into the pilot phase pending contract finalization with the city





ARRESTS, SAFETY, & USE

- Arrests for psilocybin are down by approximately 50%, and a majority of arrests (89%) involving psilocybin include other illicit substances
- Psilocybin accounts for <1% drug felonies and misdemeanors in Denver</p>
- There is no data from Denver hospitals for emergencies related to psilocybin
- Observational data suggests psilocybin is mostly used intentionally for health and mental wellness reasons.





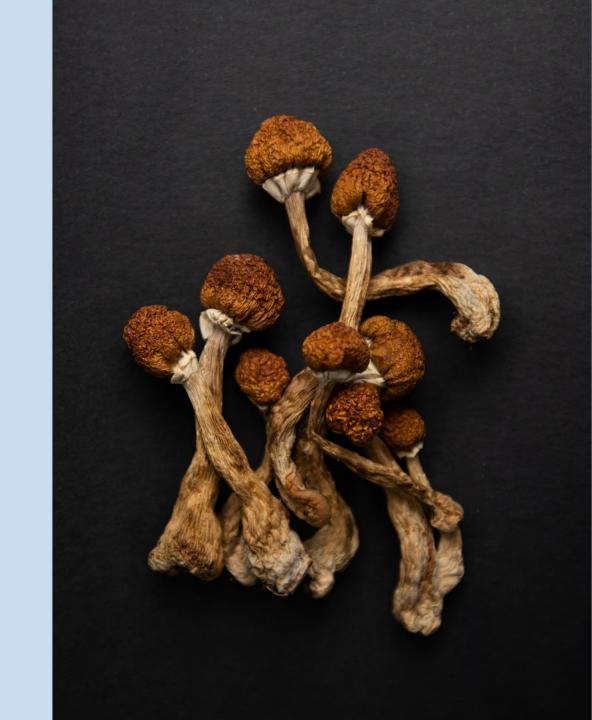
- Train City and County of Denver first responders to appropriately respond to persons undergoing psychedelic crisis
- Produce co-branded educational public service announcements
- Create a data collection and reporting system for any law enforcement and emergency interactions involving psilocybin





OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Include gifting & sharing and communal use of psilocybin mushrooms among the lowest law enforcement priority
- Expand the voting members of the Denver Psilocybin Mushroom Policy Review Panel to be more reflective of Denver's diversity
- Determine how psilocybin therapy can be applied to address mental health issues in Denver





CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS

- Colorado is the 47th worst-ranked state in the US for mental health, Denver is no exception
- Denver has an opportunity to create new polices that reduce harm, enable self-governance, and create access to more effective healing options.
- >>> We'll be working with the city to finalize the multi responder training and consider a new resolution that incorporates this panel's recommendations.





Psilocybin Mushroom Policy Review Panel

Thank you