



Reimagining Public Safety

Guiding Principles

Guiding Principles for the City's Public Safety system:

Any decisions we make, or actions we take,

- will not perpetuate or cause additional physical, psychological, or economic harm to any member of the community
- will be pro-equity and anti-racist in nature
- will be based on meaningful collaboration and authentic engagement among everyone in the community
- will be based on the best available information and progress will be measured and regularly reported to the community

DRAFT Principle #1

Any decisions we make, or actions we take, will not perpetuate, or cause additional physical, psychological, or economic harm to any member of the community

This means that:

- actions taken will contribute to members of the community feeling physically safe
- everyone in the community will be treated with respect and dignity
- everyone's unique situation will be considered (a holistic approach)
- a restorative rather than a punitive approach will be taken
- economic barriers that exist to inhibit people's ability to live and thrive in Olympia will be removed
- harm will be reduced
- impacts of actions are considered at both a system and individual level

To make matters worse, some members of the community will feel physically unsafe, will be treated without respect or dignity, and economic barriers will exist that inhibit people's ability to live and thrive in Olympia.



DRAFT Principle #2

Any decisions we make, or actions we take, will be pro-equity and anti-racist in nature

This means that:

- language used or policies implemented will lead to a reduction in existing disparities for all marginalized groups
- Racial and cultural differences will be seen as assets

To make matters worse, Disparities based on race, religion, socio-economic status, age, physical ability, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation, will be perpetuated (the normative, privileged – the dominant culture – will continue to receive the greatest representation). Language used or policies implemented will lead to and/or reinforce existing disparities.

DRAFT Principle #3

The decisions made, or the actions taken, will be based on meaningful collaboration and authentic engagement among everyone in the community

This means that:

- any decisions made, or actions taken, will be highly collaborative in nature
- meaningful efforts will be made to bridge gaps in relationships and groups both within the City and throughout the community
- community engagement efforts will be conducted in an authentic manner (e.g., considering of the needs of the community as a whole; valuing the input of all stakeholders; inviting the community as partners in community building and co-creating solutions.)
- all members of the community will feel acknowledged, valued, and heard in the public engagement process
- investments of time and financial resources are coordinated to the extent possible without sacrificing successful implementation

To make matters worse, the various actors with a stake in making the community safer will operate separately or in silos. The various City departments (police, fire, courts, public defense, administration, etc.) will plan and act unilaterally with little or no collaboration. Decisions and actions will be made without meaningful community input (some members of the community will feel that their voices were not heard) and will not result in outcomes that are widely



shared and owned by the community. Investments of energy, time and resources will not be coordinated to increase impact.

DRAFT Principle #4

The decisions made, or the actions taken, will be based on the best available information and progress will be measured and regularly reported to the community

This means that:

- the City will actively seek the best available information and practices
- the outcome that identifies success must be clearly identified so anyone reviewing the strategies, actions and results can clearly see if things are moving toward success
- there will be a clear way to determine the impact of investments of energy, time, and resources and to prioritize one against another
- strategies and actions will be measured for impact based on science, best practices, local data, community input, and laws/regulations/codes
- progress will be reported on and made visible to the community

To make matters worse, there will be no way to determine the priority or the impact of investments of energy, time, and resources. Members of the community will not be aware of the outcomes of the investments. Resources will be wasted.