Reimagining Public Safety



The Olympia City Council has heard from the community that we need to reduce inequities and bias to create a public safety system that works for everyone. In response, we are launching a community-led process to reimagine our public safety system, starting June 2021.

Reimagining Public Safety focuses on all elements of Olympia's criminal justice system: **Policing**, **Corrections**, **Prosecution**, **Public Defense** and **Courts**.

Community Work Group Leadership

The best ideas and plans for reimagining public safety will come from the community itself. A Work Group of Olympia community members will lead the public engagement process: ten to twelve residents who are dedicated to listening deeply and reflecting what they hear. To prepare, they will learn about Olympia's current criminal justice system and seek out the voices and perspectives most important to include and elevate.

Public Input and Problem Solving

In June 2021, the Community Work Group will invite you to join a "participatory leadership" process: a series of community conversations and small group discussions to learn, share and discuss:

- What public safety means for Olympians
- Individuals' lived experiences
- Solutions for an anti-bias and equitable criminal justice system

Recommendations to City Council

At the end of the nine-month process, the Work Group will deliver their recommendations to the City Council, describing how to create a public safety system that will best serve everyone in Olympia. City Council will use the Work Group's recommendations to guide policy and budgeting decisions for 2022 and beyond.

