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City Council

Reimagining Public Safety Process Update

Agenda Date: 9/28/2021
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Title

Reimagining Public Safety Process Update

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Receive an update on the Reimagining Public Safety process.

Report

Issue:

Whether to receive an update on the Reimagining Public Safety process.

Staff Contact:

Stacey Ray, Strategic Planning and Performance Manager, Office of Performance and Innovation, 360.753.8046

Presenter(s):

Stacey Ray, Strategic Planning and Performance Manager

Background and Analysis:

On February 11, the City Council's Ad Hoc Committee on Public Safety (Ad Hoc Committee) approved an approach to engage the community in a broad and highly inclusive public process to "reimagine public safety" for the City of Olympia. City Manager Jay Burney states that he's "asking our community to work with us to reimagine the City's public safety system. I want everyone in Olympia who engages with us - whether it is a response to a call for service or working through our criminal justice system - to trust that our public safety system is just, equitable, and without bias."

This approach is being led by a Community Work Group (Work Group) made up of ten community members. The Work Group will develop for Council recommendations for how to create a public safety system that will best serve Olympia. The recommendations will reflect what the Work Group heard and learned from the community and can be used by Council to guide policy and budgeting decisions.

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to receive an update on the Reimagining Public Safety public engagement process. Staff will share the project scope confirmed by the Ad Hoc Committee on September 9, and what the Work Group has been doing since they started meeting regularly in July. Staff will also highlight challenges the Work Group and project team are experiencing trying to connect with one another and launch a community-led process in a pandemic and share how they are adapting to ensure the process is a safe, inclusive, and equitable.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

There is broad community member interest in the City hosting a community engagement process to reimagine public safety in Olympia. In response, Council has already committed resources and funding to a public engagement process in 2021.

Options:

1. Receive the briefing.
2. Do not receive the briefing.
3. Receive the briefing at another time.

Financial Impact:

The City's approved 2021 Operating Budget includes \$100,000 to support the Reimagining Public Safety process.

Attachments:

None.