



Eugene City Council

101 W 10th Ave., Suite 203

Eugene, OR 97401

541-682-5010 • 541-682-5414 Fax

www.eugene-or.gov

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

October 11, 2021

5:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

As the state and community recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council meetings will continue to be held remotely using virtual meeting technology.

Information about online or other options for access and participation will be available at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials>

**Meeting of October 11, 2021;
Her Honor Mayor Lucy Vinis Presiding**

Councilors

Jennifer Yeh, President

Mike Clark

Randy Groves

Emily Semple

Claire Syrett, Vice President

Greg Evans

Matt Keating

Alan Zelenka

5:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

- 1. WORK SESSION: Community Safety Initiative**
- 2. WORK SESSION: Right-of-Way Resolutions on Federal-Aid Projects**

For the hearing impaired, an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact the receptionist at 541-682-5010. City Council meetings are telecast live on Metro Television, Comcast channel 21, and rebroadcast later in the week.

El consejo de la Ciudad de Eugene agradece su interés en estos asuntos de la agenda. El lugar de la reunión tiene acceso para sillas de ruedas. Se puede proveer a un intérprete para las personas con discapacidad auditiva si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. También se puede proveer interpretación para español si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. Para reservar estos servicios llame al 541-682-5010. Las reuniones del consejo de la ciudad se transmiten en vivo por Metro Television, Canal 21 de Comcast y son retransmitidas durante la semana.

For more information, contact the Council Coordinator at 541-682-5010
or visit us online at www.eugene-or.gov.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Community Safety Initiative

Meeting Date: October 11, 2021
Department: Central Services Department
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 1
Staff Contact: Kristie Hammitt
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5524

ISSUE STATEMENT

The purpose of this work session is to review and discuss Community Safety Initiative (CSI) outcomes and service investments to achieve established outcomes. The CSI funds critical community services including police, fire and emergency medical services, municipal court and prosecution services, prevention and homeless services. While the funding is limited to these services by ordinance, there is flexibility in how funds are distributed among these services to achieve desired community outcomes. Staff is requesting input regarding the proposed strategies for FY22.

BACKGROUND

In 2018, Council initiated a process to better understand and address growing deficiencies across the community safety system. Data indicated the community's safety needs were growing faster than the resources available to address those needs creating critical gaps and community impacts. As calls for police service continued to increase, staffing levels remained relatively flat. According to the analysis, one out of three non-life-threatening police calls received no response, averaging about 80 calls a day going unanswered. The time it took to respond to calls had increased by 20 minutes.

Within the Municipal Court, staffing shortages and growing demand was causing delays in cases being heard and resolved, and there was a lack of stable, on-going funding for promising alternatives, like Community Court, to reduce cycling and keep people out of the court system. Eugene Springfield Fire ambulance services faced an on-going funding gap as the cost to provide ambulance services increased each year and reimbursements failed to cover the full expense. In addition, the number of people experiencing homelessness in Eugene continued to grow with a higher percentage of the homeless population being unsheltered. The problem was exacerbated by continued gaps in emergency shelter resources, like shelter beds, especially for single adults.

The Community Safety Initiative was developed based on a set of desired outcomes approved by the City Council. These outcomes were based on the identified needs and gaps in services as well as input from the community and other best practices, including input from 21st Century Policing consultants. Desired outcomes included building trust, increasing safety, focusing on prevention and strengthening partnership. Within each of those outcomes there were also more specific

measures including things like resolving cases more quickly, reducing response time, enhancing staff training, and increasing connections to services for community members.

Build Trust with Community	Increase Safety	Focus on Prevention	Strengthen Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce calls with no response • Resolve cases swiftly • Align resources with needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce crime • Reduce response time • Preserve livability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce cycling in system • Enhance staff training • Expand earlier interventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase connections to services • Support efforts to address homelessness • Promote community solutions

To meet those desired outcomes a series of strategies were developed that aimed to work across the community safety system. These strategies focused on preventing problems or preventing them from getting worse; better responding to calls for service and matching the response to the need, and resolving community safety issues in a timely way, including implementing services and programs that provide paths out of the traditional criminal justice system. This list of strategies (Attachment A) was estimated to cost approximately \$23.6 million dollars annually when it was fully implemented. A subcommittee of the City Council reviewed the proposed service package options.

In 2018, funding approved as part of the FY19 Supplemental Budget launched the Community Safety Initiative (CSI). This funding was directed to address some of the most urgent needs at that time including stabilization for shelter programs for people experiencing homelessness, supporting services for at-risk youth, filling the critical funding gap for ambulance transport services, and addressing staffing deficiencies in the 9-1-1 Center, and police service response. Implementation of those strategies began in early 2019.

In June 2019, City Council passed a payroll tax ordinance to provide long-term funding for the fully implemented Community Safety Initiative. The Community Safety Payroll Tax was expected to generate \$23.6 million annually once revenue collection was fully realized.

Council received a Community Safety Update at the work session on September 13. Staff provided an overview of services implemented since the launch of the initiative in 2018 (Attachment B). During FY21, the initially funded CSI strategies continue. Due to the impacts of COVID-19 and on-going economic uncertainty, the organization paused planned Community Safety Initiative service adds. The FY22 Budget builds on the implementation of current CSI strategies by funding the following CSI investments:

- Municipal Court / Prosecutor Staffing
- Homeless Services
- Patrol and Community Safety Officers
- EPD Operations Support
- Ambulance Transport Fund Support
- Youth Inclusion Services
- Payroll Tax Implementation
- Repayment of the FY21 interfund loan

After two Payroll Tax collection periods, anticipated revenues for FY22 will provide funds for an additional \$2.7 million in services.

Recent Community Engagement

Over the course of the past year, following the murder of George Floyd, the City initiated two major community processes; the [Ad Hoc Committee on Police Policy](#) and the [CSI Community Engagement Sessions](#). The two community processes were completed in the Spring 2021.

The CSI [engagement sessions](#) invited a broad cross section of communities of color [to learn about the development of the CSI](#) and to collect their perspective on how the intended outcomes align with the public safety priorities within their communities. Several themes emerged from the information collected through the BIPOC focus groups, online survey, and community listening sessions. Themes included high levels of agreement across groups on priority needs related to homelessness and increased capacity for mental health and addiction services. New strategies were identified and supported including a strong support for alternative responses and an alternative to 911. There was support for increasing police capacity to answer more calls in less time as well as for youth prevention programs and diversion programs from the criminal justice system (Attachment C).

The Ad Hoc Committee on Police Policy included 30 members representing underrepresented portions of the community, as well as representatives from the Human Rights Commission, Civilian Review Board, and Police Commission. The [final report](#) contained 50 recommendations from five content areas: Use of Force, Hiring and Training, Community Oversight, Body-Worn Cameras, and Independent Investigation and Prosecution.

Both the CSI Engagement Sessions and community input related to the Ad Hoc Committee report provide important information on community support for future investment of CSI Payroll Tax funding.

Outcomes and Metrics

In addition to the desired outcomes used to develop the CSI, the Community Safety Payroll Tax Ordinance also included three specific metrics that the Citizen Advisory Board must review and report on in 2027, when the City Council must determine whether to refer the payroll tax to the voters or let it expire:

1. Increase the number of minutes per hour officers are available for community policing;
2. Reduce the number of calls for service per day to which no city personnel are dispatched to respond; and,
3. Reduce the number of minutes it takes city personnel to respond to non-emergency requests for service.

Beginning in spring 2021, staff initiated a three-phase project to develop outcome metrics for each of the five CSI impact areas (EPD, Fire/EMS, Municipal Court, Homeless Services, Youth Prevention), with the aim of developing outcome metrics that identify the impact of CSI services on people living in Eugene. Phase 1 (identify impacts) was completed in July 2021. Phase 2 (evaluated the impacts) will begin October 2021 and end June 2022. It is expected that Phase 3 (CSI program improvements) will start after June 2022.

Next Steps

At the September 13 City Council work session, Council received a brief overview of the Community Safety Initiative, its development, recent community engagement and current investments. The Council also received an update on the status for calls for service and the Eugene Police Department's ability to respond to those calls, as well as the most recent financial forecast for the CSI fund based on what we have learned this year about the payroll tax.

In preparation for upcoming Budget Committee meetings, this work session will focus gathering Council input and direction on areas of investment for CSI implementation based desired outcomes.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

[Eugene City Council Work Session: September 13, 2021](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: July 20, 2020](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: November 25, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: June 10, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Public Hearing: May 28, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: May 8, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: April 8, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Workshop: February 23, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: February 13, 2019](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: September 26, 2018](#)

[Eugene City Council Wednesday Work Session: July 18, 2018](#)

[Eugene City Council Wednesday Work Session: May 16, 2018](#)

[Eugene City Council Public Hearing & Work Session: February 20, 2018](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: November 29, 2017](#)

[Eugene City Council Work Session: June 15, 2016](#)

COUNCIL OPTIONS

Informational work session only.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Original CSI Strategies – Full Implementation
- B. Implementation of CSI Strategies FY19 – FY22
- C. Community Safety Engagement Sessions – Summary of Themes

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Kristie Hammitt
Telephone: 541-682-5524
Staff E-Mail: khammitt@eugene-or.gov

Original CSI Strategies		
PREVENT	RESPOND	RESOLVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Court Expansion • Expansion of Mental Health Court • Enhanced Day Resource Center • Enhanced Dusk to Dawn • Enhanced Rest Stop Program • After School Programs at Title 1 Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 Patrol Officers, 4 Sergeants, & Lieutenant • 10 Community Service Officers, Sergeant, & Lieutenant • 9.5 9-1-1 staff • 9 EPD support staff • Animal Welfare Officer • Court Bailiff • Traffic Safety Officer • Nurse Triage Program • Triage Community Response Unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Detectives • Evidence Control and Forensic Analyst • Jail Services +10 Beds • Additional Jail Services w/ Probation Officers • Open 3rd Courtroom w/ staffing • Muni Court and City Prosecutor capacity • Court security

Implementation of CSI Strategies FY19 – FY22

	PREVENT	RESPOND	RESOLVE	SUPPORT
FY19-20 Jan 19 - Jun 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation Inclusion Services • 15th Night • Community Outreach Response Team (CORT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Service Officers (5) • Street Crimes Unit – 10 Officers • 911 Call Center staff (4) • Ambulance Transport Gap • Year-round Dusk to Dawn • Resource Center • On-going support: Lindholm Center, Car Camping Program, and Rest Stops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of Community Court • Increase Municipal Court Stabilization and Capacity • 5 Additional Jail Beds (Springfield) 	
FY21 Jul 20 - Jun 21	<i>Paused new investments due to COVID-19 - maintained Bridge strategies in FY21.</i>			
FY22 Jul 21 - Jun 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth after school program specialist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Service Officer • Patrol Officers (3) • EPD support staff (1.3) • Downtown Team Overtime 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court operation specialists (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSI Project Manager, Tax Implementation staffing (3)

Community Safety Engagement Sessions – Summary of Themes

Excerpt from the [May 10, 2021 Report to Council on CSI Community Engagement Sessions](#) (pages 25-31)

Discussion

The CSI Engagement process collected input through multiple methods that provided important insights from the public on their impressions of our Community Safety System and preferences on how CSI funds should be allocated. In focus groups with BIPOC, Jewish, and LGBTQ+ participants, potential gaps were identified, as well as strategies that would better meet their needs. The listening session for the general community and the 2021 CSI survey provided important information on how the new gaps and strategies identified in the focus groups compare to the original CSI strategies. While a number of the priority needs align with the results from previous community outreach efforts, input from communities that were not previously engaged in CSI conversations highlighted important differences and considerations that can improve community safety services and inform future decisions.

Prioritizing community safety strategies via the 2021 CSI Survey

The recent CSI engagement process used a new methodology for community engagement at the City of Eugene. Following City Council approval of the engagement plan, staff engaged first with members of marginalized communities via focus groups. The input gathered in the focus groups informed the next steps in the engagement process, which was open to the general community, including an online survey and listening sessions. This approach allowed BIPOC and LGBTQ+ community members to raise needs and strategies from their perspectives on community safety and have them presented to the general public for ranking and commenting. The resulting ranking of priorities from the 2021 CSI survey revealed a mix of original and new strategies at the top, middle, and bottom of the ranking table.

By starting the 2021 survey with a question asking people to rank the original CSI strategies, respondents were given a chance to evaluate CSI strategies selected three years ago in light of more recent developments. This ranking of original CSI strategies revealed that White respondents were more likely to support priorities connected to police response time, funding to reduce recidivism in court, and jail capacity than other groups. There was no difference in the order of priorities in the ranking from respondents who identified as BIPOC and the ranking by of all respondents combined. LGBTQ+ respondents were less supportive than other groups of 'Ability of police to respond to more calls in less time' and of 'Capacity for police to have time to focus on building relationships in the community.'

The second ranking question presented a list of new strategies identified in the focus groups. The resulting ranking of strategies revealed that White and BIPOC respondents agreed 100% in the ordering of the new strategies. The only notable difference between the two groups was that the gap between the highest and lowest ranked strategies was relatively larger for White respondents than for BIPOC respondents. This finding indicates a need for further investigation of how different groups included under the BIPOC umbrella support the new strategies. Given the small number of respondents from each non-white group, such analysis was not possible with the data available from the 2021 CSI survey. In this ranking, LGBTQ+ respondents were significantly less supportive of increasing the number of Community Safety Officers and of emphasizing prevention system-wide than other groups.

The final ranking question asked respondents to select their top five priorities from a list that included the original and the newly identified CSI strategies. Including the perspectives of marginalized groups at the beginning of the process identified important needs that were not originally included and provided an

opportunity for the broader community to consider those needs in the rankings. The data revealed only small variations in order of priorities between White and BIPOC respondents. The resulting ranking confirmed the benefits of including the perspectives of marginalized groups at the beginning rather than engaging those groups through additional steps to the main process, which is common in more traditional engagement practices.

The 2021 CSI survey also allowed people to identify other strategies beyond the list presented to them. Nothing mentioned in the 'Other (please Specify)' answer choice would have altered the ranking of strategies. The total number of people who selected the 'other' option and provided comments, was relatively low on questions 2 and 3. Nevertheless, a summary of those comments was presented in the results section above and a complete list of topics for both questions is included in Appendix F.

In the following sections, we will discuss the results from the CSI engagement around key themes that were revealed in the 2021 survey and at the focus groups and listening sessions. We will triangulate results from the three methods used in the engagement process and note when an assumption is based on each of the methods used.

Homelessness and community safety

The current CSI engagement process was strongly influenced by people's perceptions regarding the current homeless crisis impacting Eugene. Safety concerns related to the unhoused population was a dominant theme across all engagement steps and participant groups. It was the number one priority for respondents of the 2021 CSI survey. About 60% of survey respondents (1,483) selected 'Emergency shelter and services that help people experiencing homelessness move off the streets into more stable housing' among their top five priorities. This high level of support for more services for the unhoused correlates with strong support for alternative responses to mental health crisis, offering a line separate from 911 for people to request urgent mental health assistance, accessing court diversion programs, and increasing addiction services.

Qualitative data provided in the 2021 CSI survey and comments from focus groups and listening sessions are also aligned with this theme. About two-thirds of all 2020/2021 CSI engagement participants wanted the City to provide more services to the unhoused. About one-third of the comments received through the listening sessions and in the 2021 CSI survey noted that 'something must be done' to minimize the negative impacts of the unhoused population on businesses and residents in Downtown and other areas near temporary encampments. Several participants who indicated they were negatively impacted by the homelessness crisis were also supportive of more services for members of the unhoused population. Although most people demonstrated compassion around the needs of the unhoused community, respondents did not agree about where services should be located or how they should be funded. It is possible to conclude that most people who engaged in the CSI process support more CSI funds being allocated to address the current homelessness crisis, by helping unhoused people find shelter and dealing with the negative impacts of temporary encampments on businesses and neighbors. BIPOC participants supported separating homeless and prevention services and increasing funding for both. The current allocation for both combined is approximately 10% of the CSI funding.

Mental health and community safety

Safety concerns related to mental health issues were also a dominant theme across all engagement methods and participant groups. As was the case with the unhoused population, participants and survey respondents expressed more concern for the needs of people dealing with mental health issues than with the safety risks those individuals present to the community. Qualitative data on this was often related to a

belief that police are not the right response to mental health crisis. The current national conversation on police reform and the visibility of CAHOOTS garnered the most comments in the community engagement sessions and through the 2021 CSI survey. Two of the top three priorities were related to this topic: 'Increase ability to respond to calls for help with mental health services or other alternative responses in situations that do not require a police presence' and 'Increase capacity to assist people with mental health and addiction services' respectively.

Across engagement methods and participant groups, strong support was expressed for a different way for people to access help during mental health crisis. This was reinforced by over 70% of survey respondents who supported an alternative to 911. Focus group participants shared personal stories to illustrate their preference for not having police as first responders during a mental health crisis. Focus group participants also voiced support for a separation between CAHOOTS and police in both funding sources and how they can be accessed.

Many focus group and listening session participants demonstrated support for using CSI funds to provide mental health services. When focus group participants were reminded by staff that mental health services are provided by Lane County, they were still supportive of a collaboration between city and county to increase service availability.

Law enforcement and community safety

Although the CSI refers to a host of community safety services, every engagement method was dominated by conversations regarding the role of law enforcement. Analysis of the CSI engagement responses revealed interesting findings that may require further investigation and conversations with community. Survey respondents were supportive of police having capacity to respond to more calls for service in less time. This strategy appeared as the fourth preferred priority and related to a large percentage of CSI funds being directed to the Eugene Police Department (EPD) for the hiring of more staff. Increasing the number of Community Safety Officers (CSO) was also among the top ten priorities emerging from the 2021 CSI survey.

The call for police to be replaced as first responders in situations involving the unhoused community or mental health crisis should not be confused with a generalized anti-police sentiment. In fact, what the data revealed was a desire for a police response that better fits the circumstances or needs and focusing police work on crime-related activities. This trend was more prominent among BIPOC survey respondents and focus group participants. In the 2021 CSI survey, BIPOC respondents were more supportive of police having capacity to respond to more calls for service in less time than White respondents were. BIPOC respondents were also more supportive of police having more capacity to focus on building relationships with the community than other groups were.

We did hear from people who demanded defunding of the police or criticized services provided by police. It is important to note that these comments were often followed by direct or indirect experiences in which people felt disrespected. During the focus groups, it became clear that most BIPOC participants believed law enforcement staff do not treat them with respect. For most BIPOC focus group participants, law enforcement needs systemic change towards cultural responsiveness, which could be accomplished by hiring and training a police force that treats all people equitably.

Monolingual Spanish speakers were relatively more supportive than other BIPOC respondents of more police capacity to respond to calls for service in less time.

When compared to all respondents, LGBTQ+ respondents were less supportive of priorities related to law enforcement, including all priorities related to police and most priorities related to court services. LGBTQ+

respondents were slightly more supportive than other groups of court programs that divert individuals from the criminal system or reduce recidivism. These findings correlate with a higher percentage of LGBTQ+ respondents saying they experienced disrespect from community safety staff than all other groups (41% for LGBTQ+ versus 26% for BIPOC and 21% for White respondents). Most LGBTQ+ respondents who felt disrespected in their interactions with community safety staff indicated that the disrespect was connected to their gender or gender identity (42% for LGBTQ+ versus 38% for BIPOC and 37% for white respondents).

Community Safety Initiative process and metrics

Through the CSI listening sessions and from written comments received, it became clear that some business owners and residents near temporary encampments favor CSI funds being allocated as originally proposed. Participants from the

business community were the main supporters of this position. For them, the CSI was developed as a response to unmet needs, with many comments relating to challenges faced by businesses and their employees. Many comments from participants who identified as being from the business community expressed a need for stronger enforcement of existing rules to minimize negative impacts related to the unhoused population. Many of these comments also included support for using other funds to provide for the needs of the unhoused community. It was also possible to establish a connection between support for the original CSI proposal and support for police.

Questions regarding the metrics used in the CSI were expressed by several focus group participants. Those participants questioned the fact that all three indicators included in the CSI ordinance are related to policing, especially in regard to response time. For focus group participants, the CSI was developed based on a dominant culture understanding of community safety. Dominant culture was described by participants as including older White people, homeowners, neighborhood association members, and excluding BIPOC. Several focus group participants used personal stories to illustrate this view. Those stories included examples of police being called on people of color because some residents felt they did not belong in the area or that people of color were associated with potential illegal activity. For BIPOC participants, without understanding which percentage of calls to police are unjustified or which percentage of calls could be directed to alternate response services, one cannot use call response rates alone to justify increasing funding to police. Some people related the response time to police being called into social services role unrelated to law enforcement and crime prevention or response. For some BIPOC participants, more police, under the current system, means more chances of them being disrespected by law enforcement. Those participants usually favored a focus on community wellbeing instead of community safety.

A less prominent theme relates to distrust by some participants with the results of the CSI engagement sessions. Many participants who expressed such views were unhappy that responses favoring the prioritization of the homeless crisis indicated in the 2018 CSI survey and public meetings did not result in more money being allocated to priorities related to homelessness. Participants in this group fear that a similar pattern may be repeated in the current engagement process. A few participants supported further public engagement around CSI funds allocation.

Cultural responsiveness, trust building, and BIPOC representation

Cultural responsiveness emerged as the strongest theme from the focus groups. That finding is related to many BIPOC and LGBTQ+ participants having direct, negative experiences with community safety services. Many participants said staff lacked cultural responsiveness or there was low BIPOC representation among

safety services staff. Focus group participants supported training to help staff become more 'responsive to the needs of different cultures, including acknowledging bias and how it affects those being served' and to 'Increase representation of Black, Indigenous and People of Color working as providers within the System.' Both strategies ranked low when survey respondents analyzed the new and old priorities combined. Those strategies ranked low when survey respondents analyzed only the new strategies that originated from the focus groups. A related strategy to increase 'Capacity for police to have time to focus on building relationships in the community' also received low level of support among survey respondents. This last strategy had a moderate level of support among BIPOC respondents and was also ranked low when respondents analyzed only the original CSI strategies.

The most prominent themes among monolingual Spanish speaker results were having Spanish language access, hiring bilingual staff, getting information out in Spanish, and being culturally responsive to Latino culture, either by having bicultural staff or training.

Prevention and diversion programs

Targeted youth prevention and intervention programs designed to keep youth out of the criminal justice system' was one of the original CSI strategies that was also favored by 2021 CSI survey respondents. This priority was supported by White and BIPOC respondents equally. When survey respondents ranked new and old CSI strategies together, the youth prevention programs strategy was immediately followed by a proposal to 'Divert individuals away from the criminal justice process through intervention programs that provide an opportunity for education and community service.' Both priorities enjoy support from White and BIPOC survey respondents and indicate a relatively high level of support for an emphasis on youth prevention systemwide. Nevertheless, the new strategy labeled 'Emphasize prevention on a System-wide basis' did not gain the same level of support across groups. That more conceptual strategy was originated in the focus groups and encountered more support among BIPOC survey respondents.

Summary

The CSI engagement process revealed that survey participants favor some of the new strategies identified in the focus groups over some original CSI strategies developed three years ago.

As in the 2018 CSI survey, the current survey also revealed strong support for addressing the homeless crisis. Emergency shelter and services that help people experiencing homelessness move off the streets into more stable housing emerged as the number 1 priority.

Increasing capacity to serve people dealing with mental health issues was supported by most participants in all engagement methods. Strategies related to this topic appeared as priorities 2 and 3 in the final ranking.

The engagement process revealed general alignment between top priorities of BIPOC respondents and all other respondents. More variation was found between LGBTQ+ and all other respondents, mostly on issues regarding law enforcement. This finding may warrant further investigation.

Overall, the engagement process demonstrated relatively strong support for increasing police capacity to answer more calls in less time. This strategy was the priority 4 in the final ranking. The process also revealed strong support for alternative responses to non-criminal incidents, overwhelming support for an alternative to 911 (70%), and a call for more inclusive policing, which was the number one priority for focus group participants.

Support for youth prevention programs and programs to divert individuals away from the criminal system appeared as priorities 5 and 6, respectively, and suggests support for more prevention programming in the community safety system.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Right-of-Way Resolutions on Federal Aid Projects

Meeting Date: October 11, 2021
Department: Public Works
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 2
Staff Contact: Jenifer Willer
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-6036

ISSUE STATEMENT

This work session provides Council with some background information regarding a State requirement that applies to certain transportation projects that are funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and administered by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). As part of administering these projects, ODOT requires the City pass a resolution expressing the necessity and purpose of the land acquisitions necessary to enable a particular project.

BACKGROUND

Transportation projects sometimes require the City to acquire additional property interests, ranging from a strip of land for permanent right of way to a temporary easement over land for a phase of the construction. When this is the case on federally funded transportation projects, the federal funding is sometimes predicated on the City's commitment to acquiring those needed property interests. In those cases, project specific intergovernmental agreements between the City and ODOT include a provision requiring the City adopt a Council resolution. The resolution must express the necessity and purpose of the land acquisitions necessary for the particular project. Such a resolution would also serve as a first step toward condemning the property interests, if it became necessary. As is further explained below, condemnation is typically viewed by Public Works Engineering as an option of last resort. Even so, the Council resolution may be required to receive the federal funding.

Public Works Engineering carefully considers project design in relation to the existing right of way and attempts, through project design, to avoid the need to acquire any additional right of way. However, there are occasions where acquisition of additional right of way cannot be avoided to meet City project requirements. These acquisitions are primarily in the form of temporary easements used to adjust or match existing private property to the proposed design, for example driveway adjustments and transitions to building entries. On rare occasions, additional property is needed to construct the permanent facility.

The design of federally funded projects includes the following typical phases – conceptual or preliminary design, right of way, environmental documentation and permitting (NEPA clearance), and final design. When a resolution like the one described above is required, staff will request the

resolution at the time preliminary design is complete and temporary and permanent right of way needs are identified. It is a staff priority to reach an agreement with the property owner on reasonable compensation so that formal legal condemnation proceedings to acquire property are not needed.

Staff propose to bring needed resolutions to Council through the consent agenda. If staff anticipate that the right of way on a project is complex, controversial, or Council has identified other considerations, the resolution will be scheduled on the regular agenda. Staff will also be prepared to present any resolutions that Council wants to pull from the consent agenda.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

This item is informational only.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Proposed Resolution Declaring Public Necessity to Acquire Real Property

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Jenifer Willer, PE, Acting City Engineer

Telephone: 541-682-6036

Staff E-Mail: jwiller@eugene-or.gov

**RESOLUTION DECLARING PUBLIC NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE
REAL PROPERTY
[Project Name]**

- A. In furtherance of its responsibility to provide safe transportation routes for commerce, convenience and to adequately serve the traveling public the City of Eugene ("City") has entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Right of Way Services, City Contract No. #####-#####, (the "Agreement") with the State of Oregon, by and through its Department of Transportation, for certain right of way services relating to [Project Name] (the "Project").
- B. The Project has been planned in accordance with appropriate engineering standards for the construction, maintenance or improvement of transportation infrastructure so that property damage is minimized, transportation is promoted and travel is safeguarded.
- C. To complete the Project, it is necessary to acquire interests in the real property described in "Exhibit A" attached to this Resolution and, by this reference incorporated herein (the "Real Property").
- D. The Agreement requires the City to declare by resolution the public necessity of acquiring such interests in the Real Property for achieving the purposes of the Project.
- E. The City Council determines, consistent with the powers and authority granted by the City Charter and applicable state law, that it is necessary for the economic well-being, public health, safety, and welfare of the City to acquire the Real Property interests and that doing so in furtherance of the Project will be most compatible with the greatest public benefit and least private injury.

Now, therefore,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Eugene City Council

- 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated by this reference and adopted herein.
- 2. The Real Property interests the City will be acquiring for the Project are necessary in the public interest and the Project has been planned, designed, located, and will be constructed in a manner which will be most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury;
- 3. The City Manager has the authority, and is hereby requested to commence the process, to acquire the Real Property interests for the Project.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 20__

[insert signature blocks here]

Attachments: Exhibit A to City Resolution Declaring Public Necessity to Acquire Real Property –
Real Property Description

**Exhibit A to City Resolution Declaring Public Necessity to Acquire Real
Property – Real Property Description**

[insert property description]