



# Community Safety Action Strategy Update

Tacoma City Council Study Session, November 21, 2023  
Office of Strategy

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## Overview

- Background and context
- What have we heard so far?
- Update on progress
- Next steps



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## Background and context

- 2021-2022 Community Survey results, showed Black residents feel 50% less safe than white residents
- Tacoma's 21st Century Policing recommended writing a community safety strategy, specifically:
  - Recommendation 2. TPD's approach to collaborating with the community, responding to community needs and issues, and fostering community relationships should be specifically memorialized in a written, strategic plan (the "Community Safety Plan")
- Community safety and perceptions of safety is a council priority



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## What is the Community Safety Action Strategy?

- Community vision
- Coordinated organizational strategy
- Addresses perceptions of safety:
  - Broader than policing and crime



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- Past Engagement Efforts Building Off:
- Picture Pac Ave
  - Home in Tacoma
  - Participatory Budgeting
  - Vision Zero
  - Neighborhood Planning
  - Neighborhood & Community Services contractor engagement
  - Project PEACE
  - Heal the Heart of Tacoma
  - Safe Routes to Schools
  - Streets Initiative
  - Tacoma Creates
  - Homeless Services Outreach
  - Tidy Up Tacoma
  - Violent Crime Reduction Plan

**What have we heard so far from community?**



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- Organizations of Interviewed Individuals:
- Big Homies
  - Imagine Justice
  - Tacoma City Council
  - Pierce County Council
  - Pierce County Juvenile Courts
  - Pierce County Family Council
  - Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office
  - Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
  - Metro Parks Tacoma
  - City of Tacoma Neighborhood & Community Services
  - City of Tacoma Police Department
  - City of Tacoma Fire Department
  - Tacoma Public Schools

**What have we already heard (from partners and R Street)**



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## Additional Themes from R Street Analysis

- Capitalizing on strengths and successes
- Areas of opportunity
- Programming and policy gaps



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**COMMUNITY SAFETY  
ACTION STRATEGY**  
Places · People · Response · Repair



**Co-create Healthy PLACES and Neighborhoods**



**Invest in PEOPLE and Prevention**



**RESPOND Effectively and with Care**



**Promote Healing and REPAIR**

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## Co-create Healthy PLACES and Neighborhoods

Support economic and environmental conditions that make Tacoma feel safe for everyone to live, learn, work and play

- Increase livable wage job opportunities for Tacoma residents
- Increase the availability of stable, affordable housing
- Increase access to safe and affordable transportation
- Reduce trash and debris from neighborhoods
- Improve lighting and infrastructure in neighborhoods
- Support safe and healthy air, water, power, and sanitation
- Improve access to safe, vibrant gathering places
- Improve access to safe and healthy food



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## Invest in PEOPLE and prevention

Support focused approaches to specific community needs to create a sense of safety and belonging

- Youth and Young Adults
- Residents Experiencing Homelessness
- Residents experiencing Mental and Behavioral Health (Including Substance Abuse Disorders)
- Residents experiencing Domestic Violence
- Residents with experience in the criminal justice system
- Residents impacted by traffic violence and transportation disparities
- Businesses
- Neighborhood-specific Approaches



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## **RESPOND Effectively and with Care**

**Act with respect and understanding to address community safety needs**

- Violent crime
- Property crime
- Behavioral health crises
- Issues relating to homelessness
- Community-based responses to community needs
- Health and safety crises
- Natural and other disasters
- Chronic nuisances and other neighborhood concerns
- Increase transparency for public safety responses



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## **Promote Healing and REPAIR**

**Support individuals, families, and neighborhoods to overcome trauma, rebuild relationships, and work towards a community where everyone belongs**

- Increase opportunities for diversion from Courts to Community
- Increase opportunities for effectively facilitated Restorative Justice
- Ensure safe, supportive, and effective Reintegration
- Improve engagement and relationships between Police and Community
- Increase trauma-informed post-incident response
- Promote conflict resolution and mediation
- Support healing and repair for first responders



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**2024 Next Steps**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Launch website and message approach	Reflect feedback to community	Engage on final draft	Present Action Strategy
Community engagement ramps up	Partner engagement continues	Input reflected in draft	Implementation coordination
Complete first draft	Finalize outline and draft sections	Final draft complete, published	Implementation update
Plan funding and partnership model	Begin external collaborative implementation model	Continue internal implementation efforts	Report on implementation with partners

**COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION STRATEGY**  
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## Questions?

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