



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – February 23, 2022 Agenda Item 5

Work Session

Reimagining Public Safety – Review and Action Plan by the City Council

Recommended Council Action

Hear the update and discuss next steps.

Context with Key Issues

The City Council established a Task Force on Reimagining Public Safety to Ensure Racial Justice by Resolution 2020-21 on September 23, 2020. The purpose of the Task Force was to develop recommendations that make Takoma Park a safer, more livable community for all residents, with an emphasis on addressing racial inequities that exist in government and services revolving around public safety. The Council received the report on July 13, 2021. City Staff presented the results of its review of the report on November 3, 2021.

A working group of City Council, including the Mayor, Councilmember Seamens and Councilmember Searcy, have met to develop themes and possible next steps to address the recommendations. The approach will be presented at the work session on February 23.

Council Priority

Engaged, Responsive, and Service-Oriented Government building on Resolution 2017-45, which established the City Council's goals and priorities for the Takoma Park Police Department; and Resolution 2017-28, committing the City Council to systematically and deliberately apply a racial equity lens in decision-making. Livable Community for All

Environmental Considerations

None.

Fiscal Considerations

The cost of implementation of recommendations will be determined and addressed through the FY 2023 budget process.

Racial Equity Considerations

The population of Takoma Park is majority people of color. The history of racism in this country has led to many current day disparities in education and job attainment, housing, and healthcare, as well as disproportionate incarceration rates for people of color. Given the history of actions of police violence against Black and Brown people in the United States, special attention in this effort was given to review and reform the City's approach to public safety to ensure racial justice.

Attachments and Links

- [Reimagining Public Safety Project Page](#)
- Presentation