April 29, 2021

Public Listening Session
WELCOME!

Charge to the Task Force

Purpose: The purpose of the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force is to develop recommendations that make Takoma Park a safer, more livable community for all residents, with an emphasis on addressing racial inequalities that exist in government and services evolving around public safety. This Task Force is our opportunity to bring new voices into the process as we take stock of what is working, what is not, and as we explore best practices in public safety.
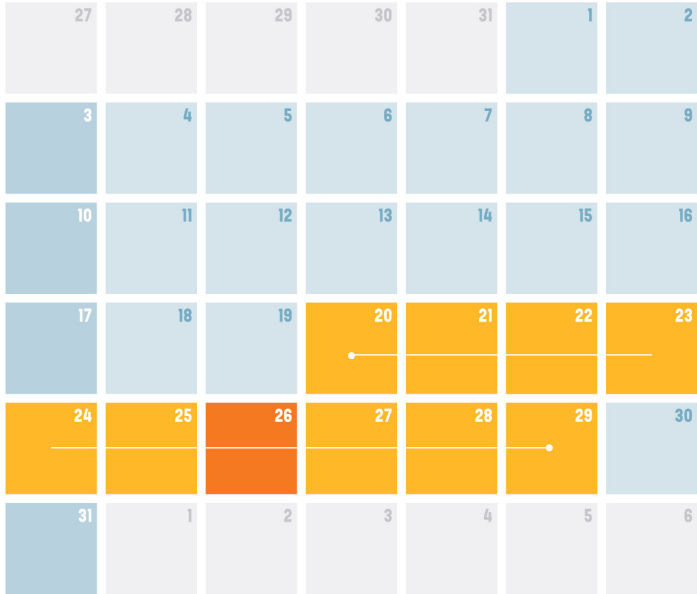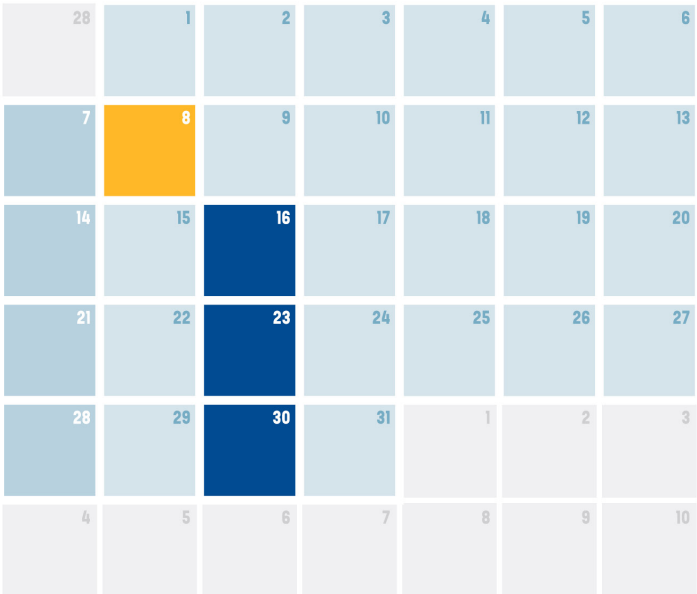
Where We Are
How We Got Here

- City Council Resolution
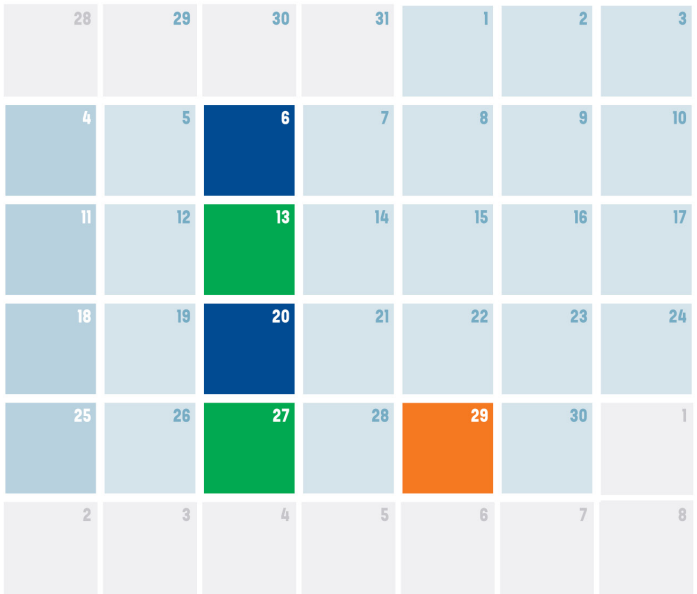- Task Force Recruitment
- Task Force Goal

JANUARY

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**
24	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

MARCH

28	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	**16**	17	18	19	20
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28	29	**30**	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

- 🟡 **Process/Administrative**
- 🔵 **Task Force Meetings**
- 🟢 **Subcommittee Meetings**
- 🟠 **Community Meetings**

APRIL

28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	**6**	7	8	9	10
11	12	**13**	14	15	16	17
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25	26	**27**	28	**29**	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

MAY

25	26	27	28	29	30	1
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30	31	1	2	3	4	5

JUNE

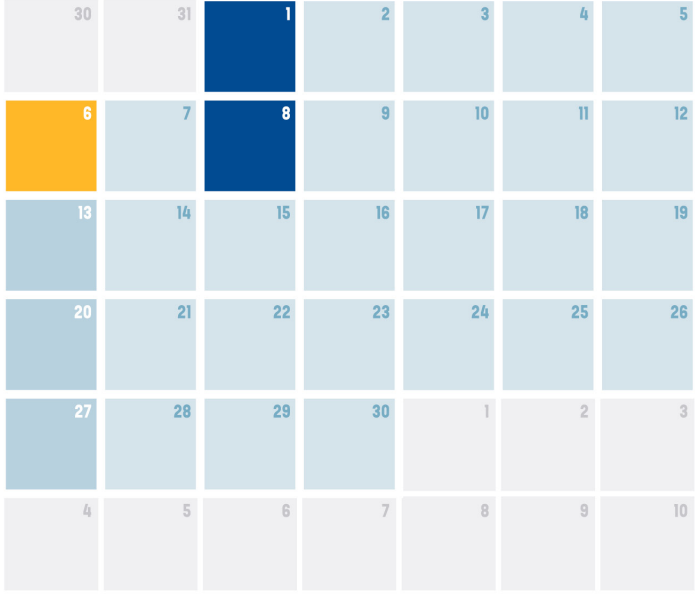|						
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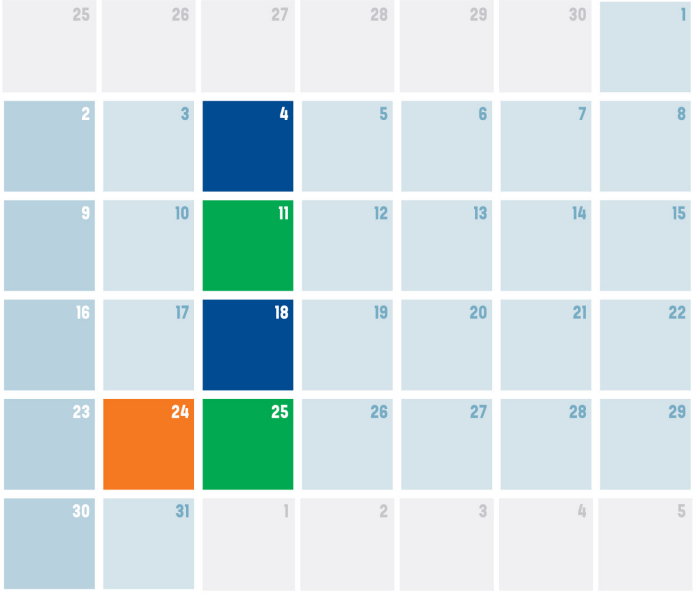
How We Got Here

- March 16: Deep dive into the focus of the Task Force; members discussed timeline, structure and process; spent time defining success for the work.

- March 23: Task Force members received an overview of city government and agencies; discussion of subcommittees and structure; begin to identify subcommittee focus areas.

- March 30: Task Force members went into breakouts to discuss subcommittee structure; what is working, what is not, and what can be done moving forward; resources and subject matter experts needed to accomplish the tasks.

How We Got Here

- April 6: Chief DeVaul presented detailed traffic stop data as requested, overall and by race, and took questions from Task Force members.

- April 13: The proposed subcommittee assignments and their facilitators were announced. The subcommittees met to begin their work, map out recommendations for action, and identify further resource needs.

- April 20: Task Force citizen leads were announced and they and subcommittee members reported on the themes developed during the subcommittee meetings of 4.13.

- April 27: Grayce Wiggins, Manager of Housing and Community Development, was the guest speaker for the open portion of the meeting. City subject matter experts met with the subcommittees to respond to questions about their areas of expertise and their agencies' operations.

Community Quality of Life

Community Quality of Life
- *This subcommittee will consider the intersection of public safety and quality of life issues, including housing, mental health, and more, as well as the implications for Takoma Park programs, policies, and budget.*

Facilitator: Jevin D. Hodge
Committee Members:
§ **Sawa Kamara***
§ Duane Scott
§ Ajmel Quereshi
§ Emil Parker
§ Christina Morado

Community Quality of Life

Themes

- Programmatic reforms and associated budgetary allocations to respond effectively to non-violent occurrences.
- Police department oversight, jurisdiction, and authority to act within the City of Takoma Park, and coordination with neighboring law enforcement agencies.
- Community and city agency coordination to maintain timely and effective communication from the community to city agencies and from those agencies back to the community.
- Alternative approach/models for mental health service calls.
- Alternative approach/model for service calls that relate to homelessness and evictions.
- Review of other housing related efforts such as code/enforcement neighborhood services.

Community Quality of Life

Initial Questions for Feedback/Discussion

- How are community complaints and concerns responded to? What are the biggest areas of concern?

- What are areas to focus on for community quality of life?

Alternatives, Methods and Responses

Alternatives, Methods, and Responses

- *This subcommittee will assess Takoma Park's current policing practices for emergency and non-emergency calls, including calls related to mental health. Also, this subcommittee will compare and contrast new potential approaches and best practices that may apply to Takoma Park.*

Facilitator: Cordell Carter II

Committee Members:
- Michael Rubin
- Jide Atoyebi
- Sadie Cheston-Harris
- Cedric Boatman
- Xitlalli Velasquez

Alternatives, Methods, and Responses

Themes

- Successes and lessons learned from public safety programs established in similar cities, including relevant and valid metrics.
- Dispatch operations from neighboring jurisdictions; protocols for deciding who and what kind of operations are deployed.
- TPPD hiring, training and tasking relative to actual demands/daily experiences.
- Review of policies related to special teams such as the K-9 unit.
- Assess the City's policies regarding use of force.
- Performance assessment, recruitment, and retaining Police Department staff.

Alternatives, Methods, and Responses

Initial Questions for Feedback/Discussion

- The city's dispatch operation is 24/7; what are best practices from other similar cities?
- How are special teams trained and used in policing in Takoma Park?

Community Engagement
and Transparency

Community Engagement and Transparency
- *This subcommittee will evaluate practices and policies related to sharing data and budget information among the public as well as efforts to engage community partners in public safety efforts. Additionally, this subcommittee will review existing efforts and consider new approaches to recruiting and retaining public safety professionals.*

Facilitator: Jamal Holtz
Committee Members:
- **Lauren Van Tol***
- Adam Braskich
- Jumana Musa
- Kiminori Nakamura

Community Engagement
and Transparency

Themes

- Mechanisms and opportunities to draw opinions and concerns from the public.
- Accountability from city agencies including the police department on communication channels, policies regarding information shared and timing, processes for communication decisions across agencies.
- Transparency regarding how residents are informed of the "rules" associated with living in Takoma Park.
- Communications process and tools.
- Review current police training program.

Community Engagement and Transparency

Initial Questions for Feedback/Discussion

- What are the most effective ways for the community and the city to communicate and engage with each other?
- What can we know about what police officers are trained to do relative to what they are asked to do?