

City of Takoma Park, MD
Reimagining Public Safety Task Force
Summary of Community Engagement Activities

Community engagement activities have been an important part of the work with the Takoma Park Task Force on Reimagining Public Safety. These activities have taken place over the course of the Task Force's existence beginning in early 2021. Outlined below are the activities and community participation to this date:

- Stakeholder interviews consisted of 14 individuals and included one-on-one interviews and focus groups. Interviewees included school principals, educators, residential managers, tenants in multi-family units, clergy, and community residents.
- A Business Walk at Takoma/Langley Crossroads engaged approximately eight (8) businesses including owners and staff. Businesses included professional offices and retail establishments.
- A Focus Group of 14 members of the Takoma Park Police Department from a diverse set of backgrounds and experiences, and representing different functions within the department participated in two focus groups. Participants had been members of the department for periods ranging from approximately one year to 36 years, as well as retirees from the department.
- A Focus Group of seven (7) Ambassadors comprised of Takoma Park residents who had applied to participate in the Task Force but were not named to the Task Force. These ambassadors, racially and ethnically diverse and ranging in age from 36 to 72 years of age, participated in the focus group and continued to be engaged and followed the work of the Task Force.
- Community Listening Sessions were held throughout the work of the Task Force. Attendee demographics were not collected. Session dates and attendance were:
 - o April 29, 2021 – 50 registrants, 30 attendees
 - o May 25, 2021 – 16 registrants, 13 attendees
 - o June 28, 2021 – 9 registrants, 8 attendees
- As of July 2021, there will have been a total of 17 Task Force meetings that were streamed and recorded. These meetings were between 1.5-2 hours in length and averaged approximately 25 attendees between Task Force Members, Steering Committee Members, and an average of approximately 2-5 members of the public watching in real-time. Attendee demographics were not collected.
- Task Force meetings and Community Listening Sessions have all been recorded and posted for viewing post-meeting; there have been a total of 402 views across all recordings.

- Public Comments comprised of 41 individual submissions from the community via the Takoma Park city website and email, and 40 feedback comments made via the Chat function during meetings.

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The contributions made by these comments and the individuals who have participated in these engagement activities have informed the work of the Task Force and our recommendations that will form the basis of the report.

We thank everyone for their participation.