

**City of Takoma Park, MD  
Reimagining Public Safety Task Force  
Meeting Summary  
July 8, 2021**

### **Welcome, Review Timeline, and Work Plan**

Jevin Hodge (co-facilitator) welcomed Task Force members and attendees. Jevin reviewed the timeline, noting where we are in the process and the workplan through the session with the City Council on July 13.

### **Facilitated Discussion to Review and Resolve Outstanding Items**

Michael Akin (co-facilitator) facilitated a discussion to review the draft recommendations and resolve outstanding issues. Task Force members had continued to provide input which was incorporated before and during the meeting.

Thoughtful consideration was given to word choice, outcomes, and possible unintended outcomes of the recommendations. Citations and explanatory footnotes were added and/or clarified. These recommendations were updated in real-time during the meeting via “share screen” so that all could see the changes, including those watching.

The vast majority of the recommendations were done via consensus and are being put forward with the full backing of the Task Force, which is an impressive feat. Extensive discussion took place regarding a few recommendations where the Task Force was not fully aligned around a specific proposal. In the absence of consensus, Task Force members refined a constructive majority/minority approach to these items that allowed all perspectives to be outlined. After outlining the text for both majority and minority views, the Task Force agreed that these sections be circulated to Task Force members to indicate which view each member most affiliated with. This was done via email to ensure it fully captured opinions among all Task Force members, including those Task Force members who could not attend the meeting or who could not stay the full time.

A Task Force member asked at the meeting if the group wanted to include a recommendation memorializing that military equipment shouldn't transferred to TPPD. It was the understanding of the group that this currently does not happen, and that that item could be a good item to memorialize in policy.

A Task Force member asked at the meeting if the group wanted to include a recommendation around Civil Asset Forfeiture. There was a sense that such policies are disproportionately used against specific populations. The group agreed that such polices are worth addressing but also noted that they are not sure if such polices are used in Takoma Park. A Task Force member shared this [article](#) which explains the practice and seems to indicate that its use is limited in Maryland, and a request was made to reach out to the Chief for more information. The Task

Force drafted two recommendations around these items and asked the facilitators to share them with the full group via email as part of the “majority/minority” email above to get feedback on if they should be included.

## **Final Report**

The latest draft of the Final Report was screenshared and reviewed. Task Force members’ edits and comments received to this point had been incorporated. Further edits and comments will be included as submitted. The extensive appendix and resource section continue to be built out; active links will be inserted to facilitate access to the resources, meeting materials, and recordings associated with Task Force’s work and proceedings.

Task Force members who did not provide a bio for the Takoma Park website (click [here](#) and scroll to bottom to check) who would like one included in the Report were asked to send one as soon as possible. All those Task Force member bios on the website have been included.

The Final Report and Recommendations will be submitted to the City Council on Friday, July 9. The final versions will also be transmitted to the full Task Force.

## **City Council Work Session**

Jamal Holtz (co-facilitator) confirmed that the City Council Work Session is set for Tuesday, July 13 at 6:30 PM and the full Task Force has been asked to attend, if possible. The Council has asked for a brief review of some of the key process highlights from the Report, and then for the Task Force to provide an overview of the Recommendations and to take questions. The presentation will be organized via topic, to align with the format of the recommendations. Task Force members will lead the presentation.

The meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.