

OVERVIEW

The mission of the Minneapolis Office of Community Safety (OCS) is to provide coordinated, comprehensive, and equitable safety services to all residents and visitors. Community safety is defined as work with community members and local government that allows all people in Minneapolis to be and feel safe. This includes feeling safe from violence and the root causes of violence. The City of Minneapolis (City) recognizes that the road to a safe and thriving community is significantly impacted by the root causes of historical racism, poverty, and other inequalities.

The City is committed to advancing racial equity in all decision-making. Inclusive, effective, and meaningful community engagement is one of the strategic priorities to achieve this. In Minneapolis, many communities have been impacted by the trauma of lived experiences, racism and mistrust of government public and community safety systems. Recognizing the importance and value of leading with community wisdom, to address compounded disproportionality, and culture and ensure community voice is in decision making processes, the Commissioner of Community Safety is forming a Safe and Thriving Communities Workgroup.

PURPOSE

The Safe and Thriving Communities Report is the guide the City is using to create the community safety ecosystem. The report suggests that the City establish a community advisory board composed of government executives, community partners, stakeholders, and community members. The community group would provide direct community input and feedback about the City's community safety ecosystem work.

The workgroup will consult with City staff about the prevention, non-police response, and restoration services outlined in the Safe and Thriving Communities Report, along with the processes, and procedures needed to further develop the City's community safety ecosystem. The community safety ecosystem is a network of organizations, services, and programs that collaborate and coproduce new solutions to solve the root causes of individual, family, and community safety challenges and foster thriving families and communities. The workgroup would also advise on community engagement strategies.

Duties of the workgroup:

- Learn:
 - Understand the City's vision, strategy, and data to develop and implement a community safety ecosystem.
 - Track implementation of the Safe and Thriving Communities Report.
- Participate:
 - Attend and actively participate in monthly meetings. Some work may need to be completed between meetings such as reading reports.
- Plan:
 - Consult with City staff to further develop the community safety ecosystem, ensure implementation, maintain and adjust the ecosystem as needed.

- Share:
 - Bring information from this workgroup back to the community.

TIME AND OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

- The workgroup will exist for up to 10 years.
- Workgroup members will remain members unless they chose to end their participation early.
- Workgroup meetings will occur monthly for two hours.
- Community members will be compensated for their participation at meetings. If representing a nonprofit organization, the agency may be compensated.
- While meetings will be held in person, participation virtually is an option. Call-in or internet-based remote access will be required.
- Meetings will be action-based and limited to the purpose of this group.
- Accessibility or language needs will be accommodated with timely and appropriate notice.

WORKGROUP MEMBERSHIP

The Minneapolis Community Safety Commissioner is seeking up to 10 diverse community members and agency representatives who have close relationships and engagement with diverse communities impacted by safety systems. Individuals and representatives with the following characteristics are encouraged to apply:

- Connection and trusted relationships with locally historically marginalized racial, ethnic, and cultural communities impacted by criminal justice systems, particularly Black and American Indian individuals
- Lived experience with the safety systems
 - People with lived experience are those directly affected by criminal justice, social, health, or other issues and by the strategies and systems that aim to address those issues. When we say lived experience, we mean knowledge based on someone's perspective, personal identities, and history, beyond their professional or educational experience.
- Youth (16-24)
- Transgender and gender expansive individuals
- People living with disabilities
- Non-profit social service organizations serving Minneapolis residents
- Owners or staff from businesses located in Minneapolis
- Governmental organizations serving Minneapolis residents
- Advocacy organizations- those who participate in advocacy or movements
- Faith organizations located in Minneapolis

The Safe and Thriving Communities Workgroup will also include 5 subject matter experts which may include expertise in specific domains of community safety including but not limited to:

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Built environment | • Justice |
| • Economic development | • Law enforcement |
| • Education | • Restorative practices |
| • Employment | • Social services |
| • Health care | • Violence prevention |
| • Housing | |

SELECTION PROCESS

A small panel of community members will review applications and recommend community members to the Commissioner. The panel would also recommend subject matter experts. The following criteria will be used in by the review panel:

- Experience and/or expertise in safety systems.
- Ability to explain the reason for interest in this workgroup.
- Racial equity experience and expertise.
- Connection and relationships with locally historically marginalized racial, ethnic, and cultural communities impacted by criminal justice systems.
- Understanding of issues related to creating a safe and thriving community
- Solutions focused.
- Commitment to community safety, racial equity, and social justice.
- Experience working collaboratively with people who have diverse perspectives.
- Ability and willingness to share information about the group's work with the community.
- Preference is given to City of Minneapolis residents.

TO APPLY

For paper applications, please contact the Office of Community Safety. The online application can be found here: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/community-safety/workgroup>

CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

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