


Eugene City Council  
May 10, 2021

Community  
Safety  
Initiative  
Engagement  
Sessions



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Today's  
Agenda

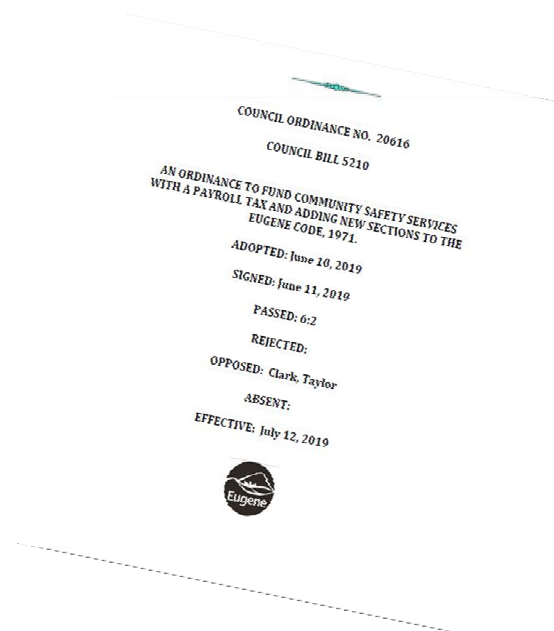
- Brief overview of CSI
- Engagement Methods
- Engagement Results
  - BIPOC Focus Groups
  - CSI Survey
  - Community Listening Sessions
- Key Findings
- Council Questions and Discussion

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## Community Safety Ordinance

- **Created payroll tax to fund community safety services:**

- Police services
- Fire and emergency medical services
- Municipal court and prosecution services
- Prevention and homeless services



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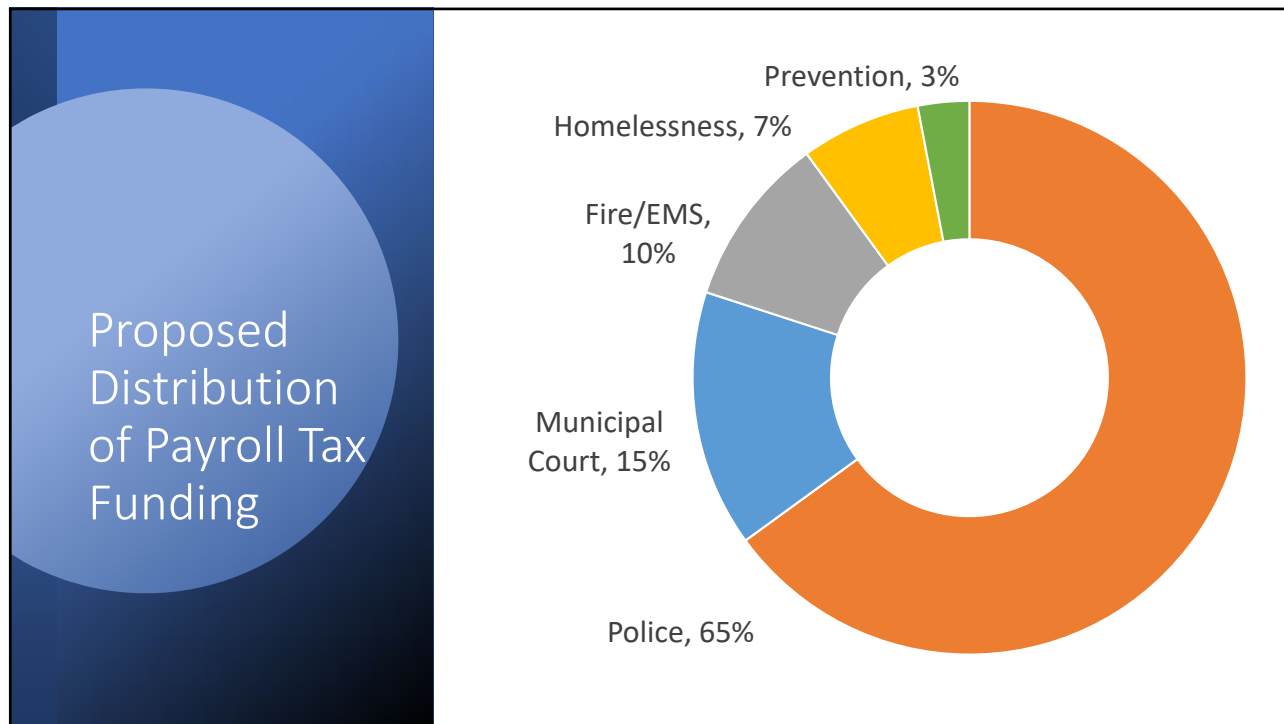
## Payroll Tax Funding:

\$23.6 Million

When fully funded



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## Engagement Methods

### Goals

- Engage communities of color to discuss CSI changes or additions that would best respond to the needs of their communities.
- Provide opportunity for the general public to share their perspectives.

### Methods

- Focus groups** with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and members of the Jewish and LGBTQ+ communities;
- Online survey** to collect standardized responses to a series of questions from both BIPOC participants and general public; and
- Community listening sessions** open to the general public to gauge current perspective on CSI strategy and approach.

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## Focus Groups

### Who attended

35 participants; identified as:

- Asian, Southeast Asian
- Black, African, or African American
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino
- Jewish
- LGBTQ+
- Mixed race/ethnicity
- Native American or Indigenous
- People with disabilities
- White or Caucasian

### How it worked

- Four focus groups between December 4-11, 2020
- Watched online webinar on CSI prior to meeting
- 2-hour session
- Transcribed and coded for themes



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## Focus Groups Results

- Cultural responsiveness, trust building, and BIPOC representation.
- Prevention services and services to the unhoused.
- CSI is based on dominant culture perspectives.
- CSI uses wrong metrics.
- Alternatives to law enforcement.
- Mental health services.



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## Online Survey

- 10 questions
- English version; open March 5 – March 31
- Spanish version; open March 15 – April 5
  - Partnership with Aqui en la Ciudad



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## Online Survey Overview

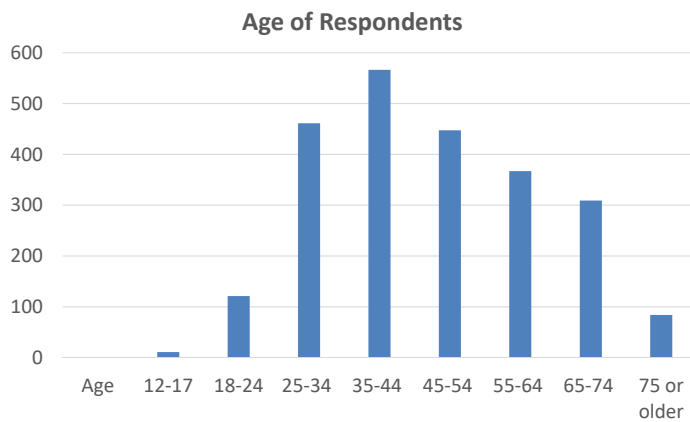
- 2452 responses to the English version
- 113 responses to the Spanish version



Race and Ethnicity of respondents	Count	%
White or Caucasian	1706	65%
I decline to answer this question	435	16%
Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Caribbean	163	6%
Multiracial or Mixed	84	3%
Native American or Indigenous	61	2%
Black, African, or African-American	61	2%
Asian	56	3%
Another	43	2%
Hawaiian or Pacific islander	22	2%
Middle-Easterner or Arab	10	1%

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## Online Survey Overview



Sex/Gender/Gender Identity	N
Female	1260
Male	729
Heterosexual	401
I decline to answer this question	278
Bisexual	156
Another gender identity	85
Lesbian	76
Another sexual orientation	69
Transgender	53
Gay	48

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## Online Survey Results

CSI Strategies	All Respondents	White Respondents	BIPOC Respondents	LGBTQ+ Respondents
Option A	1826	1371	282	310
Option B	1760	1273	269	256
Option C	1428	754	218	239
Option D	1411	1039	205	227
Option E	1234	1086	204	83
Option F	1203	687	178	155
Option G	1046	557	179	85
Option H	993	809	161	59

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Question 1 - CSI Original Strategies	All Respondents
<b>Emergency shelter</b> and services that help people experiencing homelessness move off the streets into more <b>stable housing</b> .	1826
Targeted <b>youth prevention</b> and intervention programs designed to keep youth out of the criminal justice system.	1760
<b>Efficient ways to respond to non-life-threatening medical calls</b> that don't require advanced medical care.	1428
<b>Stable, on-going funding for alternative court programs</b> that reduce the need for people to return to court by connecting them to services.	1411
Ability of police to <b>respond to more calls for service in less time</b> .	1234
<b>Capacity in court system to reduce backlog</b> of cases and wait times for cases to be heard.	1203
Capacity for police to have time to focus on <b>building relationships in the community</b> .	1046
<b>Capacity in jails</b> to hold people for the length of their sentence.	993

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Question 2 - Strategies Identified in BIPOC Focus Groups	All Respondents
Increase ability to respond to calls for help with mental health services or other <b>alternative responses in situations that do not require a police presence</b> .	2024
Increase capacity to serve people with <b>mental health and addiction services</b> .	1906
<b>Divert individuals away from the criminal justice</b> process through intervention programs that provide an opportunity for education and community service.	1466
Increase the number of <b>Community Safety Officers</b> (civilian professional staff) to perform functions in support of public safety that don't require a Patrol Officer (sworn police officer).	1284
Increase <b>representation of Black, Indigenous and People of Color</b> working as providers within the System.	1089
Focus community safety staff <b>training on being responsive to the needs of different cultures</b> , including acknowledging bias and how it affects those being served.	1039
<b>Emphasize prevention</b> on a System-wide basis.	1011
Other (please specify)	529

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## Question 2 – Strategies Identified in BIPOC Focus Groups: Other



- Homelessness (100)
- Support for the police (62)
- Less funding to EPD/divert funds away from the police (27)
- Increase funding for alternative responses (22)
- Social and structural issues (9)
- Displeasure with the Payroll Tax/unhappy with survey (6)

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<b>Question 3 - Ranking of Original CSI strategies and strategies Identified in BIPOC Focus Groups (Part 1)</b>	<b>All Respondents</b>
Emergency shelter and services that help people experiencing homelessness move off the streets into more stable housing.	1483
Increase ability to respond to calls for help with mental health services or other alternative responses in situations that do not require a police presence.	1368
Increase capacity to serve people with mental health and addiction services.	1158
Ability of police to respond to more calls for service in less time.	887
Targeted youth prevention and intervention programs designed to keep youth out of the criminal justice system.	847
Divert individuals away from the criminal justice process through intervention programs that provide an opportunity for education and community service.	740
Capacity in jails to hold people for the length of their sentence.	738
Increase the number of Community Safety Officers (civilian professional staff) to perform functions in support of public safety that don't require a Patrol Officer (sworn police officer).	673

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<b>Question 3 - Ranking of Original CSI strategies and strategies Identified in BIPOC Focus Groups (Part 2)</b>	<b>All Respondents</b>
Increase representation of Black, Indigenous and People of Color working as providers within the System.	574
Capacity in court system to reduce backlog of cases and wait times for cases to be heard.	484
Focus community safety staff training on being responsive to the needs of different cultures, including acknowledging bias and how it affects those being served.	474
Capacity for police to have time to focus on building relationships in the community.	454
Efficient ways to respond to non-life-threatening medical calls that don't require advanced medical care.	433
Emphasize prevention on a System-wide basis.	428
Stable, on-going funding for alternative court programs that reduce the need for people to return to court by connecting them to services.	425
Other (please specify)	262

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<b>Ranking of original and new strategies</b>	<b>All Respondents</b>	<b>White Respondents</b>	<b>BIPOC Respondents</b>	<b>LGBTQ+ Respondents</b>
Emergency shelter and services that help 'unhoused people' ...	1483	1147	213	271
...Respond to calls for help with mental health services or other alternative responses...	1368	1041	187	232
Increase capacity (...) mental health and addiction services.	1158	844	160	194
Ability of police to respond to more calls for service in less time.	887	493	160	49
Targeted youth prevention and intervention programs ...	847	601	131	98
Divert individuals away from the criminal justice ...	740	571	114	120
Capacity in jails to hold people for the length of their sentence.	738	381	123	38
Increase the number of Community Safety Officers ...	673	471	93	74
Increase representation of BIPOC as providers within the System.	574	430	104	123
Capacity in court system to reduce backlog of cases and wait times...	484	261	76	24
Focus (...) training on being responsive to the needs of different cultures...	474	359	79	85
Capacity for police to focus on building relationships...	454	267	93	32
Efficient ways to respond to non-life-threatening medical calls...	433	282	65	50
Emphasize prevention on a system-wide basis.	428	307	80	58
Stable, on-going funding for alternative court programs...	425	337	56	75

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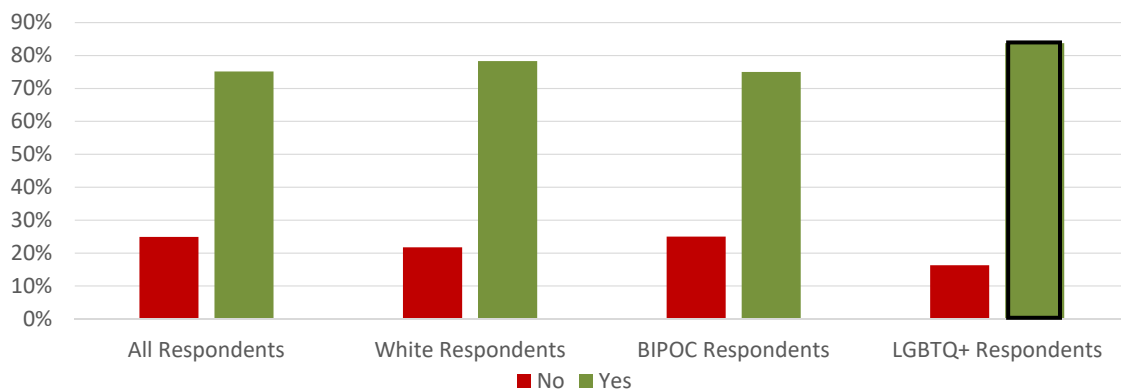
### Question 3 – Ranking of Original CSI strategies and BIPOC strategies: Other



- Homelessness issues (83)
- Maintain or Increase police (79)
- Divert funds away from police (24)
- Increase funding for alternative responses (22)
- Displeasure with payroll tax, and/or survey (11)

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### Question 4 - Support for an Alternative to 911



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## Question 5 – Experience that caused you to answer as you did in Q4

### People with direct experience using 911

- Police response (242)
- Homelessness (98)
- CAHOOTS (82)
- People experiencing mental illness (72)

### People without direct experience using 911

- Current system (401)
- Provide separate number for mental health, not a non-emergency number (40)
- Would like to call CAHOOTS directly (28)
- Police not right response (48)

**Spanish Survey:** Have more Spanish speakers on both lines (3)



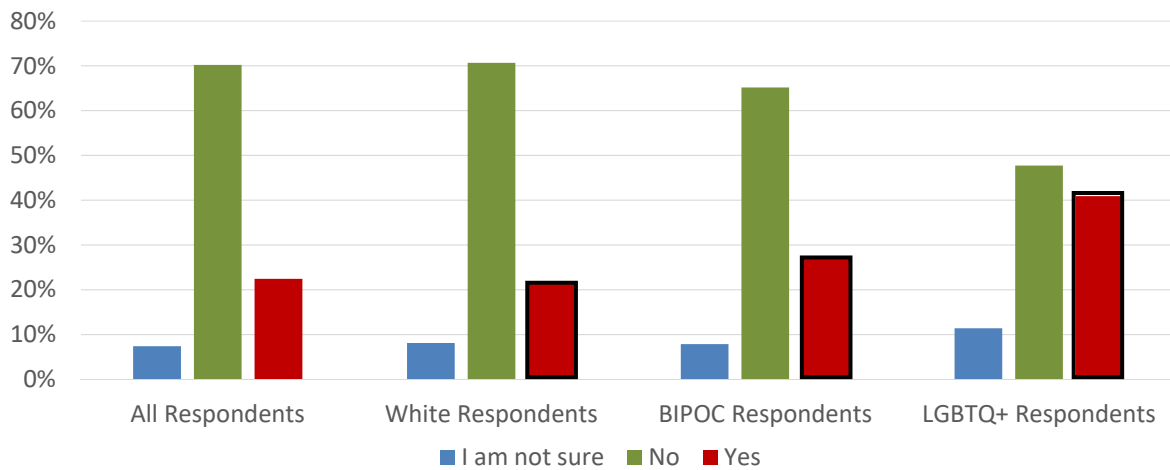
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## Question 6 – Safety services you interacted with in the past 3 years

Community Safety Services	All Respondents	White Respondents	BIPOC Respondents	LGBTQ+ Respondents	Monolingual Spanish Speakers
Police services	1498	967	272	219	32
Fire and Emergency Medical Services	863	535	172	126	17
None of the above	750	561	96	83	16
Homeless services	511	334	108	98	13
Municipal Court services	498	306	99	83	15
Youth intervention and prevention services	276	169	59	45	5

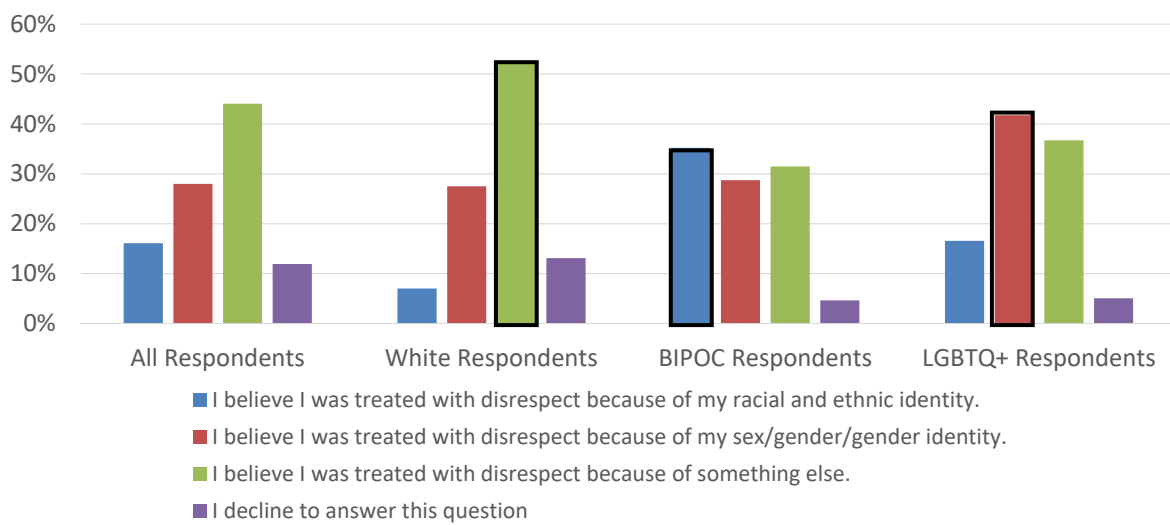
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## Question 7 - Experienced Disrespect While Accessing Services



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## Question 8 - Perceived Reasons For Experiencing Disrespect



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## Question 8 – Option: I want to provide additional comments

- A specific reason was identified for the reason they felt they were treated disrespectfully (20)
- The person felt they were treated respectfully (14)
- Incidents involved other services other than City of Eugene (8)
- General comments (6)
- Observed other people being treated disrespectfully (4)



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## Question 9 - Comments to City Council about community safety

- |                                                    |                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| • Homelessness (537)                               | • Other (68)                                     |
| • Alternative Services (365)                       | • BIPOC (21)                                     |
| • Police & Policing (307)                          |                                                  |
| • Less Funding to EPD (158)                        | <b>Unique to Spanish Survey</b>                  |
| • Safety (150)                                     | • Language Access & Cultural Responsiveness (14) |
| • Community Safety Initiative (specifically) (135) | • Racism & Anti-Racism (7)                       |



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## Community Listening Sessions

- Two virtual listening sessions
  - March 24, 12-2 p.m. - 35 participants
  - March 30, 6-8 p.m. – 66 participants
- Provided overview of purpose and watched webinar
- Open testimony, 2.5 minutes, using a facilitated queue
- Link to collect written comments
- Recorded, transcribed and coded for themes



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## Community Listening Sessions Themes

- Law enforcement
- Unhoused people
- Mental health services
- Support for current CSI proposal
- Community wellbeing



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## Key Findings

- New strategies identified and supported
- Homelessness still high priority across all groups
- Increased capacity for mental health services also high priority
- Support for alternative responses and alternative to 911
- Support for increasing police capacity to answer more calls in less time
- Support for youth prevention programs and diversion from the criminal system
- Input/findings from different communities – CSI and beyond