



CITY OF OAKLAND

## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** April 1, 2021  
**TO:** City Council and Members of the Public  
**FROM:** Council President Nikki Fortunato Bas  
Councilmember Loren Taylor  
**SUBJECT: Reimagining Public Safety Task Force Recommendations**

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Dear Colleagues and Members of the Public,

On March 17, 2021, Oakland's [Reimagining Public Safety Task Force](#) finalized its [89 recommendations](#), for review at the Public Safety Committee meeting on April 13, 2021, with the goal of integration into the FY 2021-23 budget to be adopted by June 30, 2021. A response to the community's growing call to provide non-police alternatives to calls for service and to address the root causes of violence, the Task Force was convened in September of 2020 to develop a more equitable and effective public safety system for all residents. We co-chaired the [17-member body](#), which is comprised of one representative from each district (including a selection from the Mayor & At-Large Council office), a member of the Community Policing Advisory Board, Safety Services Oversight Committee, Police Commission, and Budget Advisory Commission, two members of the Youth Advisory Commission, and two co-chair appointees.

Charged with the goal of providing recommendations to City Council to increase public safety through alternative responses to calls for assistance, and investments in programs that address root causes of violence and crime with a goal of redirecting 50% of the Oakland Police Department's General Purpose Fund budget allocation, the Task Force's final recommendations reflect a significant citywide effort to build consensus on strategies to increase equity in Oakland's public safety system, improve life outcomes for all residents, especially those most impacted by violence, and improve OPD service levels and response times across the city.

We express deep appreciation for the efforts of the two co-facilitators, PolicyLink and the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform, the dozens of community organization partners, hundreds of individual community members, and City of Oakland staff who participated in this community-led process. Five Advisory Boards -- Legal & Policy Barriers & Opportunities; Alternate Responses, Programs & Investments; Budget Data & Analysis; OPD Organization & Culture; and the Youth Advisory Board -- supported the Task Force to develop

recommendations. The National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform and PolicyLink served as co-facilitators of the process.

Oakland joins cities nationwide in efforts to reimagine public safety and more efficiently and equitably allocate resources, including Baltimore, Maryland; Washington, DC; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Austin, Texas; and Columbus, Ohio.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations. We look forward to a robust discussion.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Nikki Fortunato Bas  
Council President, District 2



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Loren Taylor  
Councilmember, District 6