



Department Source: City Manager

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 19, 2020

Re: Update to City Council on the Community Stakeholder Process

Executive Summary

Please find an update on the Community Stakeholder process.

Discussion

After numerous protests around Columbia following the death of George Floyd, the City began to engage community members through facilitated interviews with 25 identified community stakeholder groups and individuals to discuss policing in Columbia.

From those interviews, we would work to develop a larger engagement plan with community driven priorities. We would be working with the community to identify performance measures and action steps to increase social and racial equity throughout Columbia.

During the engagement process, we held 25 individual meetings, some in person, some virtual, and a couple of them were hybrid. In those meetings, we heard from 72 residents representing educators, college students, protest community members, faith leaders and business owners. Throughout the engagement, we heard stories that made us smile and some that made us want to cry. Some people praised aspects of the police department and others were extremely critical.

Notes from the different stakeholder meetings along with information from previous engagements efforts contributed to a report that highlighted themes needed to develop an action plan. At the October 19, City Council meeting a presentation of the report was scheduled.

On October 6, a Zoom meeting convened to discuss the proposed report where we invited all 72 stakeholders to convene together. 34 stakeholders were in attendance. After several hours of discussions it was determined the best course of action was to continue the engagement of the existing stakeholder groups and postpone presenting the overall report at the October 19 meeting. The realization was to align the desires of the stakeholders that additional work is needed to create the change this process has set out to do.

The decision to postpone presenting unanimously came from a vote of those present at the Zoom meeting. The group wanted to take the time to ensure that the report represented the desires and feelings of those who participated in the process. Despite shared frustrations, the cancellation of presenting at the October 19 meeting left the stakeholders optimistic that this



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

process would ensure their voices are being heard, and it truly is a community driven process.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Public Safety, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
Not applicable	Not applicable

Suggested Council Action

This is an update of the Community Stakeholders process.