

Executive Summary

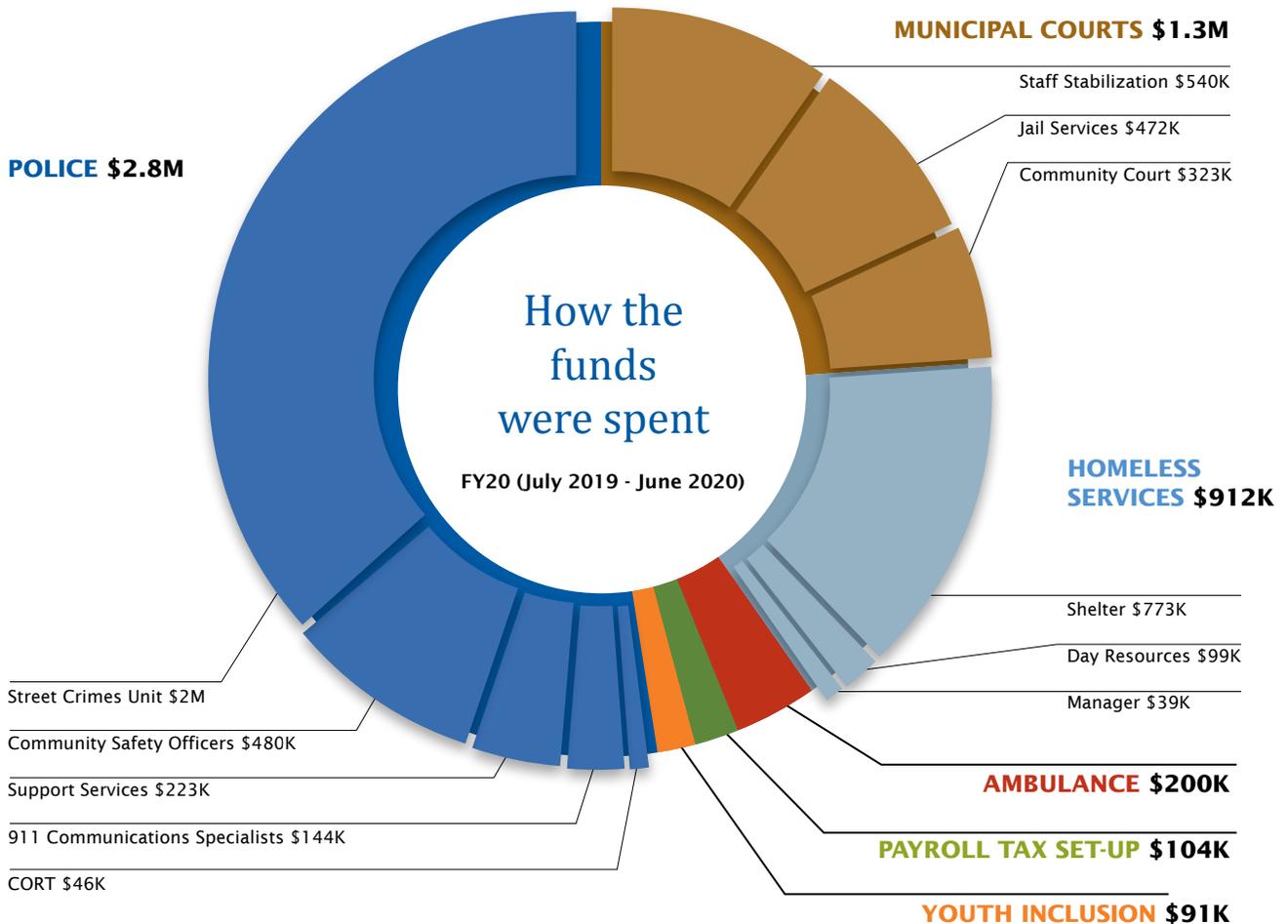
As a community-led oversight body, the Community Safety Initiative Advisory Board (CAB) prepares an annual report that documents the City's use of CSI tax revenue and determines if the revenue was spent in compliance with the ordinance (section 3.750 to 3.768). monitors the City of Eugene's collection and spending of the payroll tax.

The CAB concluded that the one-time bridge funding was used to stabilize and enhance community safety services across Eugene, meeting the Council's intent and complying with the limitations and restrictions outlined in Community Safety Payroll Tax Ordinance (No. 20616). It was also noted that due to the fiscal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City reduced the FY20 budget for the Community Safety Initiative (CSI) spending from \$9.3 million to about \$6.1 million. This included not proceeding with a \$3 million interfund loan from the General Fund. In FY20, \$5.6 million was actually spent to stabilize and enhance community safety services across Eugene.

The Community Safety Initiative was designed to be a systems-wide approach that serves the community in an equitable and inclusive manner.

When the Community Safety Initiative was developed in 2018 and 2019, the Eugene City Council approved a set of desired outcomes, which were based on information about identified needs and gaps in services as well as input from the community and other best practices, including recommendations from the 21st Century Policing Task Force. They included building trust, increasing safety, focusing on prevention and strengthening partnerships. Within each of those outcomes there were also more specific measures, e.g., resolving cases more quickly, reducing response time, enhancing staff training, and increasing services for community members.

INVESTING \$5.6 MILLION TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR ACHIEVING DESIRED OUTCOMES



KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE

A key component of the Community Safety Initiative was using a collaborative approach to connect people to social services and medical care. While that would help reduce demands on the Community Safety System – even more importantly – it would help people turn their lives around.

The focus was on keeping the community safe by responding when people need help, resolving issues and focusing on prevention.



HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS FROM JULY 2019 TO JUNE 2020



Added services for individuals experiencing homelessness

- Provided safe and stable overnight parking program support to 119 people at over 40 locations
- Supported services to more than 3,000 people through the Lindholm Center
- Expanded the Dusk to Dawn Shelter to year-round and accommodated 192 people nightly
- Supported youth-homelessness prevention services (15th Night) and expansion to Willamette and Sheldon High Schools
- Leased a building that will become the Day Resource Center
- Added new Conestoga Huts to Rest Stops



Improved response

- Added 10 trained 911 dispatchers, increasing staff by one-third with the goal of reducing wait times, enhancing response and reducing exhaustive mandatory overtime
- Addressed criminal activity through a 10-officer Street Crimes Unit with sergeant supervisor, seizing illegal drugs, addressing problem drug houses, taking more than 100 guns off the streets and recovering stolen items, including vehicles
- Expanded ability to respond to non-emergency calls by adding five Community Safety Officers
- Hired Inclusion Coordinator and served more than 70 local youth with significant behavioral challenges so they could successfully participate in and complete Recreation programs.
- Stabilized Ambulance Transport funding. More than 21,000 medical calls were made in Eugene in FY20.



Strengthened court, diversion programs and jail services

- Added space for Community Court program to expand services to offer social services as an alternative to sanctions
- Started a new virtual court to continue serving the community during the pandemic
- Maintained Municipal Court's specialty courts, including Mental Health Court that expanded its services
- Increased jail beds by 10 to help reduce releases when jail facilities reach capacity

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

Despite the pandemic, significant progress was made to improve the community safety system and make it more responsive to the community. Some accomplishments are noted here, the full report that follows presents even more. In FY21, the City undertook a significant engagement process to learn more about how City services could best respond to people from diverse communities, including Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) and Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Queer and others (LGBTQ+). That work will be reported in the FY21 report.

