



Memorandum

Date: July 9, 2021
To: Sarah Medary, City Manager
From: Community Safety Initiative Citizen Advisory Board
Subject: Citizen Advisory Board FY 2020 Report

It is our pleasure to present the FY 2020 annual report of the Community Safety Initiative (CSI) Citizen Advisory Board (CAB), focusing on the one time funding allocated to create a bridge until the City of Eugene could begin collecting the newly developed Community Safety Payroll Tax formed by [Ordinance \(No. 20616\)](#). This report is to lookback and showcase FY 2020 and is not intended to highlight the new information brought forth in the Community Engagement Process. The CAB's charge is to monitor the dollars already spent and make sure they are consistent with the intent of the CSI.

The Citizen Advisory Board is responsible for preparing an annual report separate and distinct from the report prepared by the outside auditor, documenting the City's use of the tax revenue and noting whether the tax revenue was spent in compliance with the purpose and use set forth in section [3.750](#) to [3.768](#) of the City Code of Ordinances. The CAB was initially formed in 2020 to review the implementation of the Community Safety Payroll tax that became effective on January 1, 2021. This year's report was written proactively to develop a model of tax monitoring and reporting for years to come.

The nine member panel met five times since June 2020 in preparation of this report, which included updates on CSI metrics outlined in ordinance, payroll tax collection, CSI community engagement and communication strategies, bridge funding expenditures, and discussion about what should be included in the annual report. We reviewed and accepted the report prepared by Eugene City Staff.

Based on these meetings and all materials presented to us, we conclude that the bridge funding was used for the authorized purposes and in compliance with the limitations and restrictions outlined in Community Safety Payroll Tax Ordinance (No. 20616). We are also providing the detailed report, prepared at our request and with our approval, from the City of Eugene staff on the bridge funding spent in 2020.

The CAB has benefitted and grown in our understanding over the last year from the reports and updates on the CSI and looks forward to continuing to learn more in order to be responsive to the community. We are supportive of on-going efforts to collect community input and data on new metrics in order to better inform our monitoring of the Communities Safety expenditures to meet the needs of our everchanging and evolving City.

Highlights from our review of the 2020 Community Safety Initiative Strategies include the following:

- **Impacts of increased staffing:** The addition of the Street Crimes Unit, Community Service Officers, Municipal Court staff, 911 Communication Specialists, a Homeless Services Manager and an Inclusion Specialist indicate progress in efforts to more effectively staff community safety services.

- **Impacts to the unhoused community:** Homeless services have seen significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. CSI funds provided a critical resource to support and maintain essential services during this emergency.
- **Preparation to act in 2021:** The use of bridge funding to address some of the most urgent safety needs has positioned the City well to continue to build on the momentum of improving community safety services.
- **COVID-19 Impacts:** Reductions in sheltering capacity, slowed implementation and increased costs are all impacts from COVID-19 however staff are responding quickly to consider solutions to continue implementation of community safety strategies.
- **Metrics baseline may require updating:** A presentation by the Crime Analysis Manager suggests that updated baseline data and updates to the methodology to collect it may be needed for the three metrics outlined in section 5 of Eugene City Ordinance 20616: 1) increase the number of minutes per hour officers are available for community policing (currently, officer availability is approximately five minutes per hour); 2) reduce the number of calls for service per day to which no city personnel are dispatched to respond (currently, there is no response to approximately 80 calls for service per day); and, 3) reduce the number of minutes it takes city personnel to respond to non-emergency requests for service (currently, non-emergency response time is approximately 42 minutes).
- **CSI Community Engagement Process:** The City Council review and discussion of the findings of the CSI Engagement Sessions may lead to new strategies and or allocations of funds for the CAB to monitor. The Budget Committee recommended that the City Council have CSI conversations in advance of the supplemental budget. The CAB is looking forward to hearing the outcome from those conversations and to being responsive based on Council direction stemming from them. The CAB is excited to adapt and find new ways to track and monitor these newly prioritized strategies. **Bottom Line:** Funds appropriated by City Council as a bridge strategy to initiate the Community Safety Initiative, were used in accordance with council direction. We believe the community is getting a good return for its investment in safety and the bridge funds are being used wisely to meet the objectives of the [Community Safety Payroll Tax Ordinance \(No. 20616\)](#).
- **Looking forward:** The FY21 review of CSI funding by the CAB will mark the first time Payroll Tax funds will include evaluation of audited expenditures in alignment with the Payroll Tax Ordinance.

Additional information about the Community Safety Citizen Advisory Board can be found at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/4417/Community-Safety-Citizen-Advisory-Board>. Please feel free to contact any of us for additional information.

CSI CAB Members

John Barofsky	Margot Helphand
Melissa Brown	Holly Mar
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Jamie Floyd	Bill Whalen
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City of Eugene Staff

Kristie Hammitt	Stacy Jepson
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