

Reimagining Public Safety

Update on Reimagining Public Safety Efforts

March 10, 2021





Decoupled

- Support Services – Fall 2020
 - APD HR moved to Corporate Human Resources Department
 - APD PIO shifted to the Communications and Public Information Office
- Special Events – Fall 2020
 - Administrative personnel shifted to DSD
 - Sworn personnel reassigned to emergency management functions, but expected to be tagged for permit/event review as events emerge
- Forensic Science Bureau – Feb. 4th
 - Creation of a separate Forensic Science Department
 - Aligns with Quattrone Report recommendation to establish independent DNA lab

Under Review

- Communications / 9-1-1 Call Center
- Support Services
 - APD Finance
 - APD Building Services
- Strategic Support
 - Technology, Research and Planning
- Community Partnerships
 - Office of Community Liaisons
- Victim Services
- Internal Affairs
- Special Investigations Unit



Reimagining Public Safety Task Force Updates

- Upcoming Meetings
 - Wednesday, March 10th, 5:30-8:30pm – RPS Task Force Meeting
 - Monday, March 29th, 5:30-8:30pm – RPS Task Force Meeting
 - Saturday, April 3rd – Community Listening Session
 - Wednesday, April 14th (tentative) – RPS Task Force Meeting
- RPS Working Groups Established
 - Combined Work Group: Reimagining 911 and Non-Police Crisis Response
 - Police Staffing: Patrol and Criminal Investigations
 - Public Health Reinvestment
 - Uprooting Punitive and Harm Culture in Intersecting Systems
 - Patrol and Surveillance
 - Business and Economic Development
 - Equity Re-investment in Community
 - Meaningful Community Engagement
 - Violence Survivor Services and Prevention



- Family Violence Shelter and Protection Services – RFA released and contracted services expected to start May 2021, potential to fund two new pilot programs and increase existing program capacity
- Permanent Supportive Housing and Services – support for hotel strategy and mainstream voucher program
- Office of Violence Prevention – planning with national partners and key stakeholders
- Substance Use Continuum of Care – three agencies to provide services pending Council approval on March 25th
- Food Access – Equidad ATX to provide mobile resources to community, up for Council approval on March 25th
- Abortion Access – logistical services provided through Jane's Due Process, passed on March 4th



- APH mental health services – increasing existing contracts for mental health services
- Immigrant legal services – increasing existing contracts with American Gateway and Catholic Charities, up for Council approval on March 25th
- Epidemiology and disease surveillance programs – added four epidemiologist positions to increase capacity for COVID-19 and other reportable conditions
 - Improved per capita epidemiology response capacity to optimal levels (1 epidemiologist/100,000 pop.)
- Early Childhood Program Coordinator – focus on creating equitable access to and availability of high-quality Early Childhood Education (ECE) and encouraging living wages for ECE providers
- WorkForce First – Increase of \$223,000, for a total of \$1.2M, to support four work crews/five days per week in coordination with Parks, Watershed Protection and ARR



Re-Entry Services for Formerly Incarcerated Populations

- Performed engagement process in December 2020 to understand needs of both people formerly incarcerated and their families or support systems
- Goal is to provide multifaceted approach to re-entry services, including housing, job training, and mental health support, among other services
- Plan to build on the Equity Mini-Grant Model to expand capacity within smaller organizations and for grassroots community organizations to test new solutions
- Projected RFGA launch in May 2021



APD Reinvestment Activities

- Increased resources for Victim Services
- Targeted training for trauma-informed response, unconscious bias, and racial and cultural sensitivity, as well as training to safely administer Naloxone to someone experiencing a drug overdose

COVID-19 Resources

- Ambulance added on October 26, 2020
- Ambulance added on March 9, 2021



Mental Health Response and Community Health Paramedics (CHPs)

- CHPs assigned to mental health response have completed training and clinical rotations with Integral Care
- Deploying two (2) CHP units per shift (24/7), primary role will be responding to mental health incidents
- New CHP team members have been identified and will be moved based on overall staffing levels

Emergency, Triage, Treatment, Transport (ET3)

- Program began January 1, 2021
- Partner Agreements
- Participation Agreement Completed
- CMS approved EMS Implementation Plan
- TeleHealth



Mental Health Resources

HOST

- HOST has worked with new team to identify appropriate cases for referral
 - 5 clients have already been referred to Integral Care team
- Integral Care has hired three team members, actively recruiting to fill other positions
- HOST is helping to train new Integral Care team and establish a set schedule to partner with Integral Care team

EMCOT

- Expansion of the Integral Care-EMCOT to align with all recommendation of the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, May 2019 report:
 - Deploy iPads to first responders for Telehealth services
 - 24/7 availability and staffing at the 911 Call Center
 - Full-time medical provider to support expansion of service array



Recommendation #1

Advisory Function Developed Within the Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (BHCJAC)

- Current status: Complete
 - Approved by the BHCJAC on February 12, 2021

Recommendation #2

Mental Health Training for Call Takers

- Current status: In Progress
 - Identifying best practices to inform curriculum development specific to Austin needs

Recommendation #3

Mental Health Integrated Dispatch

- Current status: In Progress
 - “4th Option” launched on February 8, 2021
 - Integral Care clinician available in APD dispatch



Recommendation #4

Sustainability of EMCOT, Including Telehealth Expansion

- Current status: In Progress
 - iPads currently being distributed
 - Anticipated launch by end of March 2021

Recommendation #5

Develop a formal collaboration with APD Crisis Intervention Team and Community Health Paramedic Program

- Current status: In Progress
 - Developing criteria & procedure

Recommendation #6

Community Outreach in Collaboration with NAMI Central Texas

- Current status: In Progress
 - Reviewing material
 - Identifying target populations, media outlets (e.g. social media, etc.)

Questions

