



March 11, 2021

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty
Commissioner Dan Ryan
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I want to begin by thanking each of you for your service to our community in general and specifically in your roles as City Commissioners now. I also thank you for giving me this opportunity to address you about the important issue of the proliferation of gun violence. Given the continued activity on the street my message is about moving from intent to action to stop this situation which seems to be out of control.

During January and February of this year alone there were 163 shooting incidents, 43 shooting injuries, and 10 shooting homicides.

The Inter-Faith Peace & Action Collaborative (IPAC) is a united group of faith leaders, activists, social workers, police officers and community members. We came together beginning in July 2016 to address the crisis of violence on Portland Streets, specifically violence impacting communities of color.

We recognize your immediate need to address serious concerns about racial justice. We understand why the previous Council voted to make significant cuts and changes to the Police Bureau. We acknowledge the serious reforms and major changes that need to occur in policing. However, we also believe defunding the Police Bureau without replacement programs and interventions caused a vacuum and put many people at risk and caused others to assume there was no accountability.

Cuts to the Police Bureau created a vacuum that undermined public safety and the very communities whose voices the Council – and our community -- seek to amplify. We are deeply concerned about the dramatic increase in violence on the street. People are getting killed, injured, and traumatized. The cycle of retaliation will continue until we intervene and address the root causes of such violence.

We recognize violence is a public health issue and that when any person is injured or dies it affects family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and so many others. We need your help to implement solutions to “flatten the spread” of violence on the street. Please find attached a summary of IPAC’s immediate-, short- and long-term actions that we believe will help break the cycle of violence.

We ask that you support our proposed City investments, outlined in the attachments, to expand community-based programs and enhance police services to help end cycles of violence on Portland’s streets. We thank Mayor Ted Wheeler for inviting these proposals and for providing us with the technical support we needed to develop them.

Our requests to the City of Portland include:

Office of Violence Prevention

The Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) addresses the complex factors that drive violence. Rooted in a public health approach to violence prevention, OVP’s efforts are shaped by the voices of those most

impacted. This includes youth, community residents, key stakeholders, and many others. We propose increased investments in community-based interventions, including:

- Expanded Street Level Outreach Workers (SLO): Engage with more individuals and families to build relationships and address risk and protective factors.
- Increased Focused Deterrence: Expand the number of credible messengers who work with those who are at highest risk of being a victim or perpetrator of gun violence.
- Enhanced Hospital-Based Trauma Response: Increase OVP's ability to be present to support families during times of trauma and grief to and to help break the cycle of retaliation.
- Maintain California Partnership for Safe Communities (CPSC) Training: Ongoing trainings for life coaches and outreach workers, and ongoing consultation around evidence-based practices to reduce gun violence.

Portland Police Bureau

- Increase the Number and Speed of Gun Crime Investigations:
 - Fund the recently launched on-call team of officers who investigate shooting incidents.
 - Identify individuals at risk of violence (either as a perpetrator or a victim) for referral to the Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) for wrap-around services or other interventions.
 - Increase by up to five the number of detectives available to follow up on injury shootings and homicides.
- Re-establish a Uniformed Patrol Team to Engage in Violence Prevention and Response:
 - Conduct patrol operations to act on criminal intelligence gained in investigations, conduct follow-up for shooting investigations, respond to shooting scenes, and proactively engage community members at risk of gun violence.

Independent Oversight Committee

- Hire Staff Analyst for Independent Oversight Committee (IOC): Hire a data analyst, housed outside of PPB, who works at the direction of the IOC to research, gather, and analyze data to about the outcomes and effectiveness of this proposed work.

We have learned from City Council discussions and the Portland community that we need to address prevention services in a much better way. We promise you we will. Also, we must work hard to staff the prevention and engagement work with seasoned officers who are sensitive to and respected by members of the community.

We passionately support actions to address serious issues about racial justice and local policing. We want to push forward police reform while helping stop gun violence. That is why this proposal includes creation of an independent oversight committee that we propose be comprised of members without city or police bureau ties and staffed with its own analyst. We are serious about the importance of the Independent Oversight Committee. The committee must keep communication and accountability paramount. We envision some members of the Oversight Committee will be people who are or were affiliated with the gang community.

We know ending a complex issue like street violence requires a holistic approach that includes social services, job and skill development resources, housing, mental health, and on-the-ground de-escalation strategies. As we secure these needed City commitments, we will make complementary requests to the State of Oregon, Multnomah County, other local cities, and federal agencies. Finally, we have assurance from the

District Attorney's Office they will hold people to account when cases are referred with appropriate evidence.

Thank you for listening to our community's voices. Thank you for your leadership in ending the cycles of violence spreading harm and trauma across Portland. We stand ready to support you.

Sincerely,

J.W. Matt Hennessee [S]

J.W. Matt Hennessee, M.Div; D.D.
Chair, IPAC



The Inter-Faith Peace & Action Collaborative

Goals related to ending the cycle of violence on Portland's streets

Immediate Goals

- Interrupt escalating violence on the streets of Portland
- Engage law enforcement and community-based organizations experienced with street violence interventions and de-escalation
- Build public trust by providing people most impacted by police interventions and street violence a strong oversight role in the work

Short Term Goals

- Immediate appropriations for programs and community interventions guided by police and non-police with lived experience in the communities they serve
- Transparency in funding allocations and investments

Long Term Goals

- Sustainable funds for community reinvestment programs
- Consistent oversight by and collaborative relationships with community members, particularly communities of color most impacted
Official mechanisms that permit collaborative and restorative policy making and regular dialogue among officials, police and community members



CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON

Bureau of Police

Ted Wheeler, Mayor
Charles Lovell, Chief of Police

March 2, 2021

To: Chief Charles Lovell

From: Assistant Chief Jami Resch
Investigation Branch

Subject: Updated Gun Violence Reduction Plan

The Portland Police Bureau (PPB) has begun the implementation of Part 1 of the Gun Violence Reduction Plan presented in December of 2020. This memo will provide an update on the original requests and the additional resources and requests PPB has identified to complete Part 1 and implement Part 2, if approved. PPB fully supports the City's approach to gun violence as a public health matter and the critical importance of intervention and prevention services provided by our partners in the Office of Violence Prevention (OVP). Because of PPB's resource constraints, both parts of this plan require added temporary and ongoing funding to address both the direct costs of the program/s and secondary costs arising from reassigning resources from patrol to focus on gun violence.

Part 1: Increasing investigative resources dedicated to addressing gun crime (updated)

1.1. Establish an on-call investigative team for shooting incidents

- 1 Sergeant, 6 Officers assigned on a detached, on-call basis
Approved- The Enhanced Community Safety Team (ECST) consisting of 1 sergeant, 2 detectives and 4 officers has been in place since approximately February 18, 2021.
- 1 Public Safety Support Specialist for next-day collection of video and other evidence (from existing resources)
Approved- Position announcement being drafted. Anticipated filling position in next 30 days.
- Respond to process the scene and initiate investigations for shooting incidents involving injury, of a high profile nature, or where actionable leads exist
ECST has coordinated with on-scene supervisors and responded to over 8 incidents both on duty and in their on-call capacity to include injury shooting and homicide scenes.
- Reduce delays and increases efficiency and coordination of gun crime investigation efforts
Initial response by ECST has been able to process scenes, develop leads and conduct follow up and make arrests.
- Updated Cost estimate: \$186,995 in FY 2020-21; \$373,989 in 2021-22

New requests

- Add back 1 Crime Analyst to support gun violence incident investigations, including NIBIN program leads.
- *Cost estimate: \$33,300 in FY 2020-21; \$133,250 in 2021-22.*
- MOU with FBI and ATF for ECST members.
In final review process with CAO and Federal Partners. These additional resources will provide personnel and resources to enhance PPB's gun violence investigations and prosecutions.

Added Investigative Resources

- Case review meetings
PPB has attended weekly meetings with investigators and prosecutors from our Local, County and Federal partners to prioritize gun violence incidents for investigation and prosecutions.

1.2. *Identification of individuals at risk of violence (either as a perpetrator or a victim) for referral to the Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) for wrap-around services or other interventions*

- Sergeant to attend monthly Shooting Review meetings with system partners
Countywide Shooting reviews are held weekly and attended by the ECST sergeants, Patrol Command or designee, Homicide Lieutenant, Injury Shooting Detectives and the Assistant Chief of Investigations.
- Regular communication with OVP and PPB's Crisis Response Team, Assault Detail, and On-Call Team
The OVP coordination meeting now directly follows the weekly shooting review. All individuals identified for OVP services are provided directly to outreach coordinator by PPB during this meeting. PPB's Crisis Response Team continues to provide valuable assistance to community members by responding to scenes.

Part 2: Improving capacity for gun violence prevention (updated)

2.1. *Re-establish a uniformed patrol team to engage in violence prevention and response*

- 2 Sergeants, 12 Officers uniformed patrol team
Staffing will require reassignment of members from patrol. Request authorization and funding to utilize the retire/rehire program for up to 2 sergeants and 12 officers, as temporary employees, for 24 months to offset the impact to patrol staffing and backfill overtime costs.
- Conduct patrol operations to act on criminal intelligence gained in investigations, conduct follow-up for shooting investigations, respond to shooting scenes, and proactively engage community members at risk of gun violence

- Request assignment of staff from Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
Additional Request

New Request

- Enhance Injury Shooting and Homicide Detective details by up to 5 detectives.
Request the authorization and funding to utilize the retire/rehire program for up to 5 detectives, as temporary employees, for 24 months to increase capacity to investigate gun violence related crimes.
- Updated Cost estimate: \$1,717,517 in FY 2020-21; \$6,088,019 in FY 2021-22; includes direct personnel costs, overhead, and projected increase in backfill overtime costs for patrol and retire/rehire.

2.2. *Convene a community stakeholder group to establish the strategies and tactics for the patrol team*

- Should include community leaders, service providers, and people with lived experience
- Works to develop a strategy for proactive patrol function that is consistent with community expectations and eliminates disparate impacts on historically marginalized communities
- Promotes community support and ownership of the program

2.3. *Require enhanced reporting and accountability measures for the patrol team*

- Reports required for all investigative stops and consent searches
- Detailed data collection and analysis for stops, searches, arrests, and use of force
- Monthly reporting to the Chief's Office on performance measures
- Training in Trauma-Informed Care, Procedural Justice, and Equity

The implementation of Increased Investigative Resources (Part 1) has provided much needed assistance to our over-taxed investigative resources. However, as stated in the original memo this approach alone has had a minimal impact, particularly in the short term, on the incidence of gun violence in the city.

Improved deterrence capacity (Part 2) is likely to have a more pronounced impact on incidence of gun violence. Interdiction of illegal gun possessors will increase the perceived risk of carrying firearms in public, which should deter gun violence in two ways: first, individuals will be less likely to carry firearms due to the risk of being caught and prosecuted; second, reduction in firearms possession will lead to the perception that it is less necessary to carry a firearm for self-defense. This approach will require public support for the PPB members of this team by City Council, The Multnomah District Attorney's office and our community.



Office of Violence Prevention **OVP Needs Assessment**

In 2020, the homicide and shooting rate skyrocketed to 54 homicides, 41 of them by firearms -- a 50% increase from 2019. That's more gun violence than Portland has experienced in decades. During January and February of this year alone there were 163 shooting incidents, 43 shooting injuries, and 10 shooting homicides.

These numbers are unprecedented and unacceptable. Portlanders deserve to be safe in their homes, to live free from shooting-related trauma, and to keep their sons safe from being murdered on our streets.

Behind every gun violence statistic is a human life and a family and a community connected to that life. Some people may believe they are unaffected by gun violence. The reality is gun violence touches everyone regardless of where they live.

An independent study conducted by the Mayor's Office in 2019 found that each gun homicide in Portland costs taxpayers \$1.4 million. The costs include crime scene response, hospital and rehabilitation costs, criminal justice system costs, incarceration costs, victim support, and lost tax revenue. So even people not personally impacted by 41 tragic deaths are paying for those deaths.

If Portland reduced gun violence by just 20% it would save nearly \$20 million every year.

Everyone deserves to live where children can play free of fear from gun violence. We have to work together because the issue of gun violence is too big for community, police, service providers, or elected officials to address alone.

The Office of Violence Prevention addresses the complex factors that drive violence. Rooted in a public health approach to violence prevention, OVP's efforts are shaped by elevating the voices of those most impacted. This includes youth, community residents, key stakeholders, and many others.

The following chart provides a month-to-month yearly comparison of shooting incidents, injuries, homicides, and percentage increases.



Shooting Incidents	2019	2020	2021	2020/21% Increase
January	32	50	106	112%
February	31	38	57	145%
Total	63	88	163	128.5%

Shooting Injuries	2019	2020	2021	2020/21% Increase
January	7	11	27	145%
February	8	8	18	125%
Total	15	19	45	135%

Shooting Homicides	2019	2020	2021	2020/21% Increase
January		1	5	400%
February		0	5	500%
Total		1	10	450%

Disclaimer: The data provided is collected from various media outlets, public forums/meetings, and PPB's website. Please note that these are non-vetted statistics.

Proposal: There is a need for strategic, aligned efforts with sustained investments and actions that will prevent violence, build resilience, and create a safer Portland. OVP is requesting the resources needed for infrastructure and expansion of prevention and intervention programs and services that help individuals and families impacted by gun violence. OVP's goal is to fill the service gaps and address the immediate needs in the community by reducing the impact of trauma and increasing intervention efforts.

Evidence Based Practice: Hospital Based Trauma Response Program: Healing Hurt People Portland (HHP)

Request Narrative: Currently, OVP has one (1) FTE coordinator and one (1) volunteer servicing Legacy Emanuel Medical Center. Emanuel Hospital is one of two Level I Trauma centers in Portland. HHP is on call 24/7 and responds to the hospital within 4 hours of a shooting. OVP seeks to expand hospital-based Trauma I services into Oregon Health & Sciences University (OHSU). Gun violence victims transported to OHSU currently do not receive the services and support they need.

OVP's Healing Hurt People Program needs two (2) additional FTEs and program funding to provide robust services for victims and sustain the expansion into OHSU. The two (2) FTEs will serve as site coordinators to ensure that there is constant communication and coordination between the hospital site and OVP team.



Description	Current Services	Desired Increase of Services	FY 20/21 Budget Request	FY 21/22 Budget Request
HHP works around the clock supporting victims of violence. This is done by communicating with designated hospital staff, victims, and their families. HHP is a downstream effort to reduce retaliation and revictimization.	Emanuel Hospital Grant funded to POIC- POIC has MOU with Emanuel	Include OHSU Trauma Emergency Room 2 additional Coordinator FTE Add Program Funding	\$39,006.00	\$156,604.80 \$50,000.00
Total			39,006.00	\$206,604.80

Evidence Based Practice: Cure Violence Program: Street Level Outreach (SLO)

Request Narrative: Currently, OVP has four (4) grant agreements with four (4) community-based organizations (CBOs). There is a total of eleven (11) FTE Street Level Outreach (SLO) workers within the CBOs. Our office is requesting an additional six (6) FTE SLO workers and program funding to expand violence interrupter services in hot spots and areas of frequent gun violence.

Description	Current Services	Desired Increase of Services	FY 20/21 Budget Request	FY 21/22 Budget Request
Street Level Outreach (SLO) workers engage with individuals and families to build relationships and address risk and protective factors. They also provide support services to those families in need. SLO workers are present in potential high-risk areas to support families during times of trauma and grief.	Grant Funded Awarded to four (4) CBOs. POIC, NAYA, IRCO, and Latino Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backfill 2 PP&R FTEs • 2 FTE for African Immigrant community • 2 FTE for Latino community • Add Program Funding 	\$ 94,346.80	\$378,863.00 \$150,000.00
Total			\$94,346.80	\$528,863



**Evidence Based Practice: Focused Deterrence
Program: Intensive Case Managers**

Request Narrative: Currently, OVP has one (1) Intensive Case Manager (ICM). These providers serve and support high risk individuals. The ICM is housed under the Trauma and Violence Impacted Families (TVIF) program. As a result of the increase in gun violence, there is a need for additional credible messengers to assist in identifying and serving high risk clients.

OVP is requesting two (2) additional Intensive Case Managers and program dollars to ensure high-risk clients receive the services they need to avoid gun violence.

Description	Current Services	Desired Increase of Services	FY 20/21 Budget Request	FY 21/22 Budget Request
Credible Messengers work with those who are at highest risk of being a victim or perpetrator of gun violence. They establish trusting relationships with clients and help them mitigate risk factors while connecting them to services, supports, and opportunities for 18 months, by having direct ongoing contact.	Services are provided by NGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 FTE ICM 1) In Somali community	\$0.00. Current budget allows for these positions through June 30, 2021.	\$144,477.70
	Fund Intensive Case Manager for TVIF Program	2) In TVIF Add program funding for each NGO		\$100,000.00
Total				\$244,477.70

Evidence Based Practice: Cease Fire

Contract: California Partnership for Safe Communities (CPSC)

Request Narrative: Currently, OVP has a contract with the California Partnerships for Safe Communities (CPSC) consulting group. CPSC has conducted a problem analysis and cost of violence study, trainings for life coaches and outreach workers, and ongoing consultation around evidence-based practices to reduce gun violence.

OVP requests the resources needed to continue this partnership through a renewal of the contract for technical assistance for our programs and services.



Description	Current Services	Desired Increase of Services	FY 20/21 Budget Request	FY 21/22 Budget Request
California Partnership for Safe Communities works with cities to achieve near-term and community-wide reductions in violence. This evidence-based intervention leads to significant, timely reductions in street violence while reducing cities' reliance on enforcement strategies that contribute to over-incarceration and weaken community-police relations.	Technical assistance for OVP	Expand existing contract between Mayor's Office, and OVP	\$0.00. Current contract ends June 30, 2021.	\$122,160
Total				\$122,160

Office of Violence Prevention and City Infrastructure (FTE Employees)

Request Narrative: To successfully scale this work to meet our community's need, and to provide the necessary oversight to ensure resources are used efficiently and effectively, the City will need additional internal infrastructure.

FTE	Job Description	FY 20/21 Budget Request	FY 21/22 Budget Request
Business Operations Manager (OVP)	Research, gather, and analyze data to track program outcomes and performance; work with partner organizations to ensure efficient, effective, use of City resources in compliance with all applicable policies and laws; secure additional competitive grant funds from foundation and government funders.	\$27,474.00	\$184,545
Data Analyst		0.00	\$ 172,854
Coordinator		0.00	\$172,854
Total		\$27,474.00	\$530,253.00

Total Increase to the remaining FY 20-21 Budget Ask: \$160,826.80

Total Increase to the FY 21-22 Budget Ask: \$1,632,358.50