

PPNA FUTURE OF SAFETY TOWN HALL RECAP

WHAT DOES REFORMING POLICE LOOK LIKE?

10/7/20

22

Participants

PURPOSE The PPNA Future of Safety Town Hall Series aims to increase awareness of what we mean as a community about topics that have a lot of influence on our city. This Town Hall explored the what reforming the Police could look like.

SPEAKERS



MICHELLE GROSS
PRESIDENT, COMMUNITIES UNITED
AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY



TERREIN GILL
FELLOW, ALL SQUARE



MALAIKA HANKINS
MPP, MSW
RESTORATIVE FACILITATOR &
COMMUNITY STRATEGY LEAD,
LEGAL RIGHTS CENTER

HIGHLIGHTS

“I don’t think it’s a question of either [reform] or [abolition]. I think it’s a question of harm reduction as we work our way towards what we ultimately have as a goal.”

- MICHELLE GROSS

“Either reform or abolition, there’s always the opportunity for evil to fill that void, and there’s also the possibility of us outpacing our expectations. When we turn this into an either or approach it limits our ability to think creatively. It’s going to take a lot of energy and there will be a lot of pain, whatever transition we make. If we are too siloed with one strategy, we are going to harm ourselves in the process.”

- MALAIKA HANKINS

“There need to be individualized and personalized responses to people having a hard time, instead of just how the police officer wants to respond. It’s going to take more conversations that bring more people to the table. With the vacuum that is created by the retreat of police, we need to stand with our barbers and our teachers to fill this void that is currently happening, to stop the naysayers.”

- TERREIN GILL

KEY THEMES & NEXT STEPS

THERE IS RISK IN REFORMING, ABOLISHING AND DEFUNDING THE POLICE. REFORMING THE POLICE IS AN OPTION FOR REDUCING HARM as we work towards community goals related to safety and justice for all. It will take many people at the table to foster conversations towards building out those goals.

REFORM COULD LOOK LIKE more citizen control over policing, increased accountability for officers, and more support for officers through the dispersal of current responsibilities to more appropriate public employees (i.e. mental health calls would be routed to medical first responders).

TAXPAYERS SHOULD HAVE A SAY in the activities and future of the police as their funder.



WHAT ARE PPNA TOWN HALLS? PPNA produces town halls that connect community to experts on issues impacting everyday life in Powderhorn. PPNA is a non-partisan organization. Viewpoints expressed do not necessarily align with those of PPNA. We feel it’s important to have open dialogue and continuous education together, as a community.

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