

Executive Summary

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE

Collaboration has been a key component of the Community Safety Initiative, working to connect people to social services and medical care. That connection helps reduce demands on the Community Safety System, but – more importantly – it can help people turn their lives around. The focus is to identify better resources to keep the community safe to respond when people need help, resolving issues and focusing on prevention and improved police response. Resources that received funding from the Community Safety Payroll Tax (CSPT) identified the following positive impacts:



Increased officer response: The Eugene Police Department (EPD) developed an enhanced operational plan that included increased funding to add eleven positions in patrol and thirteen Community Service Officer (CSO) positions to help reduce the wait times for calls for service and deliver better police services. Continued stabilization of 3.5 FTE communications specialist positions in Central Lane Communications Center through FY22 with a focus on employee retention, which resulted in more experienced staff answering calls from the community



Improved fire response: With funds provided to the Ambulance Transport Gap Fund, Eugene Springfield Fire (ESF) maintained a tiered emergency response system including an Advanced Life Support (ALS) system with 19 full-time employees that operate four 24-hour/day using ALS ambulances, plus a Basic Life Support (BLS) system employing both full-time and part-time BLS Technicians that operate two 12-hour/day and one 24-hour/day BLS ambulances. ESF responded to 27,196 medical calls in Eugene resulting in 15,834 ambulance transports to local hospitals



Strengthened court, diversion programs and jail services: Funding from the CSPT provided Municipal Court and the City Prosecutor's Office the ability to increase trial capacity, reducing disposition times on misdemeanor cases and reducing a backlog of cases.



Supported nonprofit that served people experiencing homelessness: During FY22, the CSPT helped provide shelter to 905 individuals, added 85 new shelter beds, launched a diversion program to unite unhoused individuals with existing support networks, helped connect 70 individuals to case management services and supported 34 people into stable housing. Established a mechanism to certify unaccompanied minors' eligibility for a free Oregon ID card and access to Oregon colleges.



Provided youth personalized support: In FY22, the CSPT provided funding to expand capacity to serve youth at four community centers and added three Inclusion Specialists to provide services at summer camps. Over 370 youth were enrolled in programs and camps in which inclusion services were provided.

BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

Funding from the CSPT continues to make positive impact to the community safety system and make it more responsive to businesses and residents. As staffing shortages and supply chain issues affected the ability to achieve some specific goals, resources were shifted to meet the need with the proper resource and establish a strong foundation for growth in coming years.



TAKING A SYSTEM-WIDE APPROACH

The Community Safety Initiative (CSI) was designed to be a system-wide approach that serves the community in an equitable and inclusive manner. Building trust, increasing safety, focusing on prevention and strengthening partnerships were the desired outcomes approved by the Eugene City Council.

As a community-led oversight body, the Community Safety Initiative Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) prepares an annual report that documents the City's use of Community Safety Payroll Tax (CSPT) revenue and determines if the revenue was spent in compliance with the ordinance (section 3.750 to 3.768).

The Community Safety Fund started fiscal year 2022 with \$3.5 million in beginning working capital. The Community Safety Fund FY21 Adopted Budget included a \$4.7 million interfund loan from the Fleet Replacement Fund, to be paid back in FY22. The loan was intended to support Community Safety strategies

while tax revenue collection was implemented and stabilized. In FY21, tax collections were higher than projected, and the Community Safety Fund used just \$2 million of the original loan. The Fleet Replacement Fund loan was repaid in FY22. Underspending allowed for \$2.7 million in budget authority to be reallocated from FY21 for the early implementation of Community Safety strategies that were planned for in future budgets. FY22 ending working capital for the Community Safety Fund was \$13.5 million.

As a result of this financial stewardship, the Community Safety Fund ended FY22 in strong financial position. The Community Safety programs continue to strive for transparency and accountability through the CAB process. The City is committed to using this fund strategically and will continue to use it in compliance with the uses directed in the ordinance.

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