



## Redesigning Public Safety in St. Louis

**The Center for Policing Equity (CPE)** is a racial justice non-profit that provides leaders with data, stories, and relationships to facilitate change that's bold, innovative, and lasting. We believe we can forge a clear path to racial justice by working collaboratively with communities to provide the resources they need to redesign their public safety systems.

***We do science to promote justice.***

<b>2016:</b>	CPE begins work to analyze disparities in SLMPD's policing
<b>July 2021:</b>	Partnership to redesign public safety in St. Louis begins
<b>September 2021:</b>	Community engagement and outreach begins
<b>January 2022:</b>	Formal community interviews begin
<b>March 2022:</b>	Community Town Hall discussing CPE's work with the City is held
<b>April 2022:</b>	CPE's report with recommendations to redesign public safety in St. Louis is released
<b>January–July 2022:</b>	CPE conducts qualitative data collection
<b>July 2022:</b>	CPE begins work to implement select recommendations from the report

### Implementation Working Groups

Because the expertise of community members is crucial in translating recommendations into substantive changes in policy, practice, and outcomes, one of CPE's main strategies in the implementation phase of public safety redesign is to convene working groups to help put recommendations into practice. Most recently, CPE has helped to create working groups in two areas—use of force and intimate partner violence—which are now in the beginning stages of their work.

### Use of Force

The data findings show that Black residents experience use of force by the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) 4.3 times more often than White residents. Because of this, a high-priority policy recommendation was to revise the City's use of force policy to provide a set of guidelines that are consistent, equitable, and transparent. CPE has helped the City convene a working group composed of community members representing advocates, community groups, and a non-sworn representative from SLMPD who is active in policy creation. The working group will research and analyze the current use of force policies and work together to draft a revised use of force policy for SLMPD consideration.

## Intimate Partner Violence and Domestic Violence

Another recommendation in CPE's Reimagining Public Safety report was to strengthen the City's response to intimate partner violence and domestic violence, emphasizing holistic, integrated services. To help execute this goal, CPE has worked with the City to convene a working group of service providers from community-based organizations to identify gaps, explore solutions, and improve capacity to serve diverse populations.

## Public Safety Collaborative

As part of the effort to redesign public safety in St. Louis, CPE is helping to stand up a new Public Safety Collaborative (PSC), which will be overseen by a Trusted Broker hosted at a local community organization. The PSC will consist of a group of community members that will use Data-Informed Community Engagement (DICE), powered by Risk Terrain Modeling and delivered via RTMDx software, to co-create equitable public safety strategies. Through DICE, the PSC will be able to diagnose crime patterns, prioritize places in need, and coordinate programs that better serve their community. The PSC will be an entity that is independent from the City and SLMPD.

## Community Engagement

Community engagement has been an ongoing part of CPE's work in St. Louis since January 2022 to supplement the quantitative data in our report analyzing racial disparities in SLMPD's policing. CPE has conducted several 1:1s, focus groups, group forums, and informal conversations with community members involved with public safety issues in the City. The lived experiences, expertise, and feedback of community members—particularly those of Black and other disproportionately impacted communities—are the foundation of CPE's recommendations to the City and will continue to guide the implementation of these recommendations as the partnership between the City of St. Louis and CPE continues.

## Highlighted Policy Changes Implemented by the City of St. Louis

**Ban on No-knock Warrants:** In June 2022, Mayor Tishaura Jones signed an executive order banning the use of no-knock warrants by SLMPD officers following nationwide calls to end this intrusive and dangerous practice in response to the murder of Breonna Taylor in Kentucky in 2020.

**Creation of the Office of Violence Prevention:** In July 2022, Mayor Jones signed a bill establishing an Office of Violence Prevention, which will coordinate public safety resources and community violence intervention programs in St. Louis. An office bringing together service providers and community groups across the city is crucial in achieving equitable public safety systems.

*October 2022 Updates*

**For more information about CPE's work in St. Louis and to get involved, contact us at:**

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