

Community Safety

A more inclusive, holistic model of public safety



Our city is safer, stronger and more vibrant when all Portlanders are empowered to work collaboratively and creatively on public safety.

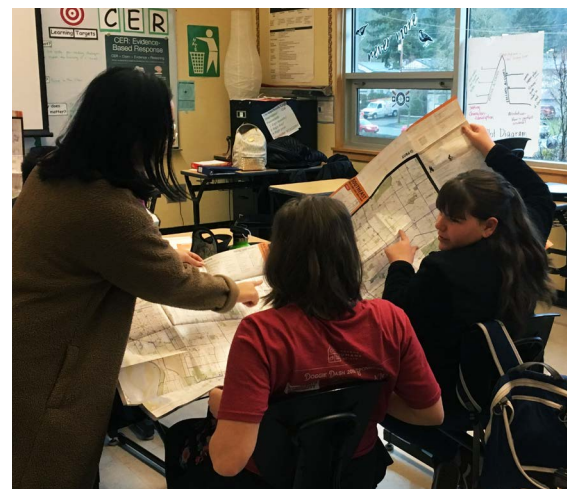
The Office of Community & Civic Life is introducing a holistic model of public safety that better reflects Portland's values and vision to be a city that is welcoming and safe for everyone. We recognize that this has not been the experience for all communities in Portland—in fact, our institutions and systems intended to make Portland a safer place have harmed some communities.

Civic Life's Crime Prevention program is being renamed Community Safety, a model that embraces an inclusive and collaborative vision of safety where neighbors work with each other and with City staff to better address a range of public safety issues. Under this approach, Portlanders will be connected with staff and resources in City bureaus such as Transportation, Emergency Management, Fire & Rescue, Planning & Sustainability, and Police.

A highlight of Community Safety is our Neighbors Together trainings, which goes beyond the traditional Neighborhood Watch model. In the Neighbors Together model, Civic Life seeks to build trust, remove barriers, and provide tools to neighbors to work together on a more holistic approach to public safety and building vibrant communities.

"My work is with schools and schools directly. Community Safety gives us more tools to support parents and kids. It empowers us and other colleagues to connect to other City services. My hope is it creates clear ways to connect neighbors to each other and these services."

**—LALE SANTELICES,
PORTLAND BUREAU OF
TRANSPORTATION (PBOT)**





Reimagining Safer Communities

Our Community Safety program will allow us to expand partnerships with other City bureaus. Community Safety will efficiently connect neighbors to a broad range of City services that promote a comprehensive definition of safety. Community Safety will move beyond the focus on police response to public safety and will support community-driven solutions, where neighbors partner with each other and the City to promote safety on issues such as:

- Emergency preparedness—Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs)
- Safe Routes to School
- Traffic safety—Vision Zero
- Neighborhood cleanups
- Community organizing around shared concerns
- And more

We envision a Portland where neighbors from all backgrounds will be more connected and invested in each other's wellbeing and will actively collaborate to make their communities safer for everyone. We have the opportunity to shape Portland's future around a shared value of neighbors working together for the common good.

To learn more, visit portlandoregon.gov/civic/safety.

"In Cully, a group of community members started coming together every Tuesday to help clean up the neighborhood. They became **Neighbors in Action. It's not a Neighborhood Watch. They are taking care of kids, and seniors. We already see that the models of community safety and neighbors together work."**

—JOSE GOMEZ,
HACIENDA CDC

For more information, please contact:
Meg.Juarez@portlandoregon.gov,
Community Safety Program Supervisor

