

Metro's Safety, Security, and Fare Enforcement (SaFE) Reform Initiative

TAB Briefing

June 23, 2021

Time to Act

In 2020, Metro leadership made the commitment to become an anti-racist mobility agency.

SLT asks you to:

- speak up and act tear down oppression and systemic racism of Black, Indigenous, and all people of color,
- embrace each other, our differences, and our sameness with love and compassion,
- build a workplace where employees feel respect from one another,
- take action to rebuild a transit system that is centered on equitably improving the quality of life in Martin Luther King, Jr. County, and
- adapt and evolve to meet the needs of the community.

SLT is committed to:

Lead with love.

Change systems of oppression.

Close mobility gaps.

Serve and share power with community.

Conditions that led us here

HISTORICAL CONDITION

- **2010** – Creation of Fare Enforcement Program
- **2015** – **KC Council Motion 14441** – reformed juvenile related enforcement practices
- **2018** – **KC Council Ordinance 18789** – allowed in-house violations resolution options
- **2018** – Income-based fare program engagement
- **2020** – Fare Enforcement was suspended

CURRENT CONDITION

- Community unrest of 2020 and thereafter
- County Executive Dow Constantine declaration of Racism as a Public Health Crisis
- Reform activities by peer agencies including KCSO and Sound Transit that SaFE is coordinating with

King County Council Proviso

The **Safety, Security, and Fare Enforcement (SaFE) Reform Initiative** hopes to accomplish shared goals developed through a co-creation process with internal and external partners related to reimagining and reforming safety and security functions at Metro. The role of transit safety and law enforcement practices is critical to King County Metro's advancement to becoming an anti-racist mobility agency.

We will build on our 2019 work on innovations in fare enforcement that have already been implemented and spark community conversations that will can continue to draw from.

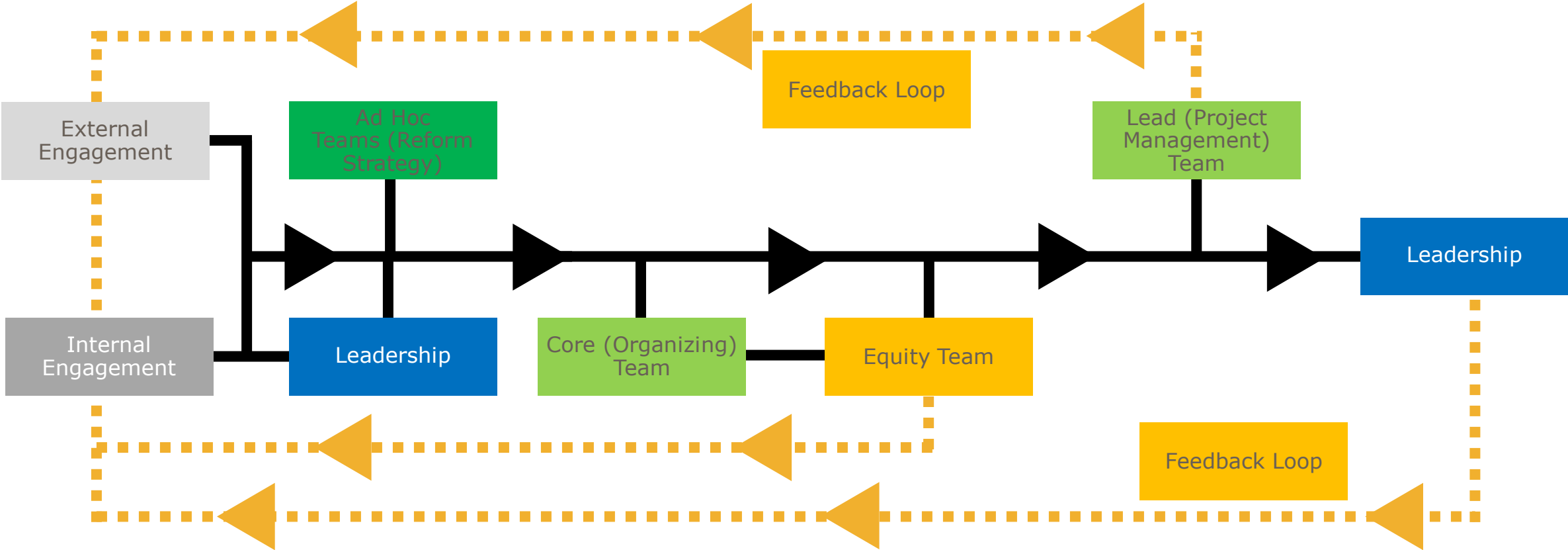
King County Council included this work in the 2021-2022 budget inf the form of a proviso, which requires Metro to report to Council on how we will do this work and the results.

"In recognition of the vital importance of reimagining and reforming safety and security functions within King County, to reduce the role of law enforcement in transit safety and security functions and to advance the Metro transit department's commitment to become an antiracist mobility agency, the county must reimagine transit safety and security, by reexamining, restructuring and reducing the department's security, fare enforcement and law enforcement practices, partnerships and resource allocation." – 2021-2022 Biennial Budget. Section 113. P5. B.

Co-Creation Approach

- Community directed conversations – no predetermined ideas
- Simultaneously engaging internal and external stakeholders as one community
- Focusing on Black, Indigenous, and people of color AND those most impacted by current fare enforcement and security policies
 - Especially those who intersect with other vulnerable identities
- Taking a targeted universalism approach
 - Deeper understanding of disparate impacts
 - Focus design of solutions

SaFE Structure



SaFE Core (Coordinating) Team

- Guides the reform work and serve as the connection point for internal and external inputs and the task force work, SLT policy guidance, Equity Cabinet and MLT consultation and engagement, and SLT communications.
- Examine and coordinate creation of desired outcomes, approach to achieve outcomes, scoping report, and implementation report.
- Representation from internal KC Metro groups

SaFE Equity Team

Internal Stakeholders

- Bus Operations
- Facilities
- Customer Information
- Equity and Social Justice
- Fare Enforcement
- Metro Transit Police

External Stakeholders

- Youth
- Seniors
- Refugee and Immigrant
- Disability
- Transit
- Low or no-income

SaFE Ad Hoc Teams

Customer Experience

- Policy
- Research
- Transit Facilities
- Reduced Fares/Customer Information
- Transportation Demand Management
- Transit Instructor
- Metro Transit Center

MTP/Fare Enforcement

- Metro Transit Center
- Fare Enforcement
- Fares Policy
- RapidRide
- Service Quality
- Transit Control Center
- FE Contract Manager

Unhoused

- Transit Route Facilities
- Parking Management
- Bus Operations
- Transit Facilities
- Metro Transit Police
- Mental Health Professional
- Homelessness Care Professional

SaFE Overview – Progress to Date

- SaFE aligns with Leadership’s commitment for Metro to become an anti-racist mobility agency and the need to stop inequitable outcomes in transit.
- SaFE will respond to a King County Council 2020-21 Budget Proviso (Section 113. P5. B.)
 - Reimagine transit safety and security, by reexamining, restructuring and reducing the department's security, fare enforcement and law enforcement practices, partnerships and resource allocation.
- Approval of Scoping Report on May 18th by King County Council
- 8-hour Anti-Racist Training Completed by all participants
- Presented to Executive SLT on May 28th

Engagement Plan

- External and Internal engagement processes co-defined key terms (co-creation, safe, welcoming) and listen to the experiences and frustrations the community faces.
- Prioritization and decision-making with Equity Team with representation from community members, employees, and labor reps
- Upcoming – Engagement milestones
 - Internal/External Engagement Process
 - Phase 2 – Co-creation of Community Agreement - **(Late June 2021)**
 - Phase 2 – Co-defining Safe and Welcoming at Metro – **(Mid – July 2021)**
 - Phase 3 – Review of Policies and Procedures - **(August 2021)**
 - Phase 4 – Prioritization of Recommendations - **(September 2021)**
 - Implementation report due to King County Council - **(September 30th 2021)**
 - ***this date is subject to change - Metro will pursue a deadline extension for the Implementation in the coming weeks**
 - Transition of recommendations to current policies/procedures and pilot testing - **(Fall 2021 – Summer 2022)**

SaFE Timeline

Summer 2021: Engagement Process

- Kickoff of internal and external cocreation process
- Collaboration with KCSO, Equity Cabinet and other initiatives
- Review current policies, procedures and practices
- Advance ideas/recommendations that could achieve shared goals

**Week of September 30th: Implementation Report

- Analysis of research and feedback collection through engagement
- Documentation and storytelling of Metro's safety and security future
- Communicating how recommendations will meet shared goals
- Review from GM and County Executive

July 2022: Report back to KC Council

- Further define impacts of recommendations and transition plan
- Establish timelines for recommendations implementation necessary to advance shared goals
- Ongoing engagement and coordination with all stakeholders

Staying Involved with SaFE

Opportunities for the general public

- July
 - Visioning of Safe and Welcoming at Metro through survey
 - Focus groups and interviews with community-based organizations (*will continue throughout the SaFE planning process*)
- August
 - Review and feedback policies and procedures digital platform
- September
 - Community Voting activity in Prioritization of Recommendations

THANK YOU

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