



Building the Beloved Community Public Safety Project

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

We've tried to anticipate the questions that clergy and lay leaders may ask as they're trying to figure out whether and how they might engage in this important work. If you don't see your question(s) answered below, please call Sarah Peterka, 651-661-7736.

How Much Work Will This Require?

- **Work.** How much work will this require of me as clergy?
 - You (or another leader in your congregation) will need to recruit two lay leaders in your congregation to take on key roles detailed below.
 - You can decide whether you will take on the key leadership role, or another faith or lay leader in your congregation will take on that role. (That role is called Congregational Engagement Leader.)
 - If you as clergy plan to take on the Congregational Engagement Role (going to leadership working group sessions with Commissioner Harrington and leading the conversations in your congregation), you will be responsible for:
 - Attending four working sessions on Zoom with Commissioner Harrington (schedule below); and,
 - Leading three conversations in your congregation (these could take the place of sermons you might otherwise have to prepare on other topics).

Lay Leadership

- **Volunteer Roles.** What volunteer roles are there?
 - There are two lay leadership volunteer roles that your congregation would need to staff for this project. Job descriptions are included in the packet with these FAQs.
 - 1) **Faith Leader** or dedicated lay leader for the leadership sessions.
 - 2) **Learning Coordinator** to record and report the data that comes from the congregational conversations.
- **Congregational Engagement Leader.** Does this role have to be filled by clergy, or can a respected lay leader in our congregation take on this role?
 - Yes, a respected lay leader can take on this role. As the main faith leader of the congregation, you can still register for the project and add the lay leader as the secondary leader on the registration form.

Engagement

- **How Engage Congregation.** How do I engage my House of Worship in the conversation?
 - You can engage your congregation (or a portion of your congregation) however it makes most sense to you. You can have the congregational conversations during a sermon with the entire congregation; in adult education hour after your main services; in a young adult group; or in any other forum that makes sense to you. You can do this work in-person or on Zoom.

Schedule and Timing

- **Schedule.** What is the schedule for the zoom session?
 - Session One: Tuesday, January 25, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 - Session Two: Tuesday, March 22, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 - Session Three: Tuesday, May 24, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 - Session Four: TBD, likely July 2022
- **Timeframe.** What is the timeframe to get the conversations done with our congregation?
 - We would like the congregations to have their congregational conversations within a month after each Zoom leadership working session with Commissioner Harrington. If it takes you a little longer that is okay too.
- **Completion.** When will this project be over?
 - We anticipate wrapping up with a final session in July 2022.

Reporting Back from Congregational Conversations

- **Reporting Congregation's Feedback.** How will our congregation's feedback be recorded?
 - Our goal is to make it as simple as possible. Your congregation's volunteer Learning Coordinator will be responsible for sharing the information with our Learning Team (Michael Quinn Patton and his team) through a simple web-based form. More information will be shared with Learning Coordinators before our first working session in January.
- **Timing to Upload Data.** How soon after the congregational conversation must our Learning Coordinator upload our congregation's feedback?
 - The link for Learning Coordinators to upload feedback will be available for two months after each Zoom leadership working session. We'd love it, though you're your Learning Coordinator could upload your congregation's data within a week after your congregational conversation.

Final Report

- **What Will We See?** Will we get copies for the final report from this project?
 - Yes! We will be sure to get you a copy of the final report.