VIP Survey Results – Data Themes

Overview

After sending out over 400 requests to community members and community groups, we had one-hundred and two respondents who were willing to give feedback in our fourteen-question survey. The request and opportunity to respond occurred between Monday, August 9th and Friday, October 1, 2021. Anonymous responses and themes will inform our VIP Strategic Planning and ongoing work.

One hundred and two (102) community members completed a fourteen-question survey between Monday August 9th and Friday October 1st, 2021. Anonymous responses and themes will inform our VIP strategic planning and ongoing work.

Q1 In response to what you see on the draft, do you feel like VIP is headed in a helpful direction to meet community needs?

Q2 What words do you LIKE in the draft vision statement?

- Violence replaced with **opportunity** (35)
- Break the intergenerational cycle of violence (29)
- Pathways to safe and prosperous lives (23)
- Create a future (6)
- Develop faith based and community coalitions (4)
- Trauma informed (3)
- Culturally responsive continuum of care (3)
- Through a public health approach (2)

Q3 What words would you ADD to the draft vision statement?

- Family (4)
  - Intergenerational healing
- Root causes (2)
  - Poverty (3)
- Change "citizens" to "residents/community members" to include undocumented folks (2)
- Access (2)
- Education (2)
- Mental health (2)
- Conflict resolution (2)

Q4 What words do you LIKE in the draft mission statement?

- Identifying and engaging drivers of violence (29)
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- Public health approach (25)
- Reduce gun violence (14)

Q5 What words would you ADD to the draft mission statement?

- Community voice/partnership/network (4)
- Prevention (2)
- Root causes (2)
- Utilize Peace Circles (2)
- Equity-based (2)
- Rehabilitation
- Early identification
- Define Public Health Approach: To improve the health and safety of all individuals by addressing underlying risk factors that increase the likelihood that an individual will become a victim or a perpetrator of violence
- For a mission statement, is reducing enough? Why not the lofty goal of elimination/end?
- Motivating individuals to take ownership of community vibrancy through identifying and engaging drivers of violence to become partners in co-creating alternatives to violence.
- Remove "identifying and engaging with the drivers of violence crime" replace with "identifying those most likely to commit or become a victim of gun violence through a detailed problem analysis, ensuring intervention efforts are extremely focused"
- Systematic
- Inclusive
- Trauma-informed
- Culturally sensitive

Q6 Please rank your priorities out of the items below from the existing strategic plan draft.

1. Build capacity for gun violence intervention, interruption and street outreach
2. Build community-based service provider network for long-term services
3. Build restorative, mediation and de-escalation practices
4. Build structure to formalize and sustain a public health approach to gun violence reduction

Q7 What do you believe causes or leads to gun violence in Albuquerque?

- Poverty (15)
- Gun access/availability (14)
- Drugs (14)
- Lack of opportunities (9)
- Economic disparities (6)
- Anger/frustration/rage (5)
- Feeling of being excluded/lack of support (5)
- Trauma (4)
- Inadequate education (4)
- Mental health (3)
- Social pressure (3)
- No positive role models (3)
- Intergenerational cycles (3)
- Lack of conflict mediation skills (2)
- Gangs/crime (2)
- No respect (2)
- Toxic masculinity (2)
Q8 Take a minute to imagine Albuquerque free from gun violence. What would Albuquerque free from gun violence look like?

- Safe (9)
- No gunfire sounds near my neighborhood at night (3)
- More like European cities (3)
- People will learn to respond rather than react without gun usage (2)
- Less fear (2)
- Carefree
- 100% high school graduation rate
- Thriving arts and culture activities daily
- Smiling faces
- A flourishing mecca of cultures/languages all valued and honored in education
- Strong community network of support for addicts and others driven to violence
- Active public spaces and pedestrian life (2)
- Medicaid/healthcare supported spirituality/healing centers
- A community that extended a big portion of its resources in fighting poverty and drugs.
- All peoples basic needs are met
- Trauma is talked about and there are more services for mental health
- News media are trained in public health approach and violence is reported differently on TV
- Opportunities to see something different
- Clean and welcoming
- Engaged and thriving youth
- Healthy and safe intimate partner relationships
- Economic development
- Robust and well-funded community mental health services
- Equality, diversity, anti-racist and transparent
- Government held accountable
- Officers who assist in the neighborhoods they grew up in.
- More of a middle class
- Free, high quality childcare.
- Afterschool programs for school age children.
- Enough jobs with a livable wage.
- Gun availability
- Happier mothers, fathers, sister and brother’s that would be alive from gun free violence
- Heaven on earth
- Higher in tourism and population growth
- The school I work at would not have to do active shooter drills. People wouldn’t die and or be wounded on a weekly basis.
- It would be focused on localized economic networks and social systems.
- Our business are worker-owned and operated.
- Our primary life giving elements (i.e. water, soil and air resources) would be recognized for their natural rights to exist.
- Our rivers, mountains and forests must be able to be agents of their own protection, as is happening in other parts of the world, leading in creating safe, prosperous and peaceful communities.
- Loving, peaceful, hopeful and non-judgmental
- More opportunity at many societal levels and dimensions
- All hands on deck
- More equitable
- Many people would be educated about what is the proper way to store, and handle guns in a safe way
- more entertainment, more employers, active downtown
- Our cops would not need guns, which would certainly help reduce shootings of BIPOC!
- No news reports of another murder
- People that need to be locked up ARE locked up.
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- Teach Gun safety FOR FREE
- Peaceful.
- A need for fewer cops
- People feeling loved by their community
- Rio Rancho
- Robust public life/activity, decreased mental health crises in youth, improved educational environments
- security hope
- The Land of Enchantment I'd like to live in. Safe, clean, and welcoming to all.
- There wouldn't be a liquor store everywhere, alcohol wouldn't be the driving entertainment
- SUD would be supported appropriately with effect care coordination, providers, and educators, and neighborhoods without every single house needing bars on the windows
- Unity in in communities

Q9 What do you think the city government should be doing to support an Albuquerque free from gun violence?

- Tougher laws, prosecution and sentencing (6)
- More prevention services with the continuation of intervention and treatment (4)
- Education (4)
- Support and actively engage in legislative agenda to set limitations on gun usage and eliminate assault weapons (4)
- Imposing more gun regulations (taxes, licensing, databases) (4)
- Listen instead to telling its people what they need (3)
- Create economic opportunities (3)
- Engaging people in a long-term, intergenerational change process (2)
- Gun buyback programs (2)
- Outreach (2)
- Conflict resolution / mediation trainings, diversion programs instead of jail (2)
- Address drug and housing problems
- APD should be in communication with DOH health promotion
- Continue talking about the drivers of crime.
- Arresting unregistered firearm offenders
- Continued support for VIP and RAD as well as APD's response to behavioral health crises with unarmed intervention.
- Creating more social programs and adding more funding for people who have had a challenging past to have access to jobs to reduce violence
- Demilitarize the police
- Divest from APD and reallocate resources to community based supports to build capacity of long-term continuum of care
- Free gun safety
- Promote family parenting on for 1st time parents, mandatory classes for families that have new babies on gun safety with children, testimonies by people that have been affected by gun violence, have them speak in jails, prisons, directly to any type of gun offence, speak in the schools mandatory by 4th grade, speak at anger management/ drug classes mandated by courts
- Funding community based VIP programs where officers do not participate but support with identifying those in need, but not knocking on doors.
- Get rid of detention hearings for violent offenders, especially gun violence offenders
- Give people the resources need to keep guns locked
- Financially support mentorship programs with people who have dealt with gun violence
- Not reinventing the wheel, but backing up our smaller strategically placed organizations.
- Increase taxes on the most rich.
- Find a way to provide funding to childcare centers to pay their staff more - child care assistance is great for families that can't afford it, but we also need to raise the standards. Increasing pay would promote job growth and quality of care in childcare.
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- Invest in more behavioral health programs and advocate for expungement of non-violent offenses that hinder an individual’s ability to find gainful employment.
- Looking at the root of wealth inequality and the lack of sustainable systems to combat poverty
- More focus on family unit in grade school
- On a simple level, the City of Albuquerque must admit it's capitalist and neoliberal in nature. And second, it must, (as addicts do), state it has a desire to change. The city and those with the most wealth are addicted to the commodification of the world around us, this addiction to capital must be recognized as a problem. Participatory budgeting, community-based procurement processes, local governance boards in communities with discretionary powers with real influence over administrative law and processes. All of which are documented and proven to have beneficial results for the well-being of the community. We would have a long-term plan (Just Transition) towards a future where our wealth is more equitably distributed and exploitation is phased out.
- Prioritizing gun control over political agendas that serve only one party/donor
- Take a stance with restorative justice instead of punitive "justice", and getting away from the “tough on crime” bs.
- Limiting and minimizing the number of guns a person can own/possess.
- Provide more resources, job training, housing, health care, substance abuse rehab, long term mental health services
- Providing more incentives for people to become police officers
- Raise entry level salaries for law enforcement
- Realize that this is a problem that we can’t police our way out of. Get back to the root causes of crime. Start by putting the VIP program in another City department or create its own department as other cities have successfully done. Change the language and change the approach. Expand the definition of public safety and shift from a focus on violence to a focus on freedom or peace. Allocate resources to real prevention strategies that are measurable and monitored. The community centers would be a great resource but they are horribly run and have a recreation only model. That could and should change immediately. And rely heavily on the expertise in the community - especially impacted communities to know what they need and what engagement should look like. Have a whole contingent of people OTHER THAN POLICE who work at night when people need help and a listening ear. Change the focus of our city services from one that conveniences the bureaucracy to one that serves the community. And finally, tell the real truth about what is actually happening in all of its ugliness knowing that we are aware and are ready to see things be different.
- Understand there are already various programs available that build upon each other to achieve community safety and resilience. Identify and pull together all city programs and city employees that work towards reducing violence and prepare the community for emergencies. There are State, Federal and non-governmental agencies also working towards the same goals in our city. All these employees are the most experienced and have an in-depth understanding of the community. Support these programs and employees. It will not be dependent upon one agency or entity to curb the city's violence. To change the systematic violence in this city you should rely on the employees in the field and support a collaborative multi-layered approach.
- Universal childcare, well-resourced community centers, improved public transportation
- Use different programs. Not the same outdated models. We had a youth rites of passage program that was approved for state prisons in Illinois.
- We need a robust community safety department with more funding than $7.2 million. We need to meet people where they go, not expect them to come to us. More like Angel.
- Work with the communities directly; they can be a part of the safety network. Reduce gun availability.
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Q10 How do you racially/ethnically identify?

Q11 What is your age?
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Q12 What is your self-identified gender?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender female
- Transgender male
- Gender variant/Non-binary
- Another gender

Q13 In what area of the city do you live?

- Piedmont
- Northeast
- Northwest
- South East
- North Valley
- Downtown
- Cross streets

- Carlisle Constitution
- south valley, we are not listed... rio bravo clinton
- Blazzik, Sage and Sapphire
- Wyoming / Indian School.
- Ross and Yale
- Southwest 98/Dennis Chavez
- 98th and Dennis Chavez
- lavega and bridge
- Bridge/Sunset
- South valley
- Lomas and Tramway
- South Valley