



Local Public Safety Coordinating Council 2026 Survey Results

July 20, 2026

LPSCC Priorities and LPSCC's Role

When the survey asked **What should be priorities in our public safety system?**
And, what do you see as the LPSCC's role? the common themes were:

- **Strategic Coordination and Leadership:** The LPSCC should function as a primary convener and facilitator, bringing together criminal justice partners, community organizations, and the public to align strategies, resolve system-wide challenges, and provide data-informed recommendations to county leadership.
- **System-Wide Prioritization:** Key focus areas include balancing enforcement and prosecution with robust investments in prevention, early intervention, and mental health and substance use treatment. Members emphasize the need for evidence-based strategies that address the root causes of justice involvement, such as poverty and lack of stable housing.
- **Resource Optimization and Accountability:** The council should focus on evaluating the effectiveness of current programs, ensuring sustainable funding for critical functions—including indigent defense and jail capacity—and optimizing the use of state and local resources. There is a strong call to use shared data to drive decision-making, measure policy impacts, and abandon practices that fail to produce equitable outcomes.
- **Focus on Vulnerable Populations and Juvenile Justice:** A high priority is placed on supporting victims and survivors through timely access to services and trauma-informed care. Additionally, there is a dedicated push to strengthen juvenile justice coordination to disrupt the pipeline into the adult criminal justice system through youth prevention and education.



Valuable Meeting Components

In response to the survey question of **What would be the most valuable components of a monthly LPSCC Council meeting**, the five items selected most by Council members were the same as last year:

- Coordinating stakeholders to address current public safety issues and criminal justice policy in our community
- Discussing and implementing innovative strategies for improving public safety and criminal justice policy
- Presentations of local topics/local experts
- Public Safety trends, and
- Roundtable discussions



Biggest Public Safety Challenges

In response to **What are the two biggest public safety challenges in Multnomah County**, the most common responses in order were:

- **Behavioral Health and Substance Use:** Respondents frequently cite the intersection of untreated mental health disorders, substance use, and homelessness as a primary driver of instability, systemic pressure, and public safety challenges in the county.
- **Systemic Resource and Capacity Constraints:** There is broad concern regarding the underfunding of public safety agencies—including law enforcement, the district attorney, and defense services—leading to decreased capacity, longer response times, and an inability to adequately hold offenders accountable.
- **Systemic Inequities and Prevention:** Concerns were raised regarding persistent geographic crime disparities, the over-representation of BIPOC youth in the justice system, and the need for more robust investment in prevention, early intervention, and long-term survivor stability to reduce future system involvement.



LPSCC's Approach to Addressing Challenges

In response to **How do you think LPSCC should approach these challenges?** the themes were:

- **Data-Driven Strategy and Evaluation:** Prioritize the use of real-time, transparent data to guide policy, identify service gaps, evaluate program effectiveness, and pinpoint areas requiring intervention to ensure equitable outcomes and system performance.
- **Systemic Coordination and Integration:** Act as a central convener to break down agency silos, eliminate resource duplication, and align city, county, and state budgets to foster shared responsibility, accountability, and a cohesive continuum of care.
- **Evidence-Informed Programming:** Focus on effective, balanced approaches that include prevention, intervention, and restorative justice, while ensuring adequate funding and capacity for baseline criminal justice services and evidence-based alternatives to incarceration.
- **Community and Stakeholder Engagement:** Strengthen trust by actively engaging community and survivor voices, while collaboratively advocating for adequate resources to support public safety, behavioral health, housing, and victim services.



Success and Accomplishments

When the survey asked **what would success look like for this LPSCC Council in the next year and what would you like us to accomplish**, the topline/common themes were:

- **Strategic Planning and Action:** Move from general discussions to the development and execution of concrete action plans, focusing on specific initiatives such as youth violence prevention, re-entry hubs, and restorative justice programs.
- **Data-Driven Decision Making:** Establish clear, measurable metrics and utilize data to evaluate program effectiveness, identify system gaps, and ensure resources are allocated to evidence-based strategies that reduce crime and recidivism.
- **Systemic Collaboration:** Foster unified policy execution and cross-jurisdictional alignment to transform disparate agencies into a cohesive, predictable public safety ecosystem.
- **Operational Effectiveness:** Improve the transparency of grant processes, secure stable funding for key departments, and focus meeting agendas on high-impact areas that directly improve community safety.



LPSCC Topics

When the survey asked **What topics or discussions would you like covered or discussed at the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council meetings in the next year?** the topline/common themes were:

- **Strategic Resource Allocation and Funding:** Evaluate the effectiveness and fiscal impact of public safety programs, prioritize core statutory functions over new initiatives, address funding gaps, and ensure transparency in how budget decisions influence community safety and criminal justice operations.
- **Systemic Trends and Data Analysis:** Track and analyze data regarding pretrial services, jail capacity, reentry outcomes, and crime trends—including gun violence and its correlation to domestic or sexual violence—to inform evidence-based policy decisions.
- **Diversion and Alternative Programs:** Discuss alternatives to traditional incarceration and prosecution, such as restorative justice, deflection centers, crisis support for mental health and addiction, and specific interventions for youth.
- **Meeting Structure and Accountability:** Align meeting topics directly with identified LPSCC priorities to facilitate actionable decisions, coordinate system-wide policies, and assess the outcomes of existing strategies through consistent, data-driven updates.



Engaged and Empowered

The question “**do you currently feel engaged and empowered as a LPSCC member?**” was an open-ended question. Overall, the majority of people who answered this question reported they feel engaged and empowered.





Thank You