

Great, how do we get there? Democracy!

One difference between our proposal and the likely outcome in Minneapolis is that we stipulate that SPD's replacement be designed democratically via citizens assemblies convened in each district.

What does that mean, and is that something we just made up?

Canada used a very similar process to select a new national voting system for electing their parliament. BC and Ontario formed assemblies of citizens who heard testimony from experts & average citizens, weighed their options, and deliberated to select the best option.

We propose a similar process by which each of the seven city council districts convenes an assembly to produce a proposal and the seven proposals are voted on via approval voting in a city wide election.

Sign our petition online at disbandSPD.org

What does disbanding mean in Seattle?

That's really up to us! It could mean a lot of things. What we are proposing is for the city to come together and figure that out, democratically. We should design a new public safety agency, from the ground up. The SPD would cease to be, and their funding would go away. A new public safety agency, one designed by us, the citizens of Seattle, would replace it.

Isn't that just replacing with a new SPD?

We hope not! But that's up to us. Clearly, SPD is not capable of being reformed. And, clearly, we still have public safety needs. It's up to us, to come together, and build a better model.

It's not a simple fix, this will take time.

Public safety needs are complex. It covers a lot of ground. So we need a lot of voices to weigh in. We need the time, and space, to bring all of us together, to be heard, in order for what comes next to be accountable, and a meaningful improvement over the SPD.

What about crime? Don't we need police?

FBI clearance stats show cops solve rape and robbery cases less than 1/3 of the time. Burglary and vehicle theft cases are solved in less than 1 in 7 cases! Even a full third of murder cases are never solved!

SPD spends time & resources harassing protestors, sure, but cops are constantly asked to respond to public health and safety needs for which they are very poorly equipped.

That's not fair to us, and it's not fair to cops!

Cops are often the wrong tool for the job

Is a cop the right person to solve a mental health crisis? Is a cop the right person to solve a domestic dispute? What about a person who's a danger to themselves? We have other public servants, who are a better fit. They're often under-funded. We can create other departments, with specific purposes to meet specific community needs. **\$400 Million goes a long way!**

Minnesota is doing it, why can't we?

From the Minneapolis Star Tribune:

"[N]ine Minneapolis City Council members told a crowd Sunday that they will "begin the process of ending the Minneapolis Police Department."

"We recognize that we don't have all the answers about what a police-free future looks like, but our community does," they said, reading off a prepared statement. "We're committed to engaging with every willing community member in the City of Minneapolis over the next year to identify what safety looks like for you."

This IS possible

Minneapolis City Council is going to disband their police department and start fresh. Seattle can too.

Here's our proposal

Public safety is intertwined with a myriad of other issues including racial injustice, poverty, mental illness, and substance abuse. These problems have reached crisis proportions. We have the opportunity to redirect the ENTIRE \$357M SPD budget towards a solution that builds and serves the community holistically. We believe that the SPD is beyond reform and it's time for the residents of Seattle to re-imagine how public safety is addressed in our community. The root of the racial injustice and extreme violence in this system stems from its detachment from the community it allegedly serves. We must ensure its replacement addresses this.

⇒ SPD, and hold a series of town halls to discuss those proposals.

⇒ Each district will vote to select the proposal to represent their district.

⇒ A city wide election will be held using approval voting to select the most popular district proposal.

The selected proposal will be enacted. The entire SPD budget will be redirected to fund this proposal. SPD in its present form will be disbanded.

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#	Councilmember	District area	Telephone #
1	Lisa Herbold	West Seattle, South Park	(206) 684-8801
2	Tammy Morales	South Seattle, Int'l District	(206) 684-8802
3	Kshama Sawant	Central Seattle	(206) 684-8803
4	Alex Pedersen	Northeast Seattle	(206) 684-8804
5	Debora Juarez	North Seattle	(206) 684-8805
6	Dan Strauss	Northwest Seattle	(206) 684-8806
7	Andrew Lewis	Pioneer Square to Magnolia	(206) 684-8807
8	Teresa Mosqueda	Citywide	(206) 684-8808
9	Lorena Gonzalez	Citywide	(206) 684-8809

Let's get them on board.

Remember, we each have three reps, two at-large, & one from our district.

Our elected officials are responsible to us. Here's a map of the council districts, and telephone numbers for CMs.

Let's Disband SPD

Let's improve public safety and improve our city

⇒ Let's talk with our friends and neighbors

⇒ Let's start the discussion

How about it Seattle?

Let's build a better Seattle, TOGETHER!

email us to get involved
contact@disbandspd.org

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...and build a new public safety agency for Seattle