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Salem Police Department

333 Division ST NE
Salem, OR 97301

Contact the Salem Police Communications Office for more information at 503-763-3465.

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Community Violence Reduction Initiative

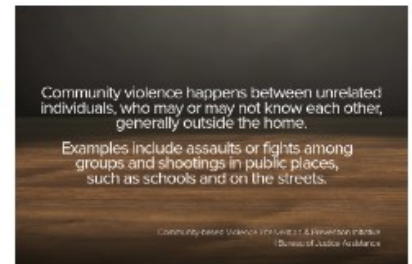


Violent crime in our community

The rise in shootings in Salem and the [longer-term upward trend of violent crime](#) are issues that have impacted the entire city. For Salem police officers and staff, there is no higher priority than the protection of life and physical safety within our community. We hear the community voices and share in the concern about increased community violence.

Understanding the problem

Although factors for the rise in any crime category can vary and may involve complex issues, there were no obvious reasons why rates are increasing in Salem. To evaluate the issue further, a [gun violence problem analysis](#) was conducted in August 2023 to assess the circumstances. The goal of the independent analysis was to examine incident details to identify and explore characteristics, risk factors, and more.



Forward motion

The Salem Police Department is taking proactive steps to intervene and address these challenges head on in collaboration with our criminal justice system partners.

A broader, collective discussion on how we, as a community, can and should respond also occurred on [November 20, 2023](#) at a [special work session on community violence](#) with members of the Salem City Council and Marion County commissioners. The result was a countywide commitment from government officials and myriad partners to work together with a focus on what matters—the community's safety.

Community conversations in progress

Over the course of 2024, the City of Salem and the Salem Police Department will work to foster strong partnerships with community leaders, organizations, and residents to ensure a holistic understanding of the dynamics at work in our city and gain support in creating and implementing an intervention strategy.

[The first community conversation](#) occurred on **Wednesday, March 6** at 6 p.m. at the East Salem Community Center. Mayor Chris Hoy led the initiative's kick-off meeting. Police Chief Trevor Womack provided the 200 residents in attendance with an overview of shooting data and the criminal justice response to this public safety issue. [Ben McBride](#) of Empower Initiative, facilitated the meeting and guided the community discussion and a question-and-answer session. [Watch the event](#) on CC:Media's online channel.



Facilitator (L) Ben McBride and (R) Salem Police Chief Trevor Womack at Community Violence Reduction Initiative kick-off on Mar 6, 2024.



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Community Violence Reduction Initiative

The second conversation



We heard from more than 80 attendees at the second community conversation on April 19 at Chemeketa Community College. The meeting was presented in Spanish with English translation. The participants gathered to hear the findings from the gun violence problem analysis, as well as discuss potential solutions, ask questions, and share concerns.

Upcoming conversation dates set!

The dates for the next set of community meetings are set:

- July 19, Catholic Community Services, 3737 Portland RD NE
- July 31, Location to be announced
- August 22, Location to be announced

Each meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. with light snacks and refreshments served.

Las fechas para las próximas reuniones se enumeran arriba.

Cada reunión comienza a las 6:00 p.m. y se proporcionará bocadillos y refrescos ligeros.

Stay informed

To participate in future meetings, send an email to salempolicedept@cityofsalem.net to join the electronic notification list—or check back here for more info!

Also, please use the links below to read the reports and documents related to this initiative.

Mantengase informado

Para participar en las reuniones programadas en el futuro, envíe un correo electrónico a salempolicedept@cityofsalem.net para recibir anuncios—o regrese a esta página en una fecha posterior.

Además, usa las ligas abajo para leer en español los reportes y documentos relacionados a esta iniciativa.

- COMMUNITY VIOLENCE REDUCTION INITIATIVE: KEY FINDINGS** +
- GUN VIOLENCE PROBLEM ANALYSIS REPORT** +
- GUN VIOLENCE PROBLEM ANALYSIS - REPORT PRESENTATION** +

Messages from the Chief of Police

Chief Womack has published several community messages related to this initiative. The most recent was in [March 2024 Community Message](#). In [November 2023 he shared an Open Letter to the Community](#) which included an invitation to participate in the joint local government work session.

Mensajes de parte del jefe de policía

Un mensaje para la comunidad de parte del jefe de policía fue publicado [en español](#) en marzo de 2024.

En noviembre de 2023, el jefe compartió un mensaje para la comunidad [en español](#) con una invitación para la participación en una reunión especial entre la municipalidad y el gobierno del condado.

Related Media Releases

June 7, 2024 [Agencies release joint statement on violence reduction efforts this summer](#)