



CITY OF  
**Vancouver**  
WASHINGTON

# Police Community Advisory Committee

**Meeting #10**

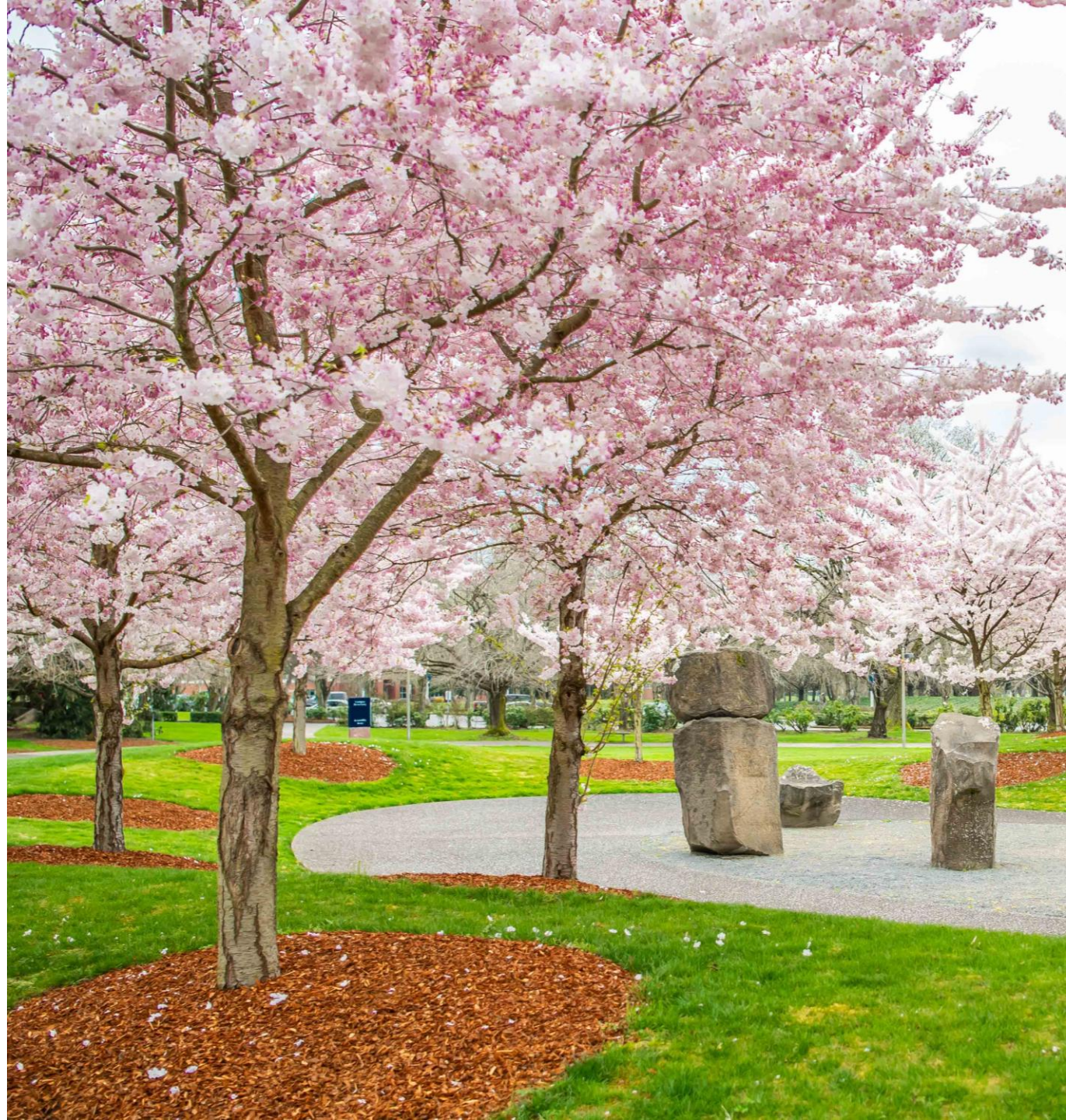
Aspen Room at City Hall  
June 11, 2025





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# Welcome in centering exercise







# Agenda

- Revisit context for November election
- Continue discussion of potential funding options, including a possible Proposition 5
- Deliver a formal recommendation to the City Manager
- Review next steps



# Our big questions tonight

After reviewing options for a possible Proposition 5, we'll discuss:

- Which funding option best meets our community's needs?
- Will voters support it?

- Based on what we know now, when should we present Proposition 5 to voters?
- What timing would be most likely to secure voter support?

At the end of the meeting, we will confirm the group's recommendation by asking each of you:

"Is this something that you can live with and support?"



# Clark County funding discussions

- The county council is considering funding options for:
  - A \$471 million jail expansion project
  - Sheriff John Horch's request for 90 new deputies and 24 nonsworn staff
- Councilors are weighing whether to pursue:
  - A bond
  - A levy lid lift
  - An increase in the public safety sales tax
  - A new juvenile detention and jails sales tax

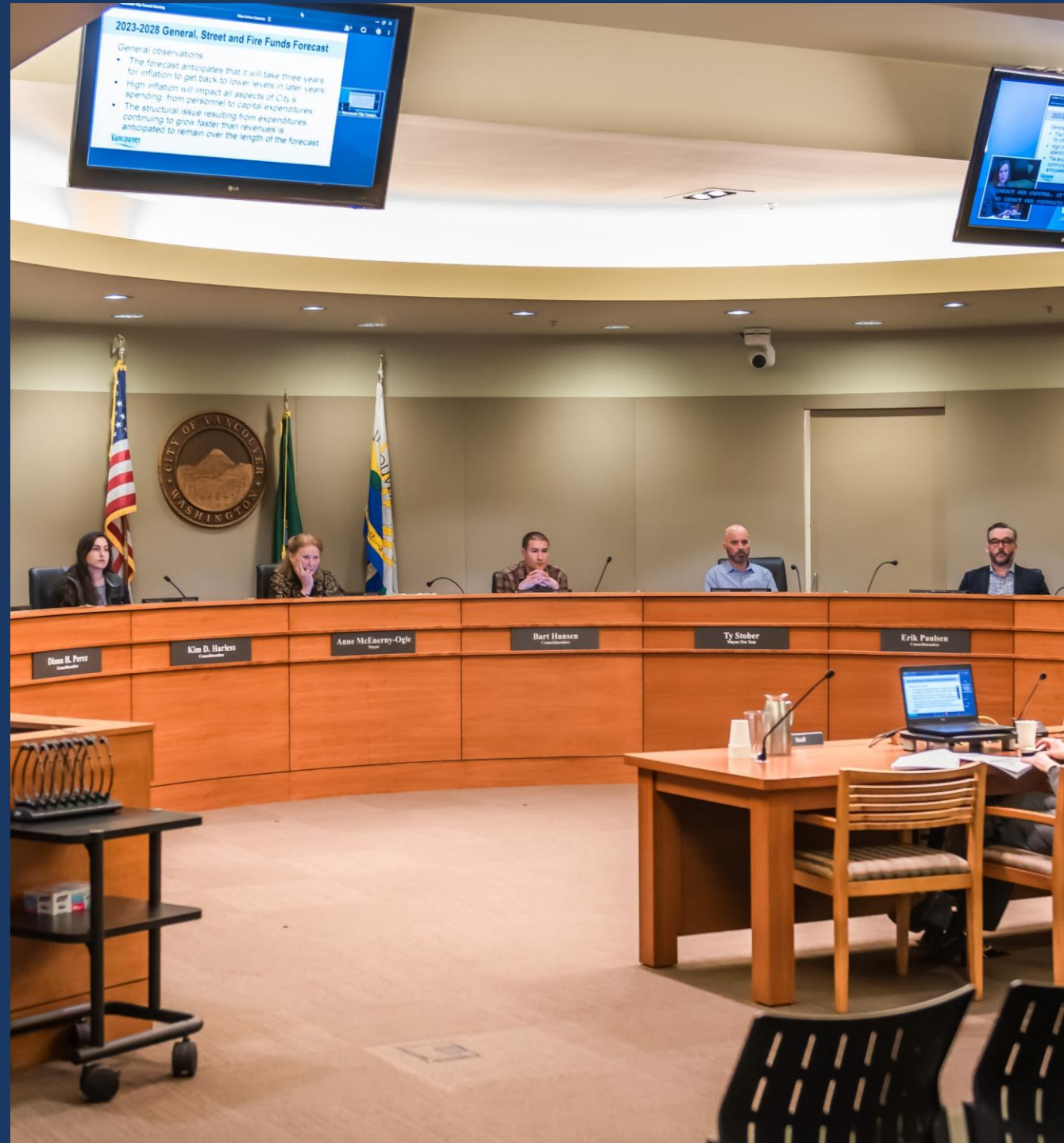




# District election charter amendment

- On Monday, the City Council voted to put the question of district elections on the November ballot
- The City will conduct an educational campaign ahead of the election
- Multiple messages and campaigns could impact how voters approach a possible Proposition 5

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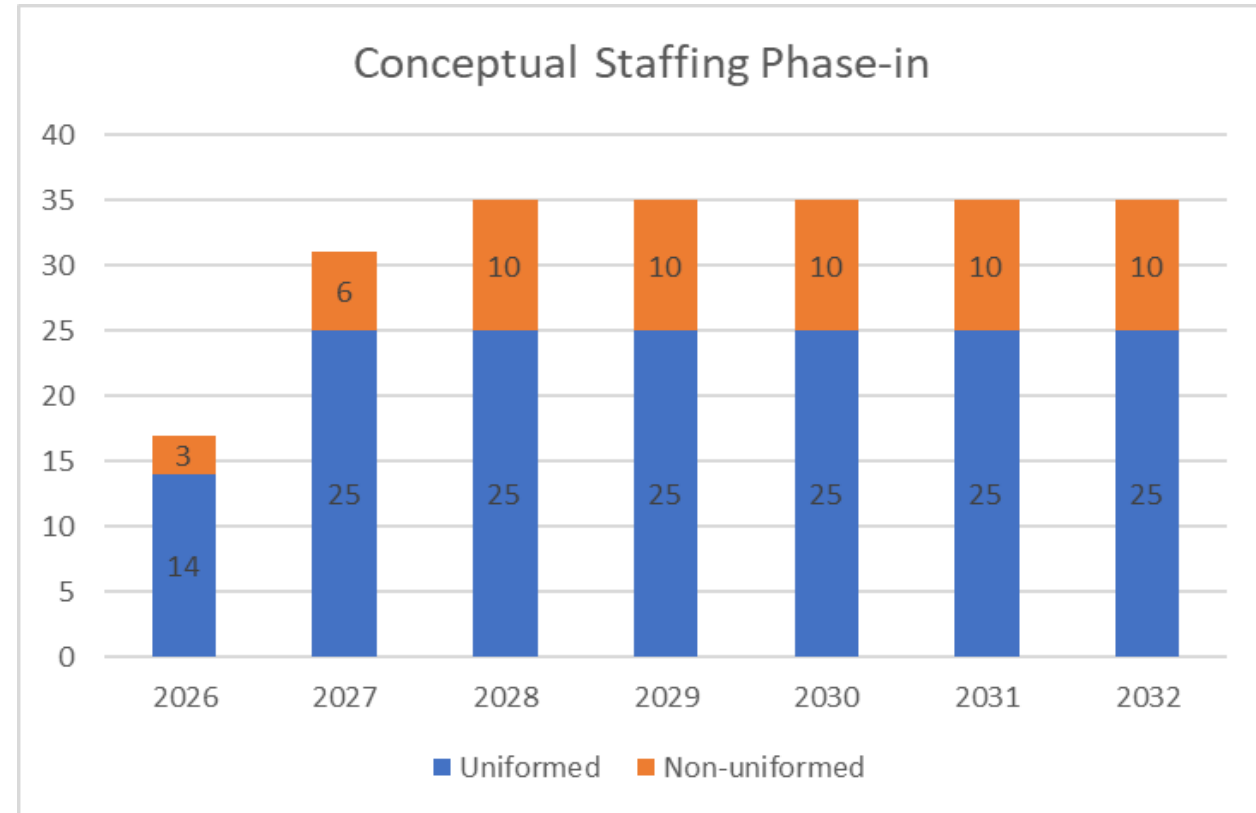


# Total Estimated Costs (preliminary)

		Number of new FTEs	2026 Cost	One-time Vehicle Cost (2026)
Sworn				
	Officers	16	\$411,997	\$45,850
	Detectives	7	\$363,849	\$54,599
	Sergeants	2	\$413,848	\$48,747
Non-sworn		10	\$95000- \$160,000	
TOTAL FTEs		35		
Facility Investment (Maximize existing space)				\$3.2 M
Total Annual Cost on Full Implementation without grants (2029)				\$12.7 M

# Investment in VPD

- Add 16 patrol officers and 2 sergeants to reduce overtime and increase capacity to respond to events
- Add 7 detectives to investigate crimes
- Add up to 10 non-sworn staff to support evidence, records, analysis and engagement



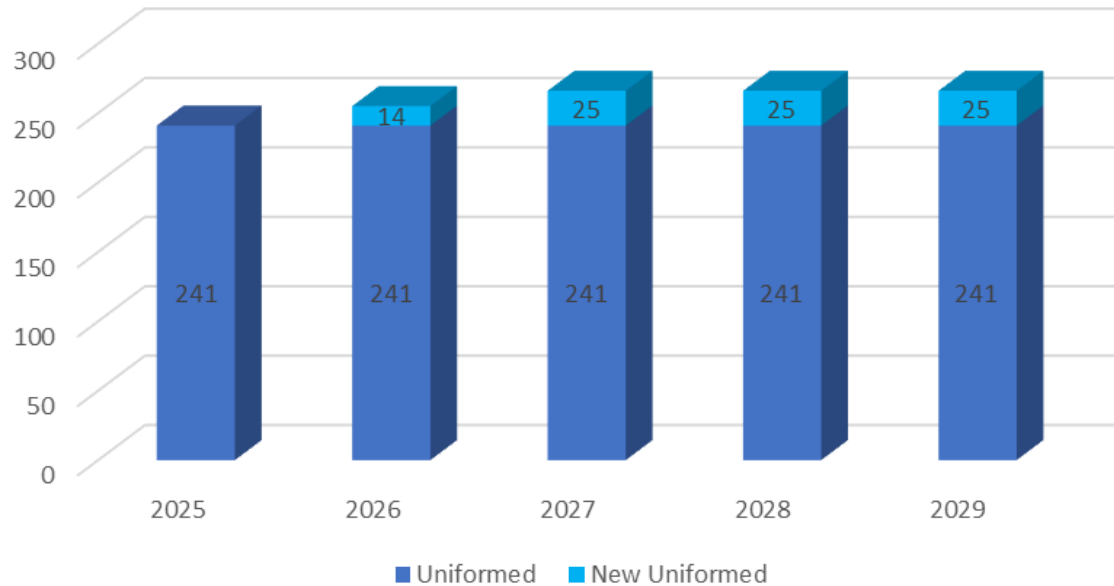
New staffing is limited by the current facility capacity, that can only accommodate 25 new uniformed and 10 non-uniformed FTEs



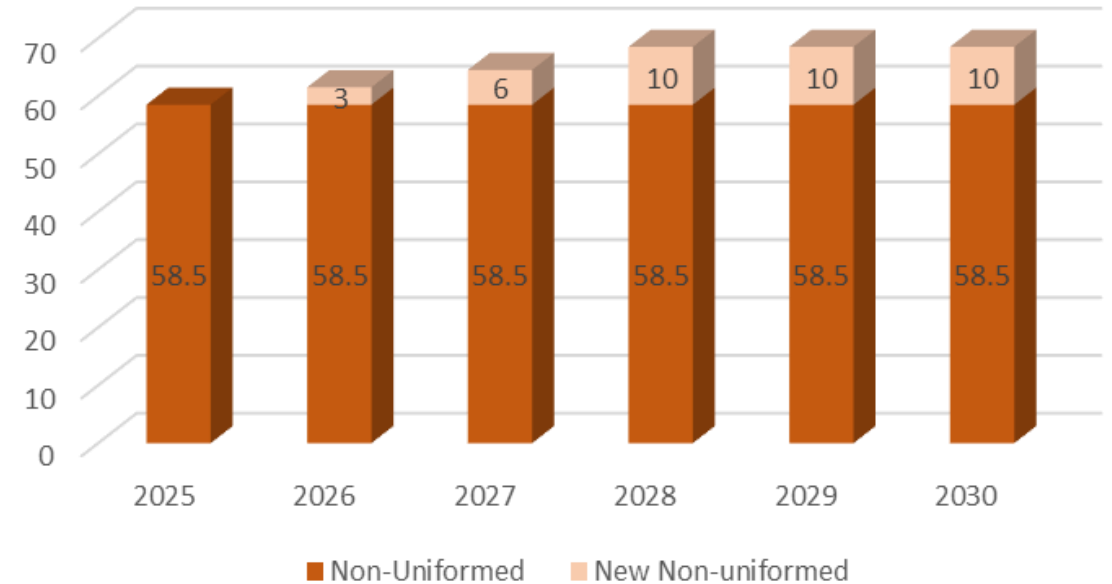


# Potential Phase-in of staffing, compared to current staffing levels

Contemplated Phase-in: Uniformed FTEs



Contemplated Phase-In: Non-Uniformed





# Potential Funding Options





# Option #1

## Public safety sales tax + possible grant funds from HB 2015

HB 2015 allows the City to enact a 0.1% public safety sales tax and apply for a grant

### How much money would it generate?

- ~\$7.4 million per year + state grant

### How many officers could it fund?

- 13–15 officers, plus several support positions and equipment from a possible state grant



# Option #1: Sales tax + grant funds



## Pros

- Could be enacted directly by the City Council
- Funds could be spent on varied public safety purposes
- Would provide a guaranteed source of funding, separate from a future levy
- Would potentially allow leveraging state grant resources



## Cons

- Would generate less money than a levy, thus fewer new staff
- Sales tax can be volatile, changing from year to year
- Sales taxes are regressive; taking a greater percentage of money from lower-income households
- State grant funds are short-term and not guaranteed.



# Option #2

## Property tax levy (Proposition 5)

The City could pursue a levy lid lift, like Proposition 4, but potentially smaller in size

### How much money would it generate?

- ~\$12.5 million per year
- Levy rate: \$0.33/\$1,000 of assessed value, or \$166 per year for an owner of a \$500K house



# Option #2: Property tax levy only



## Pros

- Voter-approval would indicate strong support for public safety
- Would provide more money than a sales tax alone
- Funds could be spent on a wide range of public safety purposes



## Cons

- Uncertain voting environment
- Property tax revenues grow slowly – by 1% per year plus new construction, significantly below rates of growth in police staffing
- Voters rejected Prop. 4, could be hesitant to support Prop. 5



# Option #3: Combine options #1 and #2

Council-approved sales tax, grant funds + voter-approved property tax levy  
(Proposition 5)

The City could enact a 0.1% sales tax on January 1, 2027, following passage of a smaller property tax levy (assumes Jan. 1, 2026 start date)

## **How much money would it generate?**

- ~\$7.5 million in sales tax and grant funds
- ~\$5.7 million in property tax (0.15/\$1,000, or \$75.50/year for an owner of a \$500K house)

## **How many officers could it fund?**

- 25 uniformed and up to 10 support staff



## Option #3: Sales tax, grant funds + property tax levy



### Pros

- Funding would come from residents and visitors
- More stable and less volatile than just a sales tax
- Allow for 3-year state grants to offset a significant amount of costs



### Cons

- Would increase the cost of housing, but at a lower rate than if property tax alone was utilized
- Could limit the City's ability to impose a levy for other needs
- Recent levies in Clark County have failed to pass

# Annual total cost for a typical \$500,000 homeowner

## Property tax levy lid lift and sales tax

- Year 1 levy: \$15/\$1,000 in assessed value (\$75.50/year)
- Sales Tax: ~\$1.30/month (\$16.00/year)
- **Total estimated: \$91.50/year**

\*Assumes no new facilities built, East Precinct updated to fit additional 35 FTEs





## 20-Minute Activity



**Discuss with  
your group**

# Small-group discussion

With your group, spend 20 minutes discussing:

**Which funding option best meets our needs?**

**Will voters support it?**

**When should we present Prop. 5 to voters?**

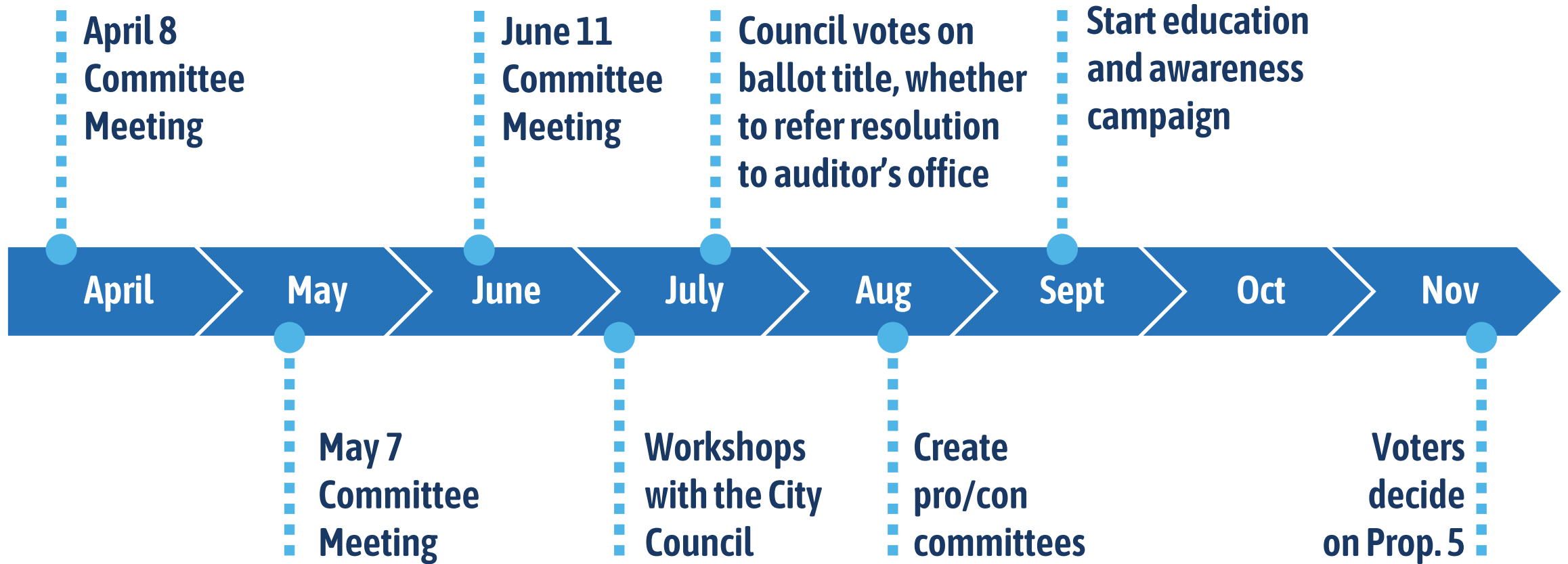
- Should the City move forward with a ballot measure in November or wait until 2026?
- What timing would be most likely to secure voter support?



# Discussion



# Timeline for a Possible Proposition 5



\*Fall or winter meetings to be determined







## Next Steps

- The City Manager will present a formal recommendation to the City Council in the coming weeks
- The Council will decide how to proceed with a proposition
- We look forward to reconvening the committee in late 2025 or early 2026 to share updates





# Thank You



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