

**Reimagining
Public Safety** Ithaca &
Tompkins
County, N.Y.



Reimagining Public Safety Collaborative
City of Ithaca & Tompkins County, N.Y.

June 21, 2022

Dr. Tracie Keesee
SVP of Social Justice Initiatives
Center for Policing Equity

Dear Dr. Keesee,

On behalf of the Reimagining Public Safety Collaborative, the City of Ithaca, and Tompkins County New York, we are writing to inform you that we will be ending our working relationship with the Center for Policing Equity. The Collaborative and our individual municipalities are no longer seeking to avail ourselves of CPE's services, as we have made significant progress on the plans to reimagine public safety in our communities and have increased our local capacity to carry out the work.

We also want to express our sincere gratitude for CPE's partnership throughout this process. Since September 2020, we partnered with CPE, leveraging your staff's expertise and your methodologies as we developed the initial *Public Safety, Reimagined* report, and the City's subsequent *Implementing the City of Ithaca's New Public Safety Agency* report.

We have reached several milestones in recent months that have increased our capacity to implement local plans. Our collaborative work locally will continue to be led by our Community Justice Center, and its inaugural Project Director, Monalita Smiley and we will soon be hiring a data analyst and administrative assistant to support the work of the Center. The City's Common Council is moving forward with significant conversations on the tenets of the *Implementing the City of Ithaca's New Public Safety Agency* report, and the City has launched a public facing dashboard featuring public safety data. The County is nearing kickoff of the Sheriff's office unarmed response pilot program. Many more of our nearly 20 plans are in process of being launched and implemented.

It is our hope that the progress made in our communities can serve as a model for other communities, and we wish CPE luck as you continue your vital work with other partners.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Laura Lewis in black ink.

Laura Lewis
Acting Mayor, City of Ithaca

Handwritten signature of Shawna Black in black ink.

Shawna Black
Chairwoman, Tompkins County Legislature