



Prearrest Diversion Task Force Action Plan

The Prearrest Diversion Task Force will submit its final report and recommendations to the D.C. Council by the July 31, 2026 deadline. The action plan outlined below provides a structured roadmap for the next phases of work, identifying the core deliverables, decision points, and operational steps required to reach completion. By establishing a shared framework with measurable milestones, this plan enables the task force to monitor progress, coordinate cross-agency responsibilities, and remain accountable to producing a comprehensive final report.

Learning / Information Gathering

Information gathering will focus on collecting accurate, relevant data from stakeholders to ensure decisions are grounded in evidence. It will also include virtual and in-person site visits to prearrest diversion programs across that country that are leaders in the field.

Site Visits / Virtual Visits:

Currently the Prearrest Task Force is considering site/virtual visits for four locations: Baltimore, Philadelphia, Orange County, and Seattle. Locations were selected based on variety of strategic factors including performance outcomes, model structure, and, for in-person visits, proximity to D.C. For more information, please review the “Site Visit Plan” document.

Tentative Site / Virtual Visit Schedule

- Baltimore - Monday, November 17, 2025, from 10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (COMPLETED)
- Orange County – February 2026 (virtual)
- Seattle – March 2026 (virtual)
- Philadelphia – March/April 2026

To do:

- Confirm availability to attend site and virtual visits
- Review agenda and read any relevant background materials
- Come prepared with relevant questions
- Coordinate travel (as necessary)

Resource Assessment:

Prearrest diversion relies on a robust array of service providers of housing, health care, and general social services available to support diverted individuals. Prior to submitting recommendations to the D.C. Council, the task force will need to conduct a resource assessment to ensure there are sufficient services available. The CJCC will begin the process of reaching out to task force members to discuss availability of resources, service provision, gaps, and other relevant information to include in any report.

To do:

- Prepare a list of relevant resources provided by your agency or organization
 - Include operational metrics (staffing, funding source)



- Include capacity and times of availability
- Meet one-on-one with CJCC to talk through service provision and gaps
- Synthesize findings for D.C. Council report

Data Collection:

Developing an effective prearrest diversion program requires a comprehensive data foundation that captures both system-level trends and individual-level needs. It is essential to review data on law enforcement activity for so called “hot spots” and time-of-day spikes of eligible offenses to determine where resources might most effectively be directed. Information on frequent users of behavioral health resources including substance use disorder or other mental health related activities will help identify individuals most in need of diversion services and support. Lastly information on existing referral pathways, wait times, and service gaps can ensure the task force understands the scope of available resources and can make program design and legislative requests accordingly. Together these data elements will inform program design and measurable outcomes.

To Do:

- Determine eligible offenses for prearrest diversion task force
- Determine measured outcomes
- Identify and analyze relevant data
 - “Hot spots” for eligible offenses
 - Frequent users of behavioral health resources
 - Wait time and capacity
- Produce data requests as necessary
- Prepare write up data results

Resource assessment and data collection both should be completed prior to the decision-making process. Recommend completion date of April 30, 2026.

Decision Making

The Prearrest Diversion Task Force will need to vote on recommendations to provide to the D.C. Council. Voting procedures follow Robert’s Rules of Order. When a recommendation is presented, task force members will have the opportunity to speak and debate the issue. When the recommendation is called to a vote, a simple majority of task force members must approve of the motion for the recommendation to be accepted. Each agency will have one designated vote.

Decision points:

1. Eligibility
 - a. Misdemeanors for prearrest diversion process
 - b. Age
 - c. Voluntary consent
 - i. Substance use capacity
 - d. Exclusions (legal, medical, danger)
2. Referral type



- a. Arrest referral
- b. Social referral
- c. Familiar Faces
3. Law Enforcement training
 - a. Crisis intervention and de-escalation
 - b. Substance use disorder and co-occurring conditions
 - c. Data collection and documentation
 - d. Coordination protocols with PAD staff
4. Program structure
 - a. Transportation (own, law enforcement, or PAD team)
 - b. Location
 - i. Pilot area vs. Citywide deployment
 - ii. One stop shop vs. multiple service providers
 - c. Resources
 - i. Staffing (Project Manager, Case manager, Peer support specialists)
 1. Training (similar to law enforcement, plus community resource navigation)
 - ii. Funding
 - d. Direct program services offered – Case Management
 - i. Assessments and needs identification
 - ii. Service triage
 - iii. Length of service provided
 - iv. Follow up protocols
 - e. External services offered
 - i. Mental health and substance use screenings
 - ii. Outpatient and inpatient/residential services
 - iii. Stabilization services
 - iv. Long term housing
 - f. Formal Partnerships - MOUs
5. Data Collection and Management
 - a. Legal considerations for agency data sharing
 - b. Law enforcement data (referrals, re-arrests, time spent on cases)
 - c. Behavioral health data (Enrollments, services, drop outs)
 - d. General (Retention, participation in services, completion of services)
 - e. Long-term (1 year, 2 years, 5 years)
 - i. Follow up on program participants (1 year)
 1. Recidivism
 2. Criminal justice and legal system utilization costs
 3. Overdose
 4. Housing, Employment, Income
 - ii. Outstanding warrants or cases
6. Monitoring
 - a. Feedback from participants and staff
 - b. Case consultations for case managers, peer support specialists
 - c. Task force review of progress
7. Expansion



- a. Expand to all of D.C.
 - b. Eligibility
 - c. Referral sources
8. Legislative changes

Please note this decision list is non-comprehensive.

Due to the number of recommendations and topics that will need to receive a discussion and vote, it is recommended that the task force meets twice in April for an expanded period (likely 3 hours) to ensure all task force members have sufficient time to voice opinions and preferences prior to each vote.

Report Writing and Review

Based on the recommendations of the task force, the Chairperson and the CJCC will create an initial draft of the Prearrest Diversion Task Force report including sections on all of the required elements in the [law](#). The proposed sections are listed below:

Sections:

- Letter to D.C. Council from Chairperson Kelly O'Meara
- Introduction and Background
- Eligibility Requirements
- Diversion Pathways
- Individual Identification
- Referral Processing and Response Protocols
- Participant Treatment Program Process
- Program Data Metrics
- Personnel
- Training
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Legal and Policy Framework
- Conclusion
- Appendices

Upon completion of the initial draft, task force members will receive one month to provide edits, updates, and changes relevant to the report.¹ Recommended changes will be assessed and approved by the Chairperson before incorporation into the report. Once the report is finalized, it will be sent to D.C. Council by the July 31, 2026 deadline.

¹ Please note that recommendations approved by the task force by vote cannot be changed without a majority in favor of reassessing the issue.



Important Dates:

January 12, 2026	Community Roundtable
January 28, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
February 2026	Orange County Virtual Site Visit
February 25, 2026 ²	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
March 2026	Seattle Virtual Site Visit
March 25, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
March/April 2026	Philadelphia Site Visit
April 22, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting ³
April 2026	Additional Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
May 27, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
June 1 – June 30, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force member review of draft report
June 24, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
July 22, 2026	Prearrest Diversion Task Force meeting
July 31, 2026	Submission date for report to D.C. Council

² Subject to change due to performance oversight hearings.

³ Extended length for voting