



Hamilton

Community Safety and Well-Being: Gender Based Safety Audit

Emergency & Community Services Committee
March 20, 2025

Presenters:

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Children's and Community Services Division, Community Strategies

Agenda

- Setting the Context
- Considerations Report Recommendations
- Gender Based Safety Audit:
 - Process
 - Themes
 - Recommendations
- Next Steps

Setting the Context

- This report provides an update on the Gender-Based Safety Audit conducted in response to a motion passed by Council in September 2023.
- The audit identifies safety strengths and areas for improvement for both the City of Hamilton and the broader community and offers recommendations to enhance service delivery and public infrastructure.
- The report outlines immediate actions, next steps, and how the audit findings will be integrated into the broader Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

- That Council **ACCEPT** the YWCA Hamilton Gender-Based Safety Audit Report.
- That staff be **DIRECTED** to report back to Emergency and Community Services Committee in Q3 2025 with a detailed action plan and funding request to implement recommendations outlined in the Gender-Based Safety Audit Report.
- That Council **ADOPT** the Ministry of Solicitor General's definition of community safety and well-being to guide municipal policies, programs and strategic planning.

Today, we will present:

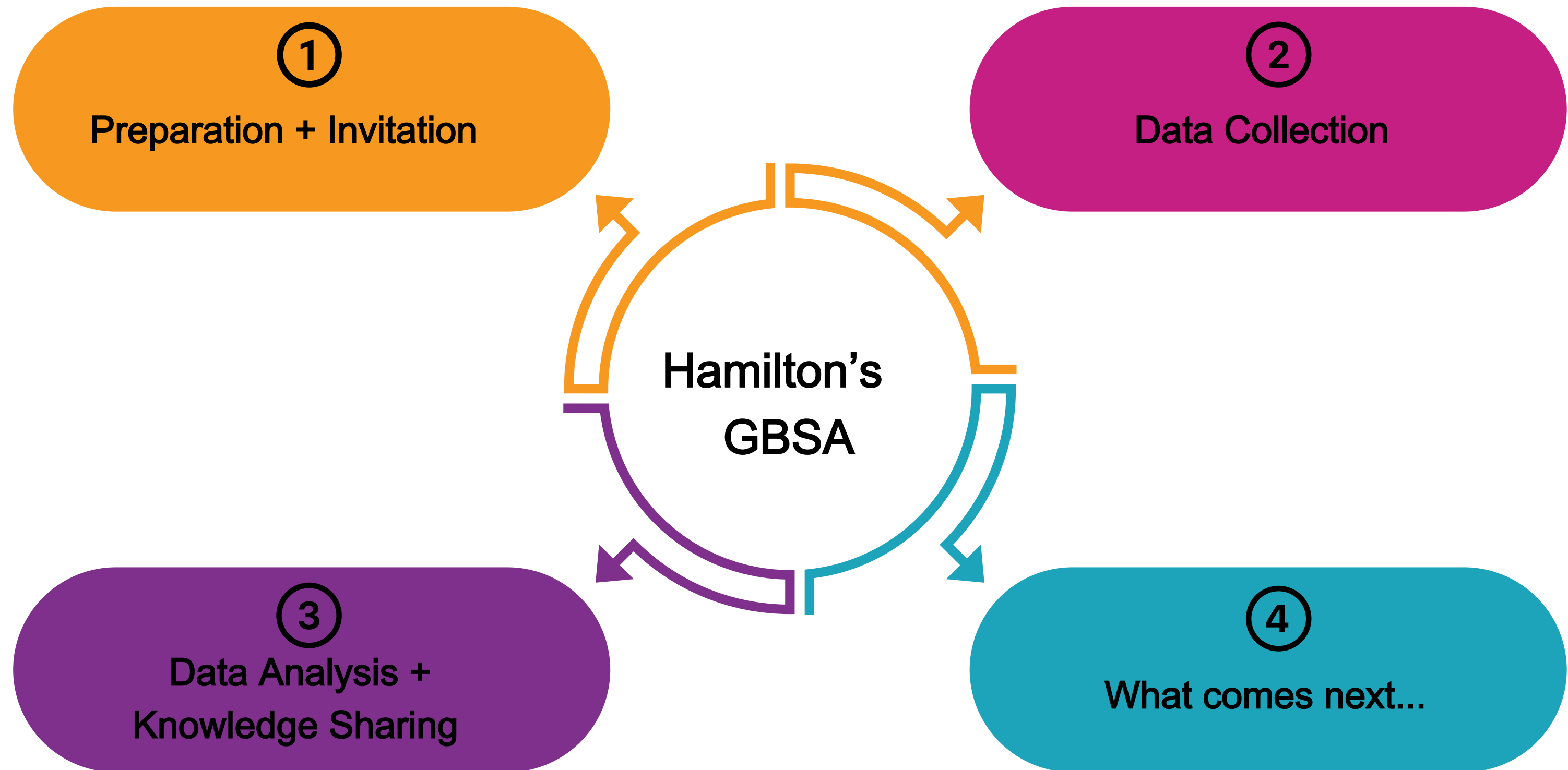
What we did

How we did it

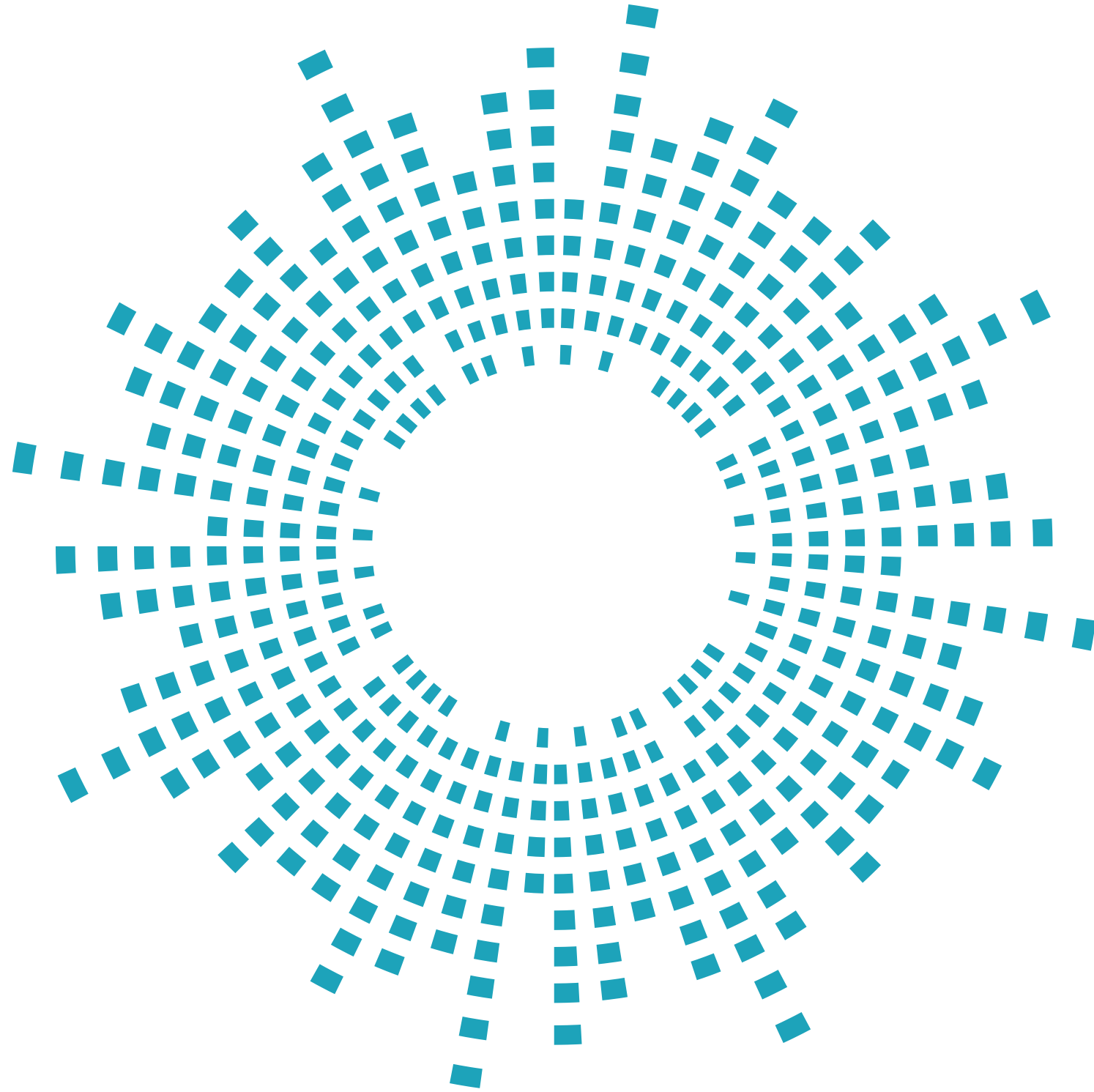
What we learned



Our Process



What did we do?

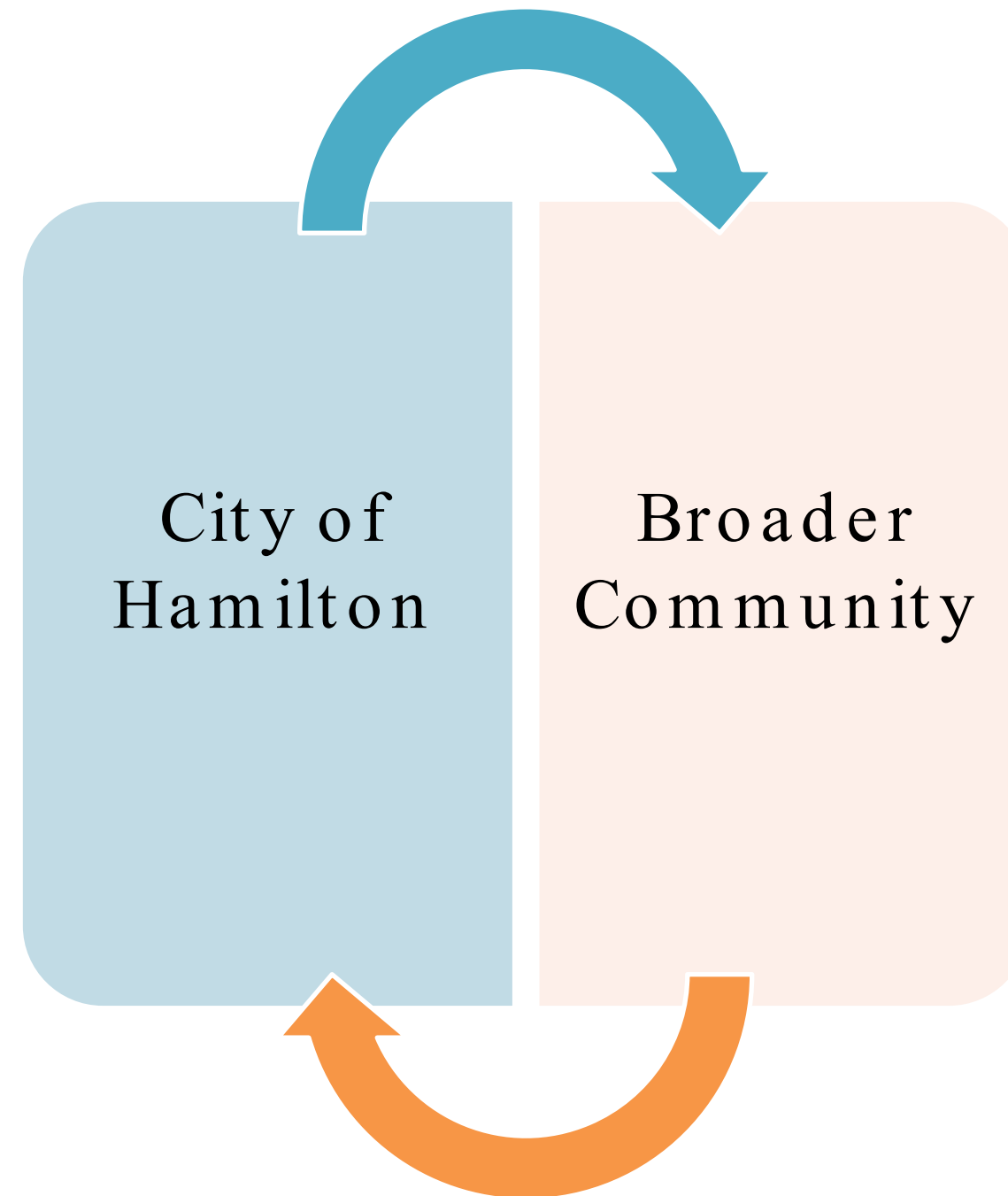


- ① Adopted snowball sampling recruitment process across Hamilton
- ② Engaged people with an expansive set of backgrounds, experiences and identities from across Hamilton.
- ③ Built trust and relationships
- ④ Worked with range of departments/divisions/sections within City of Hamilton. Hosted community event.


Themes



Two Streams of Recommendations



Audit Recommendations




Address safety's root causes in laws, policies, procedures, funding, and structures

Participants emphasized the need for a collaborative, multi-sectoral set of responses to address underlying root causes. They called for the focus on culturally relevant, culturally appropriate and low-barrier:

- Affordable, accessible and supportive housing
- Local healthcare support
- Healthy, nutritious and low-cost food
- Social and economic supports
- Justice and legal supports
- Childcare and additional family supports
- Community-based mental health and grief supports


Audit Recommendations (cont.)



**Increase access to
training and education**

Participants spoke about the need to both provide and increase community -based training and education opportunities for staff working at the City of Hamilton, Hamilton Police Services, local hospitals and clinics, principals and educators, private security personnel, and transit operators.

Audit Recommendations (cont.)




**Increase and enhance
safety and security
protocols in
public spaces**

Safe Infrastructure Enhancements

Security Measures

Well-Maintained Spaces

Audit Recommendations (cont.)



**Increase accessibility on
public transit and local
sidewalks/roadways**

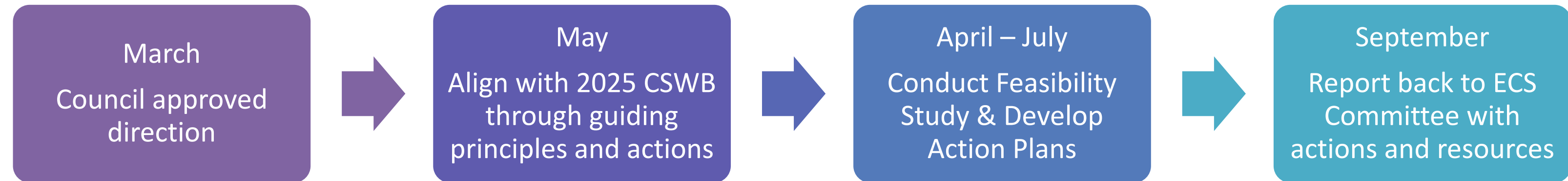
Safer HSR

Safer Inclusive Travel

**“Safety is the feeling of having the freedom to do your routines and life without fears.”
- Hamilton GBSA Participant**

**“I try to surround myself with woman -centric communities and I find hope there...we know
the bad stuff is happening but we also have each others’ backs.”
- Hamilton GBSA Participant**

Next Steps





Hamilton

THANK YOU