

School Resource Officer Task Force Presentation: **Regional Law Safety and Justice Committee**

February 27, 2020



City Manager's Office
James Lopez
Assistant City Manager

Today's Presentation



Background

1

Insights

3

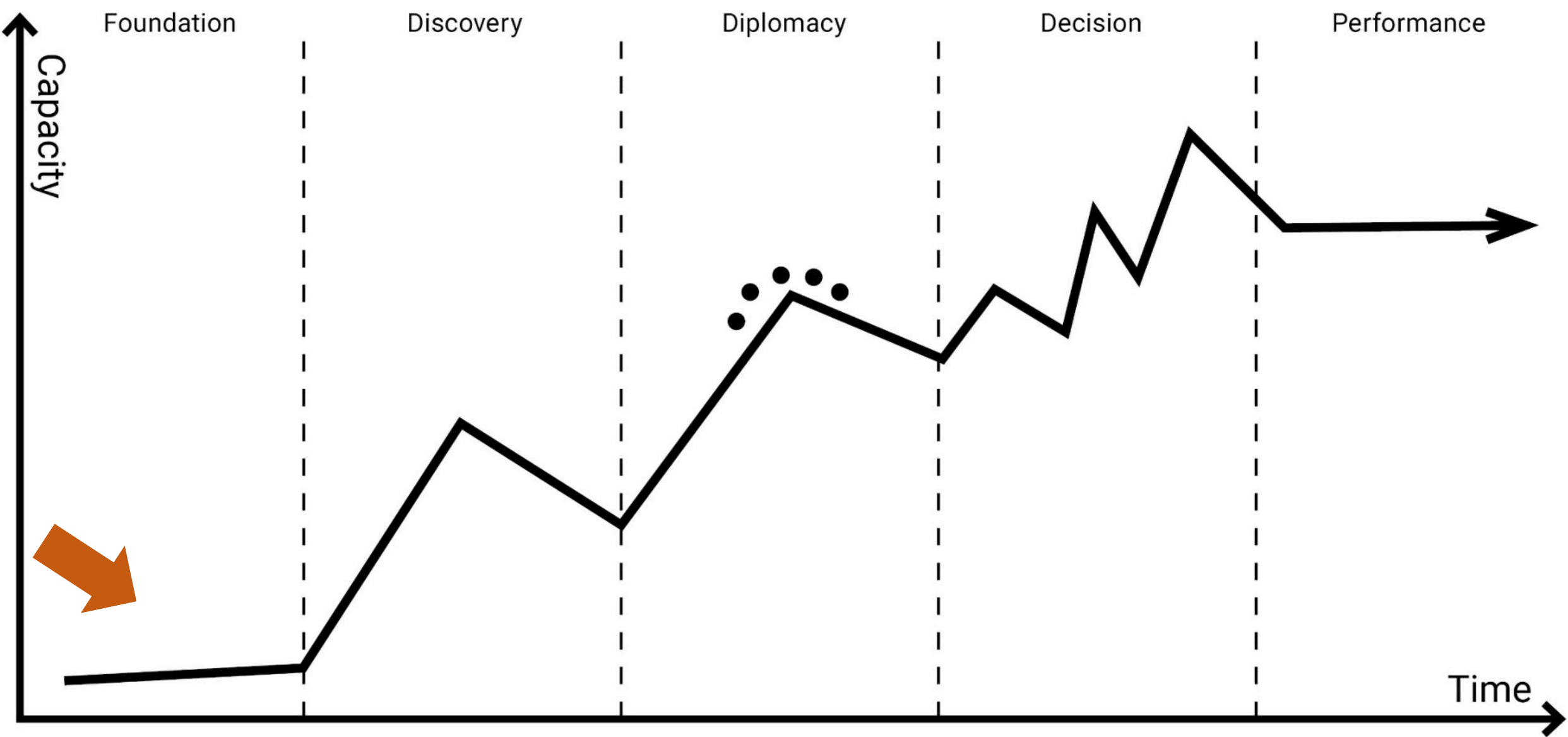
Task Force

2

Next Steps

4





SRO Task Force Timeline

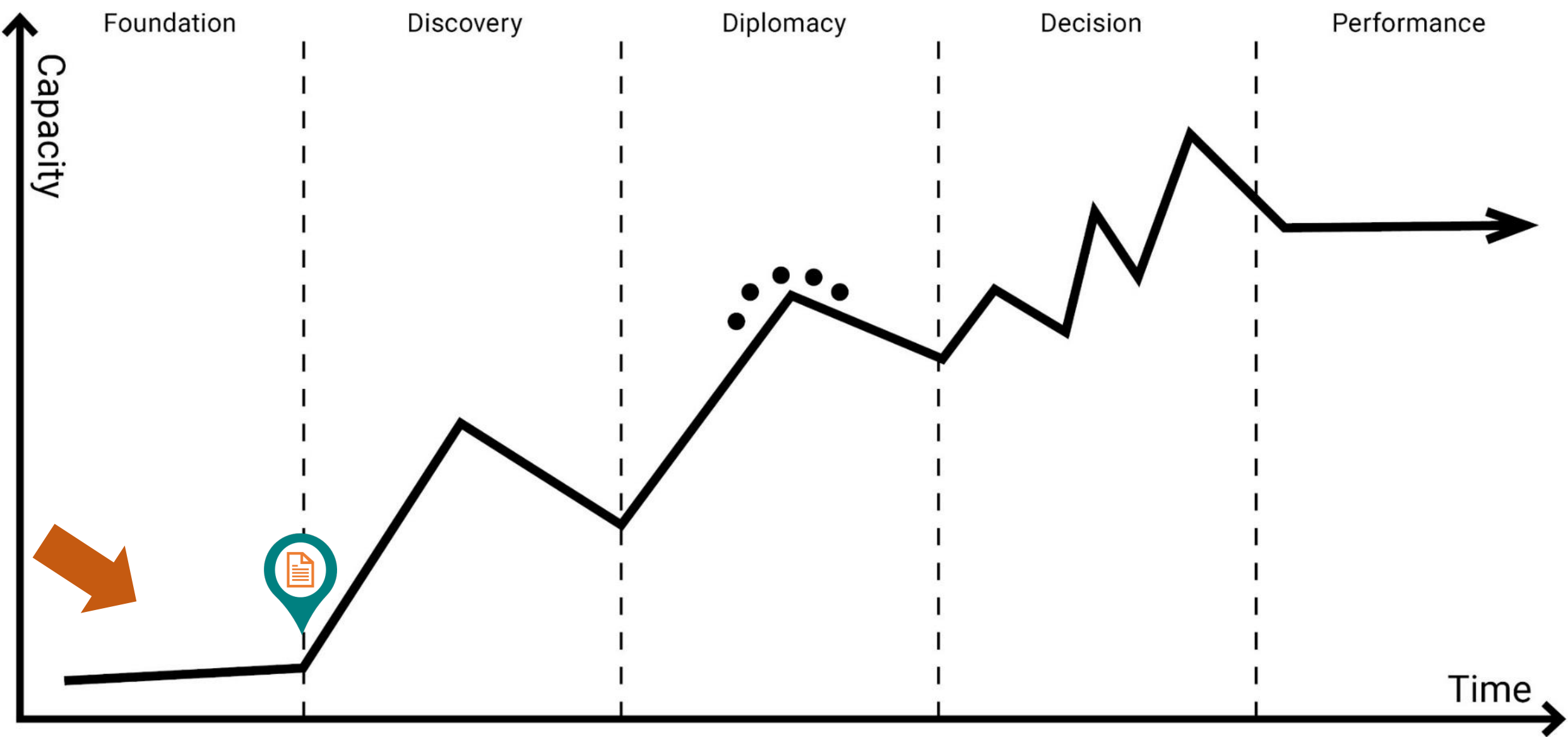
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School Walk Out Event

March 14, 2018

70+ parents of Kirkland students

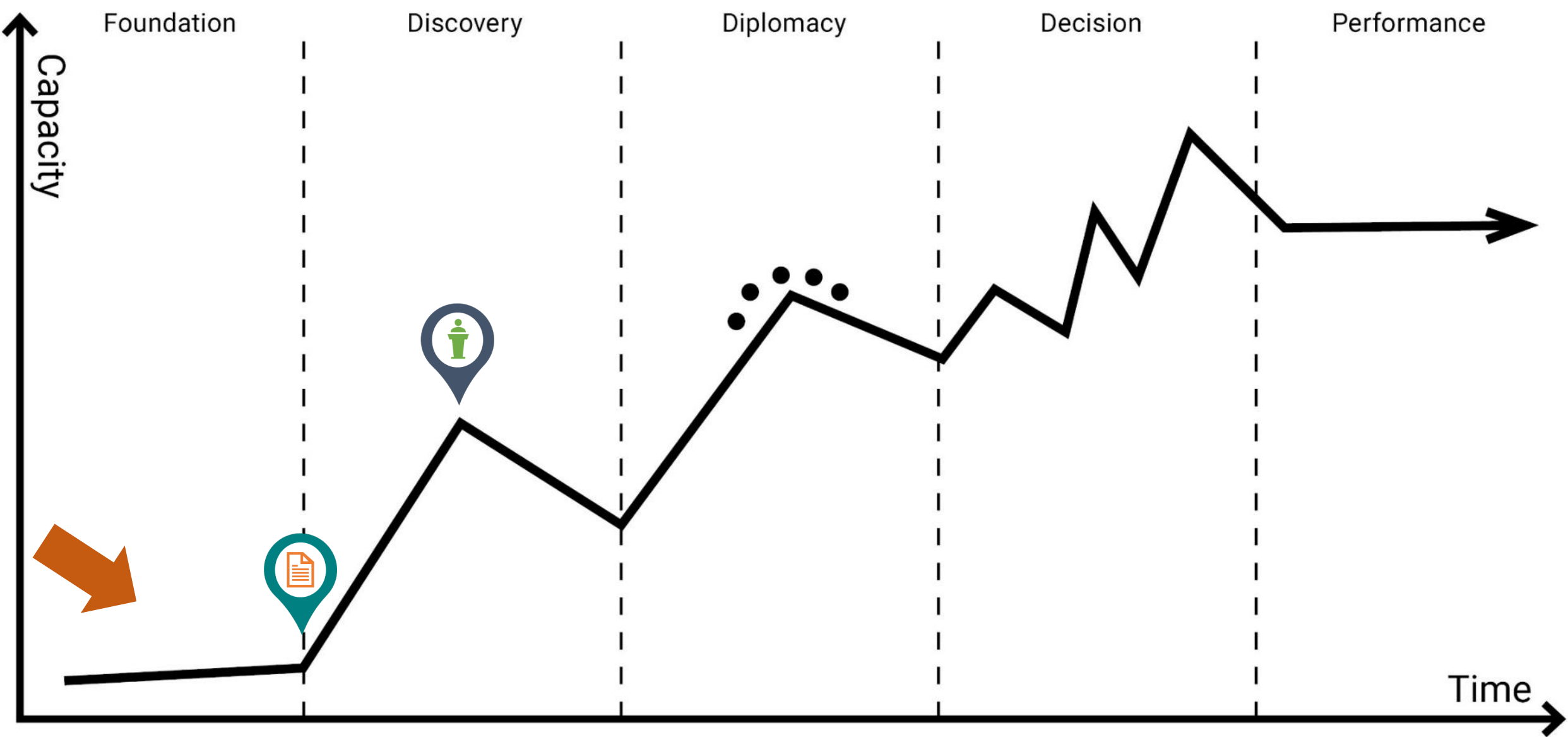


SRO Task Force Timeline

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**Council Resolution 5312:
Community Engagement
on Gun Safety**
May 1, 2018



SRO Task Force Timeline

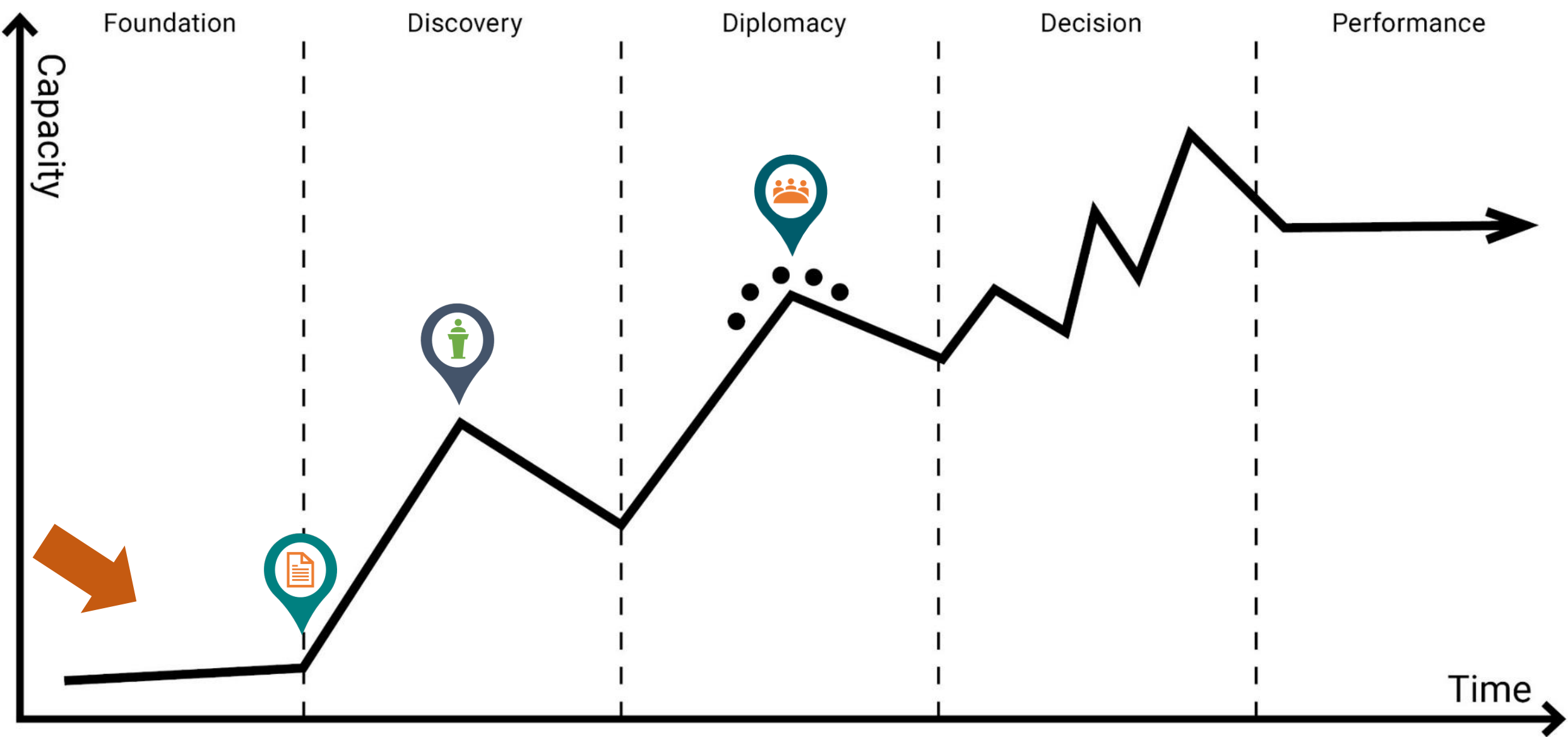
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Town Hall on Gun Safety

June 20, 2018

210 people



SRO Task Force Timeline

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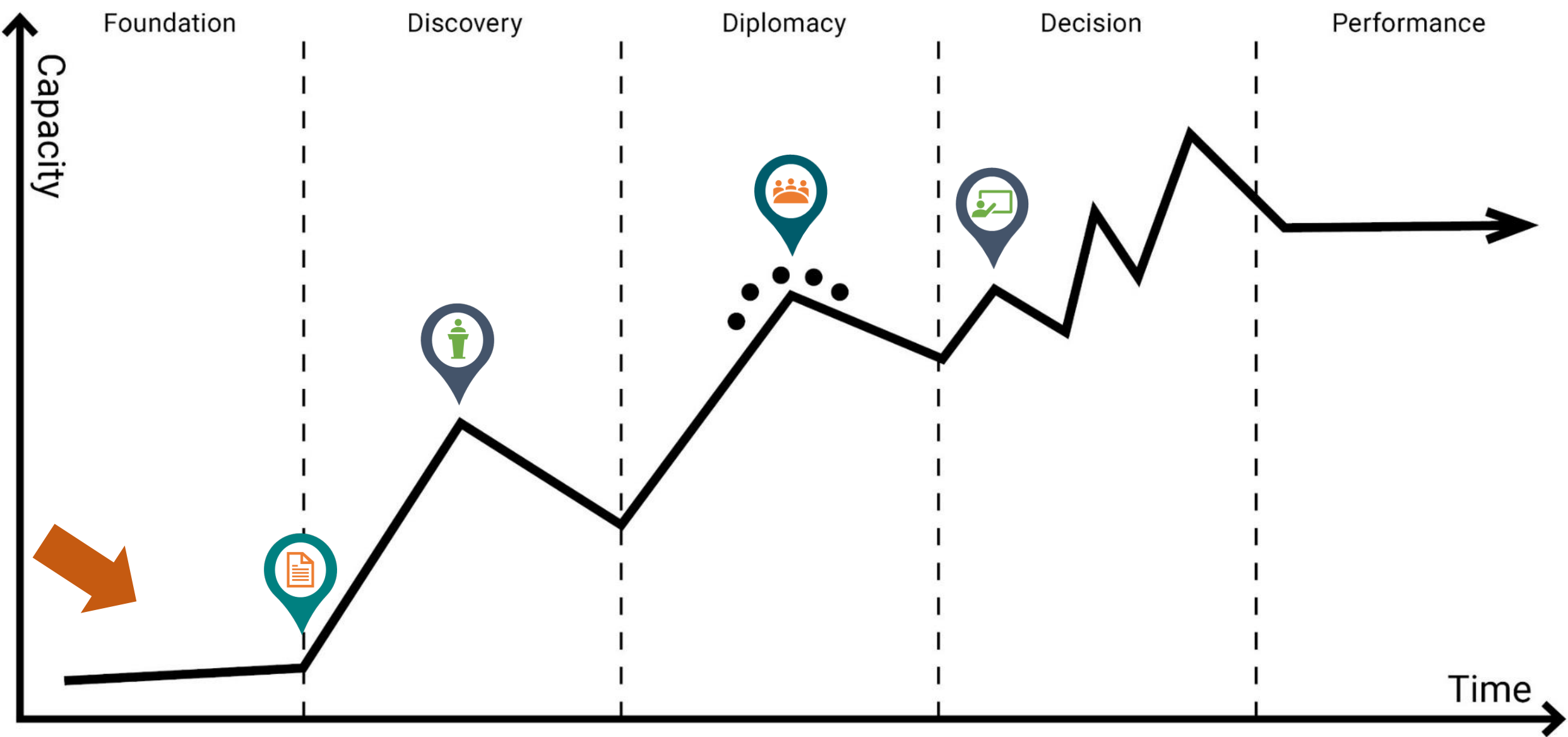
Focus Groups on Gun Safety

June 2018

9 focus groups

76 people

*Focus Group photo from 2019 Sustainability Master Plan engagement



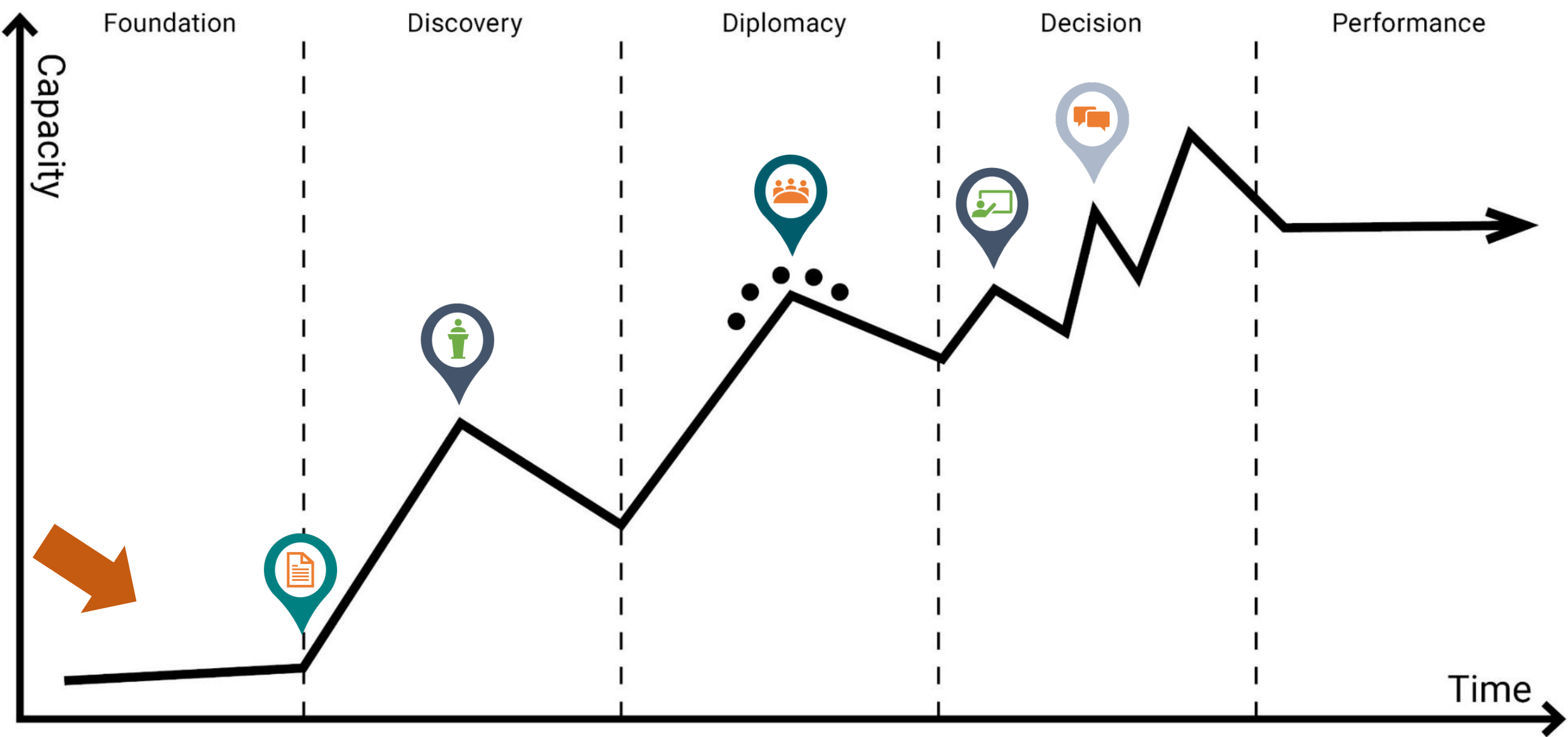
SRO Task Force Timeline

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Community Engagement Presentation to Council

July 17, 2018



SRO Task Force Timeline

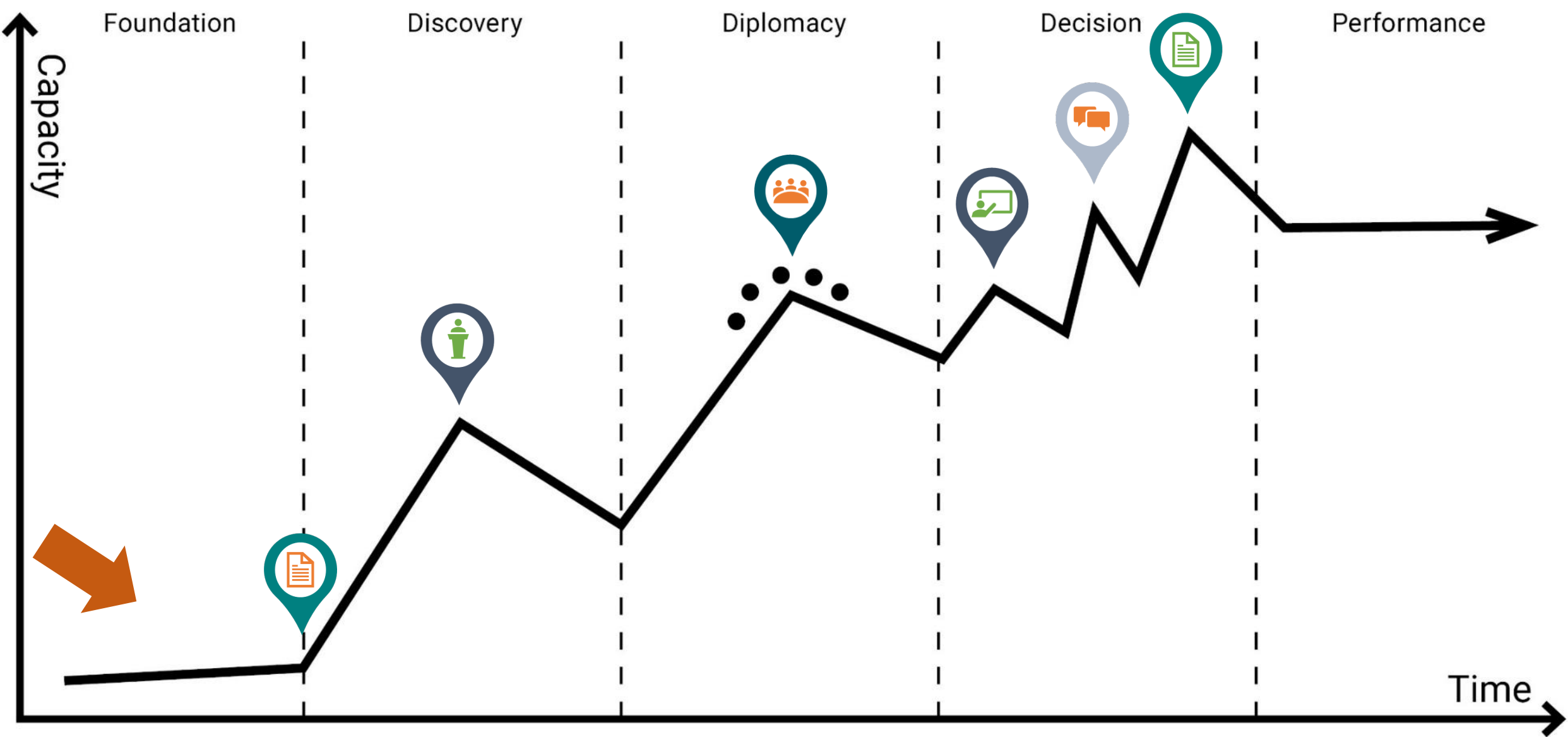
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Public Hearing



Public Hearing
August 6, 2018



SRO Task Force Timeline

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ENHANCED SAFETY For a Thriving City



Resolution 5324: Enhanced Public Safety and Community Services Ballot Measure

August 6, 2018

Resolution 5339: SRO Task Force

October 16, 2018

Today's Presentation

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Task Force R-5339

- The resolution affirmed that the City intends that the SRO program helps keep students physically, socially and emotionally safe, builds positive relationships between Police agencies and students of all races, religions, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, ability, and incomes and that it helps students receive services and diverts at-risk students from the criminal justice system.



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Task Force R-5339

- The resolution authorized the City to work with the LWSD to engage members of the community in a conversation about the SRO program in 2019.
 - Task Force of interested and relevant stakeholders
 - National best practices
 - Review the current program
 - Make recommendations for improvements



Task Force Membership

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- Community Members

- Lake Washington School District Equity Team (4 members)
- Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition (Executive Director)
- City of Kirkland Human Services Commission (Representative)
- City of Kirkland Youth Council (Representative)
- Indivisible Kirkland (Representative)
- PTSA (President)



Task Force Membership

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- Staff

- City Manager, City of Kirkland (*Co-Chair*)
- Superintendent, Lake Washington School District (*Co-Chair*)
- Chief of Police, CoK
- Associate Superintendent, Student and Community Services, LWSD
- Risk and Safety Manager, LWSD
- Security Manager, LWSD
- Director of Opportunity, Equity and Inclusion, LWSD
- School Resource Officer, CoK



Task Force Schedule

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- Task Force Meetings
 - Seven total meetings
 - Between June 2019 and January 2020
- Additional feedback from external stakeholders
 - Four interviews
 - Parents and representatives from advocacy organizations
 - November and December 2019



Today's Presentation

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Insights

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Task Force

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Insights: Authorizing Documents

- Recommendations related to the SRO program's various authorizing documents
 - It is very important for the program to have a clear statement of purpose that includes "help keep students out of the criminal justice system."



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Insights: General Program

- Recommendations related to the SRO in general
 - It is critical to communicate the SRO program's vision, history, guiding principles and commitments every year to all stakeholders coming in contact with the program.



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Insights: Experience and Training

- Recommendations related to the SRO experience and training
 - SRO training should include proactive strategies to provide referral to support services outside the criminal behavior context.
 - Continuity in the assignment of officers can help build trust. The five-year assignment of SROs provides continuity as well as an opportunity for SROs to become acquainted with students and their families.



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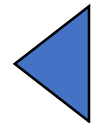
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Next Steps

- Presentation to CoK City Council
- Presentation to LWSD
- Community Presentations



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Next Steps

- Questions?

