

Captioning Transcript of Community Affairs, Housing, Health and Education Committee Meeting - November 2, 2022

"Chair Shanklin"

Meeting will be starting in about a minute.
The regular community affairs, housing helps in education could be lowering the 2nd, 2022 come to order.
Madame clerk, can you please read the meeting notes?

"Olivia Bennett"

This meeting is being held presented to Kara 61.806 in council rule 5, a red and full.

"Chair Shanklin"

Thank you, I'm not sure Council on Barbie, Shanghai and joy. Joining me virtually are.
I went back that up I am the chair Council of accounts of this meeting and with me, it's my vice chair.
Holly gazza woman Cassy chambers Armstrong.
I apologize for overlooking it with me virtually or Dorsey.
Councilman Stuart dancing Kevin triplet.
And counselor, women, Angela bones are there any members present in the chambers little clerk?

"Olivia Bennett"

Madam chair the only council person in chambers is vice chair Armstrong.

"Chair Shanklin"

Okay, thank you. Okay. We will not be, uh.
Looking at item 6 today will not be discussed today.
When met him clerk Gregory item number 2 please.

"Olivia Bennett"

Item number 2 is our dash 161 dash 22 a resolution honoring the honorable regional Meeks by dedicating the corner of Virginia Avenue in 28th street as regional mix way red and full.

"Chair Shanklin"

Okay, can I have a motion? Did I get a.
Start the item has been properly moved a 2nd.
Uh, councilman bones here, can you want to speak to it?

"Committee Member Bowens"

Yes, uh, thank you. Dr, Franklin. Uh, this is, uh.

Request an honorary signed for regional mix. He has been serving for the 4642nd district representative has represented the local, Kentucky, and start in Kentucky for 20 years. He has service level. We're aldermen from 982 to 2000. he president lives on Virginia as well. There are a couple of years, and I would like to have an honorary side, his name emery of all the things that he has done for the community as well as local Kentucky. for the community as well as local kentucky

"Chair Shanklin"

Thank you. Are there any questions or concerns or comments. This is a resolution allowed for a voice vote all those in favor signify by saying. Uh, I don't polls. Okay. We would send this to the consent calendar. Minimum clerk could we read item? Number? 3 plays.

"Olivia Bennett"

Item number 3 is our dash 166 dash 22 a resolution honoring Mary. Oh, sorry. Well, ridge by dedicating Wingfield lane and the intersecting corners of beach street, South 23rd street and Dixie highway as Mary. Courier will ridge lane and her honor.

"Chair Shanklin"

I do, can I have motion motion? Not triplet second third mentioned. Thank you this item has been properly moved in 2nd. I wanna call councilman, uh. Do you have an executive sponsor?

"Committee Member Dorsey"

Um, this street recognition is for the former counsel women, Mary Mary call your Woolridge Mary, was the counsel woman at the beginning of merger also served at 1 point as a legislative aid. Um, when they were back in, I guess, wards, I can't remember the, the technical name on it. I think it was words I'm looking at the picture and I know Dr Shanklin knows that very well. Um, and so. A councilman a war Woolridge, I just could not pass up the opportunity to recognize the work and effort that she had given, or has given our community and still gives along with her husband and I would love the support of this committee to honor this former council woman by dedicating the street that she has occupied for decades by giving her that honorary recognition. I just can't think of any other way to allow her to drive down Wingfield lane and knowing that. After her after all the work long efforts. Countless hours that she gets poured into district 3 to make it what it is today. So I would ask that this committee joined me in supporting this resolution to honor that former honor. This former counsel woman.

"Chair Shanklin"

Thank you council Darcy and of course, most of, you know, that that was my buddy.

We were partners in crime. I don't care what happened. We were there for each other and, you know, we just worked hard together.

And, um, it really gives me pleasure to low calcium. Do I see that? You added here?

So, does anyone else have any comments here or not?

"Committee Member Benson"

Um, she said served in a lot of committees with me, and she was always helpful to me and I will always appreciate that, you know, what she did, how she helped me out. And so, yeah, I'm glad to do this.

"Chair Shanklin"

I see when we park excuse me Council on the part this here on recognize here.

"Committee Member Triplett"

Madam chair quickly, just make a comment I, to have had the pleasure of. Of working alongside both Reggie meets and with Mary Woolridge, and I remember quite well Dr Shanklin you and Mary y'all were Siamese twins. Y'all were joined at the hip and a lot of ways. But also to Mary, if you if you've never had the pleasure of actually meeting her.

Mary probably weighed 90 pounds, but I'll tell you what, if she got a hold of you, you knew you knew you were in trouble and, um, she, she was a fighter and she thought for her people, like no other, and that's just been an honor to to work alongside with her and councilman Darcy I, thank you for giving her this recognition. I'm, I'm very proud.

"Committee Member Dorsey"

Thank you. I'd like to invite the committee once we finalize it. I will have my legislative assistant, send out an invitation to the entire council when we actually do the street naming. It will be an honor. If you all join me and support when we actually do that recognition for her.

"Chair Shanklin"

Absolutely, thank you. Cancel endorsing and I will do whatever I can to be there. I will be there.

Thank you, uh, is there any more questions or concerns.

No, and this is resolution allowed for a voice vote all those in favor signify asset they're saying.

Uh, well, we'll send this to the consent calendar.

Step where you want us to go cancel on the Darcy. Okay. Thank you. So this will be wanted to consider Carolyn.

A mental clerk reading of item number 4 I think this you again missed counsel.

"Olivia Bennett"

Number 4 is our dash 107 0 dash 22 a resolution to address the adverse effects of decades of redlining, red and pool.

"Chair Shanklin"

I have a motion

"Committee Member Triplett"

motion triplet.

"Chair Shanklin"

That can still adventure. Thank you, Adam. It's been properly moved and 2nd.

That's when the doors that you are to sponsor, so we allow you to speak.

"Committee Member Dorsey"

Thank you, Madam chair. This resolution is very straightforward. We have for quite a long time. I've been working on various initiatives regarding social justice and this is 1.

I'm most proud of because this is something that we are not recreating the wheel.

We're actually weaving together different resources that exist in the city currently and putting that towards home ownership in a very unique way with this.

Particular resolution, we are asking for the council to support the additional 5.5 needed to complete the 13Million dollar commitment in totality. I want to explain that.

And then, uh, hopefully, if there are any questions, I can explain red lining, but I hope, I don't have to do that.

We've even in this committee Dr Shankland I went back and saw where Josh post several years ago presented on the impacts of red lining still today in this committee. in this committee

And the historical glance, so I want to thank the Black Caucus members for coming together and and supporting this what we are doing is out of the 13Million dollars.

We have partnered with the Rotary club of Louisville, uh, as the fiduciary partner, as many of you all know, a lot of times when we are dealing with folks and down payments and a down payment assistant, making sure that we have a fiduciary partner is key. Um, that additional 1Million that we are adding to the road. road

Is actually being matched so anytime that we can get more than our actual dollar amount for what we're investing that's a smart move for us.

Secondly, 10Million in the form of up 250,000 dollars.

To renovate a vacant and or abandoned parcel. So many of you are familiar with the land bank and many of how those properties are turned over to various developers.

What this does it say specifically looking at parcels in the land bank as well as other vacant abandoned parcels that are in currently red line areas instead of the traditional format that's used a lot of times when the trust fund,

where we use developers and a lot of times.

Homes can be rented out. We are saying these have to be owner occupied, so we're going directly towards home ownership. They have to be occupied for up to 10 years and we're talking about stabilizing the community.

Oftentimes, when we talk about these types of initiatives, we've often relegated them to Western. We have said, no, we are relegating them to any area in this town that has experienced red line.

And we see that everywhere from West Louisville to South Louisville to central Louisville, even.

Places in Eastern Louisville, so we want to address that not in a just a geographic manner, but addressing people who have been impacted by this. Excuse me, 7.5 of this per the chair of our caucus councilman Winkler we are looking to receive out of the funding,

and the additional 5.5 that this resolution specifically speaks to will be the commitment of this council from the mid year adjustments to be able to fulfill the rest of that commitment Madam Clark,

I'd like to open it up. I'd like to open it up if there are any questions from this committee, but I would ask that we support. ask that we support This initiative for home ownership that we actually move forward and not.

Have our same old plans and research uh, this is something that's really cool. We always say a data based approach and we paid for the research.

Uh, and so now, I think it's time that we actually move forward and pay for the repair after that research clearly. Identified some fallacies and some things we need to correct in this community.

"Chair Shanklin"

Thank you council are there any questions.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

Um, I'm in the queue, not for a question, but just to thank council and endorsing for her work on this.

I read the resolution and there is a lot of research, and there's a lot of data and information, and she has put together a really impressive case for the policy solution that she's advocating for.

And just a lot of really valuable information for the public. And so just wanted to commend her for her really great work on this and encourage the public to spend some time actually reading the resolution.

There's a lot of great information there. Thank you Madam chair.

"Chair Shanklin"

Thank you and I to say, I say the same thing councilman Darcy cause I know you put a lot of work in it and, uh, it's really important to the community. Thank you. Thank you. Nope, there's no other comments. We're hearing none.

Is resolution is, uh, we will vote on it now all in favor.

Say hi. Hi.

In your polls well, this item will be sent to consent calendar.

Okay, thank you. Matt. Uh, councilman Darcy, the next item we have is, let's see on my paper. Item number 5 and clerk. Can you read 9 months?

"Olivia Bennett"

Item number 5 please yes, ma'am. I don't number. 5 is dash 10,422 an ordinance amending chapter 119 and creating chapter 167 of the local Jefferson County, Metro coat government code of ordinances, requiring lead abatement of all rental housing units and local metro critical. requiring lead abatement of all rental housing units and local metro critical

"Committee Member Triplett"

Thank you motion to move.

"Chair Shanklin"

We have a 4th, thank you before we start. Uh, I'm asking everyone to hold the questions to the end because we do have a special discussion at the end. So when I don't want to take up all the time with that. So councilman, uh, Cassie Armstrong. I'm going to turn it over to you. I know you have, um. Uh, visitors and I would ask you to take their name. And their department are where they work, thank you, thank you, Madam chair.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

Um, so I have 3 speakers that are going to be brief today and I also want to note for folks who attending virtually that might not be able to see the chambers that I'm really proud to be joined by a lot of folks from different organizations. That have been a part of the process that we've engaged in over the past 8 months to really make this a much stronger ordinance and make it a much more tailored ordinance that I think is a good way to spend our public dollars and protect global kids. So, I'm going to. Briefly start off by reminding us what we already know and what we've already heard before we have Dr Brian Gwyn sitting in the audience today and he came to speak to us several months ago and he told us about how thousands of children in the city of are lead poisoned each year and how children living in West level are almost 10 times more likely to be led exposed than children living in other parts of our city. There was just a study that came out a few months ago that showed that black children are more likely to be exposed to lead and that this led exposure is not just a correlative factor, but a positive factor in lower standardized test reading scores for those children years after that led exposure occurs he also talked about how led because it literally grinds away at children's brain is linked to impaired memory, decreased IQ and academic performance and increase in hyperactivity attention.

Deficit disorders and other types of behavioral disorders. We also know that lead exposure is linked to an increased risk of becoming involved in our criminal justice system. So it's unsurprising giving all that. We know about lead.

That is linked to significant cost per every lead, exposed child. And the center for health equity has been an amazing analysis that they're going to talk about here in a minute that shows that every lead exposed child costs our city 50,000 dollars over the course of their lifetime lifetime. lifetime

So, this is not just something that is stealing our children's future and stealing their opportunities, but is also taking our tax dollars because we have to spend on increased healthcare cost, increase, criminal justice system costs the cost of that lost educational opportunity.

And it's something that is a real cost to our city. So I hope we all agree that this is a problem, and that it's something that we need to do something to address. And so the question then becomes, what do we do about it? And I will stay very high level here and let our guests.

Fill in the details, but I want to be clear that the data shows that ordinances, like the 1 proposed here work,

they lead to a reduction and let expose children at a rate of twice as fast as we can see lead exposure going down with other methods.

We know that there are studies that show that these types of ordinances for every dollar we put into reducing led exposure. We get at least 17 to 221 dollars back. So that's an amazing return on our investment.

And we also know that of the many many cities that have done things like this. We haven't seen a lot of these scary hypothetical things materialized. So we haven't seen a rocketing and housing costs.

We haven't seen housing units go off of the market. We. of the market we Haven't seen huge cost to landlords.

So, we've spent the past 6+months making this ordinance as tailored as it can be in large part, because we want to make sure that we are avoiding a lot of those potential negative costs. So, we want to make sure that we aren't going to overly burden landlords.

We want to make sure that we're not wasting our time and our energy looking for lead where we are unlikely to find it. find it

And so we have produced an ordinance that is the most tailored of any lead ordinance that has been passed in any city in America.

And by that, I mean, that it is an ordinance that only applies to those properties that are at the most risk of having led that could literally destroy our children's brains. So, homes that are older than 978 that have not undergone construction or renovation.

Think about that. A house that is older than 978 that hasn't been renovated or had. seventy eight that hasn't been renovated or had Significant construction done, or a house older than 978 that doesn't have a maintenance plan that has someone who's certified to inspect for lead. That is sort of actively going and looking for that.

So, there are a lot of different ways for people to exempt themselves from this ordinance if they have the procedures and policies in place to make sure that they're being proactive and protecting our kids health.

So, it is the most tailored lead ordinance of any city in the country. city in the country

Dream.

So, with that I'm going to stop talking, I'm really proud of the work that this coalition has done.

I want to direct you all to the record where you will see letters of support from metro, United way, the Metropolitan housing coalition, the National Center for healthy housing, state representative Josie Raymond and I know there is 1 forthcoming from the local board of health as well as I expect, we're going to have forthcoming letters from other organizations so I will turn it over now to Rebecca.

From the center for health equity to talk a little bit more about what we know about the problem of lead and how this ordinance specifically gets at that.

"Rebecca Hollenbach"

Thank you council woman my name is Rebecca back. I'm the policy and equity transformation lead in the center for health equity, which is part of the Department of public health and wellness.

So, I'm here to talk about the science and the evidence behind this policy.

This is a policy that we consider a national evidence based best practice and it has abundant research to support that. It does what it is intended to do.

Um, so I just wanted to 1st, start by underscoring why this type of policy is needed right? Because we know that lead is a problem. And so what is the current state right now?

Our tools are mostly reactive, so if you look at the types of prevention strategies, the public health gold standard is primary prevention, preventing a problem before it even happens in the 1st place.

And right now what a lot of the policy world allows us to do is.

Focus more on the tertiary, so most state laws are designed to kick in once a child has already been poisoned, which I'll just reiterate once the damage is done, you can't reverse it.

And so the main goal is to start changing the environment and removing the actual risk factor, the lead. So that we can kind of make sure that the houses and the homes that not just children.

But also adults who may become pregnant.

And, or who are pregnant are living, and I'm being exposed to lead.

And again, this represents overall center for health equities work to try to shift us upstream and focus on these root causes of health.

So, how can we focus on how environmental conditions such as housing quality and the presence of lead in housing affect the patterns that we see in health outcomes?

And councilman Armstrong has done a great job, summarizing the health effects of lead. Dr Brian Gwynn also testified in this committee previously on the effects. But just to reiterate led is a neurotoxin. It's not supposed to be in your body and once it's there, it affects every single system that your body has. And this is most concerning, especially for children who are developing because it has a huge impact on brain and.

Cognitive development and leads to a whole host of health issues throughout a lifetime, and these damages aren't reversible.

So this is a rare chance where we have the chance to prevent something before it starts and prevent permanent damage from happening.

And councilman Armstrong has also talked about some of the briefs that we've published that calculate the costs of lead. So they're not just physical. There's medical costs associated that go can go.

Up to 5,000 dollars per child, their social cost leading to worse educational outcomes,

increase interactions with Cheryl system reduced overall lifetime earnings and this costs our community. community

We've had almost 10,000 confirmed cases of lead poisoning in the past 15 years and this is almost certainly an undercurrent.

So there are likely more kids who have been poisoned and the other pieces that there is no safe level of leg exposure. So, even if you don't reach the threshold of. of

Elevated blood level and poisoning there will still likely be health impacts on that child. Um.

And so this is the estimated conservative cost to our community of almost 500Million, but likely there are more.

And we know where lead is lead, was banned after leaded paint was banned after 1978. and so we know that it's most highly concentrated in 1950. S. 1978 housing, and you can see that the areas of our community that have the highest concentration of older housing stock are the same areas where we're seeing higher rates of elevated blood blood levels. So, the areas with the.

levels so the areas with the

Most old housing stock are the areas where kids are 9.37 times, more likely to be poisoned than the rest of our community. So, if we know where the problem is, and we have a way to kind of proactively address it.

Um. address it um

It seems like a win to be able to do that and we have evidence that other cities,

like Rochester in Detroit have been able to implement these policies and see tangible results and reductions in poisoning of kids. So, there have been huge drops in the cities themselves.

And that's not just a natural drop because when you compare those cities to the rest of the state that they're in, which have similar programs. Around childhood lead poisoning, you see that it's dropping 2 times. It's fast and that's consistent across Rochester across Detroit. So we know that these are programs.

This is a policy that's working to reduce light exposure.

This is a policy that has been implemented in many cities and states, and it continues to gain popularity and traction.

And so we've seen a lot of other cities indicate their interest in implementing similar policies. So I won't read these.

But you can see that these are cities that may be similarly situated to us in the Midwest and across the country.

And just to reiterate what I started with, there are several national organizations that support using doing lead safe housing as a policy. Um. Some of them have written a letter of support as you've heard, but these are organizations that.

Have condoned this policy as a best practice um.

I'll stop there, thank you for giving us a chance to talk about the science and evidence and I'll pass it to Mandy Simpson.

"Mandy Simpson"

Good afternoon. I am Mandy Simpson. I am chief policy officer with Metro, United way. Thank you. Very much.

Councilman Armstrong, chairwoman, Shanklin and committee members for allowing me to speak briefly with you today and for your consideration of this measure, which will protect the healthy development of our children. You know, asset metric United way, and at the ready for K alliance, we fight for all children to have strong and healthy starts to their lives and learning journeys.

And we know childhood lead exposure presents significant barriers to both with dramatic links to life long impacts on. Well, being as you've just heard, we also know.

That long present dangers entangled themselves into our community and our lives and make ways that make them difficult to uproot, but no less critical to address.

More than 6 months ago we joined a group of stakeholders convened by councilman Armstrong who agreed on those 2 things addressing lead hazards in our community is involved.

And it is imperative. We came to the table with perspectives from public health, housing, business, neighborhood, engagement, education, local government and more and offered what candidly.

Or initially concerns and critiques, but what ultimately became improvements to ensure that the lead safe housing ordinance before you today is actionable,

efficient and effective policy specifically I want to know 3 improvements that you'll see that. We took a great deal of time modifying over the course of our more than 6 months together.

You're going to find as councilman Armstrong mentioned a process that applies only to rental housing units with the absolute highest risk of lead based hazards. The.

Crafted what is truly a sensibly broad.

Level of exemptions that include, of course, all houses built after 1978, all units that have undergone construction or renovation that indicate current lead safe or free environments, all units with current maintenance procedures, or staff. maintenance procedures or staff Expertise sufficient to ensure they are screened and safe from from lead based hazards for a tongue twister, but this tight targeting ensures resources are used efficiently.

Landlord responsibility is reasonable, and that safe housing stock is unaffected. Action will happen only when, and where necessary to stop and prevent active harm to our children and families.

Metric United way work closely with our housing partners throughout this process, and are grateful to have.

George ekland from the Coalition for the homeless and Tony Curtis from the Metropolitan housing coalition here today, endorsing this ordinance by our sides.

You will also notice that in this ordinance, landlords who are not exempt from lead safe protocols,

will retain the right to choose how they remain in compliance and may use a range of measures from lead remediation to full abatement based on their current operations and future plans.

They will also as you'll see and hear more about, have access to significant local resources, available for addressing, lead hazards in

order to offset costs and encourage permanent controls. Importantly, you will also notice that.

This amended ordinance includes a 3 year timeline for full implementation.

Which accounts for local government regulation, promulgation, process, development and training landlord notification and connection connection to existing lead abatement programs and funding and lead hazard risk assessor availability.

The, and capacity growth, all of, which will be needed to insure again that we are effective. These key improvements were not the only result of our 6 months of collective work.

We now, of course, also have a strong network of partners standing at the ready to assist home renters, landlords and city leaders with policy, implementation and resource access. We are.

Well, positioned to pair powerful programming with transformative policy, making in order to maximize our efforts and eradicate lead poisoning in our community.

So, in short we've walked a long road.

We've taken each step thoughtfully and as much as possible.

Together,

which is challenging with that diversity of perspectives at the table today we are asking you to keep us moving forward toward a led free community 1 where children and families are safe in their homes and long standing dangers are not allowed to persist as the status quo and with that, I will turn the mic over to Marilyn Harris to talk about the available resources in our community for lead abatement and remediation.

"Marilyn Harris"

Good afternoon and Marilyn Harris, I am the director of develop Louisville and I'm over the office of housing and community development, which houses are led safe lewiville program or let's say, lewiville program is a program designed to prevent lead poisoning and children as Rebecca and.

Maddy have so graciously spoken about we have just recently been awarded 3.4Million dollars of lead safe funds from the office of.

Hide healthy homes, that's a tongue twister and we have gotten this award for the 3rd consecutive round that we have applied for it.

Essentially the office of head healthy homes has told us.

That if we spend the money, um, we can apply.

Again, next year or the following year, it's generally the 3.4Million we have is a grant that, um, we have projected, we'll take 3 years to spend we project doing 120 units.

However, if we spend that money faster, we can apply for more money faster. And it is hub's desire to ensure that all homes in this country are led free. And so there is an abundance of funds out there.

So, as we spend these funds. so as we spend these funds

We can apply for more developers or owners of rental housing are absolutely I'm permitted to apply and we can provide grants.

Houses and make these units.

Healthy and led free.

That's that's my take on this as far as the of resources we have, and I should point out also that not only do we work with landlords, which this program is geared towards, but when we do our home repair program, we always always look at the units to see, if there is a child under the age of 6, and if there is, we do lead remediation on those units too. So not only are we're.

Be working with landlords for the rental units. We are trying to ensure that current units that are owner occupied are lead free. So that if in the future, they become a rental unit, they would then be led free. So that we would be, um, protecting our children at that point, too.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

Thank you, thank you to all of our speakers and so, just to summarize and here in a minute, I'm going to move the amendment by substitution, which is loaded into your system as proposed committee amendment by substitution 111122.

so, hopefully everyone has had a chance to review that and that's the product of over 6 months of work with this coalition. of work with this coalition

What it does is say, uh, if you do not likely have lead in your home. You don't have to do anything you're exempt from any requirements of this ordinance and what we say and the way we're defining units that there's not likely to be led president. It is a unit that was built before 978 or a unit that was built 1978.

that has either been renovated or had significant construction done, or a 1978 unit that has someone on staff who's trained and understanding led and submits a plan saying this is our plan for making sure we ourselves don't have led.

submits a plan saying this is our plan for making sure we ourselves don't have led

So it's a really big exemption the people that don't fall into that exemption. The people who own Pre 978 housing that hasn't been renovated. They don't have a maintenance person that's trained in lead. What they have to do is they have to go and get a a lead inspection.

There's money available to help assist with that process. It's not a cost prohibitive process. If they find lead. if they find lead

They then have to take some sort of step to get rid of that lead hazard. That can be something as simple as painting. A lot of times. It's just peeling shipping paint needs a new code of paint over it. Not an expensive proposition.

If they choose to do a more expensive effort, if they want to remove the drywall, if they want to seal some soil or something like that, we also have money available for that.

Um, we've seen the policies like this work. I think this is a really good smart policy and it's something that's going to protect our kids, save our city dollars and really make sure that we're supporting the most vulnerable kids amongst us.

So, with that, I will stop talking and would be happy to answer any questions the committee might have. Thank you Madam chair.

"Committee Member Triplett"

Like, you Madam chair? I apologize. I'm not in the queue. Okay. But if I may just very briefly, I personally think councilman Armstrong, I know that council woman, you've been working along with the others for quite a long time on this, to make sure we get it. Right?

And I'm so happy that we are now, have the opportunity to move on this. It is needed greatly needed. I think I had mentioned before at an earlier committee meeting, and a discussion that, um.

At my age, I can't believe that this is still a problem, but it is. So that's why this is this is greatly needed.

I remember watching cartoons as a kid, and there would be a, uh, that would come on TV warning about the dangers of bled paint.

Well, my goodness that was in the sixty's here it is 2022, and we're still battling this. So this is the right thing to do.

It's necessary to make sure that people are doing the right thing to make these your home, not just rental properties, but your own home safe of this.

And again, I just commend the work that the council woman has done along with the others. And I'm so happy to move on this. Thank you. Thank you Madam chair. thank you madam chair

"Chair Shanklin"

Councilman Parker.

"Committee Member Parker"

Yes, I was wondering if we were going to be hearing from anyone or any landlords or rental agencies that may have concerns or.

Or financial issues, uh, um.

With any of this, and that's 1 question and then if we have a list of any.

Exempt properties, or what that list would entail.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

Certainly counsel women, so I will say that we had the realtors in the apartment association all as part of this stakeholder group, then they met with us, um, multiple times over the past several months.

Um, and have had input onto the language and the ordinance. And I've spoken to several of their action committees, um.

I have not heard to date any opposition or received any formal request for language modifications or anything from those organizations.

I do believe that the building industries association is sending some proposed language that they'd like to see around, like, an automatic exemption process, which I've said that I'm happy to consider and that that stays true.

You know, my goal is to make this the best ordinance possible to make it targeted only to those properties are at the, the greatest risk and not to.

Be burdening property owners where we don't think that there's going to be led where we're not gonna be able to actually have an impact. Um, so

to answer your question, I have not received any request from anyone for any further modifications those stakeholders have been at the table. And I have not received any request from anyone to be here today to speak everyone in. All of those organizations knows how to reach me and knows how to communicate. If they'd like to see further changes and knows that I will work with them in good faith to make sure they're concerned. Concerns are addressed as far as the exempt.

Properties we don't have a list per se, but what we can say is a lot of rental properties would be exempt because again has to have been built before 1978 think about how many units you know, that are that old that haven't been renovated.

that haven't been renovated

Most units that were built prior to that time, have been renovated, because they have to be renovated in order to keep them safe and habitable and healthy. And so, really, when that happens, we don't think there's lead there.

There are all kinds of federal guidelines in place that say, if you do those renovations or that construction, you have to do it in a way that addresses the underlying lead issue. So that you're continuing to create a safe space.

"Committee Member Parker"

So, I think could you refresh your memory on the cost of a great.

And the cost of the inspection and re inspection.

And then also might be good for the public. I mean, I know that you've spoken with these groups, but the public really hasn't heard from these groups.

Uh, so just in the, the spirit of openness and.

Fairness it, it might be wise.

To, at least have some kind of, uh, for the public to hear from these groups as well.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

Yeah, I would say all of the members of the coalition knew that this hearing was coming up the ones who wanted to be here to speak today. Let me know that. And chair Shanklin was kind enough to put them on the agenda.

This isn't a new process. It's been ongoing for 8 months. If I had received a request from those organizations to speak, I would have notified chair Shanklin and ask that. They also be allowed to speak. But my impression.

Is that, uh, had they had concerns? They would they know how to bring those to me and we've spent 6 months discussing their concerns. And in fact, their concerns.

Are large reason of sort of where we landed on the exemptions that we did, where most rental units that make any effort at all to provide safe quality healthy housing to folks should be exempted from this ordinance. I forget what was the 1st, part of your question and the other 1 was I mean, I know if this was an easy thing, we wouldn't still be talking about it.

"Committee Member Parker"

8 months later, but, um, it was the cost of the inspection inspection and then the cost of the abatement.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

That's right, and perhaps Rebecca might be able to tell us about the specific numbers. What what is great about this type of ordinance is that because so many other cities have done it, we can actually see how much it ends up costing for compliance.

I will say we have money to fund almost all of those costs that people might incur. Uh, but even in places where that kind of money isn't available, we see that the costs aren't nearly as great as people might be worried they might be. Because again, a lot of times you can come and. Compliance with something as cheap as a code of paint. So I know it can sound. I think it does sound scary to some folks this idea that I'm going to have to a bait led. It sounds like it's a very technical thing that's going to be very expensive.

The reality is this ordinance is written is it's not that expensive sometimes it's a coat of paint and I'll let Rebecca talk about what we know from other cities about the average cost of compliance. I would ask, keep in mind that these costs there.

There is city money available to defray them. Uh, Rebecca do you want to. Answer that question

"Committee Member Parker"

before I hear from.

Rebecca, can I just ask 1 thing this does not include home ownership. Where there's children under 6

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

I'm sorry there are no requirements, um, that a homeowner has to take this, uh, these steps, or do these inspections.

However, the money that we have available can be used both by people that own rental properties as well as, by people that own their own homes. So, like, um, I believe it was Mandy was saying, or perhaps it was Marilyn whenever we have these.

These home owners that it might someday become a rental property. We want to make sure that at whatever stage we're doing, what it takes to protect kids from lead.

The issue is, we have a lot of lead in our housing, and particularly where we have kids that already are vulnerable for a whole bunch of different reasons. And so, anyway, we can get that led out of housing. Whether it's someone that owns their own home or a rental unit is a good thing. That's going to improve the health of global kids.

"Committee Member Parker"

Okay, and just 1 more question before Rebecca.

When do children get tested? Like, what children get tested.

Or when and when yeah, that's just when they become symptomatic or they're routine medical.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

That's a wonderful question, counsel women and I know with your background you'll appreciate, um, why this is concerning. So, health insurance only covers children getting tested for lead between the age of 12 months and 18 months.

So, when I took my child in for his 1212 month, well, child check, they tested his blood to see if there was lead in it. We know that children are vulnerable to let exposure all the way up until age 6. but we don't routinely test for that. And so. so

That's why the fact that we have 10,000 children that we know have tested positive. Dr Glen will tell you that that is a massive undercount by perhaps as much as a factor of 4 because we just aren't looking for it. And the reason that lead is so costly, and so problematic is, we don't see when a child is led poison, they don't fall to the ground and have a seizure.

What happens is their brain slowly is grinded away those areas of the brain that are important for IQ for behavioral control for higher cognitive function. But. but

Slow and so I've heard people tell stories about how they've just seen a child that all of a sudden is acting more impulsively begins to have behavioral disorders. They happen to find out that it was because of lead.

But it's almost always 1 of those round about just a real accident that they found out. And so there's so many children that we see having these educational opportunities stripped away from them. We see developing these behavioral issues.

A lot of which, because they have less.

Impulse control, it's going to lead to all kinds of lifetime, lifelong consequences. It's also linked to an increased risk of criminal justice system involvement and we just don't see it.

And so that's why the best thing we can do is make sure that we are eliminating lead at the forefront because it is such an invisible killer of our children. It literally kills their brains.

And so, with that, I'll let Rebecca answer the questions about the particular costs of what we know around inspections and the cost of abatement.

"Rebecca Hollenbach"

Thank you counsel women and just to add on the testing front, even if you are above the age of 6, you are still vulnerable to lead poisoning. There's reasons why the risk may be less based on behaviors like crawling on the floor, et cetera.

But that's considered the legal cut off for the state elevated blood, blood level laws.

So, to answer your question about the cost 1 thing, I do want to reaffirm before I get into it, is that any landlord can access the funds that Marilyn Harris spoke about from led safe level,

which would fully cover everything that is discussed in this ordinance. So, it would cover any sort of inspection assessment screening. It would also cover any remediation or abatement activities.

So, this could essentially be it.

Totally free to landlords if they engage with that program. Um.

If you choose, not to, that would be the inspections would vary, but talking to several contractors who are currently doing this work, depending on the size of the unit. It would vary.

So, if you were talking about a full single family house, the cost would likely range from 200 to 500 dollars, depending on the size, the number of rooms, et cetera. et cetera

Terms of remediation, as councilman Armstrong mentioned most remediation activities are fairly simple following federal guidelines of course, to safely remediate.

But we are lucky because we have a lot of research from Rochester.

They've implemented their ordinance almost 15 years ago.

And so they have studied quite a bit what the effects and costs are 1 study that they published, showed that.

70% of the landlords who were surveyed reported that their cost for reaching compliance did not exceed 1000 dollars. So 1000 dollars to get in compliance with the ordinance.

And their ordinance is similar to what we have here. Um. have here um Additionally, almost 30% reported no additional costs at all and that could just be part of it's already part of their ongoing maintenance practice right? Or maybe their units didn't have led to begin with. with The other thing that I'll say is that, as this ordinance has gained traction and become more widespread they've also seen that the average cost of inspections have fallen over time.

So, initially the average cost was 300 dollars. And then as more and more firms entered and started to fill this gap in the economy, the inspection costs fell to about 150.

so, again, those are. so again those are

Only, if a landlord chooses not to participate in the lead safe program, if they choose to participate in the lead safe global program.

Every aspect of this ordinance would be covered and it would be free.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

So the way I see it is we have the ability to take advantage of federal money to solve a very costly problem.

And this ordinance is a big 1st step towards addressing lead and mobile and we should take advantage of this free federal money while we can.

"Chair Shanklin"

You 1, is there any more questions or concerns before we go to the next Madam chair? Yeah, I do.

We have counsel women Parker in the queue and then councilman.

I thought I don't see counsel and bones in the queue.

Add me in the council in Parker had just spoke, but okay.

We do have another speaker behind this 1, so I'm trying to make sure we stay on task.

Counseling, um.

"Committee Member Parker"

Okay, um, I just wondered if, um.
Woman Armstrong sponsor if you have ever if you had considered.
Um, just happening landlords.
If they're home was built with 1976.
Just not rent to children that wouldn't even be.
Feasible less than 6 years old.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

So, that would actually be unconstitutional. We're not allowed to discriminate on family status. And, um, the concern around something like that is that you would basically discourage people from renting to children because you would say, if you are a parent, right?
So, parents there would be these extra requirements around safety and health, which.
There there should be, um, when we're talking about children, also, everyone is at risk for lead poisoning a lot of adults experiences as well as well.
It's risk to link to, um, kidney illness, all sorts of things, but it would be unconstitutional to answer.

"Committee Member Parker"

And if there's somebody else that has a question, I'd like for them to be get their question. Thank you for a woman.

"Committee Member Bowens"

Thank you, thank you next. I want to say that I understand that on, uh, the questions and the fear that's coming from the landlord, but.
By having 1st hand, experience of someone who had led poisoning.
The process that the child has got to go through is very if you can stop different going through the hurt.
The shots to get this lab poison out of the system.
Is far more better than watching them go through pain versus a landlord worried about money.
Uh, how much it will cost to stop to get the paint out of the house, or how much it will cost them. Um.
I think the bottom line of is is to how to stop a shelf and going through the pain of lead poison and the side effects of lab voice is far greater than anything else.
Um, and that is why I am for this.

"Chair Shanklin"

Um, thank you, thank you. Thanks for that.

"Committee Member Benson"

Cancel on to advance it. Thank you Madam chair. Um.
Uh, I don't know how many houses were built in 1978, maybe 50,000 or so, to me, the only way to get rid of.

Because you had to go in and got the house get rid of all the drywall, get rid of all the hardware, all the trim and stuff. And that's a I know some. They say you can paint.

But you're just covering up the lead and you had to have expected again some other time I don't know a couple years or something make sure that the lead not exposed to.

The flaking off or a child eating on woodwork. I don't know.

Uh, Mike has never did that, but I'm not saying that other people don't. And but you really want, you know, sometimes you, uh.

You want to make sure that we're doing something we want to get rid of the lead and there's a reason we got rid of that.

Uh, I mean, our gasoline used to be led, uh.

Um, and I don't know how much gasoline I've ever swallowed siphon on my dad's gas tank from my mini bike. Uh.

And so I have never been tested, I probably got lead poisoning and so to try to make things so that nobody gets hurt.

That's great. And I, and I'm glad to hear that we got some money that maybe helps some people.

Figure out to me, I, it looks like it if we're really going to tackle this problem. Any houses built before 1970.

Hey, you need to get it done, you need to take care of it and I don't know if we can do that. I mean, that's they go into the homeowners and say.

Um, you got your houses built a long time ago. Uh, you need to get it. And I don't know where you're going live at why you're doing all of this. I mean, it's a, it's a, it's a, it's a little bit bigger than just saying, hey.

We can get rid of this by a painting over it. I don't know. Paint it. Really gets rid of it. It may be POSTPONES it. And so this thing really has got me really concerned because I think there's a number of people who lit rent houses that they're older houses.

And maybe the landlords is, uh, this looks like more than I can handle. I'm just going to sell it and maybe sells it to an individual that.

But they still had the lead, and we're not really solving the problem for that family.

Other than we can now got a person who's a homeowner and versus a rental piece of unit.

So this is, this is this whole thing has been kind of alarming to me in a way that, uh, I don't know.

You know, like they tell doctors do no harm.

Don't go in and and do something that makes it bad. And I worry about most people who's going to be punished. Not usually people in my district, because most of my district houses are.

Or newer than 1970 we're talking about in the West end, and the South and. Uh, you know, there's just a lot of houses, it all got led paint.

Um, and boy, that's a, that's a big undertaking. It's a good undertaking to try to figure out how to do it.

And I just don't know if, um, I don't know if.

I just don't know about this audit yet, but I'm listening and I'm I'm open so

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

thank you councilman and I will say, I just want to say a couple of things.

What's great about this ordinance as a minimum standard you have to paint, you have to do that immediate address.

The hazard there is money available that if people want to do that full work that you were talking about to go and actually remove the lead, we have free money to do that. And what an amazing opportunity that is. And. So that money could make a big difference and let people for free do that. Very expensive work that you were talking about.

The other thing I wanted to say is I've been working with the Metropolitan housing coalition on a report about.

Housing specifically in my district, and that report, they released it last Friday and it showed that 93% of the homes in my district in the highlands were built prior to 1978 and had kids at risk of lead poisoning. But when you look at that heat map, the Rebecca Hollenbeck showed us we don't see a lot of lead poisoning in my district. And that's because those places have been renovated or they do have those maintenance folks who are trained in lead management.

And so what we've seen is that. so what we've seen is that

There are ways that if you are doing that renovation or construction or painting regularly, I have a house that was built in 1927 that has probably 30 layers of paint on it. I go around with my swabs, I've got a 1 year old. That's constantly putting his hands in his mouth.

I test my house for lead constantly to see if there's any lead flaking off and I haven't gotten a positive swab back yet. Thank God. But we know that those those methods that are less expensive do work and it's certainly better than nothing. And so I think.

and so i think

Ordinance I would be shocked if it took us from thousands of children led poisoned every year to 0. I think it will help.

I think it will significantly help, and I think it will get us headed in the right direction, but I really appreciate the way that you care about kids in our community, and the way that you've engaged with this ordinance and appreciate your question sir.

"Chair Shanklin"

Thank you we have 2 more questions.

Council in Parker, and then we'll have council meeting. I'm done I'm doing okay. Councilman.

I'm done, I've already asked oh, okay. Evidently my queue is for hand Olivia, because those 2 just popped up. So.

With no more questions, uh, this is the oldest requiring a row.

Madame clerk, can you please open a welcome for those?

"Olivia Bennett"

And excuse me? I'm sorry. Um, are we doing this? I'm Madam chair.

"Vice Chair Chambers Armstrong"

I make a motion that we adopt the amendment by substitution loaded into the system is 102 to 2.

"Chair Shanklin"

And I make that in the form of a motion.

The motion's been made and 2nd, so do we now vote on the ordinance? Madam chair?

"Olivia Bennett"

Yes, ma'am. On the amended ordinance yes.
Okay, um, committee member.

"Committee Member Bowens"

Yes, sure.

"Olivia Bennett"

Shanklin.

"Chair Shanklin"

Yes,

"Olivia Bennett"

committee member Dorsey.

"Committee Member Dorsey"

Yes,

"Olivia Bennett"

hi, sure. Armstrong.

committee member. Triplet

"Committee Member Triplett"

Yes,

"Olivia Bennett"

Do you remember Parker?
I'm sorry, man, we can't hear you.
Okay, you're still muted, ma'am.
Committee member Parker

"Chair Shanklin"

I think she's saying no.

"Olivia Bennett"

Committee member Benson

"Committee Member Benson"

I don't know if staying for this moment.

"Chair Shanklin"

Okay, okay. Uh, in 1 in chambers.
Or did you already vote? I'm sorry,

"Olivia Bennett"

ma'am. You have 5? Yes. Votes 1. no vote and 1 abstention. The ordinance passes.

"Chair Shanklin"

All these spaces, and we will send it to the whole business. So no to, thank you.

Thank you, uh, we will not be hearing, uh.

Number 6 today.

We are going to hear that in the next committee meeting, but we do have a guest speaker.

Correct me? If I have your name wrong.

"Chair Shanklin"

Factory, what did you pronounce your name? Please the dream. Okay.

She has a discussion on these smart discussion. Emma, right?

On education, or is view that you're getting the math balance.

"Olivia Bennett"

That is correct Madam chair, but she will need to share her screen as she is attending. Virtually.

"Dr. Rhea Vidrine"

Yep, and I think a couple other members of their group are there who can. Um, introduce themselves and get the discussions very well. I share everything.

"Betty Mac"

Everyone I'm Betty Mac and T, and I just wanted to thank doctor Shanklin for inviting our team to come and present. Today.

I met Dr Shanklin at a back to school event when we were tabling at at 1st neighborhood place that Thomas shifts in middle school, and she was gracious enough to invite us and we provided folders with information for council members. And I believe those. Been placed in your mailboxes here also in these folders, which included a sheet from every stat, and this is a sheet on gun violence in Kentucky and it's a really good tool that you can use. If you go to that website, you can click on Kentucky, and then you can even go to the counties and look at statistics about types of gun deaths. In each part of Kentucky, so I would encourage you to take a look at that. Um.

I also wanted to share that we had traveled a lot before the pandemic and then, of course, we had to discontinue that, but this year we have been able to table just last week at farewell neighborhood place. We tabled at their booth fest and we get that done lots to several people there. And then on that night, Thursday night, another group of team members tabled at. Prep the academy and get that information there. We also have tabled at the manual Baptist back to school event and, um. In the past, we had tabled at part of our health fair so we are really appreciate the opportunities to do tabling in the community and also give this a be smart presentation. We're really pleased that in the state of Kentucky Dr. the drain has taken on the role of state Lee for be smart. She's a pediatrician. So we're just thrilled to have. Her expertise, if she works alongside us, and she'll be given the slide presentation today. Thank you for your time

"Dr. Rhea Vidrine"

Thank you, buddy. Hopefully, you are seeing the screen correctly. Please let me know if there's any issues and I'll just get started so be smart. Is a program developed by every time for gun safety to bring together parents and adults who are concerned about kids, guns and safety. Um, so as you mentioned, I'm a pediatrician in Lexington, and I appreciate you all, um. Facilitating a virtual option and the reason that I really started to become involved in this message is because it's what I've been trained to do as a pediatrician ever since the beginning. So, talk about gun safety, making sure that parents are storing any guns safely. And overall, just to keep kids safe. So that's why it's kind of what brought me to this message. Um, perfect. So, I think we can all agree that we want all kids to grow up happy and healthy and that we, each have their right to make responsible decisions about how we protect our homes and families and communities, including whether, or not you have a gun in your home, and we're not this message isn't about whether you should have a gun or not. It's really just about keeping kids safe and how to safely store guns if we can prevent anyone child death or injury is our responsibility to do. So.

Not here to talk about laws or policies, we're going to set those aside and really just talk about on safety and safe gun storage.

So, be smart is a program like we talked about to bring all adults who are concerned about kids together.

So, firearms are the leading cause of death for children in the United States. There is a lot of literature that came out within 2020 that showed that firearms had surpassed all other causes of child death, including drownings car accidents. drownings car accidents Cancer any other childhood injuries.

It's heartbreaking that this is the fact of the United States, it's a public health crisis more than 1800 children under the age of 18 are killed with guns every year. Um.

And an average of 5 children every day, so when children are killed with guns, the majority of those dots, 54% are homicides. So it's a 1000 children a year that are killed by guns.

And Additionally, nearly 700 children die by firearms suicide each year and 100 are unintentionally shot and killed.

And we're here today, talk about how we can prevent tragedies like that happening.

So, sorry, I got distracted by my slides and make sure that you're going forward. So, a shocking 4.6Million children in the United States live in a household with at least 1 loaded and unlocked gun.

So, school shootings are typically what makes national headlines it when it gets people really riled up.

Um, almost all child unintentional shooting deaths occur in the home, and a Secret Service found that 3 quarters of school shooters have acquired the firearm, either from their home or a close relative.

Um, so we know that kids are getting the guns from, you know, family or friends.

We know this is an emotional issue. A lot of people come from different walks of life, many your parents and some are gone owners and some have never owned a gun in their life. And, you know, a lot of us have been impacted by gun violence.

And we believe that most gun owners want to be responsible gun owners. They want to keep keep everyone safe. Um.

So, we're here to talk about what all of us can do gun owners and non gun owners. The like to make sure that children and teens and adults do not have unsupervised access to guns.

So, we won't go through all of these stories, but, you know, this is an American problem. There are literally news stories every day about gun violence in the US, whether it's.

Children shooting other children, children accidentally shooting their siblings, or their friends are being left alone in the car with a gun and how.

And how guns are a play, a role in suicide, especially with the, the mental health crisis that we're experiencing right now.

And these are just a few headlines from across the country. And I'm sure many of you can think about a more personal story that you've heard recently.

I know we talked about somewhat about having some of the Kentucky stats, but since 2015 they were at least 65 unintentional shootings by children resulting in 2003 dots and 43 injuries in Kentucky. three dots and forty three injuries in kentucky

So, what we're here to really talk about is the is the be smart message that we can take action in our homes in our communities to keep kids safe.

So even if you don't have a gun in your home, or if you do, or, you know, someone who may have a gun in their home, what can you do right now? And we can learn to be smart and we'll go through what all of these messages mean.

Um, so we start with us, which is to secure guns in the homes and vehicles.

So, like we said, 13Million households with children contain at least 1 gun, and the majority of children and gun owning households actually know where the gun is stored. So, I grew up in Rosanna, um, my family hunted. They still hunt, we still have lots of guns and 1 of the most shocking things that my dad ever heard us say was that we used, we knew exactly where the guns were. We used to go look at them. We used to play with them. them

Um, you know, they're hidden in a closet, and he thought that that was safely secure. Um.

So, I guarantee you kids know where they are, you know, in our pediatrician visits. We ask about these things, um, during the wild child checks, and the majority of children know exactly where the gun is and it's just shocking for the families to hear.

So, what do we mean by securing guns.

It should always be stored securely, which means inaccessible to children, but also ammunition stored separately from the gun and the gun should be locked. Ideally, and hiding a gun is not securing a gun.

So, there are a bunch of different types of how saves or how to safely store guns. We won't go over these in details, but we do have a lot of resources about the different types of, you know, gun locks.

Safe that we like to share with.

You know, our communities, whenever we do some of these tabling events.

And contrary to popular belief, locking up guns does not prevent owners from readily assessing their guns. That's kind of the biggest issue that people have is they bought their gone for a reason. The majority of it is to be safe. So they want it easily accessible.

There are a lot of different ways to safely secure your gun with it be easily accessible. Also.

These are more examples, and I think that might have them in the, in the folders.

So the M of smart is to model responsible behavior.

So, every law abiding adult has the right to decide whether or not they haven't gotten in the home, but you really can't rely on kids.

Not finding a gun, so we know kids are naturally curious they're gonna want to see it. They're gonna want to play with it.

So, guns, our kids know where their parents were, their guns, and more than 4th have reported handling their parent's guns without their parents knowledge. And nearly a quarter of the parents did not know that they're that the children handled the guns.

So, it's always our responsibility responsibility to prevent unauthorized access to guns and not the child's responsibility to not play with it.

Um.

So we always want to be real good role models and talk to your children about gun safety, but just know that just because you talk to them doesn't mean that they won't.

Yeah, they still won't handle the gun if they find it.
Come across it, and a study, in fact, showed that their children who took a week long gun safety course that really just said, you know, don't touch it on if you see it.

We're still just as likely to handle the gun if they found it. So, we know that we can educate, we can be good role models, but we still need to be safely store our guns.

So, the next step is to ask about unsecured guns and other homes. And this is what? I think a lot of it hits home for other people, especially if you own a gun and you say, please secure your gun, you want to make sure that everywhere your child is going has a safe.

Um.

A safely secure gun and so we know that there are approximately 4.6 million children living in a household with a locked loaded and unlocked gun.

So, we want parents and caretakers to.

Feel empowered to ask about others how others are storing their guns in their homes. So.

Yeah, you can add it into other questions that you might ask.

So you might be asking about, you know, potential allergies or pets or pools or car seats, depending on what how old your child is and really just putting that into the question. You know, do you have guns and how are they secured.

So you can do it via email or text a lot of time that's easier than having, you know, what can be an awkward conversation. And it just makes it part of the part of the norm.

And I think it, it just allows people to speak more freely about that.

So the goal is to recognize the rule of guns and suicide.

So, I think a lot of us have heard lately that there's a huge mental health crisis for children all across the country and Kentucky is no different. Um.

And we know that as children are growing up, we know that having a gun in a suicide attempt, can lead to a failed attempt. So, as children get older, you may need to consider taking another look at your storage method.

So, if you've been using a cable lock, maybe using a lock box instead or a safe.

Um, and most importantly, if, you know, and this applies to people of all age, if you know that you're loved one, um.

Is in distressed and is having suicidal ideation then really removing the gun from the home is the safest thing to do.

90% of suicide attempts using a gun and in depth and almost half of the suicides in the US are gun suicides and 70% of people who survived suicide attempts. Never attempted a suicide again. So really just removing the gun from the gun from

Um, from these situations can really save a life.

National use survey conducted by the CDC issue that 20% of high school students had seriously considered attempting suicide within the last year.

And once they showed that 41% of adolescence and gun owning households reported having easy access to guns in their homes. So this is just really staggering.

And, as we discussed earlier, we know that a secure fire on storage is associated with a decrease risk and child firearms. Suicide. firearms suicide

These are some, some Resourcing contact information for anyone who would need suicidal or suicide um.

Aids.

So last part of be smart is the tee, so tell everyone, you know, about these smart. So that's why we're here today to really spread the message. And hopefully.

Um, to have for y'all to help us for this message too. So, um.

You know, we, we do tabling events we do presentations really just to let everyone know about the importance of safe, safe storage.

Um, you know, and we, we go ahead and ask everyone, you know, a text, a friend or a loved 1 and ask how are you safely throwing your guns and sharing the message?

This is my contact information if anyone has any questions. I know there's some volunteers in the audience and we'll gladly take any questions. Thank you.

"Chair Shanklin"

Are there any questions.

Nope, I'm Mike. Yeah, Mike still on.

Any concerns. Okay, well, we know how to get in touch with you.

And it's a possibility next year we will probably call you back in when it's a lot more time when you get to.

Questions and things like that, we would just pushed a little bit today.

So.

Anyway, uh, if we don't have any questions, or if things have been asked, then.

The sound of business that we had, so, without any objection, this means. Thank you and thank you all for being there.