

ORDINANCE NO. _____, SERIES 2021

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 30 TO REQUIRE AN EQUITY REVIEW FOR EACH DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PROPOSAL THAT PROVIDES METRO COUNCIL WITH A HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT OF HOW EQUITY IS PRIORITIZED AND ADDRESSED WITHIN DEPARTMENT BUDGETS.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMEMBER DORSEY

WHEREAS, Louisville Metro Government is committed to advancing racial equity;

WHEREAS, people of color—longtime Black residents, immigrant families, and others—have built this city, shaped its culture, and made significant contributions to the economy;

WHEREAS, decades of systemic racism has created barriers that block minority residents from homeownership, job opportunities, quality education, and health care, and are still evident today in our affordable housing challenges, income disparities, distressing educational differences, and health outcomes;

WHEREAS, prosperity is not reaching many lower-income, Black, long-time residents, and the rising cost of living means that many cannot afford to stay here;

WHEREAS, the budget presents an opportunity each year to work toward our shared responsibility to right these wrongs and shift Louisville further towards an equitable future; and

WHEREAS, budgets have the power to help us create a future where no resident has to choose between paying rent and other necessities; where all students, regardless of their family's income and the part of the city they live in, have the resources they need to succeed; where public safety emphasizes prevention over criminalization; and where all residents have access to quality, affordable health care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: The Louisville Metro Code of Ordinances (“LMCO”) Chapter 30 is hereby amended as follows:

§ 30.03 BUDGET.

KRS 91A.030 grants the Mayor the responsibility to prepare and submit an annual budget proposal to Louisville Metro Council for approval in the form and detail prescribed by ordinance. The Mayor shall present Louisville Metro Council with the annual budget proposal no later than Louisville Metro Council's second meeting scheduled in the month of April prior to the beginning of the fiscal year.

The Louisville Metro Council requests the implementation and utilization of Louisville Metro’s budget equity assessment tool for each Louisville Metro Department to use in order to determine whether budget requests and annual allocations benefit or burden communities who have historically suffered under and been impacted by discriminatory practices, policies and procedures at the local, state and national levels.

Using the information in the budget equity assessment tool, an equity impact assessment shall be completed by the Human Rights Commission and accompany each departmental budget at the time of the Mayor’s Budget Address to Metro Council.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Sonya Harward
Metro Council Clerk

David James
President of the Council

Greg Fischer
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:
Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____
O-596-20 Creating an Equity Budget Assessment NJ 10-27-20