



Louisville Metro Government

Action Summary - Tentative Public Safety Committee

Chair Jessica Green (D-1)
Vice Chair James Peden (R-23)
Committee Member Barbara Shanklin (D-2)
Committee Member Mark H. Fox (D-13)
Committee Member Marilyn Parker (R-18)
Committee Member Nicole George (D-21)
Committee Member Madonna Flood (D-24)

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

3:30 PM

Council Chambers/Virtual

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCE

Call to Order

Chair Person Green called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Chair Person Green introduced the committee members and non-committee members present. A quorum was established.

***NOTE: All committee members and non-committee members present attended virtually, except Chair Person Green, Council President James, Committee Member George, and Committee Member Fox, who attended in Chambers.**

Present: 7 - Chair Jessica Green (D-1), Committee Member Barbara Shanklin (D-2), Committee Member Mark H. Fox (D-13), Committee Member Marilyn Parker (R-18), Committee Member Nicole George (D-21), Vice Chair James Peden (R-23), and Committee Member Madonna Flood (D-24)

Non-Committee Member(s)

Council Member Jecorey Arthur (D-4), Council Member Donna Purvis (D-5), Council President David James (D-6), Council Member Paula McCraney (D-7), Council Member Kevin Triplett (D-15), and Council Member Brent Ackerson (D-26)

Support Staff

Hollie Hopkins, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Alice Lyon, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Natalie Johnson, Jefferson County Attorney's Office

Clerk(s)

Lisa Franklin Gray, Assistant Clerk
Sonya Harward, Clerk

Special Discussion

1. [ID 21-1280](#)

SPECIAL DISCUSSION: CORRECTIONS UPDATE - CHIEF DWAYNE CLARK, METRO CORRECTIONS; DANIEL JOHNSON, METRO CORRECTIONS - FOP #77; AND TRACY DOTSON, METRO CORRECTIONS - FOP #77

Chief Dwayne Clark, Louisville Metro Department of Corrections, gave an update on staffing, recruitment and recent reports.

The following also spoke to this item:

- Chair Person Green
- Council President James
- Vice Chair Peden
- Hollie Hopkins, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
- Committee Member Fox
- Council Member Purvis
- Committee Member George
- President Daniel Johnson, Louisville Corrections Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge #77
- Andrew Bertram, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO (AFSCME) Local #2629

The following was discussed:

- There were several questions regarding the current status of staffing, recruitment, and safety concerns for inmates and officers.
- There were several questions regarding the significant overtime that is being imposed upon officers.
- There are currently 108 vacancies jail-wide, 90 of those positions are sworn positions.
- The Louisville Metro Department of Corrections has recently contracted a marketing firm to launch a recruitment campaign.
- There were several questions regarding factors that have contributed to the staffing shortages.
- There were several questions regarding whether leadership staff had contributed to staffing shortages.
- There were several questions regarding what measures and efforts had been committed for recruitment.
- Louisville Metro Department of Corrections has currently spent \$18,632 in recruitment efforts this year, and will contract with a marketing firm for a total amount of \$103,000 for recruitment.
- There were several questions regarding recent resignations.
- There was a discussion regarding statements made by leadership staff to lower ranking staff.
- There were several questions regarding the time frame for the hiring of officers from application to working in the facility.
- There were several questions regarding whether the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Kentucky State Police, and/or the National Guard could assist Louisville Metro Department of Corrections during these staffing shortages.
- There was a discussion regarding other counties not transporting inmates in a timely fashion which leads to overcrowding.

- There was a discussion regarding Kentucky State prisons not transporting inmates in a timely fashion which leads to overcrowding.
- There were several questions regarding how well Louisville Metro Department of Corrections is managing inmate overcrowding during the current staffing challenges.
- There was a discussion regarding the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office offering assistance to the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections as an immediate resource.
- There were several questions regarding whether leadership staff are sworn officers.
- There was a discussion regarding measures that could be taken to increase staff morale.
- There were several questions regarding current equipment repairs.
- There were several questions regarding what equipment officers are provided versus what equipment officers are required to purchase.
- There were several questions regarding recent reports of fighting that had taken place in the jail.
- There were several questions regarding whether Louisville Metro Department of Corrections is an accredited agency.
- There were several questions regarding whether Louisville Metro Department of Corrections is in jeopardy of losing its accreditation.
- There were several questions regarding whether staff should receive pay increases.
- There were several questions regarding whether there has been a recommendation to re-open the current labor contract.
- There were several questions regarding whether the inmates within the jail are unsafe due to the staffing shortages.
- There were several questions regarding whether there is a morale problem with staff and what measures have been taken to address the morale issues.
- There was a discussion regarding leadership staff's behavior that is discouraging to the staff.
- There was a discussion regarding how often mandatory overtime is enforced.
- There was a discussion regarding how mandatory overtime is physically, emotionally, and mentally impacting officers and inmates.
- There were several questions regarding whether grievances and concerns had been shared with command staff.
- There was a discussion regarding the positive impacts that Louisville Metro Department of Corrections officers bring to the community.
- There were several questions regarding the overall budget to provide proper equipment to officers.
- There were several questions regarding staffing shortages among the civilian staff in Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding safety issues for counselors and civilian staff in Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding changes made to training requirements/schedules to expedite filling vacant positions.
- There were several questions regarding the number of civilian vacancies currently in Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding over-detention mishaps and lack of detail due to staffing shortages.
- There were several questions regarding clarifying recent overdose incidents within the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding search procedures for vendors and contractors. Packages and items are searched, however, vendors and

contractors are not personally searched.

- There was a discussion regarding whether a search policy is currently in place for vendors and contractors.
- There were several questions regarding in-service training for officers within Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding questionable restraint tactics and instructions within Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There was a discussion regarding next steps going forward.

Pending Legislation

2. [O-350-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 96 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES REQUIRING THE REPORTING OF WOUNDS INFLICTED BY FIREARMS.

Sponsors: Primary Anthony Piagentini (R-19)

Attachments: [O-350-21 V.1 072921 CREATING A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 96 OF THE LMCO REQUIRING REPORTING OF WOUNDS INFLICTED BY FIREARMS.pdf](#)

This item remained held in committee.

3. [O-401-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION TO THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 91 TO ADDRESS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ANIMAL ABUSE AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE (AS AMENDED).

Sponsors: Primary Paula McCraney (D-7) and Primary Marilyn Parker (R-18)

Attachments: [O-401-21 PROPOSED CABS 100621 LINK BETWEEN ANIMAL ABUSE AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE.pdf](#)
[O-401-21 V.2 CAM 091621 ORD RE ANIMAL ABUSE AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE.pdf](#)
[O-401-21 V.1 081221 Ord RE Animal Abuse and Interpersonal Violence.pdf](#)

This item remained tabled.

4. [O-403-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING §§ 123.35 AND 123.01 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES (“LMCO”) RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF SECONDARY METALS RECYCLERS.

Sponsors: Primary Pat Mulvihill (D-10) and Primary Mark H. Fox (D-13)

Attachments: [O-403-21 PROPOSED CABS 091521 METAL RECYCLERS.pdf](#)
[O-403-21 V.1 081221 Amend LMCO 123 RE Secondary Metal Recyclers.pdf](#)

This item remained held in committee.

5. [O-431-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 131.02 AND 131.03 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES (“LMCO”) RELATING TO THE RELOCATION OF PERSONS WHO ARE HOMELESS FROM CAMPS.

Sponsors: Primary Nicole George (D-21) and Primary Jecorey Arthur (D-4)

Attachments: [O-431-21 PROPOSED CABS 090121 HOMELESS RISK ASSESSMENT.pdf](#)
[O-431-21 V.1 082621 AMEND SECTS.131.02 AND 131.03 LMCO - RELOCATION OF PERSONS WHO ARE HOMELESS FROM CAMPS.pdf](#)

This item remained held in committee.

6. [O-432-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 113 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES (“LMCO”) RELATING TO EXTENDED HOUR SUPPLEMENTAL LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF DISTILLED SPIRITS, WINE, AND MALT BEVERAGES.

Sponsors: Primary Cassie Chambers Armstrong (D-8)

Attachments: [O-432-21 V.1 082621 AMEND CH 113 LMCO - TO EXTENDED HOUR SUPPLEMENTAL LICENSES - SALE OF DISTILLED SPIRITS, WINE, AND MALT BEVERAGES.pdf](#)

This item remained held in committee.

7. [O-468-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 127 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES TO UPDATE REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO BURGLARY AND HOLD-UP ALARM SYSTEMS.

Sponsors: Primary Mark H. Fox (D-13)

Attachments: [O-468-21 V.1 092321 AMEND LMCO TO UPDATE REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO BURGLARY AND HOLD-UP ALARM SYSTEMS.pdf](#)

This item was held in committee.

8. [O-469-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTERS 91 AND 156 TO ENHANCE THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL LICENSING AND REQUIRE THE MICROCHIPPING OF CATS AND DOGS.

Sponsors: Primary Donna L. Purvis (D-5)

Attachments: [O-469-21 V.1 092321 AMEND LMCO 91 AND 156 - ENHANCE THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL LICENSING AND REQUIRE THE MICROCHIPPING OF CATS AND DOGS.pdf](#)

This item was held in committee.

9. [O-474-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 115 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO PRIVATE TOW OPERATORS.

Sponsors: Primary David James (D-6)

Attachments: [O-474-21 V.1 092321 Amends LMCO 115 RE Private Tow Operators.pdf](#)

This item was held in committee.

Adjournment

Without objection, Chair Person Green adjourned the meeting at 4:46 p.m.