

Louisville Metro Council

Drug Policy Task Force

Mission: The mission of the Louisville Metro Council Drug Policy Task Force is to evaluate/audit current drug policies in the United States, including criminal sanctions, police procedures, eradication/interdiction effectiveness, the consequences of widespread drug testing and any benefit or detriment of the prescription monitoring program. The task force will perform cost/benefit analysis on all drug policies and make recommendations for reform.

Organization: The drug policy task force should include at least two (2) Louisville Metro Council members, one from each caucus, a representative from the mayor's office and a representative from the county attorney's office. The task force should invite representatives from Congressman Yarmuth, Senator McConnell and Senator Paul's offices to participate in the proceedings. The task force should also consider including state representatives and members of the Beshear administration. The task force should meet bi-weekly for a minimum of 180 days with the goal of making recommendations within 60 days from completion of the input phase. The task force should solicit input from law enforcement, the medical community, businesses directly involved with drug policy and public comment.

Cost: Participation in the task force should be voluntary therefore the cost will be minimal. The task force should plan on a minimum of one hour meetings to solicit input. Additional meetings may be required after completion of the input phase to evaluate data and produce a recommendations report.

Considerations: Drug policy in the United States is obviously failed policy evidenced by hundreds of reform bills being considered around the nation. The tragic death of Ms. Breonna Taylor has placed the city of Louisville into the epicenter of our problematic drug policies. The Louisville Metro Council should accept the responsibility and embrace the opportunity to be the epicenter of change so desperately needed across the United States. Louisville is in the unique position to lead the nation away from failure. The drug policy task force is the agent of change we need to improve justice, equality and create a more perfect union.