



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, December 8, 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 3:32 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 the meeting virtually except Chair Person Green, Council Member Arthur, Council President James, Committee Member Fox, Committee Member George, and Vice Chair Peden, 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 Bill Hollander (D-9), and Council Member Amy Holton Stewart (D-25)

Support Staff

Hollie Hopkins, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Alice Lyon, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Kathryn Meador, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Paul Rutherford, 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 21-1649](#)

SPECIAL DISCUSSION: METRO CORRECTIONS UPDATE - RECENT DEATHS

- CHIEF DWAYNE CLARK, METRO CORRECTIONS
- DANIEL JOHNSON, LOUISVILLE CORRECTIONS FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE (FOP) LODGE #77
- KUNGU NJUGUNA, AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU)

Chief Dwayne Clark, Louisville Metro Department of Corrections, gave a status report on the recent inmate deaths.

The following also spoke to this item:

- Chair Person Green
- Committee Member Fox
- Hollie Hopkins, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
- Steve Durham, Louisville Metro Department of Corrections
- Vice Chair Peden
- President Daniel Johnson, Louisville Corrections Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge #77
- Kungu Njuguna, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- Council Member Purvis
- Council President James
- Committee Member George
- Council Member Arthur

The following was discussed:

- There were several questions regarding the total number of inmate deaths in Louisville Metro Department of Corrections during 2021.
- There were several questions regarding measures that the Louisville Metro Council could take to assist/support the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There was an update on three recent inmate deaths at Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There was a discussion regarding chronic health and/or mental health challenges experienced by each deceased inmate.
- There were several questions regarding the frequency of observation/well-care checks and whether autopsies would be performed on each inmate.
- Toxicology studies will be conducted on each of the deceased inmates.
- The Louisville Metro Department of Corrections will provide the Louisville Metro Council with details on all inmate deaths for 2021, as well as medical assessment/autopsy results for each deceased inmate.
- There were several questions regarding the details surrounding the inmate that allegedly committed suicide at the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There was a discussion regarding ongoing investigations of the inmate deaths by the Federal Bureau of Investigations and American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).
- There was a discussion regarding an ongoing Civil Rights investigation for

one of the inmate deaths.

- There was a discussion regarding the number of hospital admissions from Louisville Metro Department of Corrections from 2019 through 2021.
- There was a discussion regarding the lack of knowledge by leadership concerning the number of deceased inmates in Louisville Metro Department of Corrections custody.
- There were several questions regarding continued staffing shortages and how these staff shortages impact inmate safety.
- There were several questions regarding why Jefferson County does not elect a jailer.
- There was a discussion regarding whether the election of a jailer may have changed in merged governments, such as Louisville Metro and Lexington.
- There were several questions regarding how the frequency of observation checks may have been impacted by staffing shortages.
- There was a discussion regarding observation/well-care checks being conducted every 30 minutes.
- There was a discussion regarding the correlation between the level of care that Louisville Metro Department of Corrections Officers may provide and the observation of inmates in an efficient time span.
- There was a discussion regarding the imbalance of inmate to officer ratios.
- There was a discussion regarding a total of four inmate deaths, to date for 2021.
- There was a discussion regarding the lack of peer mental/behavioral support for officers within the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding how Louisville Metro Council may assist the American Civil Liberties Union in assisting the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There was a discussion regarding the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections lowering its population by allowing Louisville Metro Police Department Officers to cite rather than arrest low level offenders.
- There was a discussion regarding a request for Judges and the Jefferson County and Commonwealth's Attorneys to suspend issuing bench warrants, failure to appear warrants or cash bonds for offenders that do not pose a threat to the community.
- There were several questions regarding changes to the cash/bail system.
- There were several questions regarding the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections leadership receiving suggestions and/or recommendations to improve current conditions.
- There were several questions regarding how many staff members were available during each inmate death.
- There were several questions regarding who evaluates medical events/incidents within the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding whether a third-party agency evaluates if proper protocol was followed after each incident.
- There were several questions regarding the different aspects/details between the current three inmate deaths.
- There were several questions regarding whether Louisville Metro Department of Corrections Officers receive any mental/behavioral support services after critical incidents.
- There were several questions regarding the level of Officer/inmate interactions and how these interactions may be impacted by staffing shortages.
- There were several questions regarding whether a homicide investigation had been launched concerning the inmate that had allegedly committed

- suicide due in part to early physical altercations with other inmates.
- There were several questions regarding whether any individuals/vendors are exempt from searches when entering the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding facility transfers for inmates that require substance abuse services/counseling.
- There were several questions regarding the number of suspended services due to COVID, such as gym time, religious services, and General Educational Development (GED) training.
- There were several questions regarding how the suspension of such activities may impact inmates.
- There were several questions regarding the percentage of individuals incarcerated due to the inability to post bail.
- There was a discussion regarding drug trafficking within the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.
- There were several questions regarding measures that the Louisville Metro Council may take to assist the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections in combating drug trafficking, staff shortages, etc.
- There was a discussion regarding the purchase of new equipment, such as, body scanning, magnetometers, and ex-ray machines that the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections would greatly welcome support from the Louisville Metro Council.

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 REPORTING OF WOUNDS INFLICTED BY FIREARMS.pdf](#)
[O-350-21 PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR CABS 110321- 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-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 ENHANCE THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL LICENSING AND REQUIRE THE MICROCHIPPING OF CATS AND DOGS.pdf](#)

This item remained held in committee.

4. [O-575-21](#)

[PENDING] AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 72 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES (“LMCO”) RELATING TO METRO GOVERNMENT TOW LOTS TO ALLOW THE DIRECTOR TO DECLARE AN AMNESTY PERIOD.

Sponsors: Primary Nicole George (D-21), Primary Bill Hollander (D-9) and Additional Jecorey Arthur (D-4)

Attachments: [O-575-21 V.1 111121 Metro Government Tow Lot Amnesty Period.pdf](#)

This item remained held in committee.

5. [R-159-21](#)

[PENDING] A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO THE CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGET ORDINANCES, APPROVING THE APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE FOLLOWING NONCOMPETITIVELY NEGOTIATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE OFFICE FOR SAFE AND HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS CONCERNING TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP ALLEVIATE VIOLENCE IN METRO LOUISVILLE - (CURE VIOLENCE GLOBAL - \$200,000.00).

Sponsors: Primary David James (D-6) and Additional Jecorey Arthur (D-4)

Attachments: [R-159-21 V.1 120221 Cure Violence Global.pdf](#)

[Cure Violence Global Agreement.pdf](#)

[Agreement Attachment B - Hold Harmless Agreement and Indemnification Clause and Insurance Requirements.pdf](#)

[Cure Violence Global Program Description.pdf](#)

This item was held in committee.

6. [R-161-21](#)

A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO THE CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGET ORDINANCES, APPROVING THE APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE FOLLOWING NONCOMPETITIVELY NEGOTIATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR METRO SAFE CONCERNING DEFLECTION PROGRAM MOBILE RESPONSE SERVICES - (SEVEN COUNTIES SERVICES, INC. - \$1,687,670).

Sponsors: Primary David James (D-6)

Attachments: [R-161-21 V.1 120221 Deflection Program - Seven Counties.pdf](#)

[Deflection Program Agreement - Seven Counties](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Peden, seconded by Committee Member George, that this Resolution be recommended for approval.

The following spoke to this item:

- Chair Person Green
- Council President James
- Jody Meiman, Metro Emergency Management Services
- Committee Member George
- David Weathersby, Seven Counties Services

The following was discussed:

- This legislation will fund a deflection program that will provide mental health/behavioral service technicians to individuals in crisis.
- This program will utilize the deflection technicians rather than dispatching Louisville Metro Police Officers.
- This program is recommended as the result of a study conducted by the University of Louisville and Spaulding University.
- The program has been managed by Metro Emergency Management Services since its launch in June of 2021.

- The initial program goal was to have the program contracted and in force by December 1, 2021.
- The program had a few initial delays, but is now ready to fully launch.
- The program is managed two-fold with Metro Emergency Management Services and Seven Counties Services.
- Metro Emergency Management Services is tasked to deflect and divert 911 calls from Louisville Metro Police Officers.
- Seven Counties Services is tasked with assigning behavioral health specialists in instances where mental health intervention is warranted.
- Seven Counties Services will also conduct follow up visits with individuals in the field via a Crisis Response team.
- The pilot program will be conducted with the Louisville Metro Police Department's Fourth Division for six months.
- After the pilot period has concluded, a program evaluation will be conducted for overall needs/improvements.
- The University of Louisville and Spaulding University will conduct the program evaluation, at which time a subsequent Resolution will be submitted to the Metro Council.
- There was a discussion regarding the Seven Counties Services proposal, specifically, the recommended salary and needed credentials for the field Crisis Response workers.
- Seven Counties Services will seek the most qualified applicants for the positions.
- There was a discussion regarding pay disparities and inequities.
- There were several questions regarding the respite center that Seven Counties Services will utilize during the pilot program.
- There were several questions regarding whether the University of Louisville/Spaulding University provided an evaluation on the sustainable needs to fund the project beyond the pilot program.
- There were several questions regarding whether the program corresponds with the program evaluation.

The motion carried by a voice vote and the Resolution was sent to Old Business.

Adjournment

Without objection, Chair Person Green adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

*NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Metro Council Meeting on December 16, 2021.