

**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY
DISMANTLING SYSTEMIC RACISM
FIGHTING FOR ECONOMIC INCLUSION**

LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT 2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

SUPPORT LEGISLATION IN THE 2021 GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO:

- ✓ Enhance public safety by amending KRS 67C, the Louisville Metro Government statutes:
 - Support the Louisville Metro Council’s ordinance creating a Civilian Review Board by granting the Inspector General subpoena power.
 - Repeal the ‘gag order’ in KRS 67C.326(1)(f) and allow police departments and public officials to discuss pending internal disciplinary cases, creating increased accountability and transparency in law enforcement.
 - For disciplinary hearings and actions that require the police chief to participate, allow the Chief to assign a “designee” to attend on his/her behalf (amend KRS 67C.321).
- ✓ Amend the assault statutes to include willfully pointing a laser light at a law enforcement officer, making it a clear criminal offense.
- ✓ Criminalize the malicious publication of personally identifying information (doxing) of a law enforcement officer or public official with the intent to threaten or stalk a person or their family.
- ✓ Reform Kentucky’s pretrial release system to eliminate cash bail in most circumstances and implement an evidence-based standard for pretrial detention.
- ✓ Ameliorate blighted, vacant and abandoned properties by supporting legislation to expand the tools currently available to cities to address vacant and abandoned properties, including creating conservatorships for rehabilitation of qualifying areas.
- ✓ Enhance the restoration of voting rights to those who have served their time and complied with all sentencing terms, allowing them to participate in our electoral processes.
- ✓ Support state laws expanding mail-in and early voting options to enhance a citizen’s opportunity to vote.
- ✓ Increase funding and access to affording housing, including tenant protections.
- ✓ Support efforts to amend Kentucky’s current hate crimes statute to add provisions for qualifying criminal activities such as homicide, assaults, sexual offenses, wanton endangerment, and arson when a defendant’s actions are bias-motivated because of the victim’s immutable characteristics.

AND

- ✓ Join coalitions and support advocacy efforts that reimagine public safety, dismantle systemic racism, and fight for economic inclusion!

LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT POLICY PRINCIPLES & PRIORITIES

REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY PRIORITIES

1. Allow local jurisdictions to create Civilian Review Boards with subpoena power.
2. Increase accountability and transparency in law enforcement by allowing police departments and public officials to discuss pending internal disciplinary cases.
3. Criminalize attempts to “blind” an officer with a “laser light device” and criminalize the practice of “doxing” of a public official (maliciously publishing personally identifying information).

PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGET PRIORITIES

1. Support the creation of a statewide officer-involved shooting investigative team to review all such incidents.
2. Support police jurisdictions that require the use of body cameras and encourage transparency in the release of video.
3. Promote mental wellness among officers with more funding and detailed policies.
4. Fund a new cadre of “first responders” from the social work and mental health fields to work in concert with officers to handle many of the emergency responses where a sworn officer is not the best ‘first’ solution to aid a person(s) in need.
5. Fund violence prevention and intervention efforts to interrupt the cycle of violence and engage youth in productive activities.

POLICING STANDARDS REFORM

1. Ban the use of no-knock warrants and require the use of body-worn cameras when executing all search warrants, just as Louisville Metro has done in adopting Breonna’s Law.
2. Ban the use of chokeholds, neck restraints, strangleholds, and weight on subject’s necks unless necessary to save the life of an officer or another person. (This is current LMPD policy.)
3. Train all police departments on de-escalation techniques, as LMPD does.
4. Require officers to act to prevent or stop any member, regardless of rank or assignment, from using unlawful or excessive force; intervention may be verbal and/or physical. (This is current LMPD policy.)
5. Ban shooting at moving vehicles except in situations where officers are returning gunfire to save a human life or prevent a vehicle ramming attack. (This is current LMPD policy.)
6. Require comprehensive reporting and public release of documentation when officers use force.

SUPPORTIVE PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY AGENDA ITEMS

1. Support the reform of Kentucky’s pretrial release system to eliminate financial bail in most circumstances and implement an evidence-based standard for pretrial detention.
2. Support state law changes that empower local law enforcement and local governments to prevent gun violence.
3. Support efforts to amend Kentucky’s current hate crimes statute to add provisions for qualifying criminal activities such as homicide, assaults, sexual offenses, wanton endangerment, and arson when a defendant’s actions are bias-motivated because of the victim’s immutable characteristics.
4. Support decriminalizing the use of medical marijuana, which evidence suggests can have physical and medical benefits, while implementing appropriate restrictions and requirements to prevent abuse.

DISMANTLING SYSTEMIC RACISM

1. Support state laws allowing mail-in ballot option for all, early voting expansion, and other initiatives to ensure everyone qualified has an opportunity to vote.
2. Enhance the restoration of voting rights to those who have paid their debt to society by allowing them to participate in our electoral processes.
3. Support laws and policies that seeks to educate about and promote racial and ethnic equity, including laws that enact equity impact reviews.
4. Enhance initiatives to assist with post-incarceration re-entry to our communities.
5. Declare racism as a public health crisis in Kentucky, and support initiatives to recognize and correct health disparities throughout the Commonwealth.
6. Support state review of education standards to include a thorough history of slavery, racism, and racist practices in the U.S. and ensure anti-racist standards, curriculum, and textbooks/course material no later than the 2021-2022 school year.
7. Support H.R. 40, which establishes the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans.

FIGHTING FOR ECONOMIC INCLUSION

1. Begin the discussion on changes to insurance rate-setting policies to eliminate any processes that create disadvantages among residents in historically disinvested neighborhoods and, specifically, to provide affordable property and casualty insurance rates in these neighborhoods.
2. Support legislation to expand the tools currently available to cities to address vacant and abandoned properties, including creating conservatorships for rehabilitation of qualifying areas.
3. Increase funding and policy solutions to meet the growing demands for affordable housing.
4. Support tenant protections that address unjust evictions.
5. Increase funding to provide down-payment assistance and other support to increase homeownership rates in historically disadvantaged populations.
6. Support investment without displacing current residents in historically disinvested neighborhoods.
7. Follow the lead of 30 other states and increase the state minimum wage, support efforts to raise the Federal minimum wage, and focus on a true family-supporting wage as the standard to work towards.
8. Seek equalization and modernization of funding options. This includes expanding to all cities the ability to collect consumption-based restaurant revenue, amending the state constitution to permit the option of a local sales tax, and enactment of more local control, including allowing for progressive taxation rates.
9. Adopt a new road funding formula to ensure city governments receive a fairer proportion of new state gas tax revenues for the construction and maintenance of city streets.