



Louisville Metro Council

July 8, 2020

Mayor Greg Fischer,

The trust between Louisville Metro and the people we serve is eroding at a pace that may soon pass the point of restoration. Revelations of abuse within the Explorer Program that took years to come to light as well as the events leading up to and following the death of Ms. Breonna Taylor have damaged our city. Releasing the details of these scandals have been delayed or even refused. Efforts by the Metro Council to force transparency have been met with denial followed by slow acceptance. Rather than taking exact and quick action to seek outside investigation and acknowledge problems, this administration has delayed and obfuscated the truth in hopes that this like other problems would go away. It hasn't – it can't.

The Metro Council has aired its concerns about the lack of interest in upholding our laws, restoring order or respecting the concerns of the many people who are protesting, but those concerns pale in comparison to the accusations made by the Counsel to Ms. Breonna Taylor in Monday's edition of the Courier-Journal and on multiple news channels. The accusations that your administration may have directed LMPD to act in a manner that would help to clear area for new developments, if true, would destroy any notion of compassion and would serve as a modern twisted update to the policy of redlining that you have campaigned against. The accusation that your administration used warrants and policy to clear areas for redevelopment must be addressed completely and thoroughly now – not in a few weeks or even longer, now.

We, the undersigned members of the Louisville Metro Council's leadership write this letter today to demand the immediate release of all documents that relate to the Breonna Taylor Case as well as any records between any department of Louisville Metro Government, including the Mayor's Office and the Louisville Metro Police Department over the course of the past two years involving Elliott Avenue, between 24th and 28th Streets. The members of the Louisville Metro Council also request any and all information related to communications between any person or entity associated with the Mayor's Office, Economic Development, Planning or Louisville Forward and members of the LMPD Command Staff and/or persons working within the any place-based investigations of the Louisville Metro Police Department. Nothing less than a complete and total accounting of all actions taken by LMPD at the request of any non-LMPD agency at these locations is acceptable. Nothing less than ALL communications, no matter their status, between employees of Metro Government or with persons

associated with the redevelopment and implementation of the Vision Russell plan since July 1, 2019 are to be compiled and turned over to the Louisville Metro Council.

These documents and accounts are to be compiled and delivered no later than July 23, 2020. The people of Louisville need absolute and complete transparency. Refusal to submit these documents or later revelations of new documents will result in clear and decisive action by the Metro Council.

The people of Louisville deserve answers. The Metro Council's Government Oversight and Audit Committee has already initiated an investigation that will review these and other documents. We strongly believe that rather than waiting for the committee process to move forward and the request for information through the committee to start, we will make it clear, that answers to these questions are needed now not later. Healing is needed, we are hopeful that the accusations are as baseless as your administration has suggested, but we will not allow another day to go by without forcing the transparency and accountability that is needed to start to rebuild our community.



President David James



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