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Mayor Greenberg Announces Community Commitment – Louisville’s Consent Decree

Despite USDOJ’s intention to dismiss federal lawsuit, city will proceed with agreement reforms, including independent monitor and extensive community input

LOUISVILLE, KY (May 21, 2025) - Today Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg announced the next steps in real and lasting police reform and public safety improvements. In December of 2024, Mayor Greenberg shared his office had reached a consent decree agreement with the United States Department of Justice (USDOJ). On Wednesday, May 21, 2025, the USDOJ announced its intention not to make further required court filings to address the Court’s questions about the consent decree and instead to dismiss its lawsuit against the city with prejudice, meaning the case will be permanently closed. As a result of the dismissal, the consent decree proposed in the lawsuit will not become effective. To ensure the promised progress continues, Mayor Greenberg will move forward with the [Community Commitment - Louisville’s Consent Decree](#). This is an agreement between Metro Government, the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD), and the citizens of Louisville. It includes a robust mechanism for community input and provides for an independent monitor. It incorporates all the objectives in the previously negotiated consent decree and puts in place the accountability and transparency measures needed to continue building trust and improving public safety in our community.

“As promised, we are moving ahead rapidly to continue implementing police reform that ensures constitutional policing while providing transparency and accountability to our community,” said Mayor Greenberg. “I made a promise to our community, and we are keeping that promise.”

Independent Monitor

Mayor Greenberg announced that the city will issue an RFP to solicit applications from qualified candidates wishing to serve as the independent monitor. That RFP will be issued after the judge's ruling becomes final. Two community engagement sessions will be held to hear from Louisville residents about what qualities and qualifications they would like to see in an independent monitor. An online survey will also be issued to garner additional feedback from those who are not able to attend in-person engagement sessions. An announcement about the dates, times and locations of the in-person meetings as well as a link to the online survey will be forthcoming following the judge's ruling.

When finalists for the position are selected, there will be a chance for community members to meet the candidates and provide feedback regarding the selection.

The community engagement sessions will be led by Dr. Vanessa McPhail, the director of Louisville Metro Government's Office of Equity.

Once an independent monitor is selected, the contract will be renewable annually for up to five years. A shorter timeframe for compliance is within reach because Mayor Greenberg and LMPD Chief Paul Humphrey have already implemented significant reforms outlined in the consent agreement.

"The Louisville Metro Police Department is committed to continuous improvement," said Chief Humphrey. "We recognized the value of meaningful reforms early on and have already made significant progress in several areas. Our priority is to continue building trust with the community we serve, because a strong, safe Louisville depends on accountability, transparency, and collaboration."

Clear Commitment to Reform

Over the last two years, LMPD has revised more than 260 policies, updated its procedures, and restructured the department's organization, leadership, and personnel – including the creation of the Accountability and Improvement Bureau. Officers are now getting more training and better care when they need it through the Summit Wellness Center, which has become a national model. LMPD is collecting the data needed to make good decisions and measure whether it is meeting its goals. The department implemented a new focus on de-escalation and significantly expanded the deflection program to ensure more effective interventions for people in crisis.

Community Safety Commission

Louisville's progress under the independent monitoring process will be shared regularly with the public during scheduled briefings and a dedicated section on LMPD's website. In addition, LMPD and the independent monitor will provide regular reports to the new Community Safety Commission, which was created in the Mayor's Comprehensive Crime Reduction Plan – Safe Louisville. The commission will be a forum for community input and feedback concerning both

crime prevention and police reform, embodying a holistic approach that addresses violent crime while protecting the constitutional rights of all citizens. The commission will be made up of various stakeholders working to reduce violence. Membership will include community representatives from each LMPD patrol division, representatives from the justice system, and representatives of community organizations from various sectors, such as faith leaders, crime victims, criminal justice advocates, business owners, immigrants, medical professionals, educators, and homeless service providers. More details concerning the formation and meeting schedule of this commission will be announced soon.

Additional Evidence-based Assessments

In addition to an independent monitor, the John Glenn College of Public Affairs from Ohio State University is continuing its previously announced collaboration with LMPD to collect real-time, empirical evidence and evaluate reforms to ensure the adoption and implementation of efficient, equitable and effective practices. The embedded researchers are providing critical feedback about policies, procedures, training and accountability measures designed to keep officers and residents safe.

“We are embracing this opportunity to make LMPD one of the country’s most respected and transparent police departments. To the men and women of LMPD, thank you for your commitment to this community and the job you do every day to keep our community safe,” said Mayor Greenberg. “I know you are committed to doing your jobs the right way and continuing to build a department that earns trust with the people we serve. And to our community - thank you for pushing us forward to implement these reforms, building community trust and working with us to build an even safer, stronger, and healthier Louisville.”

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