



Charlotte City Council  
Housing, Safety & Community Committee  
Summary  
March 4, 2024

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### COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

1. Faith-Based Development Initiative (Informational)
2. Policy Topic Referral: Community Safety Framework (Discussion)
3. Performance Management Framework (Discussion)

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### COMMITTEE INFORMATION

**Committee Members Present:** Victoria Watlington (CMGC), LaWana Mayfield (CMGC), Renee' Johnson (virtual)

**Council Members Absent:** Dimple Ajmera, Tiawana Brown

**Other Council Members Present:** Danté Anderson (virtual)

**Staff Resources:** Reenie Askew, City Manager's Office  
Shawn Heath, City Manager's Office  
Tonya Arrington, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department  
Raquishela Stewart, Housing & Neighborhood Services  
Tracie Campbell, Mecklenburg County Office of Violence Prevention  
Andrew Bowen, Innovation & Technology  
Julia Martin, City Manager's Office  
Jackie Tynan, Innovation & Technology

**Meeting Duration:** 4:00 – 5:30 PM

**Video available online:** <https://youtu.be/z8AYGkwOIkQ?t=20918>

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### MEETING MATERIALS

All meeting materials are available online at <https://charlottenc.legistar.com>

1. Presentation: Faith-Based Development Initiative
2. Presentation: Policy Referral: Youth Crime
3. Presentation: Performance Management Framework

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### DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

City Council member Watlington called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

#### **Faith-Based Development Initiative**

Warren Wooten provided an overview of the Faith-Based Development Initiative, led by Council member Mayfield in collaboration with the Housing & Neighborhood Services department. The initiative will focus on equipping Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) with the support, resources, partnerships and expertise to successfully navigate the complexities of affordable housing development, and empowering FBOs to activate their collective resources and congregations in support of innovative solutions to community needs that create increased opportunities for affordable housing. The concept is not new; over 700 new affordable housing units have already been created or committed through city partnerships with FBOs since 2014. The city plans to convene a broad range of FBO and other partners in Spring 2024 at a faith and housing summit to further this initiative.

#### **Policy Referral: Community Safety Framework**

Shawn Heath reminded the Committee of the background of the referral, including the referral's primary objectives and scope and that the city's existing strategic priorities are front and center as they relate to social determinants of health. He also shared early observations and themes including state funding, a local juvenile detention center to provide an important

opportunity to be close to family and resources noting that the work of the referral is not a detention-first strategy, and scaling/targeting existing programming.

Andrew Bowen walked the Committee through the social determinants of health - the conditions of where people are born, educated, and where they work and live - as one way to frame individual outcomes as they work inter-dependently. He shared that investing in initiatives that strengthen these can help to reduce crime for individuals and communities. He reminded the Committee that in 2019 the city endorsed violence as a public health issue, and that the current referral builds off of that earlier work including the Alternatives to Violence and Hospital-Based Violence Intervention initiatives. Some residents may have a higher exposure to violence and property crime, as noted in the data available in the Quality-of-Life Explorer. Mr. Bowen shared insights from the data, including youth repeat offenders, juvenile property crimes, gun incidents, and auto thefts. From a data perspective, staff are looking at the issue from a multi-system perspective including through the Violence Prevention Data Collaborative.

Tracie Campbell shared an overview of The Way Forward Community Violence Strategic Plan's goals surrounding supporting youth and families that considers the issue on multi-levels, and reminded the committee that the County, city and stakeholders agreed to the plan as the community's strategic framework to address crime.

Raquishela Stewart shared the referral's proposed youth and stakeholder engagement plan, and key partners that will be leveraged.

Deputy Chief Arrington shared that we cannot arrest our way out of the problem.

Highlights of what City Council members shared included:

- There is a correlation between brain injury and criminal justice involvement.
- Emphasis should be placed on addressing root causes.
- Consider mental health treatment including a mental health hospital and partnerships to uniquely provide mental health services.
- Explore best practices of how cities are dealing with mental health challenges with youth, including providing services in the field.
- The inter-governmental approach is valuable.
- Consider taking into consideration the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention social norms framework.
- There is a relationship to economic mobility and how we connect youth to work opportunities.

### **Performance Management Framework**

Julia Martin and Jackie Tynan walked the committee through the approach to identifying performance measures, and the policy goals and proposed measures for Great Neighborhoods and Safe Communities. The performance measures will be refined, and targets identified over the coming weeks.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will occur April 1, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 pm.