



Charlotte City Council
Housing, Safety & Community Committee
Summary
February 5, 2024

COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

1. Performance Management Framework (Action)
2. Policy Topic Referral: Community Safety Framework (Information)

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Committee Members Present:	Victoria Watlington (CMGC), LaWana Mayfield (CMGC), Dimple Ajmera (CMGC), Tiawana Brown (CMGC; arrived at 4:40 p.m.) Renee' Johnson (virtual)
Council Members Absent:	n/a
Other Council Members Present:	Dante Anderson, Malcolm Graham
Staff Resources:	Reenie Askew, City Manager's Office Shawn Heath, City Manager's Office Rebecca Hefner, Housing & Neighborhood Services Raquishela Stewart, Housing & Neighborhood Services Tracie Campbell, Mecklenburg County Office of Violence Prevention
Meeting Duration:	4:00 – 5:10 PM
Video available online:	https://youtu.be/m4Ld0SJmrrc?t=21661

MEETING MATERIALS

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

1. Presentation: Performance Management Framework
2. Presentation: Policy Topic Referral: Community Safety Framework – Youth Crime

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

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

Performance Management Framework

Reenie Askew provided an overview of the process for the performance management framework, and reminded the Committee that they started identifying key items of focus at Council's annual strategy meeting.

Council member Watlington reviewed the outcomes from the annual strategy meeting for Great Neighborhoods and Safe Communities. She explained that there are goals that overlap with other strategic priorities and City Council Committees.

The Committee discussed potential policy goals and objectives for consideration, and shared the following:

- The city's affordable housing focus should include single-family units.
- Access to affordable housing should be available in all parts of Charlotte, in every district.
- Mecklenburg County has a very clear role in helping to serve residents 30% and below AMI through Health and Human Services and DSS.
- The city's focus should include more than just 60% and below AMI, and include up to 120% AMI.
- There is still a need for the city to recognize and advocate for the needs of people below 30% AMI.
- Ensure that Council is thinking about this exercise as metrics that live on a dashboard - those that are most reflective of priorities or something the Council wants to put a lot of focus on. The drill down capabilities/micro-opportunities will still exist.

- The Violence Framework: Interrupt Violence policy goal is included in the proposed Comprehensive Plan Goal 6: Healthy, Safe, and Active Communities, and can be substituted since it is covered under that goal.

MOTON AND VOTE. Council member Mayfield made a motion to accept the Comprehensive Plan Goal 6: Healthy, Safe and Active Communities policy goal in place of the Violence Framework: Interrupt Violence goal. The motion was seconded by Council member Ajmera. The motion was unanimous (Council member Brown absent).

Staff will return with more information on performance measures at the May committee meeting.

Policy Referral: Community Safety Framework – Youth Crime

Shawn Heath introduced the topic and reviewed the policy referral and background including several recent youth crime statistics that were shared by Chief Jennings at the City Council annual strategy meeting. He acknowledged that the referral has a sense of urgency, and shared the importance of the committee being in agreement about the scope of the referral and work. All options are on the table to create a suite of recommendations that collectively as a community – not just the city and not just solely related to things the city has authority over – has the highest probability of creating an impact.

Rebecca Hefner reminded the Committee that the work around violence as a health issue and violence interruption / intervention is not new. She reviewed current city and county initiatives and reminded the Committee that the city participated in the development of ‘The Way Forward - Mecklenburg County Community Violence Strategic Plan’ which has a specific focus on support for youth and families.

Tracie Campbell shared that The Way Forward plan includes everyone – Mecklenburg County, the City of Charlotte and all of the towns in the county, and that everything should filter back to the plan. It will take everyone involved to implement the strategies. The goal of the plan is to see a reduction in homicides and gun-related assaults by ten percent each, over the course of five-years.

Highlights of what City Council members shared included:

- There is overlap with economic development.
- The city must look at this topic with a sense of urgency.
- This is a community problem that requires a community solution.
- Keep in mind the things that the Chief of Police has already advocated for which may require adding things to the city’s legislative agenda, and seek ways to support CMPD in trying to address juvenile crime.
- Delineate evidence-based programs offered by the city, to identify better outcomes.
- Ensure that youth identified as the target are taking advantage of the available services.
- Find ways to strengthen relationships with organizations that are providing services.
- Be intentional to opening opportunities for students who may not have the trajectory to upward mobility or participate in programs and services.
- Advocate for increasing funding for non-profits that are doing the work.

Staff will be engaging youth to learn what they are experiencing and what they would like to see in order to be successful, as well as reviewing current data, strategies and metrics, best practices and benchmarks, and more. Staff is committed to be back to Committee in March with a demonstration of meaningful progress, and a clearer sense of the overall timeline to arrive at actionable recommendations.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will occur March 4, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:10 pm.