



EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

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An Ordinance No. 290

- 2020

**ESTABLISHING** the Racial Equity In Policy Task Force (“Task Force”), a joint effort of the City of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Health Department, which shall have the mission of making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding policy recommendations for the dismantling of systemic and institutional racism, and determining how best to promote racial equity throughout the City of Cincinnati; and **DETERMINING** that the Task Force shall recommend to the Mayor and City Council policy proposals addressing minority health inequities, including using a systematic and data-driven focus on poverty, economic mobility, and other factors that impact the social determinants of health impacting racial inequities in our community.

WHEREAS, the goal of the Racial Equity In Policy Task Force (“Task Force”) is to recommend to the Mayor and City Council policy proposals addressing minority health inequities, including using a systematic and data-driven focus on poverty, economic mobility, and other factors that impact the social determinants of health impacting inequities in many areas, including but not limited to crime, social capital, education, transportation, employment, food access, health behaviors, socioeconomic status, environmental exposure, access to health services, housing, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Task Force shall be appointed by City Council and consist of at least 13 members and shall include the Cincinnati Health Commissioner, Ms. Renee Mahaffey Harris, and one representative from each of the following entities: African American Chamber of Commerce; All In Coalition; National Action Network; Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Community Economic Advancement Initiative; Cincinnati Medical Association; Sentinel Police Association; Cincinnati African American Firefighters Association; Black Nurses Association of Greater Cincinnati; Cincinnati NAACP; Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio; and at City Council’s own discretion, other persons or representatives from additional entities; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force shall make specific recommendations in the following areas: new investments in group prenatal care; mandatory lead-testing and lead-abatement of residential properties at the time of property transfer; conversion of vacant or available property for urban farming and agriculture to eradicate food deserts; and other areas at the Task Force's own discretion consistent with its mission; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force shall create a publicly accessible glossary of terms and definitions concerning racism and health equity; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Task Force is in accordance with the “Live” goal to “provide a full spectrum of housing options, and improve housing quality and affordability” as

described on pages 164-168 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); the “Collaborate” goal to “work in synergy with the Cincinnati community” as well as the strategy to “unite our communities” as described on pages 209-212 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); the “Sustain” goal to “become a healthier Cincinnati” and the strategies to “decrease mortality and chronic and acute diseases” and “make sustainable access to fresh, healthy food a priority in all neighborhoods” as described on pages 181-186 of Plan Cincinnati (2012); now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That City Council hereby establishes the Racial Equity In Policy Task Force (“Task Force”), a joint effort of the City of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Health Department, which shall have the mission of making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding policy recommendations for the dismantling of systemic and institutional racism.

Section 2. That the goal of the Task Force is to recommend to the Mayor and City Council policy proposals addressing minority health inequities, including a using a systematic and data-driven focus on poverty, economic mobility, and other factors that impact the social determinants of health impacting racial inequities.

Section 3. That the Task Force shall consist of at least 13 members appointed by City Council representing the community at large who have knowledge and/or experience in as many of the following fields as possible: racial equality, human rights, crime, social capital, education, transportation, employment, food access, health behaviors, socioeconomic status, environmental exposure, access to health services, housing, and public safety.

Section 4. That the membership of the Task Force shall include the Cincinnati Health Commissioner, with the consent of the Board of Health, and one named representative from each of the following entities: African American Chamber of Commerce; All In Coalition; National Action Network; Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Community Economic Advancement Initiative; Cincinnati Medical Association; Sentinel Police Association; Cincinnati African American Firefighters Association; Black Nurses Association of Greater Cincinnati;

Cincinnati NAACP; Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio; and at and at City Council's own discretion, other persons or representatives from additional entities.

Section 5. That the initial appointment of the Task Force shall include Ms. Renee Mahaffey Harris as a member to serve a term of two years.

Section 6. That for the initial appointment of the Task Force, seven members shall serve an initial term of two years, and the remaining members shall serve an initial term of one year, commencing with their date of appointment. After the expiration of their initial term all members shall serve two-year terms so terms are staggered. Members shall serve on the Task Force until a replacement is appointed by Council, even if a member serves beyond the end of a term.

Section 7. That the Task Force shall make specific recommendations in the following areas: new investments in group prenatal care; mandatory lead-testing and lead-abatement of residential properties at the time of property transfer; conversion of vacant or available property to be used for urban farming and agriculture to eradicate food deserts; and other areas at the Task Force's discretion consistent with its mission.

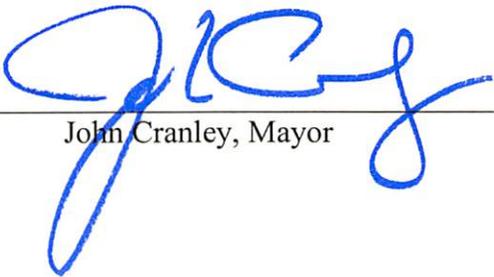
Section 8. That the Task Force shall convene no later than 90 days after the effective date of this ordinance and the approval of all initial appointments, and shall report back to the Mayor and City Council within six months of its initial meeting to present a status report and any recommendations. The Task Force should present a report recommending policy and budget priorities, implementation, and monitoring to Council at least annually.

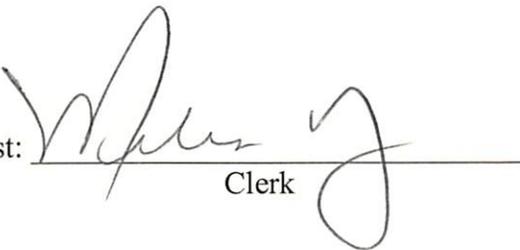
Section 9. That the Task Force shall create a publicly accessible glossary of terms and definitions concerning racism and health equity.

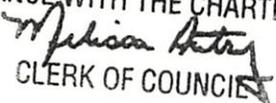
Section 10. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to take all appropriate steps to ensure that City departments provide appropriate support to the Task Force, including carrying out such legislative policies as Council enacts based on the recommendations of the Task Force.

Section 11. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to ensure that the formation and implementation of the Racial Equity Task Force can take place as quickly as possible.

Passed: August 5, 2020

  
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John Cranley, Mayor

Attest:   
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Clerk

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ORDINANCE NO 200-2020  
WAS PUBLISHED IN THE CITY BULLETIN  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER ON 8-18-2020  
  
CLERK OF COUNCIL