



Anna Albi
Councilmember

January 22, 2026

MOTION

We MOVE that the Administration prepare a report within 30 days assessing the need for additional lighting and camera infrastructure across city parks, playgrounds and recreational areas owned by Cincinnati Parks and the Cincinnati Recreation Commission, with priority given to locations that have already experienced shootings and the five neighborhoods experiencing the highest levels of gun violence.

We further MOVE that the Administration prepare a separate subsequent report within 30 days of the initial report outlining the costs associated with installing, operating, and maintaining recommended lighting and camera improvements identified in the initial report, including any potential funding sources.

STATEMENT

Recent incidents of gun violence involving children and youth in and around Cincinnati's public parks and recreational areas highlight the urgent need to evaluate safety conditions in these shared spaces. On January 1, 2026, eleven-year-old QueenEr'Re Reed was tragically shot and killed while playing at Laurel Playground in the West End, a public park where children and families routinely gather. In Over-the-Rhine, a pattern of youth-involved gun violence has occurred near Grant Park, including the October 2025 shooting of two juveniles, ages 12 and 15, who were injured when multiple shots were fired nearby, as well as the September 2025 shooting of sixteen-year-old Thomas Bell, who later died from his injuries. These incidents have taken place in and around spaces intended for recreation, connection, and community, underscoring the importance of environmental design in shaping both safety outcomes and public confidence.

Adequate lighting and strategically placed cameras are proven tools that can deter violence, increase natural surveillance, and improve the feeling of safety for residents using parks and recreational spaces. This report will allow us to understand the existing infrastructure, identify gaps, and prioritize investments in neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence to help ensure that Cincinnati's public spaces are safe, welcoming, and worthy of the families who rely on them.



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Moss Jeffrey

Shirley