



# City of Cincinnati

## Law & Public Safety Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Christopher Smitherman  
Vice Chair David Mann  
Council Member Betsy Sundermann  
Council Member Jan Michele Kearney  
Council Member Greg Landsman  
Council Member Steven Goodin  
Council Member Liz Keating

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**Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

**9:00 AM**

**Council Chambers, Room 300**

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#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Vice Chair David Mann  
Jan-Michele Kearney  
Greg Landsman  
Betsy Sundermann  
Steve Goodin  
Liz Keating

**Present:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Vice Chair David Mann  
Jan-Michele Kearney  
Greg Landsman  
Betsy Sundermann  
Steve Goodin  
Liz Keating

1. REPORT, dated 10/14/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, regarding Jurisdiction Agreements. [202001680](#)  
Held
2. COMMUNICATION, submitted by Councilmember Kearney from Gerhardstein & Branch Law Firm, regarding support for proposed ban on no-knock warrants. [202001725](#)  
Held
3. COMMUNICATION, submitted by Vice Mayor Smitherman, from Andy Wilson, Senior Advisor for Criminal Justice Policy, Office of Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, regarding the Ohio Revised Code Section that governs law enforcement's [202001974](#)

ability to obtain a “no knock” warrant.

Held

4. MEMO, submitted by Andrew Garth, Interim City Solicitor and Kate Burroughs, Sr. Assistant City Solicitor, from Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager, on October 12, 2020, regarding Solicitor’s opinion concerning No Knock Warrants. [202002015](#)

Held

5. REPORT, dated 1/6/2021, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager, regarding Citizen Complaint Authority Recommendations and CPD Improvement, Report 1. (SEE REFERENCE DOC #202001079) [202002091](#)

Held

6. MOTION, submitted by Vice Mayor Smitherman, WE MOVE that the city administration solicit a quote for the total cost of a forensic audit on all development deals that have come before Cincinnati City Council over the past three years. [202100210](#)

Adopt

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Vice Chair Mann  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Vice Chair Mann  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

7. ORDINANCE, submitted by Councilmember Seelbach from Andrew W. Garth, City Solicitor, MODIFYING Cincinnati Municipal Code Charter 908, “Crimes Against the Person,” by amending Section 908-3, “Criminal Intimidation,” for the purpose of adding “gender identity” and “gender expression” to the list of people protected by this Section. [202100218](#)

indefinite postponement

8. COMMUNICATION, submitted by Vice Mayor Smitherman to Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager, from Andrew Garth, City Solicitor, Kate Burroughs, Sr. Asst City Solicitor and Mark Manning, Sr. Asst City Solicitor, concerning the Legality of Motion Directing Amendments to Administrative Procedures.

[202100223](#)

Held

9. MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Young, WE MOVE that the undersigned move that the City Solicitor issue a legal opinion addressing the following question: "Under the City Charter, does the Mayor have legal authority to negotiate or direct any development contracts with Developers who want to do business with the City." (STATEMENT ATTACHED)

[202100268](#)

Filed

10. MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Landsman, Cincinnati families are facing unprecedented financial challenges, and the fear of eviction continues to loom for tens of thousands of our children and families. We recognize that our nonprofit partners have, and will continue to receive, significant rental assistance support. But the process of getting these resources to families quickly, and before they end up in eviction court, has been a challenge. As such, WE MOVE that the administration pursue a request for information (RFI) to determine who can build a shared data system to enhance eviction prevention programmatic performance and coordination. Such a system would allow providers to more effectively allocate relief and prevention services, keeping more and more of our children and families in stable housing. We ask that the RFI inquire into: 1. Which companies or providers could create such a data system, 2. How much it would cost the city to support the creation of one, 3. How quickly we could build the platform, and 4. How best to get our eviction prevention support providers onto such a system.

[202100292](#)

Adopt

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

**Absent:** Vice Chair Mann

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

**Absent:** Vice Chair Mann

11. MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Landsman, WE MOVE to request that the Administration provide an update on Ordinance 402-2019, which guarantees that eviction filing data from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts be made available to service providers partnering with the City of Cincinnati in eviction relief services and eviction prevention initiatives. To date, we have not been able to obtain this data in a regular and reliable manner. The City may need to provide support to the Clerk of Courts to secure this data, and we encourage the Administration to pursue that support. Getting this data in the hands of our partners will allow them to help our residents struggling to pay rent with rental assistance, the ability to stay in their homes, avoid an eviction, or even avoid having to attend eviction court.

[202100297](#)

Adopt

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

**Absent:** Vice Chair Mann

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

**Absent:** Vice Chair Mann

- 12. ORDINANCE (VERSION B),** submitted by Andrew Garth, City Solicitor, on 2/1/21, MODIFYING Cincinnati Municipal Code Chapter 908, "Crimes Against the Person," by amending Section 908-3, "Criminal Intimidation," for the purpose of adding "gender identity" and "gender expression" to the list of people protected by this Section.

[202100487](#)

Recommend Passage

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Vice Chair Mann  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

**Yes:** Chairperson Smitherman  
Vice Chair Mann  
Councilmember Kearney  
Councilmember Landsman  
Councilmember Sundermann  
Councilmember Goodin  
Councilmember Keating

## **SUPPLEMENTAL**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Report Regarding Text Messages**

**Andrew Garth, City Solicitor**

**Emily Smart Woerner, Deputy City Solicitor**

- 13. REPORT,** submitted by Andrew Garth, City Solicitor and Emily Smart Woerner, Deputy City Solicitor regarding Motion #202100060 (text messages).

[202100545](#)

Approve & File

ADJOURNMENT