

Safer Louisville

Louisville Metro Council Minority Caucus Proposals and Update
Updated June 10, 2026

INTRODUCTION

The twelve Republican Members of the Louisville Metro Council have worked together over the course of the past year to create a series of policy and legislative proposals aiming to make our city safer. These eighteen proposals have been identified as proposals to assist law enforcement in making our community better.

These proposals either address aspects of crime that often-times escalate into greater more dangerous criminal activity, seek to improve safe behavior or support efforts to bring more officers to our neighborhoods.

While our caucus has created this series of proposals, we understand that combating crime and improving safety for all requires teamwork. Our caucus has and will continue to work with the Mayor's Office, all members of the Metro Council as well as state and federally elected officials to seek meaningful and effective proposals to help make our community a safer place to live. We believe these proposals will receive broad support and promise to continuously update this document to show progress made on these and other safety focused initiatives.

The following are the policies that are part our Safer Louisville plan, with updates to show progress made since our initial press announcement on September 9, 2025.



STATE ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT: Seek support of Governor to bring state troopers into Jefferson County on a regular basis for assistance in traffic enforcement on interstates and road construction areas. Establish an agreement for limited assistance, as outlined, to bring more LMPD officers onto local arterials and into neighborhoods throughout the community. Members also approached the Office of Jefferson County Sherrif about increasing their work in traffic enforcement.

Update: Members have appreciated the new focus of the Sherrif's office under the leadership of newly appointed Sherrif David James and will look to support his continued efforts to improve safety within our community. Similarly, State Police have begun allocating officers to regularly run traffic enforcement.

STREET SOLICITATION: Submit amendments to the Louisville Metro Code of Ordinances to improve safety on our streets by making it an offense (citation) for someone to pass money, food, or other items from their vehicle while on a Louisville Metro Arterial Roads.

**In
Progress**

- Update Metro Ordinance Related to LMCO 71.10 to prohibit persons in vehicles from passing articles such as money to other persons outside of their vehicle while on Metro Arterial Roadways, Medians, or Gores.
- Update Metro Ordinance to eliminate provisions to LMCO 71.10(D)(5) to eliminate intersection collections along Metro Arterial Roadways, Medians, or Gores.
- Update 3: State Law addressing Street Safety (HB 189) was passed during 2026 meeting of the Kentucky General Assembly.



SOLICITATION AWARENESS / EDUCATION: Work with the Goodwill's Another Way Program and other groups to create an education campaign that will include signage to help educate persons that streetside and sidewalk almsgiving or panhandling are not effective and often times counterproductive towards helping persons.

- Fund an education campaign to create signage, vehicular markings and other materials to promote giving excess change to groups that will help create real improvements to individuals through healthcare, job assistance and other resources that will help a person(s) to find stable work and opportunities.
- Seek enhanced enforcement of new streetside solicitation.
- Add protections, based on LMPD crime statistics, to create safer environment for persons within areas designated for shopping, grocery, entertainment or banking by prohibiting unwarranted solicitation within parking lot areas.

Update: Funding for awareness campaign was approved as part of budget adjustment during December 2025 meeting of Metro Council.

STREETLIGHT PILOT PROGRAM: Working with LMPD, members of the Caucus helped secure funding for at least six pilot locations where 16 solar powered streetlights are to be added to areas designated by police as being locations of higher levels of crime. According to multiple educational sources as well as municipal studies, the installation of streetlights to improve visibility in low-light areas, are believed to be one of the most cost-effective ways to deter crime. Members will look at data prior to and after the installation of lights in two targeted areas to see if additional funding should be included in future year budgets for similar areas throughout the community.

**In
Progress**

Update: Funding appropriated as part of end of year budget adjustment and allowed us to move from 4 to 6 locations and use solar power, which will ensure that the lights remain in operation beyond the original 3-5 year term originally anticipated.



FLOCK CAMERAS: Establish a plan for usage and payment for Flock Cameras that addresses current as well as needed cameras and areas of importance. Work with future development proposals to incorporate the deployment of cameras as part of the development process and to improve connectivity between privately maintained cameras and MetroSafe.

Update: Metro Council received briefing at February 2026 meeting of Safety Committee.



MENTAL INQUESTS AND PARENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY: Support efforts in Frankfort to improve and modernize state laws related to assisting those suffering from mental illness. Give local authorities more tools for working with persons who are in need of clinical assistance and give local police and judges more options for holding parents who's neglect, leads to crime among youth accountable.

Update: HB 485 Passed by 2026 Kentucky General Assembly. Law makes changes to Form 202A which addresses the topic of Mental Inquest. Work underway to update local understanding of law to allow Metro to better assist those dealing with mental health emergencies.



TRAFFIC FEEDBACK SIGNS: Install 12 new traffic feedback signs in targeted high speeding areas to help reduce traffic accidents and injuries within member districts. Total project cost \$65,000.

JUDICIARY

CREATE TRANSPARENCY FOR PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES: Members will work with the Mayor's Office, Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk, the Louisville Metro Police Foundation and other groups to create a 3rd party Judicial Scorecard that will track release rates, shock probation and other statistics so that citizens can have a better understanding of the role members of our judiciary play in terms of keeping perpetrators of violent crime off the streets. Members will also seek to add transparency related to the work of prosecutors within our court system.

Update: A third party has been identified and funded to begin work on the creation of a scorecard.

In
Progress

NEW JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER AND JAIL



NEW YOUTH / JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER: Sponsor a resolution from members of the Metro Council strongly advocating that the Governor and Justice Cabinet do everything it can to expedite the opening of a Juvenile Justice Facility within Jefferson County.

Update: Expected completion date for Youth Detention center is Summer of 2027.

NEW JAIL: Increase advocacy for the planning and funding of construction of a new and more modern jail that will allow us to serve both the inmate population as well as the staff that works within the jail in a safer manner. Project is a multi-year endeavor.

STARTED

Update: A study was release in late 2025 outlining the need for a new corrections facility. The next step will be to begin work on a long term plan for a new facility.

QUALITY OF LIFE

ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL ATV USE AND DAMAGE TO

PROPERTY: Amend current ordinances related to the illegal use of ATV on public land to give LMPD more tools for citing persons riding these vehicles illegally, and often times destroying public parks, facilities, golf courses and other amenities. Work with state lawmakers to see if there are additional improvements to state law to help improve enforcement and penalties for improper use of all-terrain vehicles.

In Progress

ATV ENFORCEMENT PILOT PROGRAM: Members have successfully funded multiple events in which a task force of LMPD Officers will dedicate time towards enforcing our laws related to vandalism and use of ATV vehicles off-road within our parks and other open spaces.

In Progress

Update: Funding for law enforcement overtime has been secured. Work is underway to look for ways to strengthen the laws and enforcement of current laws.

STRENGTH OF FORCE STUDY: Establish a plan for increasing the number of officers in suburban areas. Members of the Minority Caucus have pushed for a Strength of Force Utilization Study, currently underway, that helps us establish what our goals for hiring as well of deployment of officers should look like.



Update: Council will receive an update on strength of force during May 2026 Budget hearing and will receive a comprehensive update during their June 17, 2026 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

SUCCESSFUL PROPOSALS PASSED IN 2025



HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Republican Members of the Metro Council are working with various agencies to develop comprehensive changes to Metro Policies as Ordinances to assist in cracking down on Human Trafficking through enhanced monitoring of Spas and Health Centers.

Update: Ordinance passed (O-265-25) on November 13th with supplemental funding to support the enhanced enforcement of the ordinance being added in the subsequent budget.

Update 2: Funding secured in December 2025 to add personnel to assist with enforcement of ordinance within the Codes Department as well as Metro Health Department.

Update 3: Enforcement of the Ordinance is underway with arrests already announced as part of a larger effort working with state and Federal officials.



SECONDHAND METAL ORDINANCE: (O-087-25) Ordinance Updated requirements for the sale of used metals by secondhand dealers to make it more difficult to sell used metals such as copper wire.

Update: Multiple arrests have been made using provisions within this ordinance. This ordinance has been studied by other cities as the gold standard for addressing metal/wire theft.



FIRST RESPONDERS TRAINING FACILITY: (O-092-25) Members successfully fought to allocate \$6,000,000 in Metro Fundings towards the purchase of land in Southwest Jefferson County for the construction of a new, First Responder Training Facility.

Update: An agreement for the purchase of land has been made between Metro and a landowner. Funding to help support the construction of a new training facility has been included as a top priority during the current session of the Kentucky General Assembly.



POLICE HEADQUARTERS: Members fought to maintain funding to support the continued work on a new permanent Metro Owned Police Headquarters (O-152-25)



TRAFFIC FEEDBACK SIGNAGE: Funded purchase of 12 more traffic/speeding feedback signs to be installed in member districts.

PROPOSALS ADDED IN 2026

ADDRESSING RETAIL THEFT: Caucus will review ordinance proposals that come from the recently created Retail Theft Task Force, made up of representatives from LMPD, State Attorney General, Sherrif and other agencies, and will sponsor legislation that is targeted as protecting both stores as well as their patrons.

Update: Working on amendments to Metro ordinances to address certain types of retail theft not currently covered by ordinance.

ILLEGAL DONATION BINS: Strengthen oversight and enforcement related to the many illegally placed donation bins throughout the community. Improvements to licensing as well as identifying placement of these bins will be prioritized. Review of zoning and other licensing requirements is underway in an effort to remove the illegally placed bins.

Update: Metro Ordinance updated to improve enforceability for Codes related to illegally placed bins. Notice delivered to 61 illegally placed bins, all of which have now been removed, with 15 bins being impounded by Metro.

The Following Members of Louisville Metro Council Contributed to the proposals presented within this document:

Councilman Anthony Piagentini, District 19, Minority Caucus Chair
Councilman Khalil Batshon, District 25, Minority Caucus Vice Chair
Councilman Dan Seum, District 13, Public Safety Committee Chairman
Councilman Kevin Kramer, District 11
Councilman Jonathan Joseph, District 12
Councilwoman Crystal Bast, District 14
Councilman Scott Reed, District 16
Councilwoman Marilyn Parker, District 18
Councilman Stuart Benson, District 20
Councilman Kevin Bratcher, District 22
Councilman Jeff Hudson, District 23
Councilwoman Ginny Mulvey-Woolridge, District 24

For additional information on policies or proposals presented within this document or any other inquiries related to the Louisville Metro Council's Minority Caucus, please contact Stephen Haag, Jr. at (502) 574-1204 or via email at steve.haag@louisvilleky.gov.