



# H.O.P.E. Advisory Council Final Recommendations

Agenda Meeting

November 29, 2022 | 4:00 PM

# H.O.P.E. Advisory Council Members

- **Director Ken Richardson, Council Chair**
- **Leta Anthony, Policy Subcommittee Chair**
- **Michael Sanders, Community Safety Programming Subcommittee Chair**
- **Pastor Mark DeYmaz, Built Environment Subcommittee Chair**
- Judge Melanie Martin
- Judge Leon Johnson
- Kambrei Charles
- Yolanda Harrison
- Dana Dossett
- Tim Campbell
- Mallory Visser
- Pastor Billy Burris
- Reggie Swinton
- Shanelle Smith

## City Liaison

- **Christopher Harvey, Senior Advisor to the Mayor**

# Policy Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## Law Enforcement

- Little Rock Police Department (LRPD) should increase visibility and add staff to ensure appropriate flow of information and support to victims/families. The interested parties should be guided and kept informed throughout the entire investigative/court process. Mental/behavioral health professionals could also be a part of the team. The team could also be assisted by community stakeholders: community non-profit and/or faith-based organizations.
- Subject matter experts like victims' advocates and mental health professionals should be leveraged more so that law enforcement can continue to focus on violent crime and repeat offenders using appropriate police tactics.
- Maintain the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Division that works with the Little Rock community to ensure strong relationships between LRPD and residents.

# Policy Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## **The Role of the Parent: Responsibilities and Benefits**

- The City of Little Rock should support programs that emphasize the different areas of parenting. A priority should be programs that not only address the needs of our youth, but also stress the importance of parental support and effective legal resources.
- Such programs should be balanced and should support different areas: visitation; custody; and financial responsibilities. These programs result in healthy family relations, which in turn increase neighborhood safety.

## **Permanent Commission Work**

- The H.O.P.E. Advisory Council should transition to an official City of Little Rock “Public Safety Commission” to continue the community engagement work with public safety efforts.

# Policy Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## City Board of Directors

- All City Directors should formulate plans dealing with crime reduction in their respective wards. “At-Large” members should be involved in all wards.
- These plans should be shared with the Mayor’s office to be considered by LRPD.
- The City should locate identifiable resources to every ward for the planning & implementation of strategic crime reduction. Board allocations towards prevention, treatment, and intervention should be balanced equitably, as such programs are as important as the direct allocation of funds to law enforcement.
- Successful crime reduction plans in the City should not be discontinued if there is a decrease in crime, but should be consistently maintained and updated. Data and stats should be used to measure efficacy and outcomes.

# Policy Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## City Board of Directors & Warranty of Habitability

- The warranty of habitability (or the lack of enforcement) plays a great role in creating an environment where crimes may be committed. Stronger landlord requirements & restrictions (especially for those out-of-state) should be a priority, since positive actions will protect the housing health of our citizens.
- More funding should be allocated towards code enforcement to ensure violations are promptly handled, and input from the courts is necessary to ensure success.
- We must increase visibility, light up neighborhoods with street lights, and remove blight.

# Policy Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## City Board of Directors & Warranty of Habitability

- The Board must focus on holistic policy issues to assist in solutions for the crime issue.
- Too often, concentrating spending in any one area may result in disparities, lack of nutritious food opportunities, decreased educational opportunities, and/or poor enforcement measures.

# Neighborhood Safety Programming Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## Opportunity Centers

- We are proposing that the City funds and operates a number of Opportunity Centers (One-stop Shops) to be located in the targeted wards of Little Rock as it relates to “Violence Reduction”. We propose at least 4 in different parts of the city with the “pilot” center being built on 12th street.
- These Opportunity Centers will be city-ran facilities serving as the primary intake/assessment points for the Department of Community Programs-Office of Neighborhood Safety Services. These Opportunity Centers will function as a Day Center during the day-time hours and an Intervention Center in the evening. These one-stop shops will provide:



# Opportunity Centers

## Day Center

- Alternative School Environment
- Alternative Learning Curriculum
- School Credit Recovery
- Diversion
- Arkansas High School Diploma/GED
- Career Readiness/Certificate Program
- Job Placement
- Behavior Modification
- Conflict Resolution

# Opportunity Centers

## **Intervention(ist) (YIP Coordinators providing youth development opportunities and supportive services)**

- Recruitment
- Engagement
- Empowerment
- Listening Sessions
- Youth-led panels (current programs, schools, colleges)

## **Social Workers/Trauma Induced Care**

- Peace Circles
- One-on-one Sessions
- Family Counseling (Parent Training/Support)
- Mental Wellness

# Built Environment Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## Hope Centers

- Determine and focus on 2 critical areas and aggregate efforts in these communities by identifying 2 existing facilities in the target areas and establish them as "HOPE Centers" in which multiple programs and service providers can be aggregated to serve the needs of people in "one-stop" manner.

## Farmer's Market & Community Gardens

- Establish bi-weekly Farmers' Markets in areas where healthy foods can be brought near to people in need at affordable prices free of the expense of brick and mortar.
- Bolster our existing community gardens that form the foundation for a true urban agriculture system in Little Rock. Ex: Dunbar Garden.

# Built Environment Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## Community Commissioners

- Create a "Czar" commissioner for the University and Asher/Colonel Glenn area and/or any area in which data shows high instances of violent crime.
- Revive the University District Partnership to ensure collaboration with stakeholders invested in this area.
- Brand the area with new logo, flags on flagpoles, etc. Tear out concreted and develop green spaces (grass, trees, flowers) along University Dr. the length of UALR property (create an adopt an island approach for ongoing maintenance and funding beyond an initial city investment).
- This identity establishes a sense of pride in the area that would likely reduce crime.

# Built Environment Subcommittee Final Recommendations

## Collaborative Training

- Provide collaborative training, coaching, and economic incentives that support both majority/minority-owned businesses and help with:
  - ❑ an understanding of the need in the area;
  - ❑ cross-culture individual and corporate intelligence;
  - ❑ a vision for effective business in under resourced communities, and
  - ❑ a "skunk-works" operation through which reasonable profit can be earned by establishing new practices and metrics, thus attracting, and keeping them in such communities.

# Questions?