

Asheville City Council November 15, 2022 Email Comments

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11/14/2022 6:33:00 PM

Mayor, Vice Mayor ,and Council Members, this email is in regard to the Project Management Contract.
First I would like to thank you all for your support to the Reparation Commission.
As a member of the Commission it is very important that our work is not delayed, I look forward to making a difference in our Community today that will affect the future of Asheville in years to come, as we continue our work with a new project manager. Please consider authorizing this contract to Amplify Consulting LLC..

Thank you for all you do for the City Of Asheville.
Sincerely
Dee Burrus

11/15/2022 12:57:00 AM

Hi Mayor Manheimer and Council Members,

There is no way I will make it to tomorrow's council meeting after just a few of the key things on the COA Strategic Management plan I've managed to look into at least gets some needed review.

I just wanted to say one more time that concerning New Business Item A on the November 15, 2022 City Council agenda, dissolving the Public Safety Committee isn't going to help anyone. I can understand that COA Staff would like the people of Asheville to learn later down the road that the new and unstudied council Environment and Safety Committee is about "expanded scope of Public Safety Committee (PSC) to include Environment". The attempted strategic scope there is expansive, but not in terms of congruence, coherence, and consistency around the serious professional work APD, AFD, and Buncombe Emergency Services need to do.

The proposed Environment and Safety Committee, possibly to be voted into existence at the expense of Asheville's public safety at tomorrow's full council meeting, can be improved on with the attached Council Committee and Strategic Management Transformation Model (Slide 3). The PSC stays intact; as does the necessary public safety focus on APD, AFD, and Buncombe Emergency Services.

The new Environment, Equity, and Human Security (EEHS) council committee can explore any and all 'root cause' options. The EEHS can request Reimagining Public Safety and Neighborhood Resilience strategic plans. Afterwards, those plans can contribute to tangibles like reducing Asheville crime trends to better than 2010 levels in three years.

The attached Tacoma document is an example of a well-researched public safety strategy document. Here in Asheville there would need to be much more focus on countering Illegally Manufactured Fentanyl specifically. But now you all have an actual example of a public safety strategy document to go along with President Biden's Safer America Plan:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/08/01/fact-sheet-president-bidens-safer-america-plan-2/>

Please pull New Business Item A and let the people of Asheville look at these and other public safety strategy options. There was supposed to be 'feedback' in the current council committee transformation. I looked for the open public engagement process as someone who was following and actively participating in the associated COA Voluntary Advisory Boards Realignment Work Group. We all need that open process.

It's alarming our local news media platforms seem to have helped bury the news that Asheville's public safety strategy may very well go into a nose dive with this high risk maneuver on tomorrow's current council agenda.

Thanks,

Grant Millin
Strategy Innovator and longtime Asheville resident

11/15/2022 2:52:00 AM

Good evening,

I wanted to share that I am thankful for this commission being established in Asheville. Though there are some formation kinks still being worked out it's an amazing opportunity to address a systemic issue that has plagued the city.

With that being said there is a divide of feedback being received from the black community. Some are hopeful of the process but some are weary thinking that nothing positive will come about from the actions.

I hope that in the next coming months the City Council will be more supportive with their time and guidance towards the commission so that trust is built, communication is effectively shared and confidence is maintained as the work continues. It's early and there is still a lot that can be accomplished if all parties can unite and shape the narrative that Asheville is serious about finding solutions to these ongoing harms.

I appreciate everyone's efforts in this matter.