



## **GOOD NEWS UPDATE!**

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## **ACTION ALERT!**

Hello CLOUT Leaders & Supporters:

Just sharing some good news with you and asking you to take action on one of our issues that is still pending...

**First the good news (three victories)!**

Last Thursday, June 24, the Louisville Metro Council voted to approve the new city budget, which began on July 1. It included three different victories related to CLOUT's issues!

1. First, the budget vote secured our victory on our newest issue campaign, related to improving police-community relations. As CLOUT has recommended over the past several months to Mayor Fischer, LMPD, Metro Council, and the FOP, the Council approved \$600,000 to contract with the National Network for Safe Communities to come to Louisville to conduct their "Reconciliation" process (or as we have been calling it, "Truth & Transformation"). This process has been successful in other cities to build better police-community relations. It has the potential to bring healing and peace to our community, as we seek to move beyond the trauma and pain of the past year. See the attached article from *Courier Journal* last week describing Metro Council's support of CLOUT's recommendation, and the attached copy of CLOUT's op-ed on the topic, published in the *Courier Journal* in May. Also attached is a copy of an infographic

produced by city government showing the various city initiatives related to public safety (see the yellow box in the upper-left corner, where it lists the "new reconciliation program...").

2. Second, the Council approved \$2.9 million to fund a new deflection program which will provide non-police emergency response to persons experiencing various personal crises related to such things as mental illness, addiction, homelessness, domestic disputes, etc. (similar to the CAHOOTS model that CLOUT has recommended).
3. Third, the Council approved an allocation of \$10 million for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF)!

SO...lots to celebrate! Share this good news with your congregations!

And here's the [Action Alert](#) about our [affordable housing issue!](#)

As you may remember, this year CLOUT has been calling for an investment totaling \$40 million in the AHTF in the coming year, with some of it coming from the usual city budget, and the remainder from the new federal American Rescue Plan funds.

So, please take a few moments TODAY to let city decision makers know that Louisville should invest an additional \$30 million in the AHTF (over the \$10 million already approved) in order to develop badly needed affordable housing in our community. And they can do this by taking advantage of this once-in-a-generation opportunity presented to us by the **American Rescue Plan**, which will be bringing \$388 million new dollars into our community. (NOTE: The "\$100 million" referred to below is the amount that local organizations working on our housing crisis are recommending as the total that should be invested at this time, including \$40 million for the AHTF.)

**Just follow these instructions!**

- click [this link](#)
- enter your personal information, and enter CLOUT as the "Organization"
- select the second option - "Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency"
- in the "comments" box, write the following, or something similar, using your own words:
  - Louisville Metro needs to dedicate \$100 million dollars for affordable housing, including an additional \$30 million for the Louisville

Affordable Housing Trust Fund, in order to address our city's affordable housing shortage of approximately 30,000 units.

If you need any help, let us know!

**CLOUT**

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