



**THE COUNCIL
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS
MARION COUNTY**

June 9, 2021

Leroy Robinson
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee, *Chairman*
City-County Building
200 E. Washington St. Suite T241
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Rising violence in Indianapolis

Dear Chairman Robinson:

Recently, Mayor Joe Hogsett, alongside City-County Council members, law enforcement officials, and community leaders, announced a plan to address rising violence in Indianapolis. Statistics show that Indianapolis' violence rate has dramatically increased over the past year, and Indianapolis' murder rate is higher than those of Chicago and other major Midwestern cities. On Monday, May 31, Indianapolis recorded its 102nd murder this year, and the city's murder rate is nearly 30% higher than it was this time last year.

Citizens are victims of violence nightly, and as members of the Indianapolis City-County Council, we must act. We echo the Mayor's concern for this increase in violence as it is our highest responsibility to try and protect our neighborhoods and make them safe. We want to reverse this horrible crime trend and have no doubts you do as well.

We call on the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee to increase efforts to address this issue by immediately scheduling additional public safety committee hearings. These further hearings will allow committee members to discuss the out-of-control violence in our city, take a deeper dive into our city's current public safety strategies, identify what is working or failing, and create a bipartisan approach from now on. Specifically, groups such as the violence reduction team, the Marion County Prosecutor's office, and the IMPD, who will all be integral in curbing the violence, should be brought before the committee for hearings on progress.

If now is not the time for additional committee meetings, when is it?

Sincerely,

Brian Mowery, District 25

Josh Bain, District 20

Paul Annee, District 23

Mike Dilk, District 24

Michael-Paul Hart, District 18

JB/law
MD/law