

September 15, 2022

Memorandum #2022-133

TO: Hampton Roads Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers

BY: Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director

**RE: Hampton Roads Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers Work Session
September 22, 2022**

Attached is the agenda for the next work session of the Hampton Roads Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 12:30 PM. This meeting will be held in person in Board Room A/B of the Regional Building located at 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320. **Lunch will be provided beginning at Noon.**

RAC/cm

Attachment

Hampton Roads Mayors:

Donnie R. Tuck, HA
Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer, VB
Richard W. "Rick" West, CH
Frank M. Rabil, FR
McKinley L. Price, NN

Kenneth C. "Kenny" Alexander, NO
Shannon E. Glover, PO
Gordon C. Helsel, Jr., PQ
Michael D. "Mike" Duman, SU
Douglas G. "Doug" Pons, WM

Hampton Roads Chief Administrative Officers:

Christopher M. "Chris" Price, CH
Amanda C. Jarratt, FR
Carol Steele, GL
Mary Bunting, HA
Randy R. Keaton, IW
Scott Stevens, JC
Cynthia D. "Cindy" Rohlf, NN
Larry "Chip" Filer, NO
J. Randall "Randy" Wheeler, PQ

Tonya Chapman, PO
Michael R. Stalling, Jr., SM
Brian S. Thrower, SH
Albert S. Moor, II, SU
Melissa D. Rollins, SY
Patrick A. Duhaney, VB
Andrew O. Trivette, WM
William Saunders, WN
Neil Morgan, YK

Copy:

Andria McClellan, HRPDC Chair

**Hampton Roads
Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers Work Session**

**Thursday, September 22, 2022
12:30 PM**

(Lunch will be provided beginning at Noon)

**Board Room A/B
The Regional Building
723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320**

I. Call to Order

II. Consideration of Regional Legislative Priorities Related to Public Safety

Since the last Mayor/CAO Work Session, the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), Regional Legislative Committee, Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs), and CAO Subcommittee have met to identify potential legislative priorities that could be included in the HRPDC Regional Legislative Agenda. Included in these draft legislative priorities are requests of the Virginia General Assembly to address public safety issues that will assist local governments in their efforts to address violence and crime.

The Mayor/CAO Roundtable will receive a briefing on these potential regional legislative priorities related to violence and crime. The Mayor/CAO Roundtable will be asked to discuss these legislative statements, and consider action to recommend that they be approved at the October 20 HRPDC meeting for inclusion in the Regional Legislative Agenda.

III. Regional Violence/Crime Dashboard Update

At previous Mayor/CAO Work Sessions, interest was expressed in the establishment of a regional violence/crime data dashboard. Staff will provide an update on efforts to advance this initiative.

IV. Discussion of Next Steps (Attachment 4)

A briefing will be provided on the next steps for the Mayor/CAO Roundtable, including the following:

- The CAO Committee will invite the region's police chiefs to attend the November meeting of the CAO Committee and request their input on potential regional strategies to address violence and crime. The input received from this session will be reported back to the Mayor/CAO Roundtable.
- In previous Mayor/CAO Work Sessions, the attached Regional Violence Prevention Framework was reviewed. This framework is intended to illustrate the complexity of issues related to violence and crime, and to stress the need for a holistic strategy to address issues related to the following topics:
 - Concentrated Poverty
 - Access to Guns
 - Desensitized Communities and Individuals
 - Judicial System
 - Mental Health/Unaddressed Trauma
 - Family Dysfunction
 - Poor Conflict Resolution

These topics present a potential guide for future agenda topics to be discussed by the Mayor/CAO Roundtable. Input will be requested on potential community partners/subject matter experts under these categories who may be potential presenters/participants in upcoming Mayor/CAO Work Sessions.

V. Adjournment

Hampton Roads Regional Violence Prevention Framework

Gun Violence in concentrated area committed by a limited group of actors and their associates.

Concentrated Poverty

- Racially Concentrated**
Communities are largely underserved, under-resourced, & underrepresented.
- Deficient Opportunities**
Lacking access and/or desire to obtain knowledge, skills and abilities required for sustainability. Spiraling patterns of generational poverty, crime, and community disinvestment.
- Inequities**
Both structural and systemic controls containing overt and implicit biases.
- Deep Roots**
Perpetual Systems of Marginalization.
- Difficult to address the historical and continuing impacts of segregation.**

Access to Guns

- High-Risk Individuals**
Circulating guns into the community through theft, illegal transfers, and their constitutional right to bear arms.
- Fear & Protection**
Social and Economic issues fuel violence and perceptions that guns are required for safety.
- Societal Norms**
Anticipating risk of affiliated or unaffiliated acts of violence and/or retaliation.
- Money, Power, Respect**
Individuals looking to validate status, control, and self-governance.
- Difficult to mitigate access to weapons in the hands of those looking to ensure safety, self-worth, and personal value.**

Desensitized Communities & Individuals

- Perpetuated Imagery**
Prevalence of violence as an accepted reality in everyday life.
- Social & Environmental**
Acts of violence in schools, homes, and communities. Violence normalized in media and popular culture.
- Sense of Hopelessness**
Communities no longer feel empowered or safe to provide correction. Individuals lack morality, value of life, positive role models, or strong family structures.
- Generational Behaviors**
Cycles of Trauma and stigma associated with seeking professional help.
- Societal and community norms encourage desensitization and normalize violence.**

Judicial System

- Ineffective Deterrence**
Perpetrators do not fear consequences. Citizens do not cooperate as they see perpetrators receive light sentences.
- Judicial Accountability**
Comparatively light sentences for serious offenses. Perpetrators not consistently punished.
- Political Pressure**
Lawmakers have a preference for lighter sentences. Appoint judges that share this philosophy, leading to more lenient sentencing.
- Community Norms**
Politicians and Judges do not fully understand the impact of their sentences on community perceptions.
- Perpetrators do not fear consequences. Citizens do not cooperate because they fear retaliation.**

Mental Health/ Unaddressed Trauma

- Unaddressed Trauma**
Individuals experience significant trauma that is not professionally addressed.
- Insufficient Resources**
Not enough mental health services to meet the need. Cost of services presents challenges.
- Societal Norms**
The stigma attached to mental health challenges and seeking professional help.
- Education**
Individuals are unaware of the signs, effects, and importance of treating trauma.
- Individuals do not recognize the importance of treating trauma and the negative effects of unaddressed trauma.**

Family Dysfunction

- Insufficient Support**
Economic, emotional & resource challenges lead to insufficient support systems.
- Survival Mode**
Scarcity leads to focus on survival. May lead to neglect of other values and supportive actions.
- Poor Role Models**
Lack of access to positive mentors and role models in the home. Few examples of accessible pathways to success.
- Lack of Parenting Skills**
Lack of proper parenting skills. Continuation of generational parenting practices that may lead to trauma.
- Violence may be reinforced as a legitimate response within the home.**

Poor Conflict Resolution

- Insufficient Support**
Economic, emotional & resource challenges lead to insufficient support systems.
- Survival Mode**
Scarcity leads to focus on survival. May lead to neglect of other values and supportive actions.
- Poor Role Models**
Lack of access to positive mentors and role models in the home. Few examples of accessible pathways to success.
- Lack of Parenting Skills**
Lack of proper parenting skills. Continuation of generational parenting practices that may lead to trauma.
- Violence may be reinforced as a legitimate response within the home.**
- Lack of Education**
Have not learned appropriate conflict resolution skills & view gun violence as a legitimate response
- Lack of Modeling**
Proper conflict resolution is not taught or modeled in the home or in the environment
- Under-Utilized Resources**
Not utilizing available conflict resolution classes or resources. Not valued, do not see the issue with the current approach
- Poor Marketing**
Not utilizing available conflict resolution classes or resources. Not valued, do not see the issue with the current approach
- Must show the value and need to improve conflict resolution skills**