



November 5, 2020

VIA E-MAIL

Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney
900 E. Broad Street
Suite 201
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mayor Stoney:

Congratulations on your election victory as of yesterday's press briefing. Over the next four years, we look forward to not just continuing, but deepening our efforts to bring justice to the marginalized people of our city.

That being said, we are disappointed that you will not be attending our Community Problems Assembly this coming Monday. Our purpose in writing is to communicate to you some of what we would have liked to communicate in person.

Regarding our Affordable Housing campaign, we are pleased with the progress that has been made since our Zoom Action in August. City Council unanimously approved a resolution requesting that you put \$10 million annually into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, starting next year. And your Ordinance, if passed, will establish a dedicated stream of revenue for the Trust Fund. This latter item is something for which we have been promoting for the last 10 years; we are very thankful to you for putting forward this proposed legislation, and will be doing all we can to ensure its passage.

Regarding our Gun Violence campaign, we believe your proposed hybrid program could have potential. We are continuing our research into what other communities throughout the country have accomplished with hybrid gun violence frameworks. Our main concern, at this point, is twofold –

1. We want to ensure that the **components are proven and measurable**, and have been shown to work when combined.
2. We want to ensure that there is **urgency in the timeline** for design and implementation.

Our proposed next step is to convene, in January, some nationally recognized experts to take a look at the elements of Richmond's hybrid plan, as it comes together.

We need your commitment to participate in such a meeting, before we can move forward with putting it together. We will work around your schedule, and we would expect you to have the members of your working group present as well. But we absolutely need your presence there as the leader of our city.

We are asking for a "positive" answer by the end of the day Friday to this request, so that we can share that with the 500+ members who will be gathering.

Sincerely,
The RISC Gun Violence Steering Committee