

Public Safety Update

DATA INSIGHTS AND AREAS OF FOCUS FOR DISCUSSION

MARCH 24, 2025

Public Safety Update

Council Priority Alignment

- ▶ Safe Communities

Purpose

- ▶ Building on the public safety series completed February 10th, **tonight's focus is planned policy and investment strategies to further enhance public safety**

Key Takeaways

- ▶ City of Charlotte is advancing a broad range of public safety programming and investments
- ▶ Opportunities exist to advance targeted short and long-term public safety strategies
- ▶ Collaboration with public agencies, private sector, and community-based organizations is vital to achieving positive public safety outcomes

CMPD YTD Crime Data (As of March 17, 2025)

► Overall Crime **down 11%**

► Violent Crime **down 19%** and Property Crime **down 9%**

- Homicides **down 33%** (16 vs. 24)
- Robberies **down 26%** (207 vs. 280)
- Rape **down 40%** (32 vs. 53)
- Aggravated assaults **down 15%** (844 vs. 997)
- Burglary **up 10%** (876 vs. 799); **down 12%** in residential; **up 27%** in commercial
- Vehicle thefts **down 25%** (1247 vs. 1655)
- Larceny cases **down 7%** (4594 vs. 4948)
- Arson cases **up 3%** (36 vs. 35)

We are Building on a Strong Foundation Supporting Economic Mobility and Public Safety

Major Investments in Underserved Communities

- Corridors of Opportunity
- Affordable Housing

Collaborative Investments in Human Services

- Umbrella Center
- Katie Blessing Center
- Street Outreach

Crime Prevention and Intervention Programming

- Alternatives to Violence
- Hospital-Based Intervention
- Youth Enrichment and Diversion

CMPD Crime Management Initiatives

- Violent Criminal Apprehension Team
- Crime Gun Suppression Team
- CORE 13 initiative and JADE team

State and Local Policy Enhancements

- Pre-Trial Integrity Act
- Local quality of life ordinances
- 2024 Raise the Age amendment

Emerging Strategies

- Workforce Development

2024 Crime Data Insights

Crime and Nuisance Hotspots

- ▶ Violent crime and calls for service are highly concentrated in certain areas
- ▶ Nuisance locations (persistent crime-related trouble spots) drive quality of life concerns

Repeat Offenders

- ▶ 66% of violent crime arrests are persons with prior arrest(s)
- ▶ 33% of violent crime arrests are persons with prior violent crime arrest(s)
- ▶ Persons arrested for violent crime averaged 5.6 prior arrests (with "top 10%" having at least 17 prior arrests)

Youth and Young Adults

- ▶ Age 10-25 accounts for 20% of population and almost 50% of violent crime arrests
- ▶ 62% of juvenile violent crime arrests were someone with prior arrest(s)
- ▶ 32% of violent crime arrests were someone with at least one prior arrest when under age 18

Planned Areas of Public Safety Focus

Strategies	Desired Outcomes	Next Steps
City of Charlotte Investments and Policy		
1. Planning for anticipated growth in CMPD positions starting in FY 2027	Sustain/enhance 911 response times and expand CMPD violent crime-focused units	Close vacancies during FY 2026, leading into FY 2027 Budget Workshops
2. Local ordinance enhancements to address nuisance properties	Stronger local authority to address crime hotspots in a timely fashion	Internal work group established and meeting this week; update Council before Summer recess
3. Drones as first responder	Leverage technology as a "force multiplier" to reduce risk to officers and enhance public safety	Finalize funding (including external partners) and launch program
Evidence-Based Community Programming		
4. Atrium Project BOOST (hospital-based violence intervention) expansion	Further scale impact (violence prevention) by increasing hours of operation	Evaluate funding options for FY 2026
5. Youth-led social norms campaign	Promote positive social norms to mitigate youth violence	Post RFP within two-weeks (funding source established by Council in FY 2025)
6. Re-entry services/programming	Reduce recidivism and enhance economic opportunity for formerly incarcerated residents	Seek opportunities to connect ongoing city programming and investments to re-entry
State Policy Items		
7. Support North Carolina House Bill 50 (Senate Bill 320) supporting police officer retention	Enhance retention of law enforcement officers with at least 30-years of service	Initiate advocacy (aligned with State Legislative Agenda)
8. Support additional state funding for District Attorney's Office and Meck. County Courts	Enhance timely justice and achieve greater accountability (particularly for repeat offenders)	Develop long-term advocacy strategy with stakeholders (e.g., County, Courts, DA, businesses)
9. Work with partners to advance options for a local Juvenile Detention Center	Local capacity for juveniles committing offenses that warrant detention, with local wrap-around services	Advance dialogue with NC Division of Juvenile Justice and local stakeholders