



Mayor Joe Hogsett, public safety officials provide update on gun violence reduction strategy

Continued investments will build on two consecutive years of double-digit reductions in criminal homicides

INDIANAPOLIS – Today Mayor Joe Hogsett was joined by IMPD Chief Randal Taylor, Deputy Mayor of Public Health and Safety Lauren Rodriguez, and David Muhammad of the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform.

Following the second year of double-digit declines in criminal homicides, the City and its partners provided an update on the City’s three-year, \$150-million-dollar violence reduction strategy.

“In its first two years, this strategy has accompanied a total 31% reduction in criminal homicides and a 20% reduction in non-fatal shootings,” said Mayor Joe Hogsett. “These are record declines at IMPD, but they are just the beginning of a new era in Indianapolis. As our proud Indiana community continues to draw in and generate more value than any other, I am committed to a city where every household can partake in that number-one crime deterrent: prosperity.”

In 2023, Indianapolis saw a decrease of nearly 19% in criminal homicides compared to 2022. The City and its partners also made progress in decreasing non-fatal shooting victims by 7.3% compared to the year prior. Robberies declined by 4.3% in 2023, as did aggravated assaults which fell 6.5%. Total violent crime decreased 7.4% compared to 2022.

Along with a record \$45 million for grassroots community peace organizations, the three-year strategy included increased funding for new staffing, training, and technology at IMPD. Alongside these upgrades, the department continues to move forward with transparency initiatives such as in-car cameras for marked police cars. IMPD is also working to let an outside vendor examine the recent uptick in officer-involved shootings.

“By collaborating with and listening to our community, we were able to make significant progress in driving down violence crime in nearly all categories. Our collective efforts are paying off, but I know our work is far from over. I am confident that this department will continue to make great strides throughout 2024,” said IMPD Chief Taylor.

The City also committed funds to addressing the root causes of violent crime. This included increasing access to mental health services, added funding for the Peacemakers and Indy Peace Fellowship programs, and Indianapolis’ first-ever clinician-led 911 response team.

“While law enforcement and Peacemakers address violence through direct intervention, the City is just as committed to a strategy of violence *prevention*,” said Deputy Mayor of Public Health and Safety Lauren Rodriguez. “That includes the new OPHS Prevention Officer whose mission is to divert people, specifically youth under 18, from entering the cycle of crime and violence to begin with.”

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About Mayor Hogsett's Violence Reduction Plan:

Mayor Hogsett announced a comprehensive violence reduction plan in fall 2021, powered by \$150 million in American Rescue Plan funds unanimously approved by the City-County Council. The plan emphasizes law enforcement investments, including \$9 million in modern policing technology, 100 new IMPD officer positions, and up to 40 IMPD civilian positions to cover non-emergencies. It also addresses root causes of violence through \$45 million for grassroots violence prevention organizations, 50 peacemakers to engage with those at risk of becoming perpetrators or victims of gun violence, \$30 million for mental health resources, and more.