

Despite a spike in violent crime in Cincinnati, Greg Landsman introduced legislation to defund the local Cincinnati police and voted to deny over a million dollars to their budget.

Throughout 2020 and 2021, Ohio saw record highs in the number of killings, and juvenile murder charges:

- In 2020, Cincinnati “saw an all-time record high of 94 killings.” “As a Cincinnati city councilman in the summer of 2020, Democrat Greg Landsman penned a motion to pull \$200,000 from the city's police budget to help fund the Citizen Complaint Authority, an independent group that investigates law enforcement officers. The proposal came as Cincinnati experienced an unprecedented number of homicides—the city saw an all-time record high of 94 killings in 2020, six more than its previous high of 88 in 2006.” (Collin Anderson, “Top Dem Recruit in Ohio Swing District Wrote Proposal To Defund Police Amid Homicide Spike,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 1/26/22)
- “With only days left in 2021, Cincinnati is set to see a second record year of homicides as killings remain elevated throughout the era of COVID-19.” (Cameron Knight, “Cincinnati approaches another record year of homicides,” [Cincinnati.com](#), 12/28/21)
- “More Ohioans died from firearms in 2021 than almost any year on record, according to preliminary data from the Ohio Department of Health.” (Jane Zuckerman, “Ohio gun deaths in 2021 near an all-time high,” [10 WBNS](#), 2/18/22)
- In 2021, Hamilton County, Ohio saw the “highest number of juvenile murder charges ever filed in one year.” “In 2021, thirteen juveniles have been charged with murder in Hamilton County Juvenile Court. That's the highest number of juvenile murder charges ever filed in one year, according to the court.” (Craig Cheatham, “Record number of juveniles charged with murder in Hamilton County,” [ABC 9 WCPO Cincinnati](#), 11/4/21)

In 2020, Greg Landsman introduced a plan to take hundreds of thousands of dollars away from the Cincinnati police, and give it to “an independent organization that looks into complaints against police officers:”

- In 2020, Greg Landsman wanted \$200,000 to be taken from the Cincinnati police department and given to “an independent organization that looks into complaints against police officers.” “Landsman wants \$200,000 to be pulled from the Cincinnati police budget to fund the Citizen’s Complaint Authority. The CCA is an independent organization that looks into complaints against police officers.” (Brian Hamrick, “Calls to defund police sparks use of public safety money debate at city hall,” [WLWT5](#), 6/8/20)
  - “I believe the changes that are absolutely public safety related, which there are, should come from the public safety budget, should come from the police budget,” Landsman said.” (Brian Hamrick, “Calls to defund police sparks use of public safety money debate at city hall,” [WLWT5](#), 6/8/20)
- VIDEO: The efforts from Greg Landsman have been described as “basically the definition of defunding.” LANDSMAN: “The question that I think we’re all gonna have to wrestle with is what does public safety look like now and what does it need to look like.” REPORTER: “Cincinnati Councilman Greg Landsman has written a motion that includes

taking \$200,000 from the police budget to fund the Citizens Complaint Authority. Basically, the definition of defunding.” LANDSMAN: “I believe that the changes that are absolutely public safety related, which these are, should come from the public safety budget. Should come from the police budget.” (Brian Hamrick, “Calls to defund police sparks use of public safety money debate at city hall,” [WLWT5 via Youtube](#), 6/8/20)

**In June 2020, Landsman voted to remove over \$1 million “of a proposed increase for the police department” in order to fund “other supportive programs:”**

- The Cincinnati City Council voted to remove over \$1 million “of a proposed increase for the police department” in order to fund “other supportive programs.” “A council majority voted to remove about \$1 million of a proposed increase for the police department at Tuesday's budget committee meeting and to direct it to youth jobs and other supportive programs through the recreation department.” (Chris Wetterich, “Uncertainty lingers as Cincinnati City Council considers budget today,” [Cincinnati Business Courier](#), 6/24/20)
- Landsman voted for the ordinance.

Item #: 202000847  
ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Patrick A. Duhane, City Manager, on 06/24/2020, AMENDING Ordinance No. 0238-1968, which established Citizen Summer Job Fund 308 to provide summer jobs for the youth of the community, to change the name of the fund to Citizens Jobs Fund 308 and expand the purpose to provide jobs for the youth of the community regardless of season; and further AUTHORIZING the return to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$1,015,000 from various Cincinnati Police Department operating budget accounts and the transfer of \$1,015,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Recreation Citizens Jobs Fund 308 operating budget account according to the attached Schedule of Transfer, for the purpose of implementing Council's recommended changes to the Mayor's FY 2021 General Fund Operating Budget Update in order to provide funding for youth employment opportunities.

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Status/Recommendations:

PASS EMERGENCY  
\*\*\* INDEFINITELY POSTPONED  
MR. LANDSMAN Y  
MR. MANN Y  
MR. PASTOR Y  
MR. SEELBACH Y  
MR. SITTENFELD Y  
MR. SMITHERMAN Y  
MS. SUNDERMANN Y  
MR. YOUNG Y  
MS. KEARNEY Y

(Cincinnati City Council, [“Proceeding/Minutes of City Council: Item #: 202000847,”](#) 6/24/20)