

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER DIRECTING THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO COORDINATE WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE ANY NECESSARY AGREEMENTS TO MEMORIALIZE THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF ATLANTA AND THE ATLANTA /FULTON COUNTY PRE-ARREST DIVERSION INITIATIVE, INC. AS PROVIDED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET APPROVED VIA 20-0-1260; TO MAKE ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HOW THE CITY MAY FURTHER ITS COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF PRE-ARREST DIVERSION.**

**WHEREAS**, my vision for One Atlanta centers around five Citywide goals focused on creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive City; world-class employees, infrastructure and services; an ethical, transparent, and fiscally responsible government; thriving neighborhoods, communities, and businesses; and residents who are equipped for success; and

**WHEREAS**, the One Atlanta vision serves as the framework for creating a more Affordable, Equitable, and Resilient city; and

**WHEREAS**, to achieve these goals public agencies, residents, businesses, non-profits, philanthropy, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, and more must work together; and

**WHEREAS**, police nationwide have shot and killed nearly 1,000 people annually since 2015, including approximately 181 shootings in the state of Georgia since 2015 which is approximately 18 shootings per million people in the state of Georgia<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, nationwide, although half of the people shot and killed by police are white, black Americans are shot at a disproportionate rate, accounting for less than 13 percent of the U.S. population, while being killed by police at more than twice the rate of white Americans<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Atlanta Police Department (APD) has long had a commitment as an agency to the implementation of best practices on how police practices can promote effective crime reduction while building public trust; and

**WHEREAS**, these include being one of 15 law enforcement agencies out of 18,000 in the nation to be recognized for implementing the 21st century policing methods, and receiving a model city designation for APD's efforts to implement and follow the 59 recommendations set in place by President Barack Obama's Task Force On 21st Century Policing; and

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

**WHEREAS**, additionally, APD has implemented implicit bias training, requires officers to visit the National Center for Civil and Human Rights as a part of their training; and the City support efforts to provide housing for our police officers in many of our communities in which they are serving in; and

**WHEREAS**, the Atlanta/Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion (PAD) initiative strives to reduce the number of people involved in the criminal justice system who are experiencing mental illness, substance use disorders, and/or extreme poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, Pre-arrest diversion allows police officers to offer consent-based and individually tailored social services instead of making an arrest, whereby officers initiate diversions, and are met at the scene of the offense by a PAD Care Navigation team who immediately begin working with a diverted participant; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017, pursuant to 17-R-3693 the Atlanta City Council the City of Atlanta entered into an appropriate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Fulton County District Attorney, the Fulton County Solicitor, the Fulton County Public Defender's Office, and the Atlanta/Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative, Inc. for the creation of the PAD Initiative Operational Working Group, and to memorialize the governance and responsibilities thereof;

**WHEREAS**, the term of the MOU ran through June 30, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, following the expiration of this MOU, the City of Atlanta has continued its partnership with the Atlanta/Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative, Inc., including through an appropriation of \$1,500,000 in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget approved via 20-O-1260; and

**WHEREAS**, nevertheless, recent incidents of persons needlessly facing injury or death at the hands of APD officer have shown that these efforts have not been enough to address the urgent need for reform within the Atlanta Police Department to rebuild the trust so desperately needed throughout the community; and

**WHEREAS**, in light thereof, there exists a need to examine the City of Atlanta's use of force policies and procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with my commitment to equity in Atlanta, on June 4, 2020 I issued Administrative Order 2020-17 via which I convened an advisory council consisting of community members and partners, both existing and potential, to make recommendations for any operational or legislative changes to the City of Atlanta's use of force policies and procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Administrative Order 2020-17 the Police Use of Force Advisory Council was asked to convene and provide initial recommendations to me within fourteen (14) days; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally the Use of Force Advisory Council was asked to prepare and present a more comprehensive report of recommendations, following the receipt of community input within forty-five (45) days (45 Day Report); and

**WHEREAS**, the 45 Day Report includes thirty-three (33) recommendations that focus on improving Atlanta policing across five focus areas including: 1) Mission, Vision, Values; 2)

Standard Operating Procedures; 3) Governance; 4) Community Partnerships; 5) Reporting and Transparency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Use of Force Advisory Council has now submitted its 45 Day Report in which it recommends that the City of Atlanta should memorialize the partnership between the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta /Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative, Inc., and recommends that the City to make additional recommendations concerning how it may further its commitment to the principles of Pre-arrest diversion; and


**WHEREAS**, accordingly, I am hereby directing the Chief Operating Officer to coordinate with the City Attorney to prepare any necessary agreements to memorialize the partnership between the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta /Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative, Inc. as provided in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget approved via 20-O-1260, and to make additional recommendations concerning how the City may further its commitment to the principles of Pre-arrest diversion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA**, pursuant to Section 3-104 of the City of Atlanta Charter and Section 2-182(4) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, it is hereby ordered that:


**Section 1.** The Chief Operating Officer shall coordinate with the City Attorney to prepare any necessary agreements to memorialize the partnership between the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta /Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative, Inc. as provided in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget approved via 20-O-1260.

**Section 2.** The Chief Operating Officer shall coordinate with the City Attorney to make additional recommendations concerning how the City may further its commitment to the principles of Pre-arrest diversion.

SO ORDERED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

  
Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor

ATTESTED:

  
Municipal Clerk  
**Foris Webb, III**  
Municipal Clerk