



SHAKER HEIGHTS

The Mayor's Report – June 19

Hello, Mayor Weiss here. Today's an important day, June 19th. On that day, we honor Juneteenth, the day we commemorate the end of slavery in America. This day provides us an opportunity to reflect on this important moment in our history. And also as a reminder that we have much work to do, which is a good segue into the continuing local and national discussion we are having regarding racial equity and justice. We've created a number of action steps that we are pursuing as a result of conversations that we've had with residents and community organizations, as well as the commitments and pledges that I've made personally, as well as Council has made through its recent resolution that passed. So I wanted to touch on a couple of those items.

First in the category of enhanced transparency, many of you asked and we were responsive to providing information requested relating to our Police Department. We've updated the webpage to include detailed information on a wide range of topics, including accreditation, recruiting and hiring, training — including bias-free policing and deescalation techniques — information relating to community engagement and links to various policies and procedures. We believe that this enhanced transparency will provide a good foundation for our continuing community discussions on that note.

I wanted to mention that the administration and Council actually had begun pursuing equity training at the end of last year and at the beginning of this year leading up to, unfortunately, the pandemic, which caused us to pause. But we are now reengaged in that process that we expect to expand beyond Council and the management team to all staff.

We're also in the early stages of creating an advisory group made up of primarily residents, diverse and inclusive, that will provide and help guide our community conversations on a wide range of issues relating to health, to race and equity, including community policing, housing health, and community involvement and more. And, of course, most importantly, we will continue to listen and to learn from, each of you. We know how active and passionate this community is about these issues. And, we look forward to continuing that engagement.

So in honor of Juneteenth, I wanted to mention two resources that we thought you might find helpful. First, tonight, there's a performance sponsored by Karamu House. It's a theatrical production involving music, dance and the spoken word that we thought you might like to listen into. And then of course there's the National Museum of African-American History and Culture that has a vast collection of

resources relating to topics, including race inequity. So with that, I look forward to continuing our work together and I hope that you remain well. Take care and I look forward to seeing you soon.