

Dear Mayor Cranley, City Manager Black, Members of the Public, and Members of the Media:

We have watched this unfortunate saga unfold in recent days, and feel strongly that it is now on us - the Council Majority - to bring order and a fair process to this situation.

To be clear, anyone who wishes to bring forward concerns or report misconduct must feel safe and comfortable doing so. We actively want your voice to be heard.

We also believe strongly in due process. No one's name or reputation should be tarnished without there being clear evidence (beyond just "he said, she said") as well as a fair opportunity for that individual to respond.

We share the serious concern of organizations like the Urban League, Community Action Agency, NAACP, the Black Agenda, NAN, the Black United Front and others that present behavior is rolling back the clock on race relations in Cincinnati; we will not abet the intentional denigration of another black leader in our community.

We also do not support forcing the taxpayers to pay out of their own pockets for what is currently a broken relationship. We believe there are much better immediate next steps.

First, this situation clearly must be de-politicized and taken out of the hands of those most directly in the fog of war: Therefore, we are calling for the appointment of an outside Special Counsel (appointed by a majority of City Council), to collect and investigate the concerns raised by the Mayor, any and all counter-factuals from the City Manager, and testimony from city employees or any other directly involved stakeholders. This Special Counsel will then write a report to be submitted to City Council for our review.

At the same time, we are calling for a ceasefire between the Mayor and City Manager, during which they both agree to say nothing more on the subject and to focus on the City's work. During this ceasefire, Council will bring in a pro bono mediator to privately help the Mayor and Manager navigate their relationship and return to getting things done for the citizens of Cincinnati. Lastly, during this ceasefire, we call for no personnel changes.

Council will control this process as it unfolds, and if the need and desire for what the Mayor has called a "public trial" remains, then Council will control the time, date, and location of such a special meeting. Because of the significant interest from concerned members of the community, such a specially-called meeting would occur in the evening, be held out in the community, and be posted with at least two weeks notice to the public.

We look forward to cool heads prevailing, these issues being properly addressed, and everyone getting back to work for the city we love.

Sincerely,

Tamaya Dennard

P.G. Sittenfeld

Greg Landsman

Wendell Young

Chris Seelbach

Exhibit 2

Exhibit 2 to the Minutes of  
Council

–  
Statement from the majority of Cincinnati City Council in light of yesterday's news:

“Our position has not changed. We do not support an increased buyout or believe that's responsible to the taxpayers.

We reiterate our call for a ceasefire, and we remain committed to the thoughtful, fair, transparent next steps we have previously laid out. Let's collect the needed facts quickly and calmly.

We believe in a collaborative process, and look forward to working through this with all stakeholders.”

-Tamaya Dennard

-P.G. Sittenfeld

-Greg Landsman

-Wendell Young

-Chris Seelbach

----- Forwarded message -----

From: P.G. Sittenfeld [REDACTED]  
Date: Fri, Mar 16, 2018 at 11:53 AM  
Subject: Draft letter for Council Majority to release  
To: Wendell Young [REDACTED], Chris Seelbach [REDACTED], Tamaya Dennard  
[REDACTED] Greg Landsman [REDACTED]

*All -- Below is an aggregation of people's thoughts and suggestions, put into the format of a letter. We can discuss on the call at 1:30pm today. If everyone reaches a comfort level with it, then I believe 1) we should release it this afternoon (rather than allow for a vacuum to continue) and 2) it should be emailed out to the media from one of our aides - anyone want to volunteer for that?*

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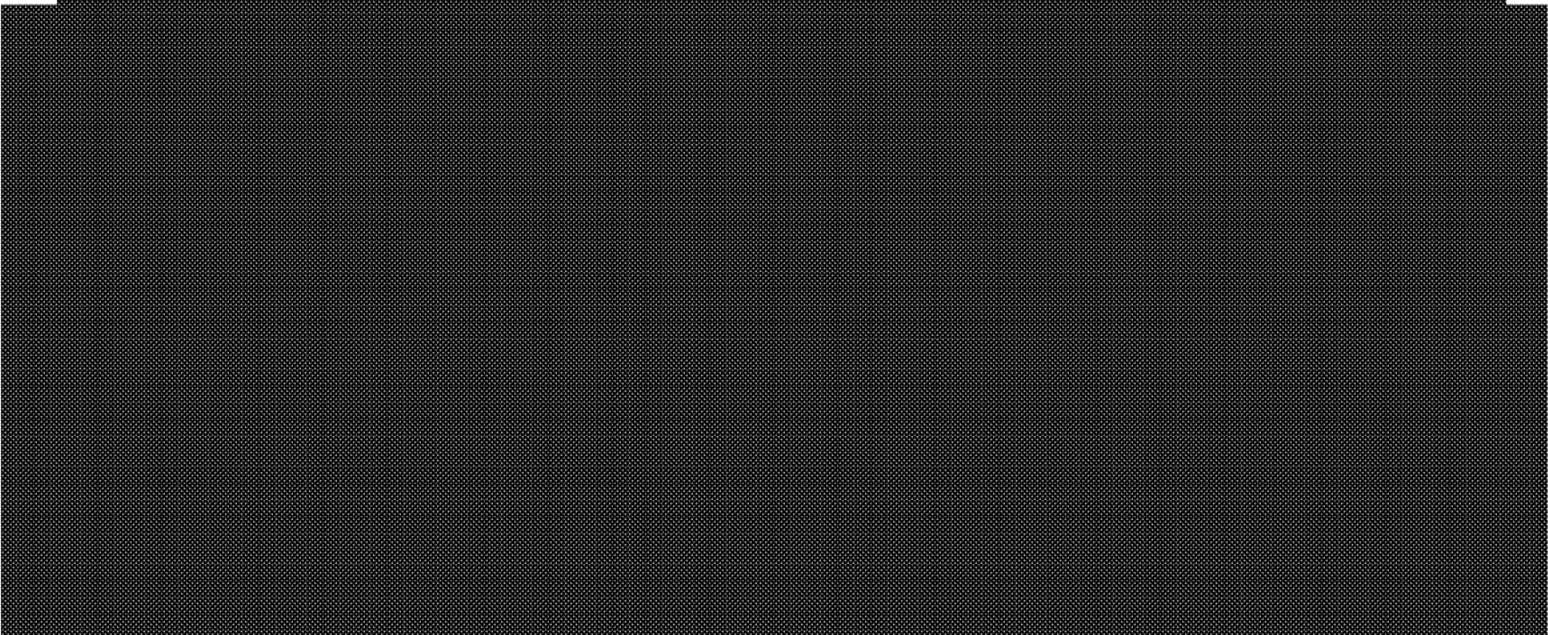
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Sincerely,

Tamaya Dennard  
P.G. Sittenfeld

Greg Landsman  
Wendell Young  
Chris Seelbach



**From:** Greg Landsman [REDACTED]  
**Date:** March 26, 2018 at 9:34:48 AM EDT  
**To:** Vanessa White [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: REVISED LETTER

I believe this is the e-mail that we need to send. I don't believe there were others.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Chris Seelbach [REDACTED] >  
**Date:** March 16, 2018 at 2:27:19 PM EDT  
**To:** "P.G. Sittenfeld" [REDACTED] >  
**Cc:** Wendell Young [REDACTED] >, Tamaya Dennard [REDACTED], Greg Landsman [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: REVISED LETTER

Greg. Are you getting texts? Everyone has approved on text chain. Are you good?

On Mar 16, 2018, at 2:23 PM, Chris Seelbach <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Agreed

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 16, 2018, at 2:21 PM, P.G. Sittenfeld [REDACTED] > wrote:

March 16, 2018

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