



Joseph I. Giarrusso III
New Orleans City Council
District A



RISING CRIME UPDATES

Friends,

This newsletter serves as the second bite-sized update, this time focusing on the City and Council's reaction to the rise in violent crime. If you missed my trash and recycling collection updates on Monday, you can read them [at this link](#).

Residents expressed concerns at the special January 18 Council meeting on crime that ran the gamut from a lack of NOPD officers to concerns around properly-funded schools to mental health intervention at a very early age. It was abundantly clear that these require urgent solutions. If you want to hear my thoughts in more detail, you can listen to my January 19 radio [interview here](#) and a January 22 TV [interview here](#) where I discuss how we are focused on long-term, root-cause solutions through the budget.

Lakeview residents express frustration with New Orleans' rising crime

Updated: Jan. 22, 2023 at 6:59 AM CST



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Long-term solutions must run parallel with short-term objectives. In the short term, NOPD needs to increase its attention on the retention and recruiting of new officers. Secondly, supplementing NOPD with civilians or other enforcement agencies to help with quality-of-life issues and eliminate burdensome background checks for those civilians is critical. Finally, we must focus on the seemingly small quality-of-life issues affecting neighborhoods that are unsafe with broken streetlights, extensive blight, and failing infrastructure.

Because of this emergency, the Council approved a motion on Thursday that puts emergency regulations in place to procure much-needed safety equipment, ranging from EMS vehicles, ambulances, firetrucks, NOPD cars, and lawnmowers. This cuts through the red tape and allows our agencies to procure much-needed equipment without slogging through a long process.

There is no simple solution. But, we can work to collaborate and work faster.

Best,



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Joseph I. Giarrusso III — District A

