



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA  
MAYOR JACQUES M. ROY

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**June 27, 2018**

Office of the Alexandria Mayor  
Alexandria, Louisiana

## **PRESENTATION OF COMMISSIONER PLANS**

**State of Alexandria Is Sound and Moving Forward;  
Office of the Commissioner Established**

*Alexandria, Louisiana*—The City of Alexandria is delighted to continue its progressive policies and innovative programs. Over the past two years and in conjunction with announcements covered in depth by KALB-TV5, the City has been “slow” launching SafeAlex 2.0/Total and is prepared to fully deploy at this time with announcement and empowerment of the Commissioner of Public Safety. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall assume specialized duties within the City regarding the following areas as distinct measures and activity from the Chiefs and departments overseen.

### **Police**

- SafeAlex
- PTI/probation and classification
- Internal Affairs
- Public information
- (Part of) Discipline, overall uniformity of policy (split duty, primary is Chief)
- Community policing policy and governance
- Office of Special Services
- Diversity of personnel, mission and culture
- Academy vision and goals
- Office of Recruitment
- Office of Gun Violence

### **Fire**

- PIAL
- (Part of) Discipline, overall uniformity of policy (split duty, primary is Chief)
- Diversity of personnel, mission and culture
- Academy vision and goals
- Office of Recruitment



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Notably, the office of the Mayor has been unbundling how gun predicates and gun involvement in previous crimes dramatically affect outcomes and could be used as predictors of future behavior—something known well to law enforcement and being developed diligently in evidence-based policing. The Commissioner is charged to spend significant resources in developing the Office of Gun Violence.

The United States Conference of Mayors (“USCM”), in conjunction with the National Urban League and Mayor’s Against Illegal Guns, introduced *Strategies for Reducing Gun Violence in American Cities* (June 2016), which we have been following in large part. The highlights include concepts familiar to us from previous announcements, restated in ways specific to Alexandria:

- Identification and understanding of the specific factors driving gun violence in Alexandria and specific to Alexandria.
- Measures to reduce the supply of illegal guns, here at home.
- Aggressive gun crime resolution and monitoring of gun-predicate felons and offenders.
- Cycle breaking of gun violence and retaliation with positive alternatives.
- Aggressive disruption of domestic abusers and gun access.

The citizenry is affected by perceived and real threats from crime.

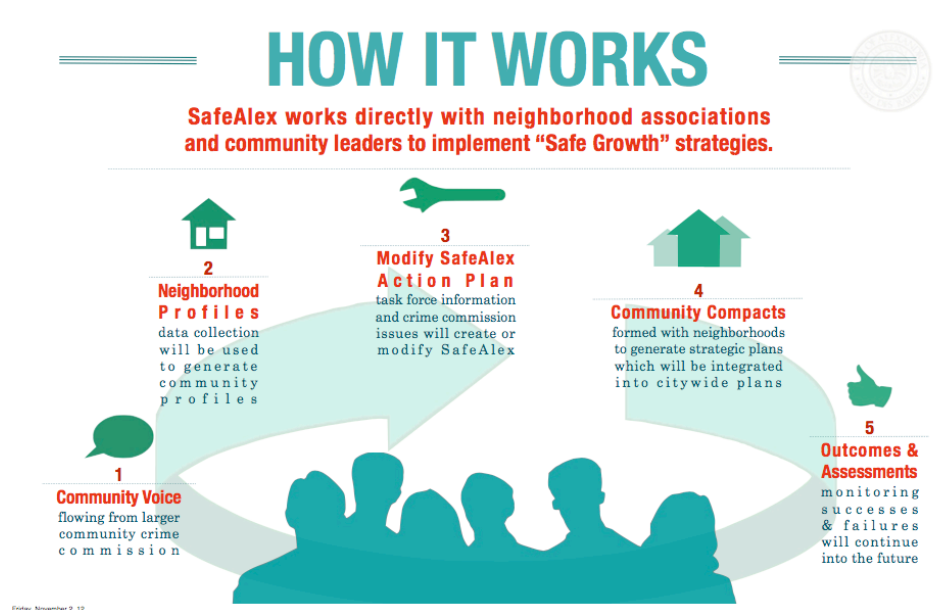
- The opportunity is that intelligence-led policing can unlock the reasons and allow targeted interventions. Relatedly, local drivers mean local solutions are available without waiting on other slower resolution from top government levels.
- The threat is the lack of a national “fix” or cookie cutter approach. This means the local community has to dig in to fix its problems.

**Focus Items*****SafeAlex and Policing***

For purposes of continuing and, in some cases, omnibus address of changing community needs and issues, we are releasing an executive order dealing with *SafeAlex 2.0*, toward what will become with hard work *SafeAlex Total*. This package will address dilapidated properties and many other aspects of keeping our community safe, prepared, and resilient. Part of an award-winning program, *SafeAlex Total* addresses concerns

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systematically, and has proven successful in its first iterations. Domestic and drug-driven violent crimes have plagued cities across America, and neighborhood-based programming and community policing are integral to combating these ills. However, experts maintain a total program addressing crime and its root causes has to be used for the greatest effect, and this necessarily involves more than just laying problems at the feet of police. All the SafeAlex Total precursors<sup>1</sup> have been completed allowing for the implementation of the neighborhood profiles.



Following the first Captain’s meeting held June 19, 2018, and with the executive order to be released, the completion leg for the SafeAlex Total package will be underway.

The four precursors relate to the areas that have been and remain being addressed through our Neighborhoods Office, headed by Charles F. Smith, the Chief of Police, Public Works, and Community Services, through recreation activities and investments.

<sup>1</sup> The four (4) precursor activities needed for an effective plan were identified as: (1) development of a strategic solutions set, (2) updating and enactment of a comprehensive development strategy, (3) update and enactment of a unified development code, and (4) update and enactment of zoning and development ordinances and policies. The original executive actions (E.O. JMR 2011-2 creating SafeAlex), completion of ThinkAlex Comprehensive Resiliency Plan, adoption of the ThinkAlex Unified Development Code, and changes in zoning and related policy all are complete in these four (4) areas of need.

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## SafeAlex addresses four primary areas:



- Support healthy eating and physical activity.
- Implement sustainable policies and environmental changes.



- Develop strong neighbor relations where neighbors watch out for each other.
- Educate neighbors to recognize suspicious activity and take appropriate action.
- Implement other crime deterrents such as basic home security measures.
- Reduce neighborhood crime through crime prevention programs and literature.



- Improve the physical appearance of dilapidated neighborhoods.
- Eliminate vacant, dilapidated and abandoned properties causing economic distress.
- Restore distressed neighborhoods as attractive and healthy parts of the community.



- Employ short-term volunteer programs throughout the City.
- Partner with organizations to identify additional short-term volunteer opportunities.
- Establish the Youth Commission to take on project-specific tasks.
- Help the City to research, write, and propose specific ordinances.

- Additional resourcing and commitments will be deployed to expand the Districts 1 and 3 Police Pilot Projects in SafeAlex and to expand the program's activities citywide through innovation and partnering. Some ideas under review are:
  - Citizen focus groups driving concerns and providing the moral address.
  - Incentives/per diems provided to unit captains, as defined by limits, per district.
  - Creation of a true SafeAlex captain hierarchy finished, complete with training exercises and citizen academy training.
  - Neighborhoods will be audited and instructional material provided about use of force and rules of engagement.
  - Ministerial/ecclesiastical components expanded and continued focus on captain and minister leadership training and certification.
  - Creation of a night time and button-up service<sup>2</sup> after *qualified* home invasions, or possible security (when security is an issue and the homeowner has "clean hands").
  - Aggressive pursuit of grants for motion sensor lights in addition to smoke detection devices for qualified households.

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<sup>2</sup> This plan addresses the effects of home invasions and continuing risk to the security of citizens posed after such invasions by criminals. The Administration is developing strict protocols for use of this service since it would involve work or resources deployed on private property.

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- City prosecution of theft-related and “other crimes of dishonesty” to receive special attention relative to diversion programs/PTI, requiring as part of “probation” a restorative justice component pertaining to “victim neighborhoods.”<sup>3</sup>
- Restitution will be aggressively pursued through SAFEAlex for certain crimes.
- To remain a SAFEAlex certified neighborhood, within 18 months of commencement period, each unit must have security plans for the neighborhood.
  - City will fund initial plans up to a cap and ending date.
  - Best plan receives a grant for neighborhood CPTED project worth \$25,000.
  - Base lining occurs after 18th month and crime data reflected after that shall be used for the re-design of programs.
- City will commission a report on the revolving pretrial detainee door, its contribution to this problem, and solutions.
  - All law enforcement will be invited to attend.
  - City needs may consider purchasing a number certain of beds by making up difference in state per diems.
  - My Brother’s Keeper.
  - “No questions asked” addiction amnesty program.
- Every sergeant shall complete a managerial skills executive training program.
- Two nights a week the City will operate a random equivalent of the OWI task force “lying in wait” for burglaries and coordinated with SafeAlex captain hierarchy.
- Best research provided for socially reparative and effective policing.
- Best model for body cameras to be implemented. Camera protocol will be revisited. Neighborhood camera protocols will be considered, particularly in areas where “dumping” and continuous nuisance crimes occur that affect the health and welfare of an area.
- Locally researched principles and drivers co-authored and overseen by the Chief of Police mapping our unique criminal landscape.
- Consideration of incentives for a “policing my home” police resident relocation program.

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<sup>3</sup> Protections will be designed to avoid retaliation and victim identification. The city has experienced retaliation by arrestees in multiple areas. Any suspicion of retaliation by PTI recipients or associated parties—with no expectation of proving such retaliation beyond reasonable suspicion—shall be a mandatory disqualification from PTI.

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- Aggressive corrections of misinformation regarding policing, pay, and other community misconceptions about Alexandria policing.
- Aggressive support of good policing activity and aggressive zero tolerance for crimes of dishonesty, dishonest behavior, and issues surrounding public integrity by officers or public officials, in any capacity.
- A robust “community environmental program” to monitor and determine dangerous environmental issues will be implemented.
- Increased sanctions for contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile and neglect, especially when theft items are recovered that can be shown to have had parental assistance or knowledge.
  - Also, City will consider RICO and nuisance civil enforcement suits.
- Whatever program envisioned by the Commissioner for Shape Up regarding officers.