

Campaign One-Pager: A Budget for People, Not Politics

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Category: Campaign Materials: Budget Finance

DAVE BIGGERS FOR MAYOR

A Budget for People, Not Politics

Total Budget: \$1.13 billion

(Same as Louisville Metro's current approved budget)

The Difference: Not how much we spend. HOW we spend it.

THE 30-SECOND PITCH

Old way: Traditional policing after crime happens.

Our way: Police IN neighborhoods, prevention BEFORE crime starts.

Old way: Modest raises, bloated bureaucracy.

Our way: Real raises (17.8% for employees with no contract), lean administration.

Old way: Top-down decisions.

Our way: YOU help decide neighborhood priorities.

Same total cost. Revolutionary results.

FOUR BIG TRANSFORMATIONS

???? SAFER COMMUNITIES THROUGH PREVENTION

63 MINI POLICE SUBSTATIONS – One in your neighborhood

- Officers walking YOUR streets, not just driving through
- 24/7 presence in every zip code
- Community meeting spaces
- Build trust, prevent crime before it happens
- **Rolling 4-year deployment** – 12 stations Year 1, all 63 by Year 4
- **Evidence:** 50+ cities show 20-30% crime reduction

18 COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTERS – Real healthcare in your neighborhood

- Primary care, mental health, addiction treatment – all in one place
- Stop sending police to every mental health crisis
- Address the ROOT CAUSES of crime and disorder
- **Phased over 3 years** – 6 centers per year
- **Cost:** \$45M fully implemented
- **Saves:** \$80M in reduced ER visits, better health outcomes

ENHANCED YOUTH PROGRAMS – \$32.5 Million

- After-school programs during peak crime hours (3-7pm)
- Summer jobs for teens: you get paid and you get experience
- Early childhood education, library youth programs and school support with JCPS
- **Evidence:** Youth employment reduces crime by 35%

FIRE PREVENTION CENTERS – \$2.2 Million

- Teach safety BEFORE disasters strike
- Free home inspections, smoke detector programs
- Reduce fires by 40% (proven in other cities)

Paid for inside Louisville Fire, which stays flat at its adopted \$85,520,300: half of Fire's unscheduled overtime, \$1.37M, starts the program in Year 1, and the rest of the \$2.2M is added only as Fire's own overtime-and-staffing review shows money that can move without taking an engine out of service.

???? BETTER PAY FOR BETTER SERVICE

Employee Compensation Investment: \$27.4 Million Year 1

Louisville Metro employees deserve competitive pay.

THE DIFFERENCE:

- **Current:** 5% raise for some employees
- **Our Plan:** Raises of 11%, 3% and 3% for non-union employees; union raises through their contracts

WHY IT MATTERS:

- ✓ Attract top talent to serve Louisville
- ✓ Reduce turnover and training costs
- ✓ Better employee morale = better public service
- ✓ Competitive with private sector and surrounding communities

HOW WE PAY FOR IT:

The \$27.4M is held as one raise pool until a pay plan sets each department's share: \$19.2M of it is money Metro already spends (the platform's administration and efficiency savings), and \$8.2M comes from revenue enhancements.

No new taxes. No deficit spending. Just valuing our people.

???? COMMUNITY INVESTMENT OVER BUREAUCRACY

Same total, every dollar placed. The plan spends exactly Metro's adopted FY2026-27 operating budget, \$1,125,931,500. A published reallocation ledger shows every department's adopted budget beside its budget under this plan, and the two columns add to the same total, to the dollar.

- **Dave's five priorities come first, funded in full:** raises for Metro's non-union employees, Public Safety & Community Policing, the \$15M participatory budget, Education & Youth Development, and Neighborhood Development. Together they ask \$214.71M a year of Metro money. \$206.51M of it is money Metro already spends; the other \$8.2M of the raises comes from revenue enhancements (license compliance, delinquency collection, parking and non-

resident fees).

- **Most of it is paid inside the departments that do the work**, by changing what they already spend money on. Money moves between departments only from sources the platform names or Dave has chosen: the smaller jail, the administration and duplication savings, the efficiency savings, \$1M from juvenile detention, and Thrive by Five's Metro money.
- **Also funded in full:** Senior Services, Disability Rights & Accessibility, Arts, Culture & Tourism, and Technology & Innovation.
- **Partly funded, and growing:** Criminal Justice Reform, Environmental Justice & Climate Action, and Economic Development & Jobs start with what their departments can carry, and grow with outside money and with jail savings once those savings are proven.
- **Phased:** Public Health & Wellness and Food Systems & Urban Agriculture launch on their own non-Metro funding. Metro adds its share as the jail savings prove out.
- **The named gap:** about \$20M of Health & Human Services programmes, mainly crisis stabilization centres, clinician-and-peer mobile crisis units and addiction treatment, has no Metro funding yet. The crisis teams that pair a social worker with an officer are funded, inside LMPD.
- **Police stay flat.** LMPD's plan is \$260.4M because the \$8M police-oversight programme moves to the independent Office of Inspector General, so oversight sits outside the department it oversees. That is not a police cut. The flat figure is before the raises officers win in their own contract.
- **The back-office claim is about \$21M**, not the \$39M first stated: that is what can actually be placed, department by department.
- **Outside the operating budget:** Affordable Housing asks no Metro operating money (abatement reform, fees and federal funds), and Infrastructure's \$35M is a shift inside the separate capital budget.
- **The biggest bet is the jail.** The \$36.5M only appears if bail reform and diversion shrink the jail population, so it is the first number the administration will report on.

Same budget. Better priorities.

???? YOUR VOICE, YOUR PRIORITIES

Democratic Governance: \$15 Million

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

- YOU help decide how to spend money in your neighborhood
- Community meetings, democratic voting
- \$15M across all districts (roughly \$577K per district)
- **Evidence:** 3,000+ cities worldwide. Higher trust. Better outcomes.

TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

- Every dollar tracked online
- Regular community reports
- Open budget workshops
- Real-time budget dashboard

THE NUMBERS ADD UP

CATEGORY	ADOPTED FY2026-27	OUR PLAN	% OF BUDGET (PLAN)
Public Safety	\$528,287,900	\$492,545,450	43.7%
Community Investment	\$295,474,500	\$323,746,150	28.8%
Infrastructure & Services	\$151,112,400	\$139,112,400	12.4%
Democratic Governance	\$52,028,000	\$73,588,000	6.5%
Support Services (includes the \$19.2M employee raise pool, held in OMB until a pay plan splits it by department)	\$99,028,700	\$96,939,500	8.6%
TOTAL	\$1,125,931,500	\$1,125,931,500	100%

Public Safety's departments carry less because the jail shrinks and police oversight moves to the Inspector General (in Democratic Governance); the 18 wellness centres, a public-safety priority, are paid through Public Health (in Community Investment). Democratic Governance grows because the \$15M participatory budget runs through Metro Council's 26 districts and police oversight moves to the Inspector General.

WHY THIS WORKS: THE EVIDENCE

Mini Police Substations:

- Chicago: 23% crime reduction in areas with substations
- Los Angeles: 30% increase in community trust
- Seattle: 40% faster response times
- **50+ cities nationwide** with proven results

Community Wellness Centers:

- San Antonio: \$80M saved in ER costs annually
- Denver: 35% reduction in police mental health calls
- Portland: 40% decrease in public intoxication arrests
- **Every \$1 invested saves \$5.60 in emergency services**

Youth Employment Programs:

- Philadelphia: 20-30% crime reduction among participants
- Chicago: 45% increase in high school graduation
- Boston: 50% reduction in teen arrests
- **Evidence from 100+ cities** over 30 years

Participatory Budgeting:

- New York City: 90% resident satisfaction
- Paris: 40% increase in civic engagement
- Chicago: Projects completed 20% faster
- **3,000+ cities worldwide** use this successfully

Competitive Employee Pay:

- Reduces turnover by 35-50%
 - Improves service quality ratings by 25%
 - Lowers training costs significantly
 - **Better pay = better talent = better services**
-

HOW WE PAY FOR IT: THE MATH

Money that moves between departments (every dollar from a named source; which source pays for which priority is shown for clarity, because the money is pooled):

From	Amount	Named source	Goes to
Department of Corrections	\$26,742,450	A smaller jail: bail reform and diversion (the jail shrinks by \$36,500,000; \$9,757,550 of that stays in Corrections for pretrial services and diversion)	Wellness centres \$20,512,450 · participatory budget \$6,230,000
Office of Management & Budget	\$14,000,000	Administration waste cut	Employee raise pool \$12,500,000 · participatory budget \$1,500,000
Facilities & Fleet Management	\$12,000,000	Efficiency: procurement, technology, operations	Employee raise pool \$6,700,000 · participatory budget \$5,300,000
Louisville Metro Police Department	\$8,000,000	Police oversight moved out so it is independent (paid from LMPD's own patrol and overtime savings)	Office of Inspector General \$8,000,000
Metro Technology Services	\$7,289,200	Bureaucratic duplication eliminated	Neighborhood Development \$6,759,200 · participatory budget \$530,000
Office of Strategic Initiatives	\$1,997,100	Thrive by Five's Metro money (its state-required share stays)	School-based childcare through the library \$1,997,100
Louisville Free Public Library	\$1,688,700	Room freed by Thrive by Five's money	Disability rights in Social Services \$1,688,700
Youth Transitional Services	\$1,000,000	Juvenile detention	Youth programmes through the library \$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$72,717,450		

A further \$205.4M is re-pointed inside the departments that deliver each policy and programme. Police are the largest example: LMPD moves 378 officers from patrol into 63 substations, with \$64.26M of their existing pay (about \$170,000 each before overtime), cuts half of unscheduled overtime and leaves \$20.7M of patrol posts unfilled as officers leave, which frees \$96.01M; \$88.01M of it pays for substations and co-responders inside LMPD and \$8M funds independent oversight.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- ☐ **Same total budget** as current approved budget (\$1.13 billion)
- ☐ **No new taxes** required
- ☐ **No deficit spending**
- ☐ **Maintains city reserves** at required levels
- ☐ **Honors all union contracts** (raises are additional)
- ☐ **No employee layoffs** – just reassignments and better pay
- ☐ **Phased implementation** – sustainable over 4 years

Every promise. Every program. Every dollar.

PHASED IMPLEMENTATION

Year 1 (FY2027-28):

- 12 mini substations operational
- 6 community wellness centers open
- First participatory budgeting cycle
- Employee raises implemented immediately
- Enhanced youth summer jobs program: paid jobs for teens

Year 2 (FY2028-29):

- 24 total mini substations (12 more)
- 12 total wellness centers (6 more)
- Expand after-school programs citywide
- Second participatory budgeting cycle
- Continued employee pay improvements

Year 3 (FY2029-30):

- 36 total mini substations (12 more)
- 18 total wellness centers (6 more – COMPLETE)
- Fire prevention centers open in fire stations

- Third participatory budgeting cycle

Year 4 (FY2030-31):

- All 63 mini substations operational (27 more – COMPLETE)
- All programs at full implementation
- Fourth participatory budgeting cycle
- Measure and report outcomes

By 2029: Louisville leads the nation in community-focused governance.

REAL PEOPLE, REAL IMPACT

For Families:

- Police you know walking your block
- Healthcare when you need it, close to home
- Safe after-school programs for your kids
- Better-maintained parks and libraries

For Employees:

- Competitive pay (17.8% raises for non-union employees)
- Better benefits
- More respect for public service
- Clear career advancement paths

For Neighborhoods:

- You decide local priorities
- Transparent budgets
- Responsive government
- Safer streets

For Louisville:

- Lower crime rates
- Better health outcomes
- Stronger communities

1. Brighter future

OUR VISION FOR LOUISVILLE

Same Total Budget. Completely Different Priorities.

Community-driven. Not top-down.

Preventive. Not reactive.

Efficient. Not bureaucratic.

17.8% raises for employees with no contract. Not 5%.

Neighborhood policing. Not distant precincts.

Your voice matters. Not just elected officials decide.

It's not about spending more. It's about spending smarter.

GET INVOLVED

Website: rundaverun.org

Email: info@rundaverun.org

Social: @davebiggers

Volunteer: We need you to knock doors, make calls, spread the word.

Donate: Every dollar helps us compete with big money politics.

Vote: Election Day 2026 - Let's transform Louisville together.

DAVE BIGGERS FOR MAYOR

Better Louisville. Better Future.

Version 3.0 | Updated October 2025 | www.rundaverun.org

Calculate Your Tax Impact

See how Dave's budget plan affects your family:

How Does Dave's Budget Affect You?

See your personalized impact - zero tax increase, real benefits

☐ Household Income \$50,000

☐ Children in JCPS 0

☐ Your ZIP Code

Your Personal Impact

How we calculate: Benefits based on average family savings from wellness center access (\$800/year), youth program value (after-school + summer jobs), and your specific mini substation timeline. All benefits come from the same \$1.13B budget - zero tax increase.

Share your results with friends and family:

☐ Share My Results

Make Your Voice Heard

Register to Vote

Make your voice heard! Register to vote and participate in our democracy.



[Register to Vote](#) ✓ [Check Registration](#)

Important Deadlines

- **Registration Deadline:** Typically 30 days before election day
- **Early Voting:** Check your state's early voting schedule
- **Absentee Ballot:** Request absentee ballots early
- **Election Day:** Polls typically open 6 AM - 6 PM

Note: Deadlines vary by state. Check your local election office for specific dates.

Find Your Polling Location

Enter your address to find your polling place and get directions.

Your Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Find My Polling Place

You can also call **1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)** for assistance finding your polling location.

Election Information

Everything you need to know to vote in KY.

What You Need to Bring

- Photo ID (driver's license, passport, state ID)
- Voter registration card (helpful but not required)
- Proof of residence (if first-time voter)

Voting Methods

- **In-Person Early Voting:** Vote at designated early voting locations before Election Day
- **Absentee/Mail-In Ballot:** Request a ballot to vote by mail
- **Election Day Voting:** Vote at your assigned polling location

Your Voting Rights

- You have the right to vote if you're in line when polls close
- You have the right to ask for help if you need it
- You have the right to a provisional ballot if there's a question about your eligibility
- You have the right to report problems to election protection hotlines



[More Voting Info](#)



[Call Election Protection](#)

What This Means for YOUR Neighborhood

Every Louisville neighborhood is unique. Enter your ZIP code to see how this policy directly impacts your community:

Find Your Mini Substation

Enter your ZIP code to see when your neighborhood will receive a community police substation.

Find My Substation

63 ZIP code areas across Louisville will receive mini substations over 4 years.

Part of Dave Biggers' comprehensive public safety plan.

See the Budget Impact

Explore how this policy fits into Dave's comprehensive \$1.13 billion budget plan:

How Does Dave's Budget Affect You?

See your personalized impact - zero tax increase, real benefits

☐ Household Income \$50,000

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Compare This Policy

See how Dave's approach differs from current administration policies:

Policy Comparison: Real Change vs. Status Quo

See the clear differences between Dave Biggers' transformative vision for Louisville and the current mayor's approach. The choice is yours.

☐ Share This Comparison ☐ Print Comparison

☐ Public Safety ☐ Wellness ☐ Youth ☐ Economy ☐ Housing ☐ Transparency

☐

Public Safety & Policing

Current Mayor

Traditional policing model

Approach

- Centralized police response
- Reactive approach to crime
- Limited community engagement
- Focus on patrol units

Timeline Ongoing

Budget Status quo funding

Impact Response times: 15-20 minutes average

Dave Biggers

Community-based mini substations

Approach

- 63 mini substations across Louisville (4-year deployment)
- Officers living and working in communities they serve
- Preventative community policing model
- Year 1: 12 substations in highest-need areas

Timeline Year 1-4 phased rollout

Budget Revenue-neutral through property tax restructuring

Impact Response times: 3-5 minutes (neighborhood-based)

**Mental Health & Wellness****Current Mayor**

Limited wellness infrastructure

Approach

- Reliance on existing healthcare facilities
- No dedicated community wellness centers
- Fragmented mental health services
- Emergency-room dependent model

Timeline No expansion planned

Budget Minimal dedicated funding

Impact Long wait times, limited access in underserved areas

Dave Biggers

Regional wellness centers network

Approach

- 18 wellness centers across 6 regions
- Mental health counseling, addiction support
- Youth programs, family services
- 3 centers per region for accessibility

Timeline Year 1-4 phased rollout

Budget Integrated with public safety restructuring

Impact Accessible care within every neighborhood, preventative focus



Youth Development

Current Mayor

Standard recreation programs

Approach

- Traditional rec centers
- Limited after-school programming
- Seasonal sports leagues
- Minimal job training for youth

Timeline Status quo

Budget Existing recreation budget

Impact Serves fraction of Louisville youth

Dave Biggers

Comprehensive youth investment

Approach

- After-school programs at all substations
- Job training and mentorship
- Arts, sports, and STEM programs
- Youth advisory councils
- Summer employment pathways

Timeline Immediate implementation with substation rollout

Budget \$1,200 value per child annually

Impact Accessible programs in every neighborhood



Economic Development

Current Mayor

Corporate incentives focus

Approach

- Tax breaks for large corporations
- Downtown-centric development
- Limited support for small business
- Gentrification without displacement protection

Timeline Ongoing

Budget Millions in corporate subsidies

Impact Benefits concentrated in select areas

Dave Biggers

Community wealth building

Approach

- Small business incubators at substations
- Local hiring requirements for city contracts
- Neighborhood-based economic zones
- Affordable housing protection
- Living wage standards

Timeline Immediate policy changes, 4-year infrastructure build

Budget Redirected from corporate subsidies

Impact Jobs and wealth stay in neighborhoods



Housing & Affordability

Current Mayor

Market-driven housing

Approach

- Minimal affordable housing requirements
- Limited tenant protections
- Rising rents in many neighborhoods
- Displacement from development

Timeline No comprehensive plan

Budget Minimal housing trust fund

Impact Affordability crisis worsening

Dave Biggers

Housing as a human right

Approach

- Expanded affordable housing trust fund
- Strong tenant protections
- Community land trusts
- Rent stabilization measures
- Anti-displacement policies for existing residents

Timeline Immediate policy changes

Budget Increased trust fund through property tax reform

Impact Protects residents, prevents displacement

□

Government Transparency**Current Mayor**

Standard reporting

Approach

- Annual budget reports
- Limited real-time data
- Reactive public engagement
- Closed-door development deals

Timeline Status quo

Budget Minimal transparency infrastructure

Impact Limited public accountability

Dave Biggers

Radical transparency

Approach

- Real-time budget dashboard
- Public data portal for all city metrics
- Community advisory boards with veto power
- Open contracting process
- Regular town halls in all neighborhoods

Timeline Immediate implementation

Budget Low-cost digital infrastructure

Impact Citizens empowered with information and decision-making power

The Choice is Clear

Louisville deserves transformative change, not more of the same. Join us in building a city that works for everyone.

[Join the Campaign Read Full Policy Platform](#)

□ What Louisville Residents Say

□ Community Endorsements

Share This Policy

Help spread the word about Dave's vision for Louisville:

▮ Related Policies You Might Like

[policy_recommendations limit="3"]

▮ Make Your Voice Heard

Register to Vote

Register to Vote

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[Register to Vote](#) ✓ [Check Registration](#)

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State

ZIP Code

Find My Polling Place

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Stay Updated on This Policy

Get notified when this policy is updated or when Dave speaks about this issue in YOUR neighborhood.

* indicates a required field

Email Signup Information

Fax Number (Leave blank)

Name *

Email * We'll send you updates about the campaign

Zip Code 5-digit zip code (optional)

☐ I'm interested in volunteering! We'll send you information about volunteer opportunities

[Sign Up](#)

Have Ideas to Improve This Policy?

This is YOUR city. If you have suggestions for how we can make this policy better for Louisville, please share them. Every idea is reviewed.

Suggest an Improvement for Louisville

Have an idea for improving Louisville? Share your policy suggestion below. Your voice matters in shaping our city's future.

Policy Title *

Description *

0/2000 characters

Category Select a category... ▼

Your Name *

Your Email *

ZIP Code (Optional)

☐ I agree that my suggestion may be reviewed and potentially incorporated into campaign policy. My email will only be used to notify me about the status of my suggestion.

[Submit Suggestion](#)

NOT ME, WE.

Together, we make Louisville better for everyone.