

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 46**  
**SUPPORTING DE-ESCALATION PROGRAMMING FOR THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

**WHEREAS**, for some time this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis has been acutely aware of the ongoing and at times escalating violence in the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has ongoingly supported and still supports City police having all the necessary tools, equipment, staffing, programming and supplies it needs to enforce the law in a humane, community sensitive, professional and equitable manner; and

**WHEREAS**, policing and related offices are a significant portion of the annual budget of the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, most academic reports and analysis of the reasons for crime show that there are clear, identifiable and significant indicators that are present in communities ravaged by violence that policing alone cannot address and are not designed to address; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board is aware that police are often times called to perform duties beyond the scope of their work and training leaving them open to unfair criticism, attacks and ridicule; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has, through the passage of various types, forms and kinds of legislation and in words and writings, shown year after year that it vehemently opposes violence and strongly supports the efforts of police to keep the peace that are fair-minded and not steeped in discrimination, disenfranchisement, violation of civil liberties and inequity; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board supports good policing and police officers and the de-escalation of violence and realizes that this best happens when there is overall coordination and application of many types of City and community services that compliment and support the community and the workings of the police: and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has not taken a position supporting defunding of the police but does realize that policing alone cannot solve the growing violence in our City and that additional funding for programming for de-escalation of violence must be found and allocated while not crippling the ability of the City Police Department to do its work; and

**WHEREAS**, programming for de-escalation of violence and addressing the indicators of crime must become a priority for the City of St. Louis if it is to be a safe and equitable place to live and truly improve itself for all its citizens to enjoy and prosper.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we stand in support of good community policing and police officers and that we recommit ourselves to working to end violence in the City and urge all City offices and officials to also make it a priority and to join with this Board to do all that they can toward the de-escalation of violence in the City in a coordinated and organized approach that will also address and help eliminate the underlying reasons for violence. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to send a copy of this Resolution to those deemed appropriate by its sponsor.

**Introduced this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020 by:**  
**The Honorable Joseph Vaccaro, Alderman 23<sup>rd</sup> Ward**

**Adopted this \_\_\_ day of September, 2020 as attested by:**

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**Terry Kennedy**  
**Clerk, Board of Aldermen**

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**Lewis Reed**  
**President, Board of Aldermen**