



*For Immediate Release: August 19, 2020  
Contact: Mary Carol Melton, 513/238-7005*

**\*\* Media Advisory \*\***

***Charmaine McGuffey Statement on Proposed City Charter Amendment***

We all share the same goal of making sure police look out for all of us and improve public safety.

But this proposed charter amendment is not the way to do it.

For 30 years in the Sheriff's office, I led collaboratively. I've always been a collaborator. This ballot initiative does not have the collaboration and the broad coalition of support I would expect to see. I've listened to community activists and a wide range of community leaders. They don't support this ballot initiative. And as a top law enforcement officer in the county, neither can I.

As Sheriff, I will protect our entire community, including the 45 municipalities outside the City of Cincinnati. I will invest in community policing and in public safety. I will work with leaders to reform existing structures like the Collaborative Agreement.

Reforms to policing need to happen but not like this. I agree with my opponent Bruce Hoffbauer and many other Republicans and fellow Democrats. Voters should reject this initiative.

I support exploring paths that strengthen our law enforcement departments in ways that serve the community at the highest level we can. This includes collaborating and partnering with mental health, addiction, and social service professionals to work alongside us when the situation calls for this kind of response.

I also support the ongoing work of the Collaborative Refresh that has a long history of promoting community dialogue and collaboration. Now more than ever, this kind of law enforcement and community engagement is needed.

I am committed to the people I serve in Hamilton County and I am committed to keeping our citizens and the good men and women in law enforcement safe. I believe that together, we can accomplish this.