



July 19, 2026

Memorandum For: Cincinnati City Council

From: Todd Zinser

Subject : Collaborative Agreement Refresh

Please find attached an October 20, 2025, email that I sent to the Mayor, the City Council and the City Manager concerning the status of the 2017 Collaborative Agreement Refresh.

The email contained a recommendation, now 9 months ago, that the city, as a priority, update the “Collaborative Agreement Refresh,” with a new formally adopted agreement.

The City is Actually Proposing a Refresh of the 2017 Collaborative Refresh

The City initiated a Collaborative Agreement Refresh 9 years ago in 2017. It contracted with Attorney Saul Green, who served as the court-appointed monitor of the original Collaborative Agreement. He was asked to assess the progress of the Collaborative. Attorney Green and his team issued 3 reports during 2017 and 2018.

On November 9, 2017, Attorney Green issued his first report titled, “City of Cincinnati Collaborative Agreement Mutual Accountability of All Parties.” On page 19, Mr. Green was critical of the City, reporting that the city had not developed the analytic tools necessary to “assess bias.”

This is relevant today because Campaign Zero has developed such an analytic tool and carried out the type of analysis that Attorney Green was calling for 9 years ago.

As noted below, I believe that such a tool was, in fact, developed by the University of Cincinnati, Institute of Crime Science in 2021, under contract with the City. But it appears that the City either did not accept the tool or has never applied it.

After 2020, Efforts on the 2017 Collaborative Agreement Refresh, Fell Off a Cliff

- In July 2018, the Innovation Lab issued, “Collaborative Agreement Refresh Master Plan.”

- In July 2019, the City's Collaborative Agreement Sustainability Manager issued a "2019 Refresh Program Plan Update,"
- Also In July 2019, the UC team held a kick off meeting for its contract to develop an analytics tool in response to Attorney Green's recommendation.
- In August 2019, the City Manager, at the time, issued a memo to City Council concerning the "Collaborative Agreement Update and Path Forward."
- In November 2020, the UC team issued an Update Memo that projected it would complete its development of an analytics tool on or about March 1, 2021. I requested records related to UC's contract and the analytics tool on June 28, 2026, but the request remains open.
- After 2020, the management of the Collaborative Agreement seems to have fallen off a cliff. The regular communications to the public by the CPD and the MAG about the progress and accomplishments of the Collaborative were no longer updated on the city's website.

Collaborative Agreement Sustainability Consultant

In May 2023, the City entered into a professional services, no-bid, contract for a Collaborative Agreement Sustainability Consultant. The services required under the contract included:

"Drafting and delivering a summary report to the City Manager regarding the status of the 2017 Collaborative Refresh recommendations that have been accomplished and those that are outstanding and working collaboratively with the incoming Chief of Police and the incoming City Manager to develop a facilitative plan moving forward."

Such a report would be particularly useful now that the City has announced what is actually a "Refresh," of the Refresh. However, it appears that more than 3 years later, the contractor has not delivered any such report. In response to a records request on August 6, 2025, and a follow up request on May 2, 2026, the City has not provided any documents responsive to my requests, yet they consider the requests completed.

Conclusion

At a minimum, City Council should determine what happened to the 2017 Collaborative Agreement Refresh, including a determination as to what happened to the contract with the University of Cincinnati, Institute of Crime Science and the analytics tool it more than likely produced for the City.