



City Council
Public Safety Meeting

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

~Final~

Gerry Martin (Chair)

August 12, 2026

4:45 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Call To Order

4:45 PM Meeting called to order on August 12, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Absent	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Present	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Excused	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Virtual	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Excused	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Present	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Excused	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Excused	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Virtual	

In Person:

Councilor Gerry Martin, Chair
Councilor Victor Davila
Captain Brian Bellevie, SPFLD Police
Sergeant Dave Robolet, SPFLD FRU
Sergeant Daniel Johnson, Secretary Force Partner
Erica Swallows
Nazir

Virtual:

Councilor Malo Brown, Member
Council President Tracye Whitfield
Erica Cruz
Shirley S.

Public Portion

1. Updates on Potential Public Safety Concerns.

Minutes:

On August 12, 2026, the Public Safety Committee, chaired by Councilor Gerry Martin, met to review public safety conditions throughout Springfield, with a focus on gun violence and concerns in the Forest Park area. Residents raised concerns about recent shootings, unresolved cases, neighborhood safety, and communication following violent incidents. Springfield Police reported that gun violence, shots fired calls, and homicides were down compared with prior years and discussed ongoing prevention, enforcement, and investigative efforts.

The committee reviewed strategies being used to address violence, including increased patrols, firearm investigations, technology, C3 policing, intelligence gathering, and community partnerships. Discussion also addressed communication with families affected by homicide, crime reporting, State Police deployment, and the potential for additional visible cameras and other public safety technology in parks and common areas.

The committee emphasized prevention and stronger coordination with community organizations working directly with youth and individuals at risk of violence. Members also discussed evaluating violence prevention programs and funding based on participation and measurable results. The meeting concluded with continued support for collaboration among law enforcement, community organizations, residents, and City officials to improve public safety.

Meeting adjourned: approximately 5:55 p.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]