AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 35,523

CITY HALL: August 6, 2026

BY: COUNCILMEMBER WILLARD

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

An amendment to add (i) quarterly and monthly reporting on agencies, offices, and city departments requesting drone deployment and (ii) monthly reporting on the identity of the supervising officer for each drone flight to the police department's drone reporting requirements.

AMENDMENT:

1. In Section 1, on page 2, line 42, delete the word "and".

2. In Section 1, on page 2, line 43, delete the period and insert "; and" in lieu thereof.

3. In Section 1, on page 2, line 44, delete the ellipse and insert the following in lieu thereof:

> (7) All agencies, offices and city departments requesting drone deployment.
>
> * * *

4. In Section 1, on page 5, after line 110, insert the following new list letter "k" and renumber the subsequent list letters accordingly:

> k. Identity of supervising officer;

5. In Section 1, on page 5, line 114, delete the word "and".

6. In Section 1, on page 5, line 115, delete the period and insert "; and" in lieu thereof.

7. In Section 1, on page 5, after line 115, insert the following:

> q. Agency, office, or city department requesting drone deployment.

THE FOREGOING AMENDMENT WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

RECUSED:

AND THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

ENGROSSED VERSION:

The following engrossed version shows how the proposed amendment would modify Ordinance No. 35,523, as originally introduced. Additions are **underlined**. Deletions are shown as ~~strikethroughs~~.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and re-ordain sections 2-61 and 2-62 of the Code of the City of New Orleans to provide relative to periodic reporting by the police department on drone usage; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto**.**

SECTION 1. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY ORDAINS, That sections 2-61 and 2-62 of the Code of the City of New Orleans, Louisiana are amended to read as follows:

"Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION

* * *

ARTICLE III – CITY COUNCIL

* * *

Sec. 2-61. – Quarterly oversight and review of public safety agencies.

(a) The below-referenced agencies funded in part or wholly by city funds shall appear at a public meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee no less than four times a year to present on their ongoing efforts to promote public safety. Appearance at a council budget hearing shall satisfy this appearance requirement for the fourth quarter of any year.

(b) The following agencies and their leadership shall appear at the above quarterly review:

(1) New Orleans Police Department

(2) Orleans Parish District Attorney

(3) Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, including the Chief Judge, Deputy Chief Judge, and Magistrate Judge

(4) Orleans Parish Juvenile Court

(5) Orleans Parish Sheriff

(6) Office of the Independent Police Monitor

(7) Juvenile Justice Intervention Center

(8) Orleans Parish Coroner

(9) Orleans Parish Municipal and Traffic Court

(c) The foregoing agencies shall meet and confer at least one week prior to each quarterly review to identify (i) areas relating to public safety in need of improvement, (ii) opportunities for greater cooperation among the agencies, (iii) issues that should be brought to the attention of the criminal justice committee, and (iv) potential solutions to problems that would benefit from criminal justice committee support.

(d) The review shall include presentations on the agency's year-to-date budget, operational challenges, legislative needs or any other matters relevant to the council's oversight.

(e) The leader of the police department's professional standards and accountability bureau (PSAB) shall also present an overview of all audits conducted by PSAB in the past quarter (consistent with an audit plan to be shared with the criminal justice committee at the beginning of each year), the recommendations resulting from those audits, and the remedial measures implemented as a result of those recommendations.

(f) The police department shall also report on significant data compiled during the prior quarter on its drone program. Significant data includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Material changes in number of drone flights;

(2) Material changes in types and purposes of drone use;

(3) Any deviations from department policy on approved or restricted drone use;

(4) Any safety concerns because of drone use;

(5) Any equipment concerns because of drone use; ~~and~~

(6) Equipment, supplies, and attachments used during drone deployment~~.~~**; and**

*** * ***

(7) All agencies, offices, and city departments requesting drone deployment.

*** * ***

Sec. 2-62. – Monthly disclosures of raw data.

(a) The below referenced agencies funded in part or wholly by city funds shall submit raw data in machine readable format to the city council no less than once per month.

(b) The following agencies shall submit raw data as requested by the city council in machine readable format to a centralized data repository to which the city council has access with appropriate privacy protections applied as needed:

(1) New Orleans Police Department.

(2) Orleans Parish District Attorney.

(3) Orleans Criminal District Court.

(4) Orleans Juvenile Court.

(5) Orleans Parish Municipal & Traffic Court.

(6) Orleans Parish Sheriff.

(7) Juvenile Justice Intervention Center.

(8) Office of the Independent Police Monitor.

(c) In addition to the aforementioned agencies, the New Orleans Police Department shall submit raw data in machine readable format to the city council in a readily accessible manner with appropriate privacy protections applied as needed. The New Orleans Police Department's submission shall include the following specific datasets:

(1) Homicides — To include item number, date, victim race/gender, weapon used, motive, and clearance status.

(2) Nonfatal shooting datasets — To include item number, date, victim race/gender, weapon used, motive, and clearance status.

(3) Staffing by position, rank, hire date, and job location.

(4) Overtime expenditures and purposes.

(5) Number of separations by officer rank each month.

(6) Requests for video from the Real-Time Crime Center and Louisiana State Analytical and Fusion Exchange Center including item number and whether relevant video was found.

(7) Drone flight logs.

(d) In addition to the datasets required in subsection (c) above, the police department shall also publish the following complete datasets to the public, except any data that is exempt from disclosure pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. § 44:3:

(1) Calls for Service.

(2) Electronic Police Reports.

(3) Use of Force.

(4) Misconduct cases including case disposition.

(5) Stop and Search.

(6) Aggregated crime statistics. Statistics shall be published at least monthly and include all major UCR Part I or NIBRS Summary Report System crime categories as well as nonfatal shootings. The data shall include aggregated statistics for the current year and each of the last five years to date (YTD).

(7) Drone deployment data, including at least the following information:

a. Flight takeoff point;

b. Deployment time and date;

c. Flight duration;

d. Intended purpose of deployment;

e. Whether the use was effective for the intended purpose;

f. Purpose the drone usage supported, from one or more of the following categories:

i. Call for service;

ii. Emergency event, special event, or disaster response (including post-event review);

iii. Forensics collection;

iv. Tactical operations;

v. Training;

vi. Rescue response;

vii. Missing person search;

viii. Suspect search;

ix. Crime scene investigations;

x. Post-critical incident review or reconstruction; and

xi. Other (Specified);

g. Whether the deployment was under the Drone as a First Responder (semi-autonomous remote drone) program;

h. Identification of deployed drone;

i. Police division, district and sector involved;

j. Identity of operator in command;

k. Identity of supervising officer;

~~k.~~**l.** Identity of designated visual observer;

~~l.~~**m.** Summary of activities conducted and actions taken;

~~m.~~**n.** Safety concerns regarding deployment, if any;

~~n.~~**o.** Equipment concerns regarding deployment, if any; ~~and~~

~~o.~~**p.** Drone attachments used, if any~~.~~**; and**

q. Agency, office, or city department requesting drone deployment.

(e) The Civil Service Department shall produce current staffing, hiring, and applications for the Police Department in machine readable format updated at least monthly."