



July 6, 2020

Fellow Residents –

We are experiencing what is, perhaps, the most unique time in our nation's history. While we have been separated from our family and friends for months, an uprising began to stir in the streets of every state in the union.

When I was born in 1936, the training I received from my parents was about caution and awareness of my surroundings when I left my home. Those are the same lessons taught to young black children to this day. While many things have changed over my lifetime, it is clear that some have stayed the same. Children are not born to hate; they must be taught to do so. What we see going on in our society today, into our very fabric, is the manifestation of hate that has been embedded in children as it relates to race.

I am encouraged by the diversity I see in the generation today. The transformation of traditional social values into communal values is unbelievable to me. The demonstrations of the 1960s looked very different than what we are seeing today. The new generation of Americans have grown up together, gone to school together; they have a more comprehensive understanding of why some of what they might have been taught by their parents and grandparents was wrong and unjust. The challenge there is to socially balance out what they learned at home and what they are learning from their peers, educators, and the world around them. This new generation has the tools and it is imperative that we work together to make our community one in which we want to live.

We can and must play an active role in the way our community is shaped. I have watched the three mayors that I have served under in many situations of crisis and how they made efforts to bring many sides together through social outreach, especially the community and law enforcement. I support expanding the forum of social exchange under the initiative of the Mayor's office for a more rational exchange and dialogue. I strongly encourage you to participate in this exchange and ask you to please take the time to fill out the Community Police Executive Research Forum Survey <https://arcg.is/18fTnS>. We must make our voices heard in many ways so those we have elected to represent us have the most data and community input possible to make informed decisions.

The transition is taking place, and it is going to be determined by the experiences that come out of this uprising. I think we are in a good place and the awakening is upon us. We must stir out of the slumber we have been in and envision the new world we want to see on the other side. The experiences of our brothers and sisters will light the way. It is time to take a second look through our observation of this new generation and to enable our elected officials to make policies that will create a more equitable community that meets the needs of all its members.

Sincerely,

Manfred Reid

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Resident and LMHA Board Chairman



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Notice of Right of Reasonable Accommodation: If you or someone else in your household has a disability - and as a result of this disability, this person needs a reasonable accommodation in order to participate fully in the Public Housing Program - please contact the Housing Authority to discuss accommodation options.

