



Ferguson Commission
Investment in the Region
Proposed Budget

January 10, 2015

Our Charge

- Engage all voices and inform the community in real time through community meetings, data and outreach.
- Produce a thorough, wide-ranging, and unflinching report and actionable recommendations focused on the root causes of the unrest set in motion by the events on August 9 in Ferguson.
- Elevate awareness and mobilize for action to address inequities, disparities, and racial and ethnic relations issues facing the St. Louis region.

Our Values

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Civic Engagement
- Sustainability

What will it take to meet our charge?

- Independence and continuity
- Blending public and private dollars at \$1.475M
- Financial Investment - \$1.36M or .62 cents per individual in the region (2.2M people)
- Qualified individuals working full-time at an accelerated pace through loaned executives and hired staff
- Significant in-kind professional and volunteer services

A Responsible Budget

- An independent local civic organization benchmarked salaries in line with the non-profit labor market
- Budgeted against comparable commissions

Here's what we've found:

- Salaries ranges are within the mid-point
- Overall budget is less than budgets of commissions with similar charges

Proposed Budget



How does this compare to other commissions?

- Ferguson Commission (2014) = \$1,360,175 for 365+ days of work
- McCone Commission (1965 L.A. Riots) - \$250,000 for 100 days of work. In today's dollars = \$1.8M for 100 days of work
 - 29 staffers, 16 clerks and secretaries, and 26 consultants
- Kerner Commission (1967 U.S. Riots) - \$1,650,000 for 365 days of work. In today's dollars = roughly \$11.6M including substantive private contribution from the Ford Foundation.
 - It has been noted that the Commission's financial crises greatly impacted its credibility and ability to produce good work.
- Cincinnati Community Action Now (2001 - 2003) = \$1,498,120 over two years; \$8,222,259 from 2001 to 2010

The St. Louis Positive Change model will be a road map that lays the groundwork for a more just and equitable St. Louis.

Questions?