



# FINAL REPAIR / REFORM POINTS

## Initiative L1: Richmond, VA – Inspector General Guardrails

### Problem

Richmond’s Inspector General currently operates without enforceable mechanisms for:

- mandatory evidence disclosure
- correction when errors are proven
- judicial review of records compliance
- cost containment when reports spiral financially

This creates a governance vacuum where taxpayers pay repeatedly for mistakes that are never corrected.

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### Proposed Guardrails

#### 1. Evidence Disclosure Requirement

Any IG report must:

- identify evidence relied upon
- acknowledge material contradictory evidence
- explain exclusions in writing

#### 2. Mandatory Review Window

Before publication:

- named parties may submit documented corrections
- submissions become part of the official record
- suppression of submissions is prohibited

#### 3. Public Correction Mechanism

When factual errors are proven:

- a public addendum must be issued
- corrections must be published alongside the original report



#### **4. Records-Law Compliance**

IG records must:

- comply with FOIA and records statutes
- be producible for judicial review when challenged

#### **5. Cost Escalation Safeguard**

When defense costs exceed thresholds:

- automatic Council review is triggered
  - continued defense requires public justification
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#### **Why This Matters**

- Stops waste before it compounds
- Prevents “defend it forever” spending loops
- Protects records integrity
- Restores public trust without politicization

This strengthens oversight.

It does not weaken it.

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