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CITY OF PORTLAND POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

Council Resolution to Change PAC Deadline to August 31, 2023

March 22, 2023



POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION PHASES OF WORK

ORGANIZATIONAL PHASE (JANUARY-MARCH 2022)

FACT-FINDING PHASE (APRIL-OCTOBER 2022)

POWERS AND DUTIES (OCT. 2022-FEB. 2023)

STRUCTURE AND DETAILS (BEGAN FEB. 2023)

TRANSITION PLAN AND BROADER SYSTEM

CONCLUDING PHASE:
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND APPROVAL

All phases of work are defined in the PAC Agenda and Scope. Each phase of work has specific outcomes, including documents. The Agenda and Scope also lists out ongoing projects of the PAC that are not limited to a single phase, such as community engagement and reports to the City Council.

More information at: www.portland.gov/police-accountability/resources/agenda-and-scope

TIMELINE

DECEMBER 2021-
OCTOBER 2022

The Commission convened in December 2021. From January-March 2022, the Commission held its Organizational Phase.

The PAC then researched other jurisdictions and proposals from subject matter experts, received briefings from experts, and assessed barriers to police accountability and best practices in Portland. The barriers document is the **problem statement the PAC's work aims to address.**

OCTOBER 2022-
FEBRUARY 2023

The Police Accountability Commission developed the functions of the new system.

This includes preliminary agreements on how the new Oversight Board (and staff) will **access information**, how it will address complaints about individual officers (**officer accountability**), and how it will conduct **structural oversight**, including making recommendations on PPB policy and directives.

FEBRUARY 2023-PRESENT

The PAC is currently developing the **forms** the new system will take.

This includes how it will ensure **reporting and transparency** to both the public and the City Council, structures of **board membership** including size, term length, and more, and how the **oversight staff** including the Director will be structured.

COMING UP
(STARTING IN MAY 2023)

By this point of the process, the PAC will have developed the endpoint of this process. With more input from Council, briefings from experts and affected parties, and more community input, the PAC will adapt this plan to a final recommendation for City Council.

The PAC will also craft a transition plan and how the new oversight board will fit in the broader system of City government.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PAC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS COMING UP:

MARCH 22 (TODAY) – COMMUNITY FORUM
(CONCOURSE COFFEE, 1-3 PM)

APRIL 8 – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT
(1-3 PM)

MULTIPLE METHODS OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The PAC also received community input live at meetings through public comment (at every meeting of the PAC and its sub-committees).

Additionally, community members can give public comment between meetings which is distributed to PAC members before the following meeting.

Calendar:

www.portland.gov/police-accountability/events/



The Police Accountability Commission now accepts
Advance Public Comment in three ways:

1. **Online Webform:** Community members can send public comment to the Police Accountability Commission and/or specific sub-committees at <https://tinyurl.com/portlandpaccomment>.
2. **Voicemail:** Community members can leave a voicemail at **503-823-3346**, which will be transcribed (and if necessary translated) before circulation to PAC members.
3. **Postal Mail:** Mail sent to the new PO Box will be transcribed and, if necessary, translated:

Police Accountability Commission
City of Portland, Community Safety Division
PO Box 9065
Portland OR 97207

ADVANCE
PUBLIC
COMMENT

Public comment received by Tuesday at 8:00 AM is circulated in advance of the Thursday PAC meetings. Public comment received by Friday at 8:00 AM is circulated in advance of the following Monday's PAC meetings.

ENSURING THE PAC HAS TIME TO COMPLETE ITS WORK

The Police Accountability Commission has been working to complete the tasks assigned to it by the City Council.

- To date, the Commission has held 95 events:
 - 84 public meetings
 - Six community engagement events
 - Five community-building sessions for members to get to know each other and build working relationships
- The PAC is facing two problems due to the current timeline:
 - Frequent full commission meetings (where attendance is required) can lead to volunteer resignations or absences and referrals for removal. PAC member turnover is relatively low, but absent Council action, meeting frequency will have to increase beyond 2/week.
 - Frequent meetings reduce equity between members, as those with more free time end up having more ability to contribute. This diminishes the representation of members with day jobs, caregiving responsibilities, health concerns, and more.

ENSURING THE PAC HAS TIME TO COMPLETE ITS WORK

On December 8, the Police Accountability Commission by consensus, formally requested that the Portland City Council allow the PAC to continue its work beyond the current Council deadline of June 9, 2023.

Prior to this request, the context of a possible request was discussed, including that it is important to determine the PAC's deadline **as early as possible**, to allow for effective project planning and **community engagement work** to achieve any timeline.

ENSURING THE PAC HAS TIME TO COMPLETE ITS WORK

On December 8, the Police Accountability Commission by consensus, formally requested that the Portland City Council allow the PAC to continue its work beyond the current Council deadline of June 9, 2023.

The discussion prior to this request included:

- the scope of the Police Accountability Commission's work, and the importance of time to thoroughly address the varying challenges of police accountability and civilian oversight
- the limitations of volunteers' time as they contribute to this process around their other obligations (e.g., employment, family, caregiving, and other personal obligations), and **inability to ask members to meet more than twice a week**
- the different bodies of law and regulation on the city, state, and federal level which the work of the PAC needs to comply with and which members need to navigate as they develop recommendations

ENSURING THE PAC HAS TIME TO COMPLETE ITS WORK

On December 8, the Police Accountability Commission by consensus, formally requested that the Portland City Council allow the PAC to continue its work beyond the current Council deadline of June 9, 2023.

The discussion prior to this request included:

- the benefits of holding briefings with experts and affected parties, including City Council, PPB leadership, the Portland Police Association, & more
- complying with the City Council’s mandate to have **“an inclusive, diverse community driven process is needed to develop recommendations to City Council for the structure and processes of the new oversight system”** (37527)
- complying with the City Council’s mandate **“that there be a lengthy, involved process where consideration is given to the complex topic of police accountability”** (37527 and 37548)

ENSURING THE PAC HAS TIME TO COMPLETE ITS WORK

The PAC's request on December 8 was for Council to ensure the commission has the resource necessary to complete its work: time.

This would ensure:

- The Police Accountability Commission would not need to hold 3+ public meetings a week
- That there is time for a process that centers community input, and also has opportunities for the PAC to hear advice from experts and affected parties
- That the PAC can complete the tasks assigned to it by City Council
- Most importantly, that the process of implementing the will of the voters in Ballot Measure 26-217 continues forward and can succeed.

WHAT'S NEXT

UPCOMING PAC COLLABORATION WITH CITY COUNCIL

The Police Accountability Commission will welcome Commissioner Gonzalez in April. The PAC will also seek to schedule a second briefing with all members of City Council at public meetings of the PAC in May-June.

The PAC will be presenting its January-March 2023 quarterly report in early May. This quarterly report will include more details as to the outcomes of the Powers and Duties Phase (Access to Information, Officer Accountability, and Structural Oversight).

The PAC is also working to schedule time with the City Council to receive specific feedback on the “destination” of this process – the functions and form of the new system, including the oversight board and staff – in May.

WHAT'S NEXT

STRUCTURE AND DETAILS PHASE

The Structure and Details Phase began in February 2023. It focuses on developing the form of the new system, including **Oversight Board Membership**, the staff and structure that makes up the **Oversight Staff**, and the **Reporting and Transparency** that will ensure the public and the City Council are informed about the oversight system's work.

More information at www.portland.gov/police-accountability

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Community engagement events are held regularly.
The next event is **today**:

Wednesday, March 22
1-3 PM, Concourse Coffee

The next community engagement event will be April 8.
More information at www.portland.gov/police-accountability under "Events".