

Written Testimony - Agenda Item 799

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Lauren Armony, Sisters of the Road	Support	I am writing in support of the PAC report, and urge city council to adopt the key decisions when formalizing the new police oversight body.	No	09/16/23 11:40 AM
799	Joe Hovey	Support with changes	<p>We need to insure that ALL of Portland is represented on this Commission. There needs to be representation of those on the Police Force as well as other members of the community. Right now I feel this Commission as planned is not in balance but rather sways Left and anti-police. I would like to see a balanced Commission.</p> <p>Also, I find it hard that we need the number of members on the Commission that is being proposed. We need to pare it down to maybe 12-15 and again presenting a balance view.</p>	No	09/17/23 12:30 PM
799	Chris Braun	Support with changes	We need to have representation of all of Portland and that includes the police. Right now it is NOT a balanced view being represented! It skews more Left as opposed to balanced and moderate.	No	09/17/23 12:32 PM
799	Rochelle L. Silver, Ph.D	Support	<p>Dear Mayor and members of the Portland City Council - I am writing in support of the Police Accountability Commission (PAC) report and to ask you to accept the report as submitted.</p> <p>My name is Dr. Rochelle Silver. I am a retired psychologist with considerable experience in police oversight and accountability. I was a two-term member of the Citizen Review Committee, member of the COAB, the community oversight advisory board portion of the Settlement Agreement between the U.S DOJ and the City of Portland, am currently a member of the Mental Health Alliance (MHA), an amicus group in the Settlement Agreement and I've attended several national civilian oversight conferences.</p> <p>Since inception, I have followed the PAC and have virtually attended the majority of their meetings. I have never seen a committee work harder and with total dedication to what was asked of them by 82% of the Portland voters. They worked intelligently, thoughtfully, sensitively and sensibly - always checking themselves on mission, values and goals. They did what was necessary and went beyond -talking with everyone involved in police oversight locally and with those in a good many jurisdictions throughout the nation. They talked with all of you, the IPR, CRC, PPB, PPA, DOJ, amicus groups and community groups. They looked at best practices and designed an oversight board and department that is community-run but fair to all which is exactly what was asked of them by the voters.</p> <p>I understand that as elected officials you may think there are changes to be made in the report submitted to you. I suggest that the 20-person commission appointed by you are now the experts on police oversight and accountability and tinkering with their proposed recommendations would be a mistake. Please do the right thing and accept the PAC report.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Rochelle L. Silver, Ph.D.</p>	No	09/17/23 3:32 PM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Javier Sodo	Oppose	<p>Do NOT allow the biased police accountability commission to spend tax money without tight oversight and regular audits. They spent 25K passing out gift cards to get people to attend their meetings that support their agenda of police hate and defunding! We need some financial sanity in Portland for once.</p> <p>The PAC itself is made up of police abolitionists who often invite their friends and others from out of state to pack their meetings and scare off differing opinions. The meetings are hostile and there is no outreach to specific neighborhood associations or cultural organizations in over-policed communities, so assertions that a diverse number of people and opinions reached are false. It's time to rein in this insanity.</p>	No	09/18/23 10:08 AM
799	Joe Hovey	Support with changes	<p>First and foremost, this Committee needs to represent all of Portland; we need to hear ALL voices from the Committee even if certain activists don't want to "hear them". My understanding is that the proposal will prohibit people who have worked for a law enforcement agency and their immediate family members from serving on the oversight board. I vote NO for this portion of the proposal and I encourage you all to consider the same opinion.</p> <p>For all of Ms. Avalos' comments recently about "anti-democratic" stances from the Council, I find it interesting that she has no issues with the above proposal. But how is this "democratic"? A democracy allows ALL people to have a voice in how we are governed; some voices with which we many not agree. And I for one, believe the current proposal goes against the very nature of a democratic state. I would feel that the Committee is not balanced and therefore, can not be effective in overseeing the Police! We need all voices on this Committee, even those that disagree with the anarchists and anti-police activists. Police and other law enforcement officials deserve a voice in the process; they need to be included in the decisions of this Committee.</p> <p>I often believe that the anti-police activists want things their way and only their way, and will not listen to others with a differing opinion. And this proposal only serves to reinforce this very bias!</p> <p>So I say let's make sure that the Committee represents all of Portland!</p> <p>Secondly, why do we need 33 members? And why such a large budget? All of this seems wasteful of tax payer dollars! I believe the Committee can do their job with less people and a better detailed budget.</p> <p>And as a taxpayer in Portland, I would feel this Committee is biased and does not fully support my thoughts. Not that I am a big fan of the Police as a whole; but I do believe we need a balanced voice on the Committee.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and I look forward to the next month's presentation and Council's thoughts.</p>	No	09/18/23 1:35 PM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	annie	Support	I support the PAC. Currently the police bureau and the police association have too much power. this new system returns some of that power to the people (the ones who the police are supposed to serve and the ones who pay the police!). Some people are concerned that the police (and their family members) would not be on PAC, but it only makes sense. Think of it like a jury. No jury at a trial for an accused police officer would include police or family of police. The police will be able to make their case in their interviews with the PAC. The police will not be voiceless. Plus, if police or police family are on the PAC, it may intimidate those who want to complain about the police. The new process aims to make it comfortable and safe for people to present concerns and complaints against the police. The PAC is serving the people, the victims, NOT the police. This is creating a system to give a voice to those who have too long been ignored or drowned out. The police already have a big voice and big power. Please support the PAC.	No	09/18/23 5:22 PM
799	Jenny Kang	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm by police and will contribute to Portland's safety.	No	09/18/23 9:10 PM
799	Anonymous	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm by police and will contribute to Portland's safety.	No	09/18/23 9:34 PM
799	Michelle Stevenson	Support	Please accept the PAC report and enact it unchanged. It is a tough road right now for victims of police wrongdoing. All victims deserve support and a fair process even when the person who did harm was a policeman. Enacting this new process will mean more victims will get help, so please fully support this report.	No	09/18/23 11:58 PM
799	Anonymous	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm by police and will contribute to Portland's safety.	No	09/19/23 12:59 PM
799	Nai Zhao	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm by police and will contribute to Portland's safety.	No	09/19/23 1:34 PM
799	Amanda Lamb, Oregon Justice Resource Center	Support		Yes	09/19/23 2:59 PM
799	Mental Health Alliance	Support		Yes	09/19/23 4:08 PM
799	Frann Michel	Support	<p>I support the report and recommendations of the Police Accountability Commission and urge you to do so as well, by accepting their report and committing the city to implement their recommendations.</p> <p>The PAC spent 20 months building out specifics on how to implement the new police oversight system created by Ballot Measure 26-217 (2020). The PAC deeply engaged community members through public hearings and consulted with a broad range of experts in the field of police accountability.</p> <p>The future Police Accountability Board must be independent and free from influence from police, or city council, or city manager, or city attorney, or other bureaus. The PAC's proposal does not allow Board Members to be current or former police officers, precisely because of this need for independence; this restriction was part of the Ballot Measure passed by voters in 2020. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm from police, and will contribute to Portland's safety.</p> <p>Again, please support the will of the voters, and the work of the Police Accountability Commission.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention.</p>	No	09/19/23 4:34 PM

September 19, 2023

Via e-mail

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Rene Gonzales
Commissioner Mingus Mapps
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Dan Ryan

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

The Oregon Justice Resource Center writes to express enthusiastic support for the recommendations proffered by the Police Accountability Commission (PAC).

The PAC's mission was daunting: to develop a new system of police accountability for the City of Portland. In the course of this work, the PAC's charges included implementing the will of the voters in both the letter of the law and in spirit; adhering to the City Charter and state law; listening to various and sometimes opposing stakeholders; and rebuilding trust in the City's capacity to hold police accountable for misconduct. Over the last year, PAC volunteers spent countless hours conducting research, interviewing people with experience and expertise, debating policy proposals and alternatives, and listening to community feedback. We appreciate their dedication and service.

While the PAC offers a significant number of recommendations that touch every aspect of the new police accountability system, OJRC urges City Council to prioritize the following principles when considering the recommendations.

Ensure Board Independence

Many of the PAC's recommendations directly reflect the voters' intention to create a police accountability system independent from the Police Bureau, City Council, and other City bureaus. Maintaining the Board's independence should remain paramount as the new system is built. That includes:

- Ensuring the new system is separate from other City bureaus. The PAC recommends making the new system its own bureau.¹ This recommendation may need to be adapted to

¹ *Police Accountability Commission: Final Report*, Police Accountability Commission (September 2023), at p. 56, available at <https://www.portland.gov/police-accountability/documents/pac-city-code-recommendations-08-31-2023/download>.

fit into the new form of government² but should nonetheless preserve the intention behind the recommendation.

- Budgeting the City Charter–required 5 percent of the Police Bureau’s budget for the new system.³
- Allowing the Board to hire legal counsel that is independent from the City Attorney’s Office.⁴ This is necessary because the City Attorney’s Office’s client is the City, and its role is to reduce the City’s liability. A misconduct finding can, at times, increase the City’s liability. It is therefore important for the Board to have access to independent legal advice and the ability to retain counsel in the event of a dispute with the City Attorney’s Office.

Maintain What Works

In the course of the PAC’s work, they identified several areas where the current misconduct investigations system, comprised of the Independent Police Review and Internal Affairs, adheres to best practices. In other words, as you build a new police accountability system, it is important to preserve the elements of the old system that work. That includes:

- Maintaining a staff of highly qualified professional investigators that conduct thorough investigations.⁵
- Continue providing investigators and the Board with subpoena power.⁶
- Creating a mediation program that provides an alternative to a system based solely on discipline and corrective action.⁷

Provide adequate resources for planning, implementation, and maintenance of the new Board

Finally, many of the PAC’s recommendations focus on the transition from the old accountability system to the new, ensuring there are no gaps in service while the new system is created. As the PAC states, creating and implementing a transition will require dedicated staff and resources.⁸ The risks of a poorly executed transition include mishandled cases and increased litigation, ultimately resulting in a loss of community trust. It is incumbent on City Council to ensure that does not happen.

Creating a new police accountability system is no small feat. The community has clearly communicated that the current system, in place for nearly 25 years, does not work for them.

² See *Draft Chart Recommendations*, City of Portland, available at <https://www.portland.gov/transition/government/city-organization/draft-chart-recommendation#toc-draft-chart>.

³ Portland City Charter §2-1004.

⁴ *Police Accountability Commission: Final Report*, at p. 52.

⁵ *Id.* at p. 30.

⁶ *Id.* at p. 32.

⁷ *Id.* at p. 37.

⁸ *Id.* at p. 58.

Expectations for the new system are high and can only be met with thoughtful planning, adequate resources, and follow-through. The PAC's recommendations provide a solid foundation on which to build a new system. City Council should respect the work of the PAC by ensuring the system Council approves is built on these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Amanda Lamb
Law Enforcement Resource Counsel

On behalf of the Oregon Justice Resource Center

MENTAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

September 19, 2023

To Portland City Councilors

RE - Statement on Police Accountability Commission's Report & Recommendations
Item 799, September 21, 2023

Members of the Mental Health Alliance urge the Portland City Council to adopt the recommendations of their appointed Police Accountability Commission (PAC).

The Mental Health Alliance was formed in 2018 to join *United States v. City of Portland* as amicus curie.

Organizations which represent the interests of people with mental illness and have long participated in efforts to reduce police use of force used against people with mental illness joined together to form the Alliance: Disability Rights Oregon, the Oregon Justice Resource Center, the Portland Interfaith Clergy Resistance, and the Mental Health Association of Portland.

Paragraph 195 of the settlement agreement of *US DOJ v Portland* provides a timeline for the Council and the Police Accountability Commission (PAC) to write and implement a new accountability system. Members of the Alliance fully endorsed Paragraph 195 in court, and prior to that worked diligently to pass ballot measure 26-217. Two of our members served on the PAC, providing hundreds of hours of their expertise to benefit the City. We have great interest in the success of the new system.

We salute the volunteers who collectively donated thousands of hours of their time to repair the city's police accountability system, working very hard to design a replacement that reflects both the law and community values. These volunteers submit their work to Council complete and on time despite long delays from the City getting the commission up and running, followed by delays providing adequate training and orientation. This work demands recognition and respect from all of Council and the City staff who will work to implement the new system.

The most important value articulated by the commission is that the new accountability system be fully independent and free from influence by elected officials and City employees, including but not limited to employees of the Police Bureau and City Attorney's Office. Decades of experience has demonstrated that the City is and will always be fundamentally self-protecting in matters of police misconduct. City employee influence in the accountability process is the prime reason for our current system's brokenness, and is anathema to city and community goals of seeking justice and building the Portland Police Bureau into a learning organization.

Learn more about the Mental Health Alliance at www.mentalhealthalliance.org

Today and in the future, we look to your Council to safeguard and protect the independence of Portland's police accountability system - both in generality and in every individual case.

The most important value brought forward by the commission is that the future board be independent and free from influence from police, or city council, or city manager, or city attorney. The mechanisms to provide that independence are spelled out in the PAC recommendations. We look to you and future council members to protect their independence and intervene to stop city employees from attempting to unduly influence decisions of the future board.

Members of the Mental Health Alliance include,

Portland Interfaith Clergy Resistance
Mental Health Association of Portland
Disability Rights Oregon
Oregon Justice Resource Center

Amanda J Marshall, JD
Patrick Nolen
Meredith Mathis, JD
Jason Renaud
Rochelle Silver, PhD
Mary-Margaret Wheeler-Weber
Mark Chasse, JD
Javonnie Shearn
KC Lewis, JD
Jonathan Brown, MPP, PhD
Rabbi Ariel Stone
Eben Hoffer
Beatrix Li
Dave Boyer, JD
Jane Remfert

Attorneys - Juan Chavez, Franz Bruggemeier, Amanda Lamb

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Brittany van der Salm	Support	I appreciate and support the work and recommendations of the PAC. In particular, I appreciate the authority included in item 35A.050 P, and the concept of the complainant advocate. With my support, I also have two questions that may be answered through amendment of the recommendations or supplementary materials. The first is a request for more clarity around what the maximum allowable compensation for volunteers is relative to board compensation. These board positions appear to require a very high degree of commitment, training, time, and consideration, and applicants should be able to understand what compensation they can expect. Second, I am concerned that I did not see any clear plan for protective policies or actions for board members against potential retaliation, either as individuals or in total. Board members will, by nature of the position, be putting themselves in a position that could easily be seen as adversarial, and I believe it will be very important to find ways to ensure their safety in exchange for doing this important work.	No	09/19/23 9:22 PM
799	Reid Parham	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. They have faithfully delivered to the requests of the voters for a new, community-lead oversight system. Please trust that the PAC has considered every part of their mission with sincerity and in good faith. I ask that you not dilute, water down, or neuter their recommendations. What they have delivered is a serious proposal, by serious people, for serious good. The police union has far too often served against the benefit of the community they claim to serve; this is a long-overdue shift in better serving the interests and experiences of the Portlanders who are most at risk of harm by police.	No	09/20/23 7:30 AM
799	Jynx Houston	Support	THE POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION DESERVES YOUR FULL SUPPORT.	No	09/20/23 9:56 AM
799	Anonymous	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm by police and will contribute to Portland's safety.	No	09/20/23 11:26 AM
799	Johanna Brenner	Support	Dear City Commissioners Gonzalez, Mapps, Rubio, Ryan and Mayor Wheeler, I am writing to request that you accept and support the Final Report and Recommendations of the Police Accountability Commission. The Commission has accomplished a monumental task, taking the Ballot Measure passed in 2020 from its broad outlines into a viable proposal for a new and more robust process to provide civilian oversight of policing in Portland. The PAC engaged the community through over one hundred public meetings and community engagement events. They consulted extensively with other municipalities and with experts. I urge you to follow the will of the voters and honor the Commission's work by supporting their proposal and moving forward to implement it.	No	09/20/23 3:41 PM
799	TJ Browing			Yes	09/20/23 7:47 PM
799	NoThx	Oppose	The Police Accountability Commission needs to go back to the drawing board and stay within the scope of their task. Their scope did not comprise the PPB budget, nor the bargaining unit, or any legislative changes. Also, make sure when they get back to work that an unbiased spectrum of Portlanders is actually represented: not solely the anti-police brigade. How about average folks?	No	09/20/23 8:14 PM
799	Andrea	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers. As a parent of two young children, public safety with accountability is a priority for me. Thank you!	No	09/20/23 9:49 PM

“The perfect is the enemy of the good.” The search of a “perfect” police oversight system, an opportunity for productive change and enhanced police/community relations has been squandered. Instead of a good, much improved oversight system, what is being proposed is an expensive, one-sided, overly complicated experiment with limited outside monitoring.

There are many flaws in this proposal, but I want to focus on the fundamental problems, the lack of financial oversight of an immense \$12 million+ budget and the innate unfairness of limited police participation.

Citizen oversight of city budgets is widespread and historic practice. Bureau Advisory Committees (BAC) are an inherent part of Portland’s citizen participation process. A BAC is an effective citizen involved system of checks and balances for budgets, while providing an opportunity for citizens to weigh in on priorities. It is ironic that a proposed oversight system lacks any oversight of their budget! The hefty \$12 million dollar budget needs to have ongoing monitoring. A BAC is needed.

For more than 3 decades I have worked for effective police oversight that included a citizen voice equal to that of the police. This is fundamentally necessary for a healthy, trusting police/community relationship. Police and citizens need effective communication, so each has a clear understanding of the others’ expectations. A healthy police/community relationship fosters increased livability and enhanced public safety. Neither the police nor the citizens can achieve this without the other. They must work together.

Over the years, every police oversight reform and change has given citizens a more meaningful voice. I have fought for equity between citizen and police. This current proposal does not embrace equity.

Instead it skews to a citizen only voice and process. Inequity in either direction is harmful to relationships. I do not believe an oversight system that stifles the voice of the police is a viable system for reform or trust between citizen and police.

Besides the innate unfairness of silencing the police in oversight, it will adversely affect police recruitment. Portland is woefully short of police officers. This is not unique to Portland but a national problem. All across the country, jurisdictions are seeking qualified applicants to become police officers. In this proposal, police oversight appears adversarial and unfair to the officers involved. Why would a prospective recruit risk Portland when they can go elsewhere in the country and be treated better, more fairly?

Finally, in a statement made to a local news reporter, an oversight representative joyfully exclaimed that this police oversight system will be the only citizen-controlled process in the country! “Only”? No others are exactly like this? There is a bounty of uncertainty and chaos in Portland’s immediate future with another “only” of its kind, the new form of city government. How much change and turmoil can Portlanders endure while attempting to recover from turbulent times. This oversight proposal is too flawed to take that risk.

TJ Browning

Past Chair - Mayor Katz Stakeholder Committee on police accountability

Past Member of first Citizen Review Committee (CRC)

Served on Portland Police Oral Boards

Past Member of Portland Police Chief’s Forum

Past Chair- Portland Police Bureau Advisory Committee (BAC)

Portland Police Bureau Citizen Academy attendee (twice)

Current Appeal Process Advisor for CRC

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Diana Rempe, Street Books	Support	<p>We support the Police Accountability Commission's (PAC) work describing city code to implement Ballot Measure 26-217, which was overwhelmingly passed by voters—with 82% in favor— in 2020.</p> <p>Measure 26-217 lays out the requirements for a new police oversight board—including investigating all deaths in custody, uses of deadly force, complaints of force causing injury, discrimination and violations of constitutional rights.</p> <p>For the past 13 years Street Books has worked out on the street with people experiencing houselessness. Our community is far more likely than those living inside to have encounters with the police. They deserve fair recourse in a timely manner from an effective oversight board, should they experience police misconduct.</p> <p>The PAC has worked for 20 months, engaging citizens and speaking with experts, to create this code to implement the ballot measure and begin the process of creating a fair and accountable police oversight board.</p> <p>We urge the council to support the final recommendations of the PAC and follow the democratic process of ballot measure 26-217 by committing to the implementation of the PAC's recommendations.</p> <p>Thank you, Diana Rempe Street Books</p>	No	09/20/23 10:14 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	<p>I oppose the proposal by the police accountability commission. These oversight proposals are not reasonable. It will become even more difficult to retain police in the city, which is already a problem. It's going to drive away reasonable officers at a time when we need them to engage w our city. I am 100% in favor of police accountability but this is not the way.</p>	No	09/21/23 8:14 AM
799	Kelly Lanspa	Oppose	<p>Police need to be involved in the accountability group . police need to play a role in their own oversight system.</p> <p>It needs to be seen a balanced and fair approach to oversight and accountability so it won't be illegitimate. We desperately need police but we need good ones. THIS doesn't do anything to help with hiring of good police and changing the ethos. It doesn't address training of police so they are community minded.</p> <p>Voters have changed their views since this was passed. The city has changed significantly since this was passed.</p>	No	09/21/23 8:19 AM
799	JoAnn Gilles	Support with changes	<p>The proposed budget is too big. We have enough public safety issues and not enough money.</p>	No	09/21/23 8:38 AM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Dan Kaufman	Support	<p>Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners Gonzalez, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan.</p> <p>I am writing to request that you accept and support the Final Report and Recommendations of the Police Accountability Commission. The Commission has spent nearly two years planning, listening to the public, and designing the new Community Board for Police Accountability. The ballot measure that council unanimously referred to voters in in 2020 passed by a landslide majority of 82% of voters. Portlanders voted overwhelmingly for REAL accountability because Portland Police and their union have a troubled history of getting away with brutality and the department has never done a very good job.</p> <p>I encourage you to support the Commission's proposal as submitted. Unfortunately, it does not go far enough. We have a bigger issue than just single instances of brutality and homicide as bad as those may be. The PPA is currently on work slow-down which just proves their pettiness and lack of accountability to the overall job they are supposedly tasked with. But let's be honest, the force has never been effective or accountable. Portland deserves and demands better. Perhaps PPAs undeclared strike will be an opportunity for our city to finally find better ways of promoting safety, preventing violence, solving crime, and addressing the negative ramifications of poverty.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Dan Kaufman Sellwood</p>	No	09/21/23 8:41 AM
799	Shannon	Oppose	<p>We are extremely concerned about the commission's proposals for the police. We reside in the NW district and are surround by crime and encounter close to 8 on average crimes a day. We need more police help. We need crime accountability. On our block businesses have gone out of business or are holing on by a thread because people do not want to come to the Alphabet district. We are concerned no police will want to work for the City of Portland. We have a severe shortage for police now. The other day I called 911 3 times for 3 different events and NEVER got through. We need more police not less as this proposal will have us on our knees and make us move.</p>	No	09/21/23 8:51 AM
799	Tim Pitts	Support	<p>I encourage you to accept the final report of the Police Accountability Commission. The PAC was appointed by City Council to do the work required by measure 26-217. The PAC spent thousands of hours working hard to create a proposal for the best system possible to achieve the goal of greater police accountability. This final report includes a smart and reasoned system where the public would be able to voice their concerns about potential police misconduct and officers would be fairly investigated and punished appropriately if needed. The system will rely on citizens serving on a board to make these tough decisions, and the citizens would be appointed by City Council, creating a sensible, fair system that will improve public safety through greater accountability.</p>	No	09/21/23 9:06 AM

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799	Kim McGair	Oppose	<p>I strongly urge you to reject the PAC report and recommendations. First, giving this group \$13 million and paying board members \$7,000 a year is not reasonable or sensible when PBOT can't even fix our streets or comply with the ADA settlement due to declining funding. At the very least, there must be a Budget Advisory Committee to oversee this spending. Additionally, this report did not take into account the opinions of most Portlanders and there's been almost no media coverage. There was outreach to "marginalized communities," but not to the majority of Portlanders who are very very concerned about public safety. Not having police on the PAC makes no sense.</p> <p>This organization is openly anti-police at a time when we already can't recruit police officers. Adopting these recommendations will have a devastating impact on retention and recruitment. We need more police officers, not less. Accountability is important, but this isn't the way to do it. This will be a HUGE step back for our city.</p>	No	09/21/23 9:19 AM
799	Forrest	Support	I support item 799 to create a better system of Police accountability and oversight. Portlanders took to the streets in 2020 to show their demands for a check on the chokehold police hold over our communities. This measure is a great start to appease those demands and bring greater safety and Justice to our city.	No	09/21/23 9:22 AM
799	Anonymous	Support	The determination of this committee was voted for overwhelmingly. Listen to the people or get out of office.	No	09/21/23 10:13 AM
799	Jason Z.	Oppose	I oppose agenda item 799 regarding the Police Oversight Committee (PAC). The suggested 5% of police budget is excessive. The PAC budget and spending must be audited by an external auditor, and 100% accountable to the taxpayers, and the members of the PAC must represent ALL of Portland's tax paying residents, not just the small minority that wish to either defund the police, or abolish the police entirely. As written, this item is a spiraling death wish for public safety in the city of Portland.	No	09/21/23 11:02 AM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Erik Cole, Revitalize Portland Coalition	Oppose	<p>On behalf of the Revitalize Portland Coalition, we were happy to lend our support for the business tax incentive you passed last week...as an important tool to retain our economic assets and to spur revitalization.</p> <p>I will reiterate the facts born out in survey after survey...that crime and safety are the single largest reason that employees are hesitant to return to the office. Employers are reticent to require their staff to return to offices where they don't feel safe. And where they can't bike commute or walk or use mass transit to get to the office. For businesses and employers, they are forced to make difficult decisions about their leases. After all, their offices, once in desirable neighborhoods, are now surrounded by lawlessness and squalor.</p> <p>Yet, we continue to hear that downtown Portland is an important selling point in their efforts to attract top, diverse talent. However, that is rapidly dwindling.</p> <p>This week, with the report and proposal before you, we respectfully request that the city think very carefully about the recommendations provided to you by the Police Accountability Commission. In our initial review of the report and proposal, we are deeply concerned that this approach will turn around the modest progress we have collectively made to turn Portland around.</p> <p>But it's not just about our properties or economics. The devastating, deadly fentanyl crisis matters to all of us. Open public drug dealing and consumption is undermining public health, enabling violence and property damage, and aiding and abetting organized criminal elements.</p> <p>This proposal is not widely known, much less accepted, by members of the public in Portland. They have not kept up with the work of the Commission and this proposal is taking many people by surprise. Given that the report is over 500 pages and the PAC's city code recommendations are nearly 100 pages, we strongly recommend that the public be informed and consulted about this proposal before any action is taken.</p> <p>You don't have to take our words for it, the World Economic Forum has identified "Enhanced Quality of Life" as one of the major tenets of a healthy livable city. They state: When people feel safe, healthy, and have access to essential resources, they are more likely to thrive both personally and professionally. Such positive environments not only attract talented individuals, but also foster their productivity and creativity.</p> <p>I think we can all agree that Portland is not meeting this standard currently. Taking any steps backward, right now, is not only unwise, but it could also be devastating to our economy.</p> <p>Our members in the commercial & multifamily real estate industry have faced tremendous hardship and taken extraordinary steps to protect their tenants from violence to secure their properties. In many cases, they have long since given up on reporting property crimes and vandalism to the Portland Police Bureau.</p> <p>Because of the absence of response from law enforcement and the lack of apparent interest in prosecuting these crimes, many have turned to hiring private security companies to protect their tenants and property. You all recognize this, as you've just approved the city portion of funding for the Downtown Hotel Security District, created "in response to significant crime and safety concerns."</p> <p>Our members are watching closely steps being taken to promote public safety as well as to ignore it.</p>	No	09/21/23 11:27 AM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Nathan Reed	Oppose	<p>I am aware that all of the recommendations being discussed were included in the wording of the ballot measure which passed by 82 percent. 4 city council members at the time including Mr Wheeler backed the measure. 3 years on, after a significant decline in the numbers of officers, we have seen a quantifiable increase in crime including violent crime, increased 911 hold times for people experiencing true emergencies, and business fleeing due to unchecked vandalism and theft. My sentiments have changed, and I'm sure many other voters view the issue differently especially now that we are seeing some more transparency on how this will be implemented.</p> <p>The PAC, as it is being implemented, gives perpetrators and police abolitionists a strong upper hand by effectively crippling our police force from doing their jobs for fear of the commission. The words fair and impartial in the first paragraph of the measure ring hollow. There will be no external oversight, including by the city auditor, which should raise alarm bells (at least 5% of the police budget with no accountability). And the implication that all officers and their family members can't be trusted sets an antagonistic and far from impartial tone.</p> <p>I believe in police accountability, but I do not believe this commission is acting in good faith. This measure goes too far and the proponents are intentionally shutting out mainstream voices and hand picking their panels. I would like to see a return to greater public safety, civil order and a thriving city. This proposal, as it stands, would be a step in the wrong direction and will affect daily public safety to a level Portlanders can not foresee.</p> <p>Thank you for listening.</p>	No	09/21/23 11:34 AM
799	Mike Townsend	Oppose	This would destroy our city, we need police, this is obvious. Imperfect police are 1000x better than no police.	No	09/21/23 11:42 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This is a terrible idea, strongly disagree with this proposal.	No	09/21/23 11:45 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This is a terrible idea, strongly disagree.	No	09/21/23 11:47 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	I don't think this will be a good idea	No	09/21/23 11:49 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This will be bad for our city	No	09/21/23 11:49 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This is a bad idea	No	09/21/23 11:52 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Terrible idea, won't do no good in our city	No	09/21/23 11:53 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THIS IDEA	No	09/21/23 11:53 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	No	No	09/21/23 11:54 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Stop this nonsense	No	09/21/23 11:54 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Awful idea, I oppose this agenda	No	09/21/23 11:55 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This is horrible	No	09/21/23 11:55 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Hideous idea to begin with	No	09/21/23 11:55 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This is a very terrible idea, I strongly disagree	No	09/21/23 11:56 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Horrible	No	09/21/23 11:57 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	I strongly oppose	No	09/21/23 11:57 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Strongly against this agenda	No	09/21/23 11:58 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This will cause bad effect in our city	No	09/21/23 11:58 AM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Hate it	No	09/21/23 11:58 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	I freaking hate it	No	09/21/23 11:59 AM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Totally disagree	No	09/21/23 12:01 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Nope!	No	09/21/23 12:01 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Very bad idea!	No	09/21/23 12:01 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Nah! This is an awful idea	No	09/21/23 12:02 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Hopefully we can oppose this one	No	09/21/23 12:02 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	I am against this one	No	09/21/23 12:03 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Strongly disagree, will be bad for our city	No	09/21/23 12:03 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Absolutely horrendous idea! And I'm against it!	No	09/21/23 12:04 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	I completely disagree with this	No	09/21/23 12:04 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	This is awful	No	09/21/23 12:05 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Nah, stop this. Will be a bad change to our city	No	09/21/23 12:06 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Utterly disagree	No	09/21/23 12:06 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Fully opposing this agenda	No	09/21/23 12:06 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	Nope! Please stop this awful idea	No	09/21/23 12:07 PM
799	Anonymous	Oppose	100% will be a bad change	No	09/21/23 12:07 PM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Christian Orellana Bauer Tocto Fritz	Support	<p>I am writing in support of the acceptance of the Police Accountability Commissions (PAC) report. I regret to be unable to participate today in person as a former member of the PAC but wanted to share my input however I am able to.</p> <p>In addition to accepting the report I urge you to recognize that the efforts of this commission have always been to level the playing field when it comes to police accountability, create a first step rather than an ultimate solution which must be built upon to rebuild trust between the police and the community, and to highlight harm reduction in cases of police misconduct which, again, should be developed further for a more just policing system in the decades to come. There is more work to be done.</p> <p>The current accountability system, as you have heard, heavily favors the police. Even within the new system we've proposed officers will still generally have more rights than community members in terms of types of appeals, they will still have access to a union-paid lawyer etc. Much of this is baked into state law which is a complicated basket to unweave as well as a larger conversation to have as we move forward on this topic as a city, state, and nation. Within our scope of work, recognizing this already skewed system through our years of research the commission's goal was to give community members a more balanced opportunity to approach the subject of police accountability and ultimately have a voice and agency in their own cases, whatever they may be.</p> <p>In summary: This report and subsequent proposed change is an attempt to balance out the scales for the community in an already skewed system favoring the police, and even that will not create a completely fair process unfortunately (which is why this is a first step not a solution). To suggest a need to include more police in the accountability system is a misunderstanding of how it currently operates. The police will inherently have a larger and more influential seat at the table because of the nature of how state law is structured. The community must be advocated for, it is not a question of creating balance out of thin air. This proposal was not developed in a vacuum, it is operating within the legal parameters that already exist and have bias. As such, this is a question of rebalancing what is already imbalanced.</p> <p>Please accept this report and continue to work toward the goal of true accountability.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	No	09/21/23 12:21 PM
799	Tara Hershberger	Support	I support the conclusions and recommendations of the police accountability commission. We need accountability for police brutality and a system for oversight.	No	09/21/23 12:33 PM
799	Donna Anderson	Support with changes	Please see attached letter	Yes	09/21/23 12:49 PM
799	ACLU of Oregon	Support		Yes	09/21/23 12:56 PM

Council Clerk
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 130
Portland, OR 97204

September 16, 2023

Re: Agenda Item 799, Police Accountability Commission

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to submit written testimony in support of Police Accountability Commission with specific changes.

The current plan is very biased against law enforcement as many commissioners profess themselves to be anti-police. We need to ensure that all of Portland is represented on this Commission including those on the Police Force and other members of the community. The commission that is planned is not balanced and skews to the far left rather than a balanced and moderate commission.

The budget is far too extravagant for the Police Accountability Commission. The current PPB budget is about 12.5 million. The accountability system, staffed by professionals, runs on 4 million. The Oversight board needs to welcome a Budget Advisory Committee, staffed by unrelated community members to oversee the budgetary decisions of the board. This would represent true accountability and likely result in less expenditure.

Sincerely,



Donna Anderson
info@doubledalpaca.com



September 21, 2023

City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Ave.
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Police Accountability Commission Report

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Gonzalez, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan:

Thank you for the opportunity to share support for the Police Accountability Commission Report on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Oregon. With more than 28,000 members statewide, the ACLU of Oregon is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and advancing civil liberties and civil rights.

We urge the City of Portland to adopt the recommendations of the Police Accountability Commission Report and to comply with their obligations under Measure 26-217.

In bestowing upon police the authority to use force, communities imbue police with immense responsibility. Police misconduct betrays that responsibility, fractures public trust, and irreparably harms public safety. Without true accountability and change, public trust will continue to erode. The recommendations of the Police Accountability Commission Report represent a major step forward in ensuring independent investigations and accountability for police misconduct and an essential step towards repairing public trust.

The proposal sets up a single mechanism for community-led investigations run by non-police investigators. This streamlines a complex and inefficient complaint system into a single—and truly independent—oversight board. The Board will also possess authority to decide whether an officer violated police and warrants corrective action in the first instance, rather than solely at the appeal level.

Crucially, the Board will also have the authority and mandate to investigate deadly force incidents, a change urgently needed following years of police failure to meet recommendations from independent police review of officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths.¹ The Board will further allow for community members to appeal the findings and provide complaint navigators for community members, representing an important shift in proceedings that have long excluded those directly impacted by police misconduct.

¹ 'We're tired of saying it': Experts tell Portland police to reform deadly force, *The Oregonian*, Mar 18, 2023, practices <https://www.oregonlive.com/crime/2023/03/were-tired-of-saying-it-experts-tell-portland-police-to-reform-deadly-for-ce-practices.html>; also see, OIR Group, City of Portland: Portland Police Bureau Officer-Involved Shootings and Critical Incidents, Eight Report, January 2023.

Finally, the system adds a check to the power of the Police Chief, granting authority to Portland City Council to counterbalance the Police Chief if the Chief rejects a board policy recommendation. This change will provide a limited but important democratic check upon police authority.

The ACLU of Oregon strongly supports these long-due adjustments to the Police Accountability process. These changes offer an opportunity to improve policing not just for communities but for police departments who do not want to uphold racism, hate, misconduct, and violence within their ranks.

The ACLU of Oregon urges your support for the Police Accountability Commission Report.

Thank you,

Emily Hawley
Senior Policy Associate
ACLU of Oregon

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Sara Citrenbaum	Support with changes	<p>I am writing to express my concerns regarding the selection criteria proposed by the Police Accountability Commission (PAC) for the forthcoming Community Board for Police Accountability. My intention is not to undermine the importance of police accountability, but to ensure that this board embodies the principles of fairness and objective oversight, ensuring trustworthiness for all parties involved.</p> <p>In Jewish tradition, there is a concept called "machloket l'shem shamayim," which translates to "a dispute for the sake of heaven." It emphasizes the importance of engaging in discussions and debates with a sincere intent to seek truth and understanding. A key aspect of this principle is the idea that "To truly engage in a meaningful and constructive debate, one must strive to understand the underlying arguments and perspectives of the opposing side."</p> <p>With this in mind, I am concerned that the selection criteria, as currently proposed, might inadvertently result in a board whose members might have a predisposition to disbelieving or distrusting the police. For this board to be truly effective, it should represent a diverse spectrum of views and experiences, allowing for constructive dialogues and debates. It's essential that board members can both critique and support the police, striving for an objective and balanced perspective.</p> <p>It is in this spirit that I urge you to ensure that the selection process genuinely seeks out individuals who can understand and respect multiple viewpoints. A balanced board will not only bring more credibility to its decisions but will also ensure that the Portland community and the police force feel fairly represented and heard.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my views, and I remain hopeful that our city can create an oversight board that embodies fairness, respect, and a genuine pursuit of the truth.</p>	No	09/21/23 12:56 PM
799	ACLU of Oregon	Support		Yes	09/21/23 12:58 PM
799	Deborah Crohn	Support with changes	<p>While I agree there should be police oversight, the current committee is loaded with police abolitionists and likely to cause harm to the city.</p> <p>The idea that no one connected to the police are allowed to serve on this committee ensures that it will be biased, and we've seen how people antagonistic to the very idea of police end up causing the cities police woes to become worse, not better.</p> <p>Also, this plan is not subject to audit and has a sizeable budget - this is a TERRIBLE idea.</p>	No	09/21/23 1:39 PM



September 21, 2023

City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Ave.
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Police Accountability Commission Report

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners Gonzalez, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan:

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The ACLU of Oregon strongly supports these long-due adjustments to the Police Accountability process. These changes offer an opportunity to improve policing not just for communities but for police departments who do not want to uphold racism, hate, misconduct, and violence within their ranks.

The ACLU of Oregon urges your support for the Police Accountability Commission Report.

Thank you,

Emily Hawley
Senior Policy Associate
ACLU of Oregon

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Sarah Kowaleski	Support	<p>Dear Portland City Commissioners,</p> <p>I am writing to urge you to accept and support the Police Accountability Commission's (PAC) Final Report and Recommendations. The PAC's Final Report and Recommendations are informed by a nearly unprecedented public engagement process over twenty months. The PAC held 124 public meetings and 23 community engagement events to build out a new police oversight system created by Ballot Measure 26-217 (2020) compliant with the measure's Charter changes.</p> <p>The ballot measure itself, passed overwhelmingly, due to decades of public support for civilian oversight of police and support for best practices to ensure oversight is effective.</p> <p>Just yesterday, incoming interim Police Chief Robert Day said that he's worked for 12 or 13 different chiefs during his decades-long career, all of whom said they wanted to restore trust in the community. He also said that trust is foundational to the work. This was a moment of self-awareness that public trust in the Portland Police Bureau and broadly, in Portland City government, is low, and needs meaningful change. Today, City Council can take a first step toward restoring trust by following the will of the voting public, by supporting and accepting the report from the PAC, and by implementing the recommendations made from this body's monumental engagement process. The PAC should be lauded for their efforts to improve public trust, to deliver a system run by, and for civilians, and for their efforts to support a police bureau which is more transparent and accountable to the community.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration,</p> <p>Sarah Kowaleski</p>	No	09/21/23 1:51 PM
799	Zoe Flanagan	Support	I support the recommendations of the PAC. Community-led police oversight centers Portlanders most at risk of harm by police and will contribute to Portland's safety.	No	09/21/23 3:05 PM

Agenda Item	Name	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
799	Darryl Fowler	Oppose	<p>Good afternoon and thank you for the time today. I've never seen a choice that's so glaringly simple and I'm here today to urge you to wholesale reject the recommendations of the POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION.</p> <p>This was created by a hand-picked group, stacked with police abolitionists who had ZERO plans to hear any ideas that did not match their ideology. Members identified like-minded anti-police supporters who given \$200 gift cards to contribute ideas that supported the predetermined findings. The resulting report isn't remotely balanced and it's DEEPLY flawed. This is not how things are done in a just society.</p> <p>I've read the findings of the report and I can say, as a rational, moderate Portlander, that if this is approved, it will be disastrous for our city and its communities. Look no further than to other cities like Minneapolis, Baltimore or Chicago and you can see what happens when fundamentally flawed ideas like these see the light of day. There's a reason most Portlanders don't know what's going on today. I'm pretty sure most of them would be shocked to read the findings and wholeheartedly disagree.</p> <p>Quite simply...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The residents of Portland need our police officers. This plan would drive them away. - If we want a fair process, we need the Police to be partners in this process, not sidelined by a bloated 33 member echo chamber. - The citizens of Portland deserve better than that the P.A.C. is recommending. - Their recommendations would send the city off a cliff. That's not equitable OR inclusive. - Please, help SAVE OUR CITY and reject these proposals by putting forth an altertative, REALITY BASED plan. <p>Thank you.</p>	No	09/21/23 3:09 PM
799	Peter Helmis	Support	<p>I 100% support and cannot urge you enough to do the same; accept and approve AS IS. 82% of Portlanders voted for this. They voted overwhelmingly because they are desperate for change. They are desperate because of generations of horrific violence and repeated empty promises to address and end it. So desperate that they flooded the streets in 2020 and for that they had the shit beat out of them by, who else, the police. The police cannot police the police. That is the one thing they have proven with absolute certainty. To suggest otherwise is gaslighting. The soft changes we've seen in the past are criminal and have perpetuated the agonizing status quo. Here is your real change. Accept and approve AS IS, as the people want it, as the people voted for it, or admit that the interest of people is of no interest to you and the only thing you care about is unadulterated power.</p>	No	09/21/23 4:36 PM

internal policies have been ignored
for too long. Radical change
is necessary and these folks
have done the work. I support
them. I support them and
I vote!

Valin Hall

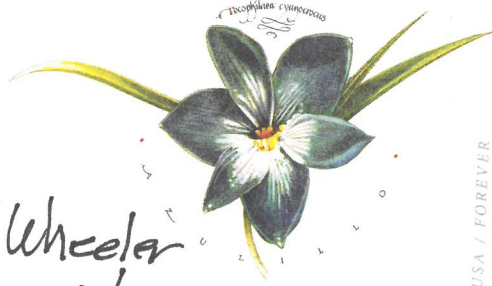
Trust Council

IT is imperative to
create this commission

AS IS presented by
these community leaders. The
police have been without
accountability for too long and
it is the police I don't feel safe
from. The old method, reports is



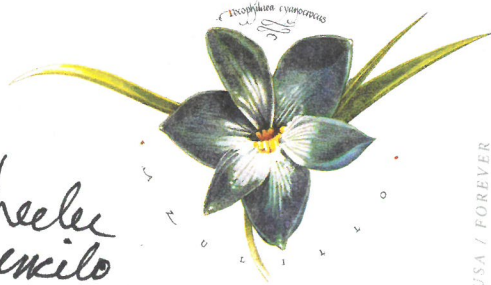
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Mayor Wheeler
& City Council
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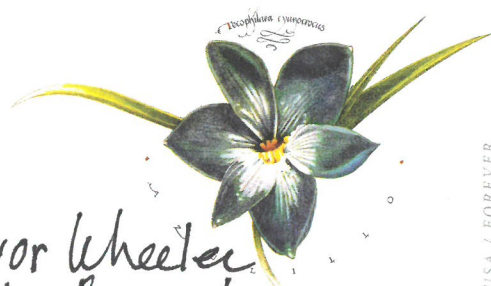
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-Amyn Troxel
overseer

I have respect and appreciation for the police force and its function, but as with all things relegated beyond the common man or woman's purview it seems to have become dangerous to let go of the reins completely. It is with the hope of cooperation and improved public image for the police force that I must demand under my right and responsibility as a democratically minded citizen, that civilian oversight be implemented in the affairs of police action, especially those dubious and questionable I support the formation of the police accountability commission!

DEAR MAYOR AND COUNCIL

PASS THE OVERSIGHT
SYSTEM

AS IS !!!

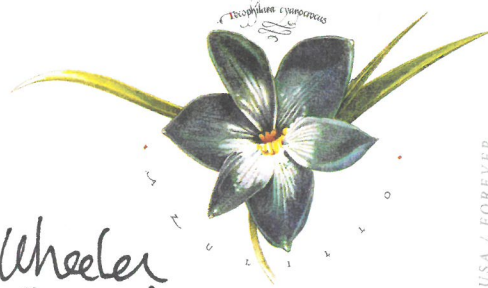
STOP FUCKING AROUND.

Wheeler, City Council, et al,

We've seen police in Portland and all over the country abuse authority and citizens with far too little repercussion. 82% voted for community oversight,
Approve the Community Board for Police Accountability

AS-IS WE ARE

DAVID ANDIN



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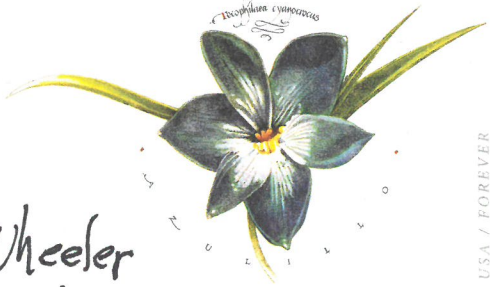




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Mayor Ted Wheeler
& City Council
1221 SW 4th Ave
Portland, OR 97204

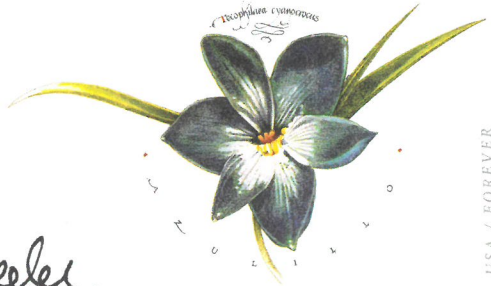
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Ted Wheeler
& City Council
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Portland, OR 97204

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~~I~~ ^{my} ~~have~~
my family has been on PRX
for 5 generations. I have
seen the police at their
WORST. SMOKE em DON'T CHOKe em
and oppossums thrown on
black businesses

Wheeler et al:

We demand approval of
the community police accountability
board - as is!

- Allyse Heartwell
Portland voter

Accountability for police brutality
stop stealing life and protect us
as being sworn into power. Not
to abuse human rights.

Portland City Council Meeting - Thursday, September 21, 2023 2:00 p.m.

Agenda Item	First Name	Last Name
799-1	Monica	Arce
799-2	Tiana	Tozer
799-3	James	Ofsink
799-4	Matt	LaVine
799-5	Susan	Griffin
799-6	Carol	Landsman
799-7	Kristin	Olson
799-8	Brian	Owendoff
799-9	Carol	Cushman
799-10	Richard	Perkins
799-11	Mr	Barnett
799-12	Candace	Avalos
799-13	John	Jackson
799-14	Mary	Costantino
799-15	Angie	Tomlinson
799-16	Levi	A.
799-17	Trish	Garner
799-18	Juan	Chavez
799-19	Philip	Chachka
799-20	Marc	Poris
799-21	Amy	Wood
799-22	Seemab	Hussaini
799-23	Pastor Robin	Wisner
799-24	Loretta	Guzman
799-25	Marsha	Gulick
799-26	Patrick	Patterson
799-27	Vikki	Payne
799-28	Rev. Dr. W. J. Mark	Knutson
799-29	Steve	Herring
799-30	A	C
799-31	Mimi	
799-32	Edith	Gillis
799-33	Rev. Beverly	Jackson
799-34	Meg	Robinson
799-35	Dr Jim	Gaudino MD MS MPH FACPM

Good afternoon, City Councilors, and PAC supporters. I am Dick Perkins, former heroin addict, ex-con, felon for life, resident of downtown Portland and retired bank executive. I voted for the Initiative which led us to today. I still support the concept, but I have several concerns about how the current recommendations evolved and about the composition of the final Commission, which by the way, I have applied for.

I believe the process has resulted in a bias where many who have created the proposed ordinance and selection process want to defund the police. As an activist for more behavioral health resources, I understand the need for an empathetic police force, deeply engaged in a positive way with the Community, especially the marginalized communities. This Commission needs to help break down the barriers that have caused the dehumanization of the police evidenced by the Death to Cops and All Cops are Bastards tags we see around the city. This Commission should actively recruit those of color and people with lived experience who DO believe the police are essential.

I know the level of distrust. As best I can, I think I understand why it exists among marginalized communities. But stereotyping cops like people of color feel stereotyped is not the way to create it. The PPB should be represented on this Commission and so should marginalized groups who value the police. And, let's not create an oversight commission with no oversight over itself.