

Martinez, Ruben

From: James Joyce <arczephyr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 3:10 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Creation of a Civilian Oversight Commission and Independent Police Auditor

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Council Members,

As a Pasadena resident who cares about the health and safety of our community, I urge you to support the creation of a Civilian Oversight Commission and Independent Police Auditor with subpoena power. After years of inaction on this serious public health and safety issue, now is the time to move our community forward.

Thank you,
James

08/24/2020
Item 6

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

From: City Web <cityweb@cityofpasadena.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:50 PM
To: Kennedy, John <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

MESSAGE

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

I'm writing to let you know I'm grateful for your attempts to achieve citizen oversight of the Pasadena Police Department, and that I am with you in this effort. Below is text of the email I've sent to other City Council members today with the exception of Tyron Hampton, who will receive a letter similar to this one. I know you have both been working on this.

I also informed Mr. Tornek and Mr. Gordo that my mayoral vote will be decided by their actions on this issue.

Thank you. The letter I sent to the others follows.

Sincerely, Petrea Burchard Sandel

District 3

Dear

I demand citizen oversight of the police department—with subpoena power. We need complete and powerful police reform. We need to retrain every single Pasadena police officer.

Every time a Black citizen is murdered by our police force we say, "Let this be the one that moves the Council to do something!" And every time, not a damn thing is done. Do the non-African-American Council members not see how racist they appear to be?

I fear for the lives of my African-American neighbors and their children. All they have to do to get murdered by a Pasadena cop is turn their backs, and police can and will shoot them with impunity. That young man last night may or may not have had a gun, and that is in dispute. What no one disputes is that he was running away. He was not threatening officers. He was shot in the back. The Pasadena Police department is nationally famous for murdering Black people and suffering no consequences for these crimes. I had thought we'd put a stop to this. I had thought we were doing better. We are not.

I still believe that if Perez is the man I think he is, he will welcome citizen oversight. If I'm wrong, then let's get someone in there who will work WITH the people, not against us.

Pasadena's citizens demand action NOW.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Petrea Burchard Sandel

08/24/2020

Item 6

District 3
626-253-1441

Select One

Contact District 3

**Do you want us to
contact you
regarding your
comment?**

Yes - I would like to provide my contact information

Name

Petrea Burchard Sandel

Email

Phone

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

From: City Web <cityweb@cityofpasadena.net>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 7:19 PM
To: Kennedy, John <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

MESSAGE

Good Morning Councilmember Kennedy.

I am writing in regards to this weekend's officer-involved murder of a young Black man a few blocks from here, and the subsequent police violence at the vigil in La Pintoresca Park on Sunday night.

Police in Pasadena (and Los Angeles County in general) require a strong oversight program, as well as a reallocation of funding to more appropriate solutions to the issues they are now asked to manage. Additionally, it is clear that the average officer is not suited to being armed, and indeed, chooses violence over any other method of law enforcement. It is unacceptable for officers to choose to be judge, jury, and executioner for individuals in situations like traffic stops and welfare checks.

If we can close down freeways to prevent suicides (and we should), then we must ensure that our law enforcement officials hold the lives of all our citizens - Black, white, rich or unhoused - in the utmost regard, and avoid using force at all cost.

When law enforcements arrives at a vigil dressed for a riot, then they are the ones who are instigating.

All instances of police violence - lethal or not, must be investigated, and any officer involved in violence should be removed from duty with the public until they are fully cleared by a committee of unaffiliated citizens and experts and the justice system where applicable. We must eliminate qualified immunity, and remove any budget slush funds that pay for damages without impact to the overall budget of the police. No more military-style weapons and fewer armed officers would go a long way. We must look to other law enforcement agencies around the world, and truly examine the most effective aspects of their training and deployment, in order to ensure the we are working towards a just and safe society - from crime and the police that should be protecting us all - even those accused of breaking the law.

Thank you.
Jocelyn Gajeway

Select One

Contact District 3

**Do you want us to
contact you
regarding your
comment?**

Yes - I would like to provide my contact information

Name

Jocelyn Gajeway

Email

Phone

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

From: City Web <cityweb@cityofpasadena.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:06 PM
To: Kennedy, John <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

MESSAGE

Dear Ms. Porras.

I'm writing in light of the murder of Anthony McClain on Saturday, August 15th by Pasadena PD police officers. The fact that the blatant murder of a Black American here in Pasadena by public servants is an act that could possibly go unrecognized or unpunished is unconscionable. I grew up in this city, and I know it to be for many of its residents a safe and healthy community. If we do not extend that promise of safety to everyone, we are complicit in the perpetuation of centuries of marginalization of Black individuals. Please speak for Anthony McClain, and so many others like him, and do as much as is in your power to make sure the officers who committed this murder are held accountable.

Best,
Gulnar Tuli (91106)

Select One Contact District 3

Do you want us to contact you regarding your comment? Yes - I would like to provide my contact information

Name Gulnar Tuli

Email

Phone

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

From: City Web <cityweb@cityofpasadena.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 12:08 PM
To: Kennedy, John <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

MESSAGE I am an OH transplant and for nearly 10 years, had to goal to move into Pasadena. Pasadena's Midwest, urban feel has always felt good to me but last night a young black man was shot in the back by the police and now I feel like I should fear the community that I always felt could be a safe space for my sons and I.
Are there any plans for justice within your law community and plans to fix what has been done to my community?

Layla Hunter

Select One Contact District 3

Do you want us to contact you regarding your comment? Yes - I would like to provide my contact information

Name LAYLA HUNTER

Email

Phone

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

From: City Web <cityweb@cityofpasadena.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 8:47 AM
To: Kennedy, John <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Message from contact form on District 3 (anonymous)

MESSAGE Councilmember Kennedy,
As one of your constituents, I am contacting you due to my concern regarding the events taking place at Grandview and Raymond on the night of 8/15/20. It is my understanding that a civilian was shot by police, onlookers were taxed and pepper sprayed. I wasn't there and I can't say what happened. but I believe that this needs to be thoroughly investigated by a group external to the police internal affairs. We need community oversight of police in the city of Pasadena. Thank you for your service and for representing the concerns of the citizens of Pasadena.
Didi Matthews

Select One Contact District 3

Do you want us to contact you regarding your comment? Yes - I would like to provide my contact information

Name Didi Matthews

Email

Phone

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Public Safety Commission Recommendation PUBLIC COMMENT

Importance: High

From: cmwalker natha.org

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 2:59 PM

To: smermell@cityofpasadena.net; Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Councilmember John J. Kennedy <johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Public Safety Commission Recommendation PUBLIC COMMENT

Importance: High

**PASADENA CITY COUNCIL
PASADENA CCITY MANAGER
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**RE: CREATION OF A COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
AND AN INDEPENTENT AUDITOR**

- It is absolutely critical that an *Independent Audit* of PPD precede the placement of an *Citizen Oversight Commission*. The integrity of the any *Community Oversight Commission* will be determined by creditable evidence based facts and data collected and assessed by the audit process.
- Audit process should include all aspects of PPD policy, practice, procedure, training, culture and officer understanding of duties as public service employees in the Pasadena Community.
- The Audit Process should result in report, recommendations, and strategic plan with short and long term implementation strategy. The *Community Oversight Commission* should be included as goal of this planning.
- Citizen input should also include interview with individuals who have filed claims of misconduct, abuse, and uses of force by PPD.
- A transparent independent investigation regarding PPD shooting and death should be implemented immediately to restore community confidence.

The members of this community are entitled to an audit process that will benefit the public and the Pasadena Police Department.

Thank you for your deliberation of this issue of profound community concern,

Celestine McFearn Walker

Managing Director

NATHA

2023 Lincoln Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91103

Phone: 626 589-7533

www.natharebuilds.org

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Letter to the Community Concerning the Officer Involved Shooting of Mr. Anthony McClain

From: jskramer84 <jskramer84@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:13 PM

To: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Re: Letter to the Community Concerning the Officer Involved Shooting of Mr. Anthony McClain

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello John,

Thank you very much for sending along this letter regarding how the process will move forward.

I'm sorry that your community oversight proposal was not passed prior to this tragedy. It would have been nice to see your proposal in action.

I think this could still be a very powerful moment though that could help to highlight/clarify how exactly your community oversight proposal would function during such a tragedy, how/when would they fit into the process, what information would they already have access to that you have not already been provided, when would they be able to release their findings, etc.

Thanks,

Jason Kramer
(949) 226-4464

On Thu, Aug 20, 2020, 4:43 PM Councilmember John J. Kennedy <johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:



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HON. JOHN J. KENNEDY
COUNCIL MEMBER - DISTRICT 3

August 20, 2020

Dear Pasadena,

I have viewed what videos and photographs that were shared with me by City Manager Steve Mermell of the Officer-Involved Shooting of Mr. Anthony McClain that took place on Saturday, 15 August. Mr. McClain's death is tragic.

Some may seek to demean Mr. McClain to dehumanize his existence. But the fair-minded will acknowledge Mr. McClain's humanity and deep connections to Pasadena. Mr. McClain literally may have hundreds of relatives in The Greater Pasadena Area. Mr. McClain leaves behind 2 young children. I have spoken to Mr. McClain's 89-year-old grandmother and his stepmother. Quite naturally, both are upset and desire a comprehensive investigation of what happened. I provide my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Anthony McClain's Family.

The facts surrounding the shooting are unfortunate and extremely troubling to me. There are many unanswered questions and the shooting, policies of the police department, body-worn cameras, and training of our police personnel must undergo thorough and impartial examination.

I do not have all of the facts at this point. However, please know that I urged Police Chief John Perez and City Manager Steve Mermell to release and publish prominently, with all deliberate speed, all audio and video of the incident in the possession of the Pasadena Police Department.

The Pasadena Police Department will investigate the officer-involved shooting and facts that pertain to the shooting to determine if the shooting was within or outside of policy. The District Attorney's office will decide whether the actions of the officer involved in the shooting were justified or not. The District Attorney's office is the only agency tasked with making such a determination on criminal charges, unless the Federal Bureau of Investigation has an active role in investigating the matter.

City Manager Steve Mermell will engage outside professionals to review the findings of the Pasadena Police Department concerning the incident and will make the report public.

The investigations of the officer-involved shooting have already begun. They will take time and I am requesting that the processes be expedited, but thorough.

It remains my hope that the City Council will, without delay, swiftly adopt meaningful and real community oversight of the Pasadena Police Department.

Respectfully yours,

John J. Kennedy, Chair (Speaking for myself.)
Public Safety Committee

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Letter to the Community Concerning the Officer Involved Shooting of Mr. Anthony McClain

From: alma stokes <alsto70@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 5:53 PM

To: Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Re: Letter to the Community Concerning the Officer Involved Shooting of Mr. Anthony McClain

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The other part got away. Select a group ahead of time that would be good oversight people. Someone from Police not the Union. They are Pasadena problems, all ages but thinkers. Also some of the fence sitters better take a stand. Our children etc. are afraid to live.

They don't feel safe. This Police Department needs investigated top down and real changes made. That's why our kids carry guns. That is why they run especially those with the law experiences and ugly attitudes. Don't wait push lots of quick meetings start movement this shooting makes it possible. It is too much change has to be hurried now.

Sent from my iPhone This

On Aug 20, 2020, at 4:43 PM, Councilmember John J. Kennedy..

<johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:





HON. JOHN J. KENNEDY
COUNCIL MEMBER - DISTRICT 4

August 20, 2020

Dear Pasadena,

I have viewed what videos and photographs that were shared with me by City Manager Steve Mermell of the Officer-Involved Shooting of Mr. Anthony McClain that took place on Saturday, 15 August. Mr. McClain's death is tragic.

Some may seek to demean Mr. McClain to dehumanize his existence. But the fair-minded will acknowledge Mr. McClain's humanity and deep connections to Pasadena. Mr. McClain literally may have hundreds of relatives in The Greater Pasadena Area. Mr. McClain leaves behind 2 young children. I have spoken to Mr. McClain's 89-year-old grandmother and his stepmother. Quite naturally, both are upset and desire a comprehensive investigation of what happened. I provide my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Anthony McClain's Family.

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It remains my hope that the City Council will, without delay, swiftly adopt meaningful and real community oversight of the Pasadena Police Department.

Respectfully yours,

John J. Kennedy, Chair (Speaking for myself.)
Public Safety Committee

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Sent by johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net powered by



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Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Justice for Anthony McClain

From: Mie Romming <cinnel7@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 8:21 PM
To: ttornek@gmail.com; Perez, John Eduardo <jeperez@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Justice for Anthony McClain

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

My name is Mieko Romming, I am a resident of the city of Pasadena, living in council district 6.

Anthony McClain was shot in the back by the Pasadena Police Department. I am writing in solidarity with Black Lives Matter Pasadena to demand:

1. The release of the names of the officers involved in his death
2. The release of UNEDITED body cam footage and all surrounding footage of the shooting
3. The firing and prosecution of all the officers involved in the shooting and murder of Anthony McClain
4. To keep Nafissa Kaba free

The murder of Anthony McClain demonstrates the necessity for City Council to create a police oversight body comprised of an independent auditor and selected community members for the commission with subpoena power. Adopt the Pasadena Community Bill of Rights.

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RECEIVED

2020 AUG 24 PM 4: 17

Dear Councilman Kennedy,

I am writing in response a proposal that will go before the city council on Monday night concerning the creation of a police oversight board. In the opinion of many concerned members of the community, the current plan being put forth does not go far enough.

The main objection to the current plan is the intention to include representation from the police force, or former members thereof. While I can understand plausible reasons for including law enforcement on the board, it seems to me counter-productive at the moment.

Given the current climate in the country and the very recent shooting in our own community, confidence in police judgment is at an all-time low. Steps need to be taken immediately to restore faith. A police oversight board is a long-overdue component of our democratic system, and I believe Pasadena can become a national example of how this can work.

I am encouraging you to make the modifications to the Kennedy-Tornek proposal that are being requested by members of our community. It is time to move ahead quickly and with faith and hope in the process.

Sincerely,
Mary Anne Berry
470 Prescott Street
Pasadena, CA 91104

08/24/2020
Item 6

Martinez, Ruben

From: Jonathan Kwok <jonpkwok@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 4:22 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment RE: Community Police Oversight Commission

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi,

I am writing in support of the creation of a Community Police Oversight Commission and an independent auditor regarding police training, policies, and accountability. Following the recent death of yet another Black man through extrajudicial means by the Pasadena Police Department, it is critical that City Council work towards protecting the lives of every citizen, both residents and visitors.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Kwok

08/24/2020
Item 6

August 23, 2020

RECEIVED
2020 AUG 24 PM 1:13

Dear Pasadena City Councilmember,

My husband & I both attended a District Zoom Call this past Wednesday evening, the 19th, which included Mayor Tornek. We also attended the beginning of the City Council Meeting this past Monday, on the 17th as well as other Police press conferences via live stream this week in regard to the death of Anthony McClain at the hands of the Pasadena Police Department. We also have been carefully watching the interaction between police and city officials (specifically with Mayor Tornek, Chief Perez, and City Manager Mermell) with the current protest leaders and the protests that have been taking place in our city this past week - both live and in person, and streaming online.

Frankly, we are pointedly underwhelmed with the reported status of police reform and the appointment of an Independent Police Auditor (IPA) in our city. From our hearing, a study was hired out by the city many years ago and returned their recommendations and results of their work in 2016. That is FOUR years ago now. Shame on us. We could have been in FRONT of the national curve in implementing police reform and justice for communities of color in regard to police interaction, and now we are behind it.

I am writing to let you know that NO proposal for an IPA is acceptable that does not include giving that office subpoena power. And NO proposal is acceptable that does not put the IPA office outside the authority of the Police Chief and City Manager.

Councilmember, you have full authority to submit a proposal of your own to the city. Can we count on you to vote down any proposal that does not include the two above-mentioned items, and then to submit a proposal of your own or with another member which includes these keys elements?

We have been researching and have found these further areas that should be addressed in creating an effective office of the IPA:

1. The community oversight commission will consist of community members most impacted by policing
2. The IPA office will holding public hearings
3. The IPA office shall host a public review of the police department's purchases and use of surveillance technology
4. The IPA office will issue comprehensive reports on police officers' use of force, threats to use force, complaints against them for excessive force, racial profiling or other abuses, including sexual misconduct.

Also, I have some separate but related questions:

- How does our police department cooperate with ICE?

08/24/2020
Item 6

- How does our police department currently handle complaints of sexual misconduct?
- What discretion does the chief of police have in declaring an "unlawful gathering" in Pasadena? Is there a list of criteria or any other person's agreement that the chief has to receive or is this a unilateral decision?
- What is the process for our police in calling out for "mutual aid" from other nearby police departments?

By the way, the time is NOW. We are in a tipping point nationally in regards to rebuilding from a past where systemic racial injustice has reigned. I'm sure you are aware of the statistics in regard to the arrest and killing of black men in our country at the hands of police as well as the grossly disproportionate amount of people of color in our system of mass incarceration.

We don't need any more studies or long-winded, politically motivated-committees!

The immediate work of the Pasadena City government is to vote down any half-solutions offered, do the work of drafting a just proposal that includes the aforementioned points, and finally, getting the proposal passed and implemented.

We are a city with vast resources, of money, of brain power, of creativity, and the strong political desire for change. Please don't miss this moment. It will only become harder on everyone for each day that passes without action.

Sincerely,

Georgia Sanders
georgiarsanders@gmail.com
626.221.7881