

Martinez, Ruben

From: Carla Boykin <boykin.carla@pusd.us>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 10:45 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Agenda item #6 Civilian Police Oversight Committee

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Dear Mayor Terry Tornek and Pasadena City Councilmembers,

I am a long time resident of Northwest Pasadena. My three children were born and raised in this beautiful city I call home. Yet, when my son reached a certain age I had to give him, The Talk. That is testament to my skepticism that my son would be treated fairly by the police.

I am in support of the proposal for a civilian police oversight committee made by the Public Safety Committee as led by Chairperson and Councilmember John Kennedy and Committee Member Mayor Terry Tornek, but with the alternate suggestion by Councilmember Tyron Hampton. The alternative is to hire a City Prosecutor that would be independent of the City Attorney's office, to whom the independent auditor would report..

There is a need for the creation of an Independent Civilian Police Oversight Committee with some authority, made up of citizens in the community. There has to be some system of accountability of police officers independent of internal investigations. The committee should comprise members of the community, not selected by City Council but by alternate means. And this decision needs to be made, without delay. If not now, when.

Carla Boykin
91103

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Item 6 & 7

Martinez, Ruben

From: Keegan Dyer <keegan.dyer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:07 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Police Oversight

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Hello,

My name is Keegan Dyer, I am a resident of council district 3. My comments refer to agenda item 7 of the August 3rd Pasadena City Council meeting:

The Pasadena Police Department needs to be accountable to the public. They are public servants and the department exists to supposedly protect Pasadena residents. The idea that they can kill our neighbors (and I am speaking specifically of JR Thomas, who was beaten to death by members of the Pasadena PD), without any real investigation or consequences (and I do NOT count a civil suit as real consequences, the burden of justice should not fall to the family of the victim any more that it should in any other murder case) is horrifying.

There needs to be an indepent, civilian operated, oversight commission that can investigate violent and illegal actions by the PD. Anything short of that is deliberate obfuscation of justice by those in power.

I am calling all ALL members of the council to vote YES to amending the city charter to include provision for an Independent Police Auditor with subpoena power. If you are truly committed to the ideals of law and order, now is the time to show it.

Thank you,

Keegan Dyer

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Martinez, Ruben

From: Julie McKune <7julie7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:08 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comments

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For today's city Council meeting:

My name is Julie McKune. My family and I live in Victor Gordo's district. I represent my family and my community, and my neighbors who live in Pasadena . I am also a member of It's Us Now. We believe government budgets should match people's values, priorities and needs.

We are living in a time of extreme duress. So many people are worried about their health care, children's education. They are worried if they will have a job or even a place to live. Black Lives Matter reminds us that – even under normal times – Black and Brown people often don't feel safe from the police. Tensions are high. People have reason to protest. Governments have let us down. You've sent the police to do your job – the job of community builders, people we elected to take on people's very real needs. We don't want police to show up when someone else – a fellow community member, counselor, health professional or educator – is what's needed. Step one Hire a full-time auditor with subpoena power to ensure an accurate inventory of donated military gear as well as training and a justified use. Step two: prioritize you budget to address people's real needs. The police don't decide city budgets. You do. Do your job. Don't hand it over to the police.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Julie McKune
Wilson Ave, 91104

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Martinez, Ruben

From: Mesesan, Christina V. (LA) (FBI) <cvmesesan@fbi.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:09 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Support for the reinstatement of the City Prosecutor and establishment of a Civilian Oversight Committee

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Hello,

My name is Christina Mesesan, and I have been a resident of Pasadena for most of my life. Additionally, I have been a civilian member of the federal law enforcement community for the past 13 years.

Currently I serve as a Supervisory Intelligence Analyst over FBI Los Angeles' analytic component investigating Hate Crimes, Color of Law, and Public Corruption.

I have significant respect for the Pasadena Police Department, and believe Chief Perez and his staff have done what they can to rebuild relationships in the City among communities of color. Though there is only so much the police department can do. Officers are asked to be social workers, marriage counselors, advocates for the homeless, in addition to peace officers. Establishing an independent civilian oversight commission and re-establishment of the city prosecutor with the power to provide recommendations and enhance transparency, will provide near real time recommendations on community policing.

Ultimately, what will enhance the Police Departments relationship with the communities it serves, is a stronger community policing strategy. PPD has done very commendable work in enhancing their community policing strategy. I believe combining the perspective of both sworn and non sworn professionals will only further build on what has already been developed.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my words.

Christina Mesesan

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Martinez, Ruben

From: Dorothy Matthiessen <dmatth9906@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:14 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse

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I support aCommunity Oversight of the Police Department Commission.

Dorothy Matthiessen

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Item 6 & 7

Martinez, Ruben

From: Io McNaughton <iosmcn@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:19 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Agenda Item 7 Aug 3 City Council Meeting

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To the City Council:

My name is Io McNaughton. I have been a Pasadena resident since 2005 and a Pasadena homeowner (District 4) since 2008.

I strongly agree with the Pasadena NAACP, NDLO, and other organizations working to improve the lives of Pasadenans of color that our city needs to create a strong, independent body to contribute to oversight of the Pasadena Police Department.

Creating a body that is in majority appointed by the City Council and the Chief of Police does not reassure Pasadenans that the committee will truly be independent. In addition, without an independent auditor with subpoena powers, Pasadena residents will not feel confident that complaints of police mistreatment are fairly investigated and handled.

Instead, I call on the City Council to move to submit a police oversight measure to Pasadena voters on November 3, which if passed would make the necessary changes to the city charter so that a truly independent oversight commission, along with a Police Auditor, could be created.

If the Pasadena Police Department is genuinely making progress, an independent civilian oversight commission and Police Auditor will only serve to highlight that progress. If there are aspects of the Police Department's policies and culture which may need to be improved, this will assist in that process. I don't see any negative repercussions for the Police Department or for the people of Pasadena.

Please vote yes to adopt the Resolution Calling and Consolidating Election so that we can ask Pasadena residents to vote on this important change to the city charter and establish an independent police oversight commission and an independent Police Auditor with subpoena power.

Thank you.

--
Io McNaughton

Pasadena, CA 91107

6th Grade Dual-Language Teacher
UCLA Community School

08/03/2020
Item 6 & 7

Los Angeles, CA 90005
213-480-3750

Martinez, Ruben

From: Angel M. Castillo <kamenfighter@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:23 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment City Council Meeting 2PM 8/3/2020 Item 7

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My comments refer to the agenda items 7 of the August 3rd Pasadena City Council meeting.

I urge city council to adopt the amendments to the city charter to allow for the adoption of a civilian police oversight board.

The events of the past year, in fact, the past decade, have proven that policing as we think of it in the US is not a system of protecting and serving citizens, but protecting and serving the interests of private property and generating revenue for the city via needless citations and filling prisons with a constant supply of labor to keep them profitable.

I don't believe that a civilian oversight board will solve or prevent these problems, but will increase visibility to civilians of the irreconcilable contradictions between what we WANT police to do and what policing is DESIGNED to do, increasing popular consensus that we need to abolish carceral justice and rethink how we actually provide a sense of safety and security to our communities, as is currently being done in Seattle and Minneapolis.

The reimagining of justice and the abolition of police is inevitable as unrest and outrage at police brutality nationwide continues. Don't stand in the way of history.

Thanks,
Angel M. Castillo (he/him)

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Martinez, Ruben

From: Kassandra King <kassaundraking82@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 11:35 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Pasadena police department Racism

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My Name is Kassandra King and I'm writing Regarding the NAACP(and Others?) Who Are Attempting to Rewrite the city Charter, Please make My Comments Public Too, Because of the Intentional And Systemic Racism in the Pasadena police department of Which I Have been a Victim! In July 2019 I was Living at union station homeless services Adult center at 412 south raymond Avenue in Pasadena and had to Call 911 Several times, On 2 White females kim and theresa Who Also Lived in the Housing Program as I Did and a black Male Named jodi Griffiths Or griffins Who I Called 911 on January 2, 2020 And white male officers Didn't take a Report, 2 times Didn't talk to Jodi Nor kim, I was Told I Should move, and When I went to the police station to File a Complaint Against the Officers I Wasn't Even Allowed Inside and it Wss about 1 thousand degrees in the shade!!!! I Was Forced to wait outside for about 20 minutes And Finally a white Male With the last name Gomez I Believe Told Me I Wasn't going to be Allowed to File a Complaint Because his officers Followed Protocol and did Nothing WRONG! I Felt So Unsafe I Even Considered Briefly Leaving Which means I Would've Forfeited My Right to be Housed Permanently as An African American Woman and A Disabled Person! I Hope that Your city Will And Should Start Immediately Holding the police Accountable and Hire Independent Auditors and Commissions and Committees to Bring Charges Against And Prosecute Not Only officers Guilty of Misconduct And Brutality Against African Americans But Also the officers Who Turn a Blind Eye And Refuse/Don't Report officers Guilty of Doing Crimes and Preventing Us, their Victims From Reporting their Crimes And Receiving Assistance And Justice Too!!!!!! And Businesses that Allow Criminal activity Like union station homeless services Adult center and city Funded Agencies that Prevent African Americans From Filing Complaints Like the Housing Department and police department Should Also be Brought Up on Charges And Even Defunded And Sued And Have Independent Agencies Take Over And these Employees Should be Fired Including the police for Providing for Not Only Continuing Systemic Racist Practices/Protocols and Conduct And Also for Providing Safe Haven criminals as Well!!!!!! I Would Also Like to Be Contacted Regarding My Being Allowed to File a Complaint Regarding Racism and Misconduct Committed Against Me by Your police department!! My phone number Is 510-631-9222, Thank You for Allowing Me to Be Heard.

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Avram Dean Gold

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2020 AUG -3 PM 12: 16

August 3, 2020

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

To the City Council, Mayor Tornek and City Manager, Mr. Mermell,

As I review Vice Mayor Hampton's recommendation for independent Pasadena Police oversight measure for our November election, I remember last week's City Council meeting comments that advised, (I'm paraphrasing here) "When pursuing a City Charter amendment, we can't rush into this," and also, "I don't think we'll be able to form any concrete solutions by next week."

With Pasadena resident's overwhelming submitted preferences for a Community Police Oversight Commission with an Independent Police Auditor, and given the highly charged racial pressures all around us, our city cannot afford to postpone this decision for a voting process two years from now. If council again delays a commitment to independent Auditor police oversight, within City departments or with an independent community commission, I predict our City government will face contempt and distrust from many residents and affiliations. And I too will have lost confidence that immediate and necessary decisions can be made under social stress, when they need to be made.

Regarding the Police Commission, I agree with Council Member McAustin that Pasadena citizens should not be appointed by Council Members and the Mayor. They should volunteer and be selected by lottery out of a pool, then take the 30 hours of training.

Thank you for addressing this serious issue and reviewing my letter.

Respectfully,



Avram Gold
Pasadena resident

Martinez, Ruben

From: SCCS <bethstone456@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 12:20 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: yes on agenda item 7 of the August 3rd Pasadena City Council meeting

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

I am calling for all City Council members to vote yes on agenda item 7 of the August 3rd Pasadena City Council meeting amending the city charter to allow a full-time Independent Police Auditor position.

In order to help increase police accountability to the public, a community oversight commission led by this auditor is needed. The auditor should be empowered to provide civilian oversight of the police department including subpoena power, selecting commission staff and reporting to the City Council.

Thank you,
Beth Stone
Council District 2

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Martinez, Ruben

From: Brett Shears <brettshears2020@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 12:35 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: City Council Agenda Item 7: Police Reform Commission

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Hello, Members of the Pasadena City Council,

My name is Brett Shears. I am a stakeholder in Pasadena, an active member of the community, and a proud graduate of Pasadena City College (Class of 2010). Please accept my comments below in reference to agenda item 7 (Police Reform).

Giving the People of Pasadena an opportunity to vote on a Charter change is a great first step towards addressing the systemic inequalities in our police system. Voting "yes" today would send a real signal that you are trying to understand the needs of this City, the injustices before us, and the urgency of this moment.

Will a citizen-led commission address all of our policing problems? No, of course not. But, please don't let that strawman prevent you from making the right choice today.

Creating strong civilian oversight of the Police Department is a tangible step the City must take to re-imagine policing and public safety in our community. Moreover, the commission should be selected from the community and not be appointed by City staff or Council members. The auditor should have the authority to provide civilian oversight of the department including subpoena power, selecting the commission staff and reporting to the City Council.

I am calling on all City Council members to vote yes amending the City Charter to allow a full-time Independent Police Auditor position with subpoena power.

Thank you.

Brett

--
Brett Shears Contact Info
Cell: (562) 447-8739
Pronouns: He, him, his

08/03/2020
Item 6 & 7

Martinez, Ruben

From: Jana Coke <cokejana@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 1:15 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment: Monday, August 3, 2020

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Dear Members of Pasadena City Council:

My name is Jana Coke and I am a student at Fuller Theological Seminary. I moved to Pasadena 1 year ago to attend Fuller and reside in an apartment building owned by the Seminary.

I have learned that Fuller's housing properties are mandated as Affordable Housing and are to provide very low, low, and moderate rent rates according to each student's income. As a person that has very little income, my income was never verified, and I am currently being charged \$1575 for a 1-bedroom apartment.

Further, I have just received notice via a letter dated July 29, 2020 that my rent will be increased by \$ 78.75 on October 1, 2020. Via a Zoom meeting with the CFO of the Seminary, Ray Asad, on Thursday, July 30, 2020, my fellow classmates/neighbors and I were also informed that we will need to move to another Fuller Housing property within 60 days, as they would like to surrender the master lease of this building to a private equity company. The stress of moving during a pandemic and/or a rent increase while being a full-time student is causing me anxiety in a world full of uncertainties. Additionally, I have zero funds to finance this move.

I am asking the City Council to determine if the Inclusionary Housing Agreement that was created on November 4, 2004 between the City of Pasadena and Fuller Theological Seminary is still in effect.

Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Jana Coke

285 North Oakland Ave, Apt 12
310-308-0018

08/03/2020
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Martinez, Ruben

From: Josefina Arnold <finaarnold@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 2:34 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Civilian Police Oversight, Item 6

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I am a white resident in Pasadena that works as a registered nurse and a pastor at Pasadena Church under Kerwin Manning. My husband and I with our four children, three of whom are African American have lived in Pasadena since 2003.

As a healthcare worker, I understand how distracting COVID can be as we are also battling the pandemic of racism, but I implore you to hear our voices loud and clear—your citizens want just policing in our city. Please use your leadership to ensure black and brown residents have the same rights as you and I. As a parent of black children, I want my children to be safe and experience the liberties boldly declared, but rarely upheld.

Three essential elements to a high quality police oversight committee include:

- Establish an IPA under a reestablished Prosecutor's Office so that it's not directly under the supervision of the City Manager.
- Create the healthiest civilian police oversight committee with members who are most impacted by policing, not appointments made by elected officials.
- Vote in favor of a City Charter Amendment for the November ballot.

Please use your authority to keep my and other children safe.

Sincerely,
Fina Arnold

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Fina Arnold
626-478-9921

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