

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:00 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Name: Sonja K Berndt **Email:** sonja.berndt19@gmail.com **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91107

Comments:

I have raised many concerns with the proposed ordinance creating the Police Oversight Commission (CPOC) and Independent Police Auditor (IPA) in a letter to the Council. The ordinance tilts too far toward the interests of law enforcement at the expense of independence, transparency, and accountability. Significantly, the duties of the IPA fail to expressly include conducting real time, independent investigations. The IPA only reviews uses of force, etc. to assess whether the PPD's investigation was complete. This is inconsistent with the independence the community has demanded. Further, the proposed ordinance allows the IPA to be present at the PPD's interviews only "where feasible." It is left up to the PPD, which is inconsistent with transparency. Additionally, the subpoena process is defective because it does not allow subpoenas for testimony of city employees, it requires the subpoenas to be served by the PPD, thus telegraphing the IPA's investigatory activities, and it does not provide a mechanism for enforcement. Finally, the ordinance must expressly state that communications between the IPA and the CPOC or City Council are not subject to the attorney-client privilege or, in the alternative, that the privilege is waived. Otherwise the IPA's reports can be withheld from the public.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:03 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item Ordinance

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item Ordinance

Name: Aparna Mukherjee	Email: aparnamuk@gmail.com	Phone: 504- 272-7629	Address: Pasadena, CA 90031
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Comments:

We need better transparency into selection and the process of recruiting for community oversight commissions and a mechanism to raise and hear community voice. We need Justice for Anthony McClain...

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:26 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Name: David Chavez **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91103

Comments:

Due to the efforts of community members the Council now has been directed to implement a long overdue system of public accountability to the PDD by creating an Oversight Commission and Independent Police Auditor. However the current language lacks the transparency and power to deliver justice to the hands of the people and must be amended.

First the Council must grant the IPA Investigatory Authority. As currently defined, the IPA can only review investigations, but in order to truly oversee the police, it must be empowered to Conduct Real-Time, Independent Investigations to the furthest extent of the law without bureaucratic limitations.

The Ordinance must commit the Commission and IPA to Transparency, as much as the law allows. Providing for public input to the selection process for Commission members and the IPA, residents having direct access to the Oversight Commission for the purposes of filing and following-up on complaints, and share investigatory outcomes with the public.

Finally the ordinance must be amended to be specific that community based organizations with an interest in police accountability, who are NOT law enforcement, prosecutor, or court organizations, must select the members. Moreover there needs to be Black, Latinx, and Northwest members prioritized.

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:51 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15. Conduct first reading of "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE CREATING (A) A COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION; AND ..."

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15. Conduct first reading of "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE CREATING (A) A COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION; AND (B) AN INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR"

Name: Breathe
Justice

Email:
breathejustice365@gmail.com

Address: Pasadena, CA
91104

Comments:

Councilmembers, thank you for unanimously voting for police oversight. Staff, thank you for your hard work drafting the ordinance.

Please do not misconstrue constructive ordinance feedback as animosity, or utilize it as a tool to undermine the progress the Council is making. Use the feedback to promptly address areas of community concern, and make improvements.

Please review our submitted letter, which details praise-worthy and concerning ordinance aspects and ways to improve them.

Significant Areas for Improvement Include:

1. Define Commission Purpose as: To Improve Transparency, Accountability, and Build Public Trust to Improve Police-Community Relations.
2. Ensure Commission Selection is Transparent with Community Input, and Grants Majority Representation to Communities Most In Need of Strengthened Police Relations. Members Must Affirm Interest in Police Oversight, and Not be Police or Police Representatives.
3. Empower IPA and Commission to Make Disciplinary Recommendations.
4. Authorize IPA to Conduct Independent, Real-time Investigations.
5. Permit Transparent Community Communication, as much as the law allows.
6. Bind City Employees, Including Police Officers, to IPA/Commission-issued Subpoenas. Amend the Subpoena Process to Safeguard Independence and Eliminate Conflicts of Interest.
7. Prohibit Attorney-Client Relationships between the IPA and either the City, Commission, Manager or Council to Ensure Optimal Community Transparency.

These are detailed in our letter. Thank you again.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:51 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Name: Pastor	Email:	Phone: 626-	Address:
Kerwin Manning	pastorkerwin@pasadenachurch.com	676-6010	Pasadena, CA 91104

Comments:

Mayor and Council, I have served this city for over 19 years as it's pastor. I say this because I see all of Pasadena and Altadena as my church/parish. If you all were to do the same we would accomplish so much more. It's time for decisions that unify us. One Pasadena. This can and will happen if you make this civilian oversight conversation fair and give the IPA the authority to Conduct Real-Time, Independent Investigations as well as enable the Commission to share investigatory outcomes with the public. For the past two weeks I have served our community At La Pintaresca Park from 5pm-11pm, praying with and supporting a traumatized people who seemed to be a nuisance to you because of candles. We're talking about candles. This is exactly why there is a serious disconnect between you and the community you were elected to serve. Consider their pain and grief. While at it, forget about the New license plate deal and focus on body cameras that can turn themselves on. This could have prevented the wrongful death of Anthony McClain. Instead, we are still waiting for the unadulterated truth from that evening. Together we can establish ONE PASADENA!

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 1:09 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Name: Topher Mathers **Email:** tophermathers@gmail.com **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91106

Comments:

Dear Mayor and City Council,

As you finally begin the process of establishing a Police Oversight Commission and an IPA please keep the following objectives centered as you move forward.

Transparency for the selection process of members of the Commission including community input, a community based selection process for the IPA including public input. Enable the Commission to share investigatory outcomes. Grant the IPA investigate authority and empower it to conduct real time independent investigations.

Sincerely,

Topher Mathers (District 5)

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 2:10 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
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Name: George Korzen **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91103

Comments:

Police oversight has been rightly described as a "bridge-building mechanism." Indeed, the bridge being contemplated is between trust on one side and confidence in the other. Since you as a council are now tasked with building this bridge it will be imperative for you to identify its exact location. When PPD oversight was brought before the council in 2015 by Councilman Kennedy and rejected, consultants found that about 70% of Pasadena citizens had confidence in our police. Which means that 30% or about 45,000 people felt or feel otherwise. And that was before the 8 minutes and 46 second of George Floyd. Not unlike our Colorado Bridge which you now need to address, the one you choose to build will not and should not be static. A bridge can be viewed as either a point of access or an impediment. John Lewis courageously chose to walk across a bridge and paid a severe price. That bridge is named after a duly elected US Senator and Grand Dragon of the KKK and was typically avoided by African Americans. Your decision today regarding the composition of Pasadena's oversight commission is critical and I urge the council to resist choosing individual members of the commission.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: ~~No~~ Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 2:12 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Name: Gina Dance **Email:** gina9dance@gmail.com **Phone:** 626-487-9566 **Address:** 127 E. Hammond St., Pasadena, CA 91103

Comments:

My name is Gina, and I am a resident of District 3. I urge the council to improve the needed transparency and accountability in the PPD with respect to the Oversight Commission's purpose. The following individuals cannot serve on the Commission: a current employee of the City, a current employee of any law enforcement agency, including police or prosecutorial agency for a government entity, or any individual who has been an employee of such an agency within the previous year, and no members from the police foundation who raise funds for the police. Each commission member must complete a comprehensive training and orientation program within six months of appointment. The Chief and Command Staff must attend and participate in all the meetings of the Commission. This is a must, especially since the LA County Sheriff does not attend their civilian oversight meetings. There must be a community panel in the process of hiring the Independent Auditor. Authorize IPA to conduct independent, real-time investigations. IPA and the Commission should make disciplinary recommendations. This provides residents the transparency that City prides itself for being. Please consider the words and suggestions of the community. Our community deserves answers!

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:18 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Public Comment for Meeting on September 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 15

Name: Una Lee Jost **Email:** jostad41@gmail.com **Phone:** 310-922-1369 **Address:** 100 S. Altadena Dr.
#1, Pasadena, CA 91107

Comments:

I am Una Lee Jost, a long-time resident of Pasadena District 4.

Implementing a police oversight structure that enables the City Prosecutor to retain and administer the services of an independent police auditor, continues to implicate serious conflicts of interest.

This is due to the fact that investigations are handled internally and prosecutors have to maintain good working relationships with the police as well as fulfill their duty to investigate and prosecute police use of lethal force. (<https://www.amnestyusa.org/reports/deadly-force-police-use-of-lethal-force-in-the-united-states>)

I urge the Council to reach out to organizations working on model policy for community control, including Dignity and Power Now based in LA (dignityandpowernow.org), as well as review ordinances containing features sought by the Movement for Black Lives such as the Chicago Civilian Police Accountability Council (CPAC) composed of ELECTED individuals, one from each district in the City (<https://chicago.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=4603878&GUID=E1F69F73-285A-4EA4-A99D-5793D9266EC1>).

Short of amending the Pasadena City Charter to grant EXTERNAL entities the ability to SUBPOENA law enforcement agencies and third parties for data and documentation relevant to issues of excessive and lethal force, I insist on the proposed ordinance to at minimum meet standards of the Los Angeles County Civilian Oversight Commission

(https://library.municode.com/ca/los_angeles_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT3AD_COCO_CH3.79SHCIOVCO),

including my requested proposed changes reflected at the following LINK: bit.ly/33P0bVW.

Thank you.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:36 PM
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Name: Trina Chen **Email:** Trina_parker@yahoo.com **Phone:** 626-296-3309 **Address:** 925 E. Topeka St.,
Pasadena, CA 91104

Comments:

The citizen oversight commission must be independent and the selection process for members must be fully transparent. The Oversight Commission cannot have members that are currently or previously involved, directly or indirectly, with law enforcement. That should be a disqualifying conflict of interest.

Also, the citizens of Pasadena deserve complete transparency with respect to the investigation regarding the very troubling shooting death of Mr. Anthony McClain. Who is conducting investigations regarding this shooting? The unedited footage needs to be released immediately. The officers involved must be identified and their status with the department (ie. active duty, desk duty, suspended with or without pay/benefits, or fired) must be disclosed. The public deserves to know whether officers involved in shooting a man in the back are on our police force.

Thank you.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 4:35 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
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Name: ed washatka	Email: ed.washatka@gmail.com	Phone: 626-531- 1041	Address: 1030 S. Arroyo Parkway, Ste 106, Pasadena, CA. 1105, Pasadena, CA 91104
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Comments:

I want to affirm the demands in the Community Bill of Rights issued by the coalition of NAACP, NDLO, CICOPP, POP, the Inter-denominational Ministerial Alliance, and the Clergy Communication Coalition.

The Independent Police Auditor (IPA) must have the power to conduct independent investigations concurrent with internal police investigations and hold public hearings on such investigations.

The selection of Commission members must be a transparent process. The process should involve non-profit or non-governmental organizations and individuals most impacted by abuse of police powers.

To facilitate active engagement by community, I encourage the creation of a panel composed of representatives from community organizations who will interview and nominate the prospective commission members for the three community seats as well as select the pool of nominees for each council district and the at large seat to be chosen by the respective council members and mayor.

To ensure the IPA and commission members are educated on oversight and policing practices, the City should pay membership fees to join the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law

Enforcement. Also, the IPA and commission members should attend the Community Police Academy.

Additionally, to ensure economically diverse representation of the community, members should receive a stipend.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes