

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Saturday, October 03, 2020 4:51 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item 19

Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item 19

Name: Sonja K Berndt **Email:** **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91107

Comments:

I am a long-time resident of Pasadena. I am retired after serving over 31 years as a state prosecutor, during which I conducted hundreds of administrative and civil investigations, issued hundreds of subpoenas, and conducted innumerable oral examinations under oath. I sent the Council lengthy letters dated September 21, 2020, and September 28, 2020, (both of which are now part of the public record), detailing the many problems with the ordinance as drafted. These include, but are not limited to, conflicts of interest of the City Council, excessive restraints on the Police Auditor's ability to do his/her job, and a scope of authority of the Police Auditor and Commission SO LIMITED as to render them simply reviewers of the Police Department's own work with no ability to seek and uncover essential facts related to critical incidents. I offered a number of suggestions that would alleviate the problems identified, but they have not been adopted. I urge the Council to reconsider the language of the ordinance and, instead, amend the ordinance with terms that are consistent with the community's demand for effective civilian oversight of the Police Department. Thank you.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

10/05/2020
Item 19

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2020 8:01 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item Creation of the Police Oversight Commission and "Independent" Police Auditor (IPA)

Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item Creation of the Police Oversight Commission and "Independent" Police Auditor (IPA)

Name: Kenichi Yoshida **Email:** **Phone:** **Address:** ' Pasadena, CA 91107

Comments:

My name is Kenichi Yoshida, a Pasadena resident, a Japanese immigrant, husband, father, faith leader and administrator in Higher Ed institution. I, along with many Pasadena residents urge that the council grant what the residents want, an oversight commission and IPA that has been repeatedly and clearly communicated to the council. Please do not give us a commission that is in name only and one that severely lacks substance. The ordinance proposed by the council is ill-conceived and warrants meaningful and substantive improvement to strengthen the oversight body. We are closely watching the process and will not be deceived. Thank you.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

10/05/2020
Item 19

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2020 11:45 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item 19. Adopt "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 POL..."

**Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020
about Agenda Item 19. Adopt "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:

Address: Pasadena, CA
91104

Comments:

Councilmembers, who among you is an EXPERT in Police Oversight?

When was the last N.A.C.O.L.E. presentation to councilmembers on Building Effective Police Oversight Bodies?^{SEP}

You appropriately listen to health experts regarding COVID-19, but where is the expert consultation on the life-or-death matter of Police Oversight?

We have painstakingly submitted constructive, research-based letters to you.

You ignore us, turning your back on those in need of the “strengthened community-police relations” you CLAIM to champion.

Stop cowering behind words like “Charter” and “Meet-and-Confer.” Research the Charter yourself. Stand up to the police union. [SEP]

Is it any surprise that councilmembers most interested in installing Police Officers on the Police Oversight Commission have taken the MOST money from the police union or served in police departments themselves? [SEP]

Don’t like being labeled that way? Restrict police officers and their representatives from the commission! And stop taking PPOA money!

Mandate fundamental oversight components such as investigatory authority and non-binding-disciplinary-recommendation authority (permitted by Charter).

Bringing Effective Police Oversight to Pasadena takes Work with Deference to Actual Experts, not Inexpert councilmembers simply because they are attorneys.

Actual Oversight Experts argue that weak oversight bodies give the ILLUSION of independent accountability, but provide None, leading to WORSENERD Community Resentment.

If you Truly want better community-police relations, IMPROVE this ordinance which INSULTS Transparency, Accountability and Independence.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2020 5:13 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item 19

Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item 19

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

Comments:

I am commenting today my disappointment with the current proposal. It does not grant investigatory authority to the commission or IPA. It Prohibits attorneys whose firms are involved in police department matters, but does not prohibit police officers from serving on the commission. By not barring law enforcement officers or close affiliates from serving on the board, the city is creating another avenue of PPD influence in politics.

It precludes City Employees (including police officers) from being subject to IPA/Commission Subpoena nor does it allow the Commission to make any personnel recommendations despite the City Charter making no clear mention of such prohibition. It gives the Police Department Full Power over Commissioner Training. This will likely include “scared straight” ride-alongs and shooting exercises, but no expert training in equity, civil rights, de-escalation or the long term implications of police actions on individuals and communities.

Overall this commission structure gives the City Council, City Attorney, City Clerk, and Police Chief power over IPA and Commission matters, making it Dependent upon them in nearly every conceivable way. This is far from the oversight our community needs to hold PPD accountable for murders, violence, and profiling in our communities.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

10/05/2020

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Sent: Monday, October 05, 2020 8:01 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
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Public Comment for Meeting on October 5, 2020 about Agenda Item 19

Name: Pastor Mayra

Macedo-Nolan,
Executive Director
Clergy Community
Coalition

Email:

Phone:

Address:

Pasadena,
CA 91103

Comments:

Mayor Tornek and City Council Members- As a local pastor dedicated to pursuing a more just Pasadena, I am grateful for your stated commitment to improving policing and police-community relations in our community. I urge you to build upon that commitment further by ensuring that the police oversight commission is a body that has the wherewithal to actually affect change and its membership free of conflicts of interest. Without investigatory authority, subpoena power, and the ability to make personnel recommendations based on results of investigations, the commission does not have the tools necessary to fulfill its role, as described and desired by the local community as documented in the hundreds of letters and comments submitted to you in recent weeks. We have a great start, let's fine-tune the proposed ordinance so that it leads to actual improvement in policing and police-community relations. A more just Pasadena is attainable. We will get there step by step, decision by decision. This is one of those moments, one of those decisions that really count.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

10/05/2020
Item 19