

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 1:50 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

**Name:** Ralph A      **Email:**      **Phone:**      **Address:**  
Frammolino                               Molino Ave, Pasadena,  
CA 91104

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### Comments:

This police commission and auditor proposal is a deeply flawed half-measure that is more for show than substance. How can you have a truly independent auditor if he/she/they don't have subpoena power while, at the same time, report to the same person who is in charge of the police? That's a blatant conflict of interest. And as a former city commissioner, I can attest to the control that city staff exert over advisory board agendas, discussions, actions - even the number of questions they can ask. If this is the best our City Council can do, we need a city charter amendment to get any meaningful police department review and reform. Please reject this plan.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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Item 12 & 13

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:01 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item public comment

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item public comment

**Name:** susan dembowski      **Email:**      **Phone:**      **Address:**      Dr., pasadena, CA 91107

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### Comments:

I'm a resident of Council District 4.

The Pasadena City Council needs to amend the City Charter to create a police oversight body consisting of an independent auditor and selected community members with subpoena power and an enforceable disciplinary role.

The current proposal does not grant any meaningful power to our communities which councilmembers have been elected to serve.

Pasadena citizens deserve better.

Please vote to amend the City Charter.

Thank you.

Susan Dembowski

Pasadena, CA 91107

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:08 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

**Name:** Ferne      **Email:**      **Phone:**      **Address:**  
E Hayes      ,      Ave., Pasadena, CA 91106

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### Comments:

I am just an old white woman who has lived in Pasadena over 49 years. I have little contact with the Pasadena Police Department. However, I read, listen, and observe and I defer to the valued spokespersons of the community who deal with the interactions of the police and the neighborhoods daily. I support the NAACP and the National Day Laborer Organizing Network's Pasadena Community Bill of Rights. They recommend a paid full-time Independent Police Auditor with subpoena power for open fair practice and as support of good faith to a troubled community. Investigative authority must come with the ability to subpoena documents and witnesses. Please add this by amendment or whatever is required. Do this quickly. And then continue in a timely manner with developing a social/mental health alternative for calls that do not require police with guns.

Thank you.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 1:49 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 13

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 13**

**Name:** Dan    **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91101

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### **Comments:**

Dear mayor and city council,

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of a charter amendment that allows for the creation of an independent civilian oversight commission with an independent police auditor. The Police Chief should not have the power convene such a commission because naturally, this would result in a conflict of interest. Section 2.295.050 of the City's Code, currently gives the police chief three options for review commissions—a Use of Force Review Board, a Disciplinary Board, and a Risk Management Review Board. And as far as we are aware, a commission of these types has not been convened in the last 10 years. And in that time, there have been several controversial use-of-force incidents, more recently involving the beating of Christopher Ballew in 2018.

Our city deserves meaningful oversight and other types of reform of the Pasadena Police Department. Please show this city that its leaders are responsive to the people's calls for police accountability.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:04 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item #12

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item #12**

<b>Name:</b> Kris Ockershauser	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> Blvd # B, Pasadena, CA 91105
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### **Comments:**

The track record of civilian oversight of police throughout the U S is dismal because they operate at the pleasure of elected officials supported and pressured by monied police unions.

With no independence from the city bureaucracy, with no access to subpoena power to get police records and testimony other than through the bureaucracy, independent civilian oversight is blocked.

While City Council support is dicey due to pressure and money from police unions, as is the case in Pasadena, chances are better if misconduct and policies can be reported directly to those elected by voters who can hold them accountable.

Thus, independent access to subpoena power and direct reporting of the Police Auditor to the elected Council is a fundamental necessity.

Kris Ockershauser Pasadena

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:12 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12**

**Name:** Donna Sider      **Email:**      **Address:** St, Pasadena,  
CA 91106

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### **Comments:**

I am a longtime resident of Pasadena. Look, this is an egregious sidestep! A glaring deficiency of the Tornek/Kennedy police oversight proposal is the scope and power of the Independent Police Auditor (“IPA”). The IPA is authorized only to “review investigations” of, for example, uses of deadly force to determine if the investigations conducted were complete and thorough. How would the IPA know if the investigations conducted by the Police Department are thorough if the IPA did not conduct them? Moreover, while the IPA could ask the Police Department or City Manager nicely for other documents or additional interviews the IPA deemed critical to an investigation, the City Manager or Police Department can simply say the documents are unnecessary. The IPA has no effective recourse. The result is a deficient investigation, no transparency and, ultimately, no accountability. On countless occasions during my career, the documents most critical to the case were obtained by enforcing subpoenas through court process. There is no adequate police oversight without the ability of the IPA to conduct INDEPENDENT investigations and issue and enforce subpoenas!!! Thank you.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:15 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

**Name:** Maya Lee-Morales      **Email:**      **Phone:**      **Address:** 1...  
St, Pasadena, CA  
91103

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### Comments:

I do not agree with the Mayor's proposal for the Oversight Commission. We need an independent auditor with subpoena powers and public members that make up a majority of the commission not a minority. The requirement for council members to appoint are too vague. I am a constituent of district 3. I urge the council to hear the public instead of the mayor. The young voters are watching and listening. Our voices will be heard.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud:** Yes

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:23 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12**

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

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### **Comments:**

I am writing as a community member who has seen gross misconduct and impunity by the PPD, including the murder of JR Thomas in the 5 years that I have lived here in Pasadena. Because of my experience and my support of the Community Bill of Rights I am in opposition to the current proposal for police oversight from the Public Safety Committee.

It does not go far enough to provide independent oversight or accountability of the PPD. Without subpoena power or the ability to investigate misconduct and instead being formed as a bureaucratic advisory body, the proposal as Vice Mayor Hampton correctly stated is "toothless."

Also the fact that 10 of 13 seats will be chosen by council, mayor, city manager, and police chief means PPD will have 10 seats on the board as the PPOA has donated in just the last 36 months \$100,000 in campaign contributions to the local elected officials.

I am calling on city council members to instead bring a proposal that listens to the over 600 signatories of the Bill of Rights and the demands by Black communities around the country to reimagine public safety and truly hold police accountable. Subpoena power and Community control now!

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**



**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:23 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

**Name:** Roger Quintanilla      **Email:**      **Phone:**      **Address:** ,  
Pasadena, CA 91107

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### Comments:

I am in support of creating a community police oversight commission. This is something that has been a longtime coming and now is the right time to take action. The city of Pasadena has an opportunity to bring real change to the way our police department conducts business and at the time, address the the legitimate concerns from communities of color about over-policing and mistreatment by officers. Taking this step is the most logical thing to do if we want to improve the relationship between police and minorities in our city but we need to go a step further and make sure this commission is equipped with real tools, like having the power to subpoena . We can establish 100s of different oversight commissions but without any real ability to hold people accountable, we are limiting ourselves and this potential commission to mere gesture politics. We have seen this same tale unfold in the City of Los Angeles and it would be foolish for us to ignore the lessons from those who have gone down this path before. Establish the commission, give them real tools to get the job done, and let's continue working for a safer, better Pasadena.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:45 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

**Name:** Ryan Bell      **Email:**      **Phone:**      **Address:** Pasadena, California 91105

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### Comments:

While I am grateful that Mayor Tornek and Councilmember Kennedy have taken the community's demand for civilian oversight of the Pasadena Police Department seriously, the proposal currently before the city council does not go far enough to provide independent oversight. Not even close.

The Coalition for Increased Civilian Oversight of Pasadena Police (CICOPP), of which I am a participant, reiterates its demand for civilian oversight as presented in the Community Bill of Rights, an effort led by the NAACP of Pasadena and NDLO, and which has over 600 supporters from the community. It states that states that "The City Council should create a Community Police Oversight Commission, to be made up of city residents, and hire a paid, full-time Independent Police Auditor. The Auditor would have subpoena power, select the Commission staff and report to the City Council."

The current recommendation of the Public Safety Committee to the City Council does not meet the expectations for the transformative and institutional change called for in the Community Bill of Rights. If you pass this version of community police oversight today it should be clear that your work is not finished and that the community will continue to fight for true independent oversight with subpoena power.

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:58 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12 and 13

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12 and 13

Name:	Email:	Phone:	Address:
Allison			Robles Ave, Pasadena, CA
Henry			91104

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### Comments:

Dear Council,

Thank you for your work Mr. Tornek and Mr. Kennedy. However, the current recommendation of the Public Safety Committee to the City Council does not meet the expectations for the transformative and institutional change called for in the Community Bill of Rights. There is not enough community, non-council appointed representation.

A charter amendment recognizes that the chain of accountability is in doubt by the community. The city manager is a non-elected position with a lot of power. Some members of the community want more direct accountability and power for oversight.

And I am eager to hear the charter amendment discussion.

Thank you.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:59 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

<b>Name:</b> Wesley M Reutimann	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> Pasadena, CA 91103
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### Comments:

Dear Mayor and Council, as a long-time Pasadena Resident and Public Health advocate, I call upon the Pasadena City Council to amend the City Charter to create a Police Oversight Commission composed of community members and the position of an Independent Police Auditor.

These bodies should be granted subpoena power and play a clear, enforceable disciplinary role in the City, as requested by those most impacted by this issue. Unfortunately the proposal as currently drafted does not include these elements, and as a result should not be approved. I urge you to vote to Amend the City Charter to allow for a meaningful, independent, and robust oversight body to address very real, very serious, systemic problems that have disproportionately impacted people of color in our country for decades.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 3:02 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item Number 12

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item Number 12**

**Name:** Chiahwa Lu      **Email:**      **Address:**      ,  
Pasadena, CA 91101

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### **Comments:**

I am a Pasadena resident, and I call upon the Pasadena City Council to amend the City Charter to create a police oversight body consisting of an independent auditor and selected community members with subpoena power and an enforceable disciplinary role. The current proposal does not grant any meaningful power to our communities, which Council members have been elected to serve. Pasadena citizens deserve better. Please Vote to Amend the City Charter.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 2:41 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12 and 13

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12 and 13**

**Name:** Gina Dance    **Email:**    **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91103

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### **Comments:**

I live in District 3, and I am a young Latina woman. I call upon the Pasadena City Council to amend the Charter to create a police oversight body consisting of an independent auditor and community members with subpoena power. The current proposal presented by Mayor Tornek and Councilmember Kennedy falls short of what residents have asked. It does not provide meaningful power to our communities, nor does it provide the necessary change. After reading public comments from my fellow residents, we will not forget how the city council voted today, especially during the next election cycle. I have seen police stop my neighbors, once deploying four cars and ten plus officers on a Latino man for a suspected crime. The man was not arrested or cited. Seeing ten guns on my street is not a sight seen in other parts of Pasadena, and that is why we need civilian oversight. This incident is not the first to happen, and if we do not change the charter, it will continue to happen. Situations like this need to be investigated and investigating the racial biases by our police. Please vote to amend the city charter. Change is needed now.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 3:12 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12 and 13

## **Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12 and 13**

<b>Name:</b> Coalition for Increased Civilian Oversight of Pasadena Police - CICOPP	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> Arroyo Parkway, Pasadena, California 91105
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### **Comments:**

The Coalition for Increased Civilian Oversight of Pasadena Police (CICOPP) reiterates its demand for civilian oversight as presented in the Community Bill of Rights.

The Council should create an Oversight Commission made up of city residents, and hire a full-time Independent Police Auditor (IPA) that reports direct to the Council. The IPA should have subpoena power and be empowered to select the Commission staff.

The Public Safety Committee's recommendations for commission appointments and for the IPA reporting to the City Manager will not provide true independent oversight

CICOPP believes the commission must reflect communities most impacted by police abuse. Appointing a commission in the same manner as other city commissions, does not bring Pasadena closer to the reform the community demands.

Having the IPA report to the City Manager will lead to conflicts of interest since both the IPA and the Police Chief would report to the City Manager.

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Without subpoena power, the Oversight Commission and IPA would be denied the power needed to properly execute their functions and be rendered impotent.

CICOPP will keep fighting for independent police oversight, with real authority to make the necessary changes to accomplish police reform centered on those most impacted by dangerous policing.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**



**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 3:55 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

**Name:** Kristin Reutimann      **Email:**      **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91103

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### Comments:

Dear Council Members,

I urge you to support meaningful police oversight to improve public safety in the City of Pasadena.

Over the past several months PPD has done an admirable job balancing public safety and freedom of expression. However, as you know, Pasadena has a history of problematic use-of-force incidents that have physically and psychologically damaged local families, and resulted in substantial financial costs to the City.

WE NEED TO DO BETTER.

WE CAN DO BETTER.

Public safety models in other communities around the country (and world) offer a path forward. Robust, independent police oversight with subpoena power and disciplinary authority would constitute a step forward. Reconsidering the roles of armed police officers in our community is another step. For example, officers are currently employed in situations such as homeless response and traffic enforcement that could be addressed by specialists in other areas or via the use of technology such as speed cameras around local schools. Shifting our approach to these issues

would serve multiple purposes including focusing PPD staff attention to serious threats to public safety, reducing safety risks to all parties involved with traffic stops, and conserving limited city resources.

Please move us forward after years of inaction on this issue.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** City Web  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 3:56 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; City\_Council  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

## Public Comment for Meeting on July 27, 2020 about Agenda Item 12

<b>Name:</b> Jill Suzanne Shook	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> Ave, Pasadena, CA 91104, Pasadena, CA 91104
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### Comments:

We have a mandate for transparency. Jesus says, "Whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be proclaimed on the housetop" Luke 12:3 The police have not always been transparent. We finally received an extremely redacted version of the police report after a year of many lengthy City Council meetings, thousands of letters, news articles with a national spotlight, marches and a Walk the Second Mile Parade on Palm Sunday led by Anya Slaughter, the mother Kendrec McDade. We arrived in silence with over a hundred pastors and leaders appearing at the spot where Kendrec McDade, 19, lost his life at the hands of two rookie police, who botched the entire ordeal shooting unarmed Kendrec, seven times. Kendrec and others would be with us today if we had a more transparent less exhausting process discussed since 1990. I urge the City to be truly transparent with a commission, an auditor with real authority, fully independent with subpoena power. Independence should also prevent Police Union donations to City Council members, tempting the Public Safety Committee to support the police over the concerns of the community.

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**Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes**

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