



# Agenda Report

November 16, 2020

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** City Manager

**SUBJECT: DIRECT THE PREPARATION OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING  
THE PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE POLICE  
OVERSIGHT COMMISSION**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution establishing the process for appointment of members to the Police Oversight Commission.

**BACKGROUND:**

On October 5, 2020, the Pasadena City Council adopted Ordinance No. 7368, to establish a Community Police Oversight Commission and an Independent Police Auditor. The Ordinance provides a general framework for the membership of the Commission at 11 members; it also requires that City Council, by resolution, "establish a policy for appointment of members to the commission." A complete copy of Ordinance No. 7368, is attached to this Agenda Report, as Attachment "A". The relevant portion of the Ordinance, on membership, is found at Section 2.60.030.

In the course of discussing policy options for that resolution at its regular meeting of October 19, 2020, the City Council directed staff to provide information from other cities and civilian oversight models regarding the criteria and process for making appointments to serve on a Commission, including information on the experience and background of members considered to be beneficial to a successful Commission.

Staff engaged Change Integration Consulting, LLC, to provide an up to date survey of California jurisdictions using the commission model of police oversight, or a similar model to gather information on approaches used in commission appointments and selection criteria that jurisdictions identify as contributing to the success of the commission. This is entitled, "A Survey of California Jurisdictions Using the Commission Model of Police Oversight For the City of Pasadena," dated November 2, 2020, and is attached to this Agenda Report as Attachment "B."

## **A SURVEY OF CALIFORNIA JURISDICTIONS USING THE COMMISSION MODEL OF POLICE OVERSIGHT**

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### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

The purpose of this Commission is, “to enhance, develop and strengthen community-police relations and review and make recommendations regarding the ongoing operations of the police department to the chief of police, city manager, and/or city council.” Possible selection methods used by other jurisdictions range from selection by lottery from each district (Anaheim), to nomination from a pool of candidates (Berkeley), to appointment by the Mayor and confirmation by the City Council (Long Beach), and so on.

Based on staff’s review, no discernable best practice has been identified as each community works to fashion a system that fits best for its needs, and it is a policy question on which the City Council should deliberate and ultimately determine.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The actions proposed herein have been determined to be exempt from the CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the common sense exemption (formerly the “general rule”) that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The proposed resolution ratification does not involve any direct physical changes in the environment. Therefore, the actions proposed herein are exempt from CEQA per Section 15061(b)(3) (common sense exemption).

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This report has no fiscal impact.

Respectfully submitted,



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STEVE MERMELL  
City Manager

Prepared by



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NICHOLAS GEORGE RODRIGUEZ  
Assistant City Manager

Attachment A – Ordinance No. 7368

Attachment B – A Survey of California Jurisdictions Using the Commission Model of  
Police Oversight