

Misty Maza

From: So S <shaneosparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 12:49 PM
To: Public Testimony; Misty Maza
Subject: LM-2023-0571 - Civilian Review Board Amendment

Please be cautious

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Alders,

Tonight, you have a very important Ordinance Amendment LM-2023-0571 being proposed by the Civilian Review Board. I am writing to inform the Board of Alders that you must pass this ordinance amendment to revive the Cities trust in the Police. The CRB should be able to have access to all the records and be able to conduct their own investigations in parallel to the Police's own IA Investigations team. The current delay in cases before they reach the CRB is sometimes years. This delay creates an atmosphere where the public believes the IA Team is purposely delaying the process, in other words the public believes the Police are involved in "Cover-Ups".

Please renew the trust in the Police Department by passing this amendment to allow for the CRB to have access to all information immediately without delay which gives the public some trust their complaints are acknowledged and being investigated properly. Without this amendment the Public Trust in the Police Department will continue to deteriorate. If the Alders do not pass this amendment the Public will also believe that the Alders are also part of cover-ups, especially with a couple of very public wrongdoings by City Alders and an additional very current widely publicized event by an Alder.

The only excuse the Alders can have not to pass this Amendment is one of confidentiality and privacy. These concerns are easily corrected by providing the CRB with appropriate training at minimal expense to the city. Further concerns can be remediated by having a professional third party involved in redacting any names. If the Police are concerned about an ongoing investigation the CRB can have their third party professional make the appropriate determinations, summarize the complaints, and provide needed material to the CRB.

The positives of passing the amendment far outweigh the concerns. First and most important this will expand on the Community Policing initiative and provide important transparency into the process and open up communication between the Police and the community. It also provides an important checks and balance system to ensure there is no impartiality taking place within the Police Department and making sure Officers are not unduly punished due to personal biases among leadership.

Please pass this amendment or the Alders will be accountable for any additional complaints by the community for the lack of Police action.

Thank You,

Shane Sparks