

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Fé Lopez, Executive Director

(206) 684-5175

Allow City Council To Make More Sweeping Reforms To Police Accountability System Than Those Recommended By Federal Monitor

(Seattle) – Seattle's Community Police Commission (CPC) today sent a [letter](#) to United States District Court Judge James Robart, asking Judge Robart to sign an order proposed several weeks ago by the United States Department of Justice and the City of Seattle, allowing the City Council to consider more sweeping police accountability reforms.

In urging that the task of accountability reform be restored to the City Council, the CPC took a different approach from that of the federal court Monitor, Merrick Bobb, who yesterday wrote to Judge Robart suggesting a variety of specific accountability measures and seemingly proposing that the Court consider taking action on those particular proposals. The CPC said that, while some of its recommendations are the same as those in Mr. Bobb's letter, many of the CPC's proposed reforms go beyond what the Monitor is proposing, and the City Council should be free to consider and legislate additional measures to ensure a highly effective police accountability system. The CPC shortly will take final action on an updated accountability reform package, making additions to a set of reform proposals it first approved in 2014.

The CPC was charged under the federal consent decree with reviewing the existing police accountability system and recommending changes, and was authorized to make any other recommendations for change it believed were warranted to the City Council or other City departments. The CPC includes representatives of civil rights organizations, neighborhood safety groups, youth, criminal defense, public health, human services and small business leaders, as well as two police employees, and has been nationally recognized and replicated as an effective channel for a community voice in the police reform process.

To learn more about the Community Police Commission, please visit www.seattle.gov/community-police-commission.

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