

Seattle  
Community  
Police Commission

Our city. Our safety.  
Our police. Better together.

January 26, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mayor Murray and Councilmembers,

On April 15, 2016, the [Seattle Community Police Commission](#) ("CPC") issued the [Report and Recommendations Pursuant to SPD's Disparate Impact Policy: Part I Public Consumption](#). At that time, the CPC recommended "safe consumption areas" around the city. In the report, we noted that "implementation of this approach would decrease instances of public drug use, reduce overdose deaths, and reach a population of users who have had no previous contact with treatment providers." We recognize and appreciate that, since we issued that report, the Mayor co-convened with the King County Executive a Heroin and Opiate Task Force which ultimately also recommended a safe consumption program.

We underscore that a safe consumption program not only represents a more humane response to addiction than traditional enforcement measures, but is likely to improve public order and safety, which is why our Commissioners unanimously supported this approach.

Sincerely,



Rev. Harriett Walden, Co-Chair  
Community Police Commission



Enrique Gonzalez, Co-Chair  
Community Police Commission



Isaac Ruiz, Co-Chair  
Community Police Commission

Cc:  
Chief Kathleen O'Toole  
King County Executive Dow Constantine  
Community Police Commission