

Community Police Commission (CPC)

March 5, 9:00 am In-Person & Via WebEx Conference Call

- **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**
- **Take Attendance**

CPC Attendees: Joel Merkel, Raven Tyler, Anthony Gaedcke, Mark Mullens, Arlecier West, Tascha Johnson, Erica Newman, Rabbi Benclouch

CPC Absences: Lars Erickson, Le'Jayah Washington, Joseph Seia

CPC Staff: Eci Ameh, Taryn Darling, Devina Wijaya Moser, Dorian Waller, Mario Teulilo, Kieryn High, Masooma Ibrahim, Mergitu Argo, Dani Sullivan

- **Review Agenda & Minutes**

Action: Motion to approve the draft agenda for 4/2/2025 and minutes from 3/5/2025

Moved: Yes

Seconded: Yes

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Approved by voice vote.

- **Community Police Commission Updates**
 - **Co-Chair Updates-** There are four vacancies on the commission, with two commissioners in holdover status, meaning their terms have expired but they remain active until reappointed or replaced. The Co-chairs have tasked the Governance Committee with filling these vacancies. Commissioners interested in participating in the vetting process should contact Interim Executive Director Eci Ameh.
- **Department Updates**
 - **City Council-** no update
 - **Mayor's office-** no update
 - **The Office of Inspector General (OIG)-** no update
 - **Department of Justice-** no update
 - **Office of Police Accountability (OPA)-** Alyssa Perez Morrison has been appointed Deputy Inspector General.

- **Seattle Police Department (SPD)**- SPD has met with CPC, OIG, and OPA and has incorporated most of CPC's recommendations. They plan to submit the updated policies to the monitoring team and DOJ for review and approval before filing with the court. Chief Barnes is looking forward to meeting with members of the CPC soon.

- **Executive Director Updates**

Interim Executive Director Eci Ameh shared staffing updates. Ameh welcomed Kieryn High as the new Communications Director, Masooma Ibrahim as the Policy and Communications Advisor, and Mario Teulilo and Mergitu Argo as Community Engagement Specialists. Mergitu returned from an out-of-class position, bringing valuable experience back to the team.

Ameh shared that the CPC faced some budget cuts. The CPC's staffing needs and rising operational costs have not been fully funded, which hampers the CPC's ability to meet the demands of the accountability ordinance. To address these challenges, Ameh requested the carryover of unexpended 2024 funds and plans to submit a supplemental budget request to restore the funds cut from this biennium.

- **Community Engagement Updates**

The Community Engagement team is now fully staffed and actively involved. They have already participated in several advisory councils and community meetings and have a list of upcoming community events they plan to attend.

- **Policy Updates**

The CPC received the draft crowd management ordinance and developed recommendations based on community input. The City Council passed the ordinance with several amendments that incorporated many of the CPC's recommendations. These amendments addressed issues such as the use of blast balls and emphasized SPD's role in protecting speech and assembly rights. The Policy team provided a summary of the City Council meeting held on February 11, 2025.

Additionally, the Police Practices Work Group submitted redlines for three SPD policy manual sections, which SPD is currently incorporating. The CPC continues to review legislation related to policing and the criminal legal system, providing recommendations on whether to support, oppose, or take no position.

- **Executive Session**

Interim Executive Director Eci Ameh is being considered for appointment as the permanent Executive Director of the CPC. Ameh has demonstrated strong leadership, improved staff morale and productivity, repaired relationships, and effectively managed the CPC's budget.

The CPC will be formally recommending to Councilmember Cattle and the City Council that Eci Ameh be confirmed as the CPC's Executive Director for a designated term, subject to City Council approval.

A motion was made for the CPC to appoint Eci Ameh as the Executive Director.

- **Adjourn**