

NEWS RELEASE

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COMMUNITY POLICE COMMISSION WILL ISSUE A FORMAL RESPONSE TO DR. MELEKIAN'S REPORT TO THE MAYOR

(Seattle) – The Community Police Commission appreciates the extensive and substantive recommendations for improvements to Seattle's police accountability system offered by Dr. Barney Melekian in his report to Mayor Murray released today.

In late April, the Commission issued its own set of recommendations for structure, and policy and practice, improvements to the police accountability system. In finalizing these recommendations, the Commission worked in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders, including Dr. Melekian. In his report today, Dr. Melekian endorsed most of the CPC procedural reform recommendations and suggested structural changes similar in many respects to those proposed by the CPC.

Over the course of the last few months, the Commission benefited from its consultations with Dr. Melekian. Those discussions were wide-ranging and frank, and we believe both the Commission and Dr. Melekian benefited from a joint focus on listening to and learning from one another. The Commission's recommendations were informed by Dr. Melekian's incisive observations.

The Commission will review in-depth Dr. Melekian's findings and set of recommendations and inventory where his recommendations correspond to, and where they differ from, those of the Commission. Once the Commission has completed this review, it will formally comment on Dr. Melekian's specific findings and recommendations. We look forward to working with the Mayor, Dr. Melekian, and other policymakers to advance a robust plan for reform in the area of accountability.

The CPC's police accountability recommendations can be found on the CPC website at <http://www.seattle.gov/community-police-commission/cpc-recommendations>.

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

The Community Police Commission (CPC) was established by the City of Seattle to provide community input on proposed Seattle Police Department (SPD) reforms. The CPC was mandated under a memorandum of understanding between the City and the U.S. Department of Justice which details work to be done over three years to ensure bias-free policing and address the past use of excessive force. The CPC's charge is represent a

broad range of community perspectives and to reach out and engage communities directly, to get critical feedback, and to then recommend changes to SPD policies and practices.

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