



Seattle Community Police Commission

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Seattle City Council Public Safety and Human Services Committee Approves Appointment of Dr. Cali Ellis as CPC Executive Director

The Seattle City Council Public Safety and Human Services Committee voted Tuesday to approve the appointment of Dr. Cali Ellis as permanent Executive Director of the Seattle Community Police Commission (CPC). The Council Committee unanimously approved the six-year appointment.

Dr. Ellis was appointed interim Executive Director in February 2023. Her confirmation to the permanent position comes after a comprehensive national search and review process that included public engagement.

“We thank the community for their involvement in this selection process,” said Dr. Patricia Hunter, co-chair of the Commission along with Rev. Harriet Walden and Joel Merkel. “Dr. Ellis is the best choice for this important position. She is an accomplished professional who has demonstrated her commitment to community and responsible law enforcement. Her impressive policy background and ability to genuinely engage with a wide variety of people in often difficult circumstances will strengthen the CPC and police accountability in Seattle.”

Established in 2012 as part of the federal Consent Decree and formalized in 2017, the 15-member CPC is an independent, community-led commission charged with providing ongoing community-based oversight of the Seattle Police Department and representing the voices and values of communities affected by policing.

“Our charge as the CPC is to listen to and learn from our community, to amplify their needs and values, and demand accountability in policing,” said Dr. Ellis. “I’m excited and honored to have the opportunity to advocate for and build trust with the diverse communities we serve.”

The Seattle City Council is expected to act on this nomination at its December 5 meeting.

Learn more about the CPC at seattle.gov/community-police-commission.