

## **Community Police Commission (CPC)**

**November 5, 9:00 AM- In-Person & Via Webex Conference Call**

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

**CPC Attendees:** Raven Tyler, Le’Jayah Washington, Joel Merkel, Anthony Gaedcke, Arlecier West, Mark Mullens, Erika Newman, Joseph Seia, Ken Nsimbi, Tascha Johnson, Jeremy Holmes, Rick Williams

**CPC Absences:** Jen Carl

**CPC Staff:** Eci Ameh, Keith Wheeler, Taryn Darling, Devina Wijaya Moser, Mario Teulilo, Kieryn High, Masooma Ibrahim, Mergitu Argo

- **Review Agenda & Minutes**

**Action:** Motion to approve the draft agenda for 12/3/2025 and minutes from 11/5/2025

**Moved:** Commissioner Seia

**Seconded:** Commissioner Tyler

**Opposed:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

**Approved by voice vote.**

## **Community Police Commission Updates**

- **Co-Chair Update-**
  - **Attendance Report**
    - The attendance report showed excellent participation in last month's meetings and workgroups.

## **Department Updates**

- **City Council-** Sarah Hannaman from Councilmember Kettle’s office noted they are currently focused on the budget.
- **Mayor’s Office** – No update
- **OPA Update-** No update
- **OIG update-**
  - OIG teams are working on the 2026 workplan, and the Sentinel Event Review convenes starting today and continues through the week.
- **SPD update-** No update

- **Community Police Commission Updates**

- **Co-Chair Updates- Officer Involved Shooting**

- On October 30, SPD responded to a 911 call near 4th Ave S and Holgate St involving a man reportedly carrying an axe. Less-lethal tools were used, but the incident resulted in deadly force. The man was pronounced dead at the scene and remained there for several hours. The King County Sheriff's Office is leading the independent investigation under its MOU with SPD.
    - Any loss of life is significant. We recognize community frustration about the incident, delays in releasing footage, and concerns about oversight.
    - CPC stands with community members calling for a full, timely, and transparent investigation.
    - This incident, occurring less than two months after the end of the Consent Decree, underscores the ongoing need for strong accountability and transparency in Seattle.

- **Executive Director Update**

- Staffing Update

1. Executive Director Ameh introduced Deputy Director Dr. Keith B. Wheeler II. Dr. Wheeler has over 20 years of executive leadership experience in education and philanthropy, with a strong focus on equity, community connection, and systems-oriented leadership.
2. Dr. Wheeler has already begun engaging in CPC's work, including attending the recent town hall on police accountability, the Mayor's press conference on the SPOG contract, and preparing for the 2025 NACOLE Conference.

- SPD Initiative

1. SPD launched an anti-trafficking initiative in October to address long-standing concerns on Aurora Ave, including community safety and the trafficking of minors. Under this initiative, three anti-trafficking detectives photograph license plates of vehicles suspected of involvement in trafficking activity.
2. The registered owners of those vehicles receive a non-enforcement letter stating their car was observed in an area known for trafficking. The letter includes a photo of the vehicle and a QR code linking to a Microsoft form.

3. While the issue itself is significant, the approach has raised numerous questions and concerns from community members and the CPC, particularly around process, impact, and transparency.
- **2025 Boards and Commission Appreciation Reception**
    - The City’s annual Boards and Commissions celebration will be held on Friday, December 5, from 4:00–6:00 PM at City Hall.
  - **Community Engagement Updates**
    - **September/October Community Engagement Recap**
      - In late September, the team attended 9 events and engaged 159 community members one-on-one.
      - In October, the team attended 12 events and connected with 114 people through direct engagement.
    - **Summary of After Action & Survey Forms**
      - Community members highlighted ongoing issues with drug trafficking in downtown and South Seattle and raised concerns about emergency vehicle access related to new projects in Georgetown.
      - There is continued frustration with delayed or absent responses to 911 calls.
      - Strong concerns were raised about surveillance expansion and overall transparency. Community members also noted a perceived lack of compassion and communication from SPD.
  - **Policy Updates**
    - **Policy Team shared an update on the SPOG Contract highlights**
      - The contract shortens OPA’s investigation timeline: OPA now has 180 days to complete an investigation, with only limited tolling. If the deadline is missed, no discipline can be imposed.
      - OPA must notify the officer within 30 days and determine whether mediation is appropriate.
      - The shortened timeline raises concerns for complex cases, including officer-involved shootings.
      - Less-serious misconduct (not clearly defined) will now be investigated by SPD command staff instead of OPA.
      - Officers can opt into mediation within the 30-day notice window.

- If OPA deems mediation appropriate and the officer checks “yes,” the complaint cannot result in discipline, regardless of whether mediation actually occurs.
- Community members rarely choose mediation because it stops the investigation. The provision may further discourage complainants who want full investigations.
- CPC plans to follow up with OPA to confirm how these mediation rules will be applied in practice.

- **Communication Updates**

- CPC Town Hall Recap
  - Comms Director Kiernyn High shared a reel highlighting the Town Hall with Rainier Avenue Radio. Appreciation was given to Commissioners who participated, including Jeremy Holmes (who joined the panel unexpectedly) and Co-Chair West, as well as panelists Ken, Cindy, and Joseph Seia. Dr. Wheeler also attended before officially starting with the CPC. The Town Hall was a significant team effort! The stream reached 185 live viewers on Facebook, in addition to in-person attendance. As of today, 437 people have watched the recording.
- 2025 NACOLE Conference
  - CPC staff attended the 2025 NACOLE Conference in Minneapolis last week. A recap reel and photos have been posted on CPC’s Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Staff connected with oversight and accountability leaders nationwide.
  - Sessions highlighted emerging trends, shared lessons, and reinforced the role of oversight in building trust, transparency, and humanity in public safety systems. One of the key takeaway: Oversight must be consistent, community-centered, and present beyond moments of crisis. Building trust requires time, follow-through, and demonstrable change.

## **Adjourn**