

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

June 23, 2020

City Council

STAFF

Ginny Sawyer, Policy and Project Manager

SUBJECT

Resolution 2020-060 Establishing an Ad Hoc Community Impact Committee to Develop Policy, Funding and Program Recommendations to Ensure a Safe and Equitable Community for All.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to establish a Council Ad Hoc committee to address recent national and local concerns and initiatives calling for reallocation of budget dollars from traditional police services, consider desired trends for the 2021 budget, and ensure the City is creating an environment that provides safety and equality for all residents. The Committee's scope of work will be determined and defined in initial meetings.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

A desire to ensure and maintain equitable and inclusive policing has been expressed by community members particularly concerned about systemic racism and the unique role Police Services plays in interfacing with community members.

As part of that effort, some residents have stated a desire to analyze the City's overall budget for opportunities to potentially shift some police services funding to support community engagement, programming, and social health initiatives.

Council is receiving hundreds of emails requesting a review of police use of force policies and accountability as well as questioning the proper role and responsibility of the police department versus other departments. Utilizing an ad hoc committee would lend additional focus to:

- Determine the best way to achieve a safe community for all.
- Provide recommendations to Council for the 2021 budget cycle.
- Review Police Department higher-level performance indicators.

RESOLUTION 2020-060
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEE
TO DEVELOP POLICY, FUNDING AND PROGRAM
RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENSURE
A SAFE AND EQUITABLE COMMUNITY FOR ALL

WHEREAS, a safe community requires open communication, diverse perspectives, and a foundation built on trust; and

WHEREAS, the recent deaths of Rayshard Brooks, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery are part of a long history of violence perpetrated against black individuals in this country, including by law enforcement officials who dishonored their oath to protect all people; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the role local government has played in contributing to systemic racism and the responsibility of local government to partner with others to dismantle it; and

WHEREAS, thousands of people locally and nationally are protesting the patterns of systemic and institutional racism that are all too often a matter of life and death for black and indigenous people and other people of color; and

WHEREAS, that national attention is focusing on this issue against the backdrop of a global pandemic that is disproportionately affecting people of color, especially black lives, in terms of infection rates, fatalities, unemployment, housing stability, and more; and

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution ensures the right of peaceful assembly, and forms of protest have served as powerful calls to action and have effected meaningful change throughout our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the Council and the City of Fort Collins organization, including Fort Collins Police Services, share the desire for an end to police brutality, to foster a police culture invested in trust and accountability, and to create an equitable, inclusive community where people of color feel safe; and

WHEREAS, everyone who lives in Fort Collins deserves a police department that is caring, professional and that listens and responds to the needs of its community; and

WHEREAS, every community member has the opportunity and responsibility to listen to, learn from, and act in support of those in our community who are most impacted by racial inequities; and

WHEREAS, in light of the shared concern that has been expressed by community members and City officials alike about systemic racism and the unique role Police Services plays in interfacing with community members, the Council desires to take intentional action to ensure and maintain equitable and inclusive policing, community engagement, programming, and social health initiatives through community services; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to create an ad hoc Council Committee to carry out the following efforts:

- Develop recommendations for ways to enhance and achieve a safe and equitable community for all through examining policy initiatives, police operations and other municipal programs and services;
- Provide recommendations to Council for the 2021 budget cycle in furtherance of these objectives; and.
- Review higher-level *performance* indicators for Police Services and other related programs and services to improve the measurement of success in providing a safe and equitable community for all; and

WHEREAS, the Council acknowledges that prompt action by the Committee will be required in order for the Committee's work to inform budget decisions by the City Manager and City Council for the 2021 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby appoints _____, _____ and _____ to serve as the ad hoc Community Impact Committee.

Section 2. It is Council's intent that the ad hoc Community Impact Committee will develop and carry out a work plan to accomplish the purposes set forth in this Resolution, with staff assistance and informed by input from the Citizen Review Board, Human Relations Commission, and other City and community advisory bodies as appropriate, as well as by input from throughout the community, especially people of color.

Section 3. The foregoing Committee appointments shall extend through [date], unless sooner terminated by Council action or vacation of office.

Passed and adopted at an adjourned meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 23rd day of June, A.D. 2020.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk