

Portland Right to the City Coalition

PORTLAND•FOR•THE•PEOPLE

For immediate release.

Portland Right to the City Coalition Demands Police Accountability

1. We demand preconditions before granting the consent of the governed, to add body-worn cameras to other surveillance tools and procedures, already in use. Prior to adoption, there must be a proven mechanism for holding police accountable for their misconduct. Prior to adoption, City Council must make raw stop 'n frisk data available to The People, to establish a track record that we'll have a history of timely, unfettered access to records. Prior to inclusion of these new record keeping devices, The People must have transparency in License Plate Scanner and Gang Designation Records operations; to understand existing Bureau intentions, and their data acquisition and retention strategies.

Should The People consent, given the complexity of this intended program, prior to adoption, we demand continued, broad community influence over adoption: we demand retention of these records be by a citizen-based authority, outside the influence of PPB perpetrators of illegal use of force; and that this standing body become responsible for verification of officer compliance, assuring public access to these records, and for alerting prosecutors and PPB's Training Division to deficiencies in officer conduct. Once the City establishes pathways to termination for misconduct, we demand police failing to operate cameras in critical incidents, or those likely to unmask the corrupt culture, be terminated for cause.

2. We demand City Council drop its appeal of Judge Michael Simon's request for annual updates on the success or failure of reform. We value judicial oversight and think it wiser for Judge Simon to determine the scope of testimony he will require, to determine whether a valid pursuit of justice is under way.

3. We demand the Police Commissioner and City Commissioners use their appointments to the Community Oversight & Advisory Board to seat community members who have experienced police violence. Rather than political appointees; we echo demands raised by the mental health community: houseless persons, black men and boys, sexual minorities, and others with direct, lived experience of civil rights deprivations will ensure the community most impacted by police violence have oversight and voices in guiding reform. They'll best help in obtaining redress from grievances and assessing program effectiveness.

4. We demand City Council convene their first annual review of the 2009 Police Plan to Address Racial Profiling. As a precondition, we demand the Police Commissioner convene the public – as a distinct entity – to advise on new police strategies now required to meet Plan objectives.

5. We demand City Council renegotiate the contract it last year offered the Portland Police Association. As a precondition, we demand the Police Commissioner convene the public to receive demands, for elimination of arbitration features which have defeated the will of City Council to terminate officers for misconduct, to remove the '48-hour rule,' and to mandate officer drug-testing following use-of-force incidents.

To be delivered Wednesday, 10 December 2014, to Portland City Council, as public testimony regarding Mayor Hales' [Agenda Item 1276](#): seeking authorization of a 7 November [proposal](#) to divert funds and contract for the purchase of an on-body camera system, valued at not more than one million dollars.