



OFFICE OF  
POLICE OVERSIGHT

# **COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

## **MARCH 13, 2019**



OFFICE OF  
POLICE OVERSIGHT

# **New Framework for Civilian Police Oversight**

# CITY MANAGER MEMO

## NOVEMBER 2, 2018

- Introduced new name for Civilian Police Oversight: Office of Police Oversight (OPO)
- OPO will conduct preliminary reviews of all external complaints
- Community Engagement
  - Provided additional resources for community engagement staff
- Transparency
  - OPO to create a social media presence for education and outreach
  - OPO Director recommendations on policy and discipline on critical incidents will be made public
  - OPO summaries on investigations of critical incidents will be made public

- Discipline
  - APD to provide a monthly report to OPO on aggregate data on discipline, regardless of outcome. These reports will be made public
  - OPO Director will serve on the APD Force Review Board

# CITY ORDINANCE

## NOVEMBER 15, 2018

- Formally established the Office of Police Oversight as an administrative department that reports to the City Manager
- OPO will advise the City Manager on:
  - Processes and results of investigations involving officers
  - Effectiveness and appropriateness of the department's policies and procedures concerning complaints of police officer misconduct, police officer training, use of force by police officers, and community relations
- Make recommendations to the Chief of Police concerning discipline, based on the investigation of complaints and department policies
- Conduct random assessments of the department's use of force reviews and body camera usage
- Report annually to the public on the results of its activities

# MEET AND CONFER AGREEMENT

## NOVEMBER 15, 2018

- Anonymous Complaints
- OPO can initiate a complaint, standing in as the complainant
- Expands the definition of critical incidents
- OPO Director may recommend independent investigations
- Close-out meetings with complainant
- Increased transparency
  - OPO recommendations on case classifications
  - Discipline for critical incidents
  - External non-critical incident cases
  - Policy recommendations
  - Chief's response to panel and OPO

# OPO Transition Advisory Committee

- Pastor Gaylon Clark – Greater Mount Zion Church
- Juniper Lauren – Undoing White Supremacy
- Maira Sheikh – Council on American Islamic Relations
- Paulette Blanc – MEASURE
- Pooja Sethi – Asian American Quality of Life Commission
- Matthew Ramirez – Neighborhood Housing & Community Development
- Sukyi McMahon – Austin Justice Coalition
- Estrella DeLeon – GAVA
- Justin Berry – Austin Police Association
- Rachel Manning – Undoing White Supremacy



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## Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of Police Oversight (OPO) is to provide impartial oversight of the Austin Police Department's conduct, practices, and policies to enhance accountability, inform the public to increase transparency, and build sustainable partnerships throughout the community.

# NEXT STEPS FOR OPO

- Rebrand with new mission
- New communications channels to engage and promote: social media: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- New dedicated complaint line: 512-972-20PO (2676)
- Updated website and new online complaint form
  - Developed with CTM's Design and Delivery Team
  - Will launch in Spanish and English, other languages added later
  - Responsive design will work on mobile and desktop
  - Launch scheduled for Q2 FY2019
- Staffing
  - Completion of office reorganization
  - Internship Program
    - Research and Policy
    - Public Affairs
    - Community Engagement
  - Filling Research Analyst Senior Position
  - Staff Retraining





# OFFICE OF POLICE OVERSIGHT

## Questions

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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