



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: August 1, 2016

Contact: Adrian Granda, 619-847-8338

Councilmember Gloria's Police Oversight Board Reforms Headed to November Ballot

City Council Votes Unanimously to Send Charter Amendment to Voters

SAN DIEGO, CA (August 1, 2016) – The San Diego City Council today voted to place a Charter amendment to reform the City's Citizens' Review Board on Police Practices on the November ballot. The oversight board is made up of volunteers that review allegations of police misconduct.

The reforms included in the ballot measure would do the following:

- Expand regulatory power over the board in the Charter to include the City Council in addition to the Mayor, who currently has exclusive authority over the board;
- Explicitly state in the Charter that the board shall review all cases involving deaths that occur in police custody and officer related shootings; and
- Change the name of the board to the Community Review Board on Police Practices.

"San Diego has the most dedicated and hardworking law enforcement professionals in the nation, so I am proud to move forward a batch of reforms to ensure the public has access to a transparent process which provides better police oversight and inserts checks and balances in making the rules for the board," said Councilmember Gloria. **"These reforms will help fortify the public's trust in law enforcement which benefits both residents and officers."**

The reforms captured in Councilmember Gloria's recommendation included several measures to improve the independence and effectiveness of the board requested by Women Occupy San Diego and other community members. Councilmember Gloria, along with Councilmember Myrtle Cole, moved forward this recommendation at the March 25, 2016 Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee in an effort to meet community concerns and allow for future City Councils to further refine the board's capabilities.

Subsequent to that committee hearing, several reforms that did not require any Charter amendments were made. At Councilmember Gloria's recommendation the City's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget included funding for the board to have access to outside legal counsel to avoid conflicts of interest by the City Attorney. Additionally, the Mayor is working on implementing longer terms for board members as well as expanding the types of cases the board can review.

The Charter amendment will now be decided by San Diego voters in the November 8, 2016 general election. Councilmembers Gloria and Cole will write the ballot argument in support of the measure.

###