Hadley, Steven

From:

Subject:

Student Justice [blackstudentjusticecoalition@gmail.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, February 18, 2015 11:13 AM

To:

Hadley, Steven; Councilmember Sherri Lightner; Councilmember Todd Gloria;

Councilmember Myrtle Cole; Councilmember Mark Kersey; CouncilMember Chris Cate;

Councilmember Scott Sherman; CouncilMember Marti Emerald

Black Student Justice Coalition Charter Review and Reform of Civilian Review Board on

Police Practices

Black Student Justice Coalition

Charter Review and Reform of

Civilian Review Board on Police Practices

February 18, 2015

Council Members,

Charter Review Committee

202 C Street

San Diego, CA 92101

The Black Student Justice Coalition is dedicated to working for the benefit of our community and therefore endorse the call for changes to the City Charter. The San Diego Police Department (SDPD) has risen to the top of our list of concerns because of its history of violence against people of color, women, immigrants, the LGBTO community and activists. The citizens of SD, and especially the most vulnerable in our community, have the right to feel safe, to be safe, and to be treated respectfully by law enforcement.

Therefore in reference to the following demand of the Black Student Justice Coalition's "List of Demands" "E. End Over Policing and Abusive Use of Force:

a. Establish a Police Oversight Committee in San Diego City and San Diego County with a range of REAL power, including that of being able to remove officers from duty."

The Black Student Justice Coalition is endorsing a call to reform the citizens review board (CRB) on police practices. We call on the Charter Review Committee to reference the model of the San Diego County Law Enforcement Review Board, empowered by the voters in 1990 by passing Proposition A. (http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/clerb/brochure09.pdf)

The following City Charter reform is essential to the effective functioning of civilian and community oversight of the SDPD and includes:

1. Independent investigators and subpoena power, as provided to the San Diego County Law Enforcement Review Board by the voters in 1990 (Proposition A).

2. Intake, tracking, and review of all complaints filed are compiled by the CRB rather than by SDPD Internal Affairs; also as modeled by the San Diego County Law Enforcement Review Board approved by the voters in 1990.

We additionally call that the Charter Review Committee make two further revisions to the City Charter to reinforce the community-based nature of independent police oversight:

- 1. Change the name from "Citizens Review Board" to "COMMUNITY Review Board".
- 2. Have the Members of this Community Review Board on Police Practices appointed by the representatives elected by the 9 City Council Districts 2 per District. Plus 1 appointee by the Mayor.

Finally we call for the City of San Diego to provide adequate funding and staffing to the CRB to carry out the changes outlined in this letter.