

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, June 4, 2020

## **Council President Gómez to Call on Colleagues to Place Police Practices Commission Measure on Ballot**

*Gómez Urges Unanimous, Bipartisan Vote to Advance Police Reform Measure to Rebuild Trust Between Communities and Law Enforcement*

SAN DIEGO – City Council President Georgette Gómez today announced that she will docket the proposed ballot measure that would expand police oversight and build community trust in law enforcement by creating an Independent Police Practices Commission to review allegations of misconduct by law enforcement. The decision action is scheduled for the Council's June 23 meeting.

"The murder of George Floyd has exposed a crumbling faith in government and mistrust of police that must be addressed immediately," said Council President Gómez, who has supported the measure since a version of it was initially proposed in 2017. "It's critical that we build trust between communities and law enforcement and restore the public's faith in police oversight. We need to address the reality that many communities have been treated unfairly by police and have nowhere to turn to correct injustice.

"I want the public to know that we are advancing the Independent Police Practices Commission measure without delay, and my hope is to bring together everyone on the Council – Democrat, Republican, Independent – for a unanimous vote. The time is now to create real dignity and respect for all our communities, but specifically our Black and Brown communities."

The measure would create an independent commission with investigators, staff, and subpoena power – modeled after the city's Ethics Commission – to review community complaints of police misconduct and recommend reforms to the City Council and the Police Department.

Councilmember Monica Montgomery, who represents the Fourth District and chairs the City Council's Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods, has been a driving force behind the measure since its introduction.

"From the beginning of my administration, my office has worked honestly and diligently to advocate for police reform, through transparency and accountability measures," Councilmember Montgomery said. "As true transparency and accountability champions, we have been steadfast in changing the conversation around police reform through open communication with the community, the San Diego Police Officers Association, and the Mayor's office.

"This is the culmination of a tremendous grassroots collaboration with Women Occupy San Diego, the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, San Diegans for Justice and a broad coalition of activists and organizers. I thank Council President Gómez for docketing the ballot measure. This measure is a step forward in our progressive movement. I look forward to continuing our work to flatten the curve on the inequity in enforcement."

The Council President's move to docket the Independent Police Practices Commission measure follows Monday's landmark announcement by Gómez, Montgomery, Mayor Kevin Faulconer, and Police Chief David Nisleit that the City of San Diego would ban the use of the carotid restraint.

On Monday, Mayor Faulconer announced his support for the police-reform ballot measure. Police Chief Nisleit supports taking the measure to the voters in November.

In-person attendance at the June 23 meeting is limited to City staff and members of the press. Members of the public may watch the meeting on Cox and Time-Warner Cable Channel 24 or AT&T Channel 99, or [stream it online](#). The public may also participate by [calling in and providing comment](#).

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Council President Gómez represents the Ninth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Alvarado Estates, City Heights, College Area, College View Estates, El Cerrito, Kensington, Mountain View, Mt. Hope, Rolando, Southcrest, and Talmadge. She chairs the City of San Diego Rules Committee and sits on the Metropolitan Transit System Board of Directors and on the SANDAG Board of Directors and Executive Board.