



The City of San Diego

Staff Report

DATE ISSUED: March 19, 2024
TO: City Council
FROM: Office of Boards and Commissions
SUBJECT: Dissolution of the Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations

Primary Contact: Chida Warren-Darby Phone: (619) 533-3940

Council District(s): Citywide

OVERVIEW:

This action is to amend Chapter 2, Article 6 of the San Diego Municipal Code by repealing Division 8, sections 26.0801, 26.0802, and 26.0803, relating to the dissolution of the Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations.

PROPOSED ACTIONS:

Approve an ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article 6 of the San Diego Municipal Code to repeal Division 8, sections 26.0801, 26.0802, and 26.0803, related to the dissolution of the Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations.

DISCUSSION OF ITEM:

The Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations (Board) was established by San Diego Ordinance O-17405 (Jan. 8, 1980) to study, consult, and advise the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager on Police/Community relations crime prevention efforts. This Board was designed to function as a method of community participation in recommending and reviewing policies, practices and programs designed to make law enforcement sensitive, effective, and responsive to the needs of the City of San Diego (City). It was also designed to encourage and foster citizen participation in crime prevention activities.

It was further intended that this Board would promote and encourage open communication and cooperation between the San Diego Police Department and residents of the city, recognizing that policing the city is a shared responsibility. The Board is also responsible for developing and making recommendations directed toward informing the community of its rights and responsibilities when coming into contact with police officers.

Over the last year, public and Board interest has significantly waned, leaving the Board unable to make quorum. Participation from inside and outside agencies to support the work of the Board has been minimal. Additionally, public perception has been that the Board and the Commission on Police Practices overlap in function and duties, resulting in numerous requests from community members to dissolve the board. After observing the Board's inability to advance, a letter was submitted to the Office of Boards and Commissions from the Chair and Vice-Chair requesting the immediate dissolution of the Board, highlighting a lack of support from municipal stakeholders and community.

City of San Diego Strategic Plan:

N/A

Fiscal Considerations:

N/A

Charter Section 225 Disclosure of Business Interests:

N/A; there is no contract associated with this item.

Environmental Impact:

This activity is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 21065 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) as it is an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Thus, this activity is not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3).

Climate Action Plan Implementation:

N/A – Does not have a connection to the CAP.

Equal Opportunity Contracting Information (if applicable):

N/A

Previous Council and/or Committee Actions:

N/A

Planning Commission Action:

N/A

Key Stakeholders and Community Outreach Efforts:

N/A

Chida Warren-Darby

Department Director

Nick Serrano

Deputy Chief of Staff