



## **Community Policing Minutes 8/28/2024**

On Thursday, September 19th, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber at 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, the Community Policing Ad Hoc Committee Chair will present draft recommendations for the pursuit policy and conduct a second reading of the general orders on community policing at a Police Commission Special Meeting.

Both the general orders and the pursuit policy will be reviewed, revised ( if applicable), and voted on. The approved pursuit policy will be submitted to the City Council and Public Safety Committee for further consideration.

This meeting will also offer an opportunity for community members to share their comments and feedback before the document is submitted. We encourage all who are invested in this matter to join us.

**Please note that August 28, 2024, was the last Community Policing Ad Hoc meeting, until further notice.**

### **Minutes**

**Start 5:36 p.m.**

#### **Attendees:**

- Commissioner Wilson Riles (Chair)
- Commission Vice Chair Garcia-Acosta
- Commissioner Regina Jackson
- Professor Geoffrey Alpert (Featured Guest)
- Lt. Gabriel Urquiza-Leibin
- Lt. William Febel
- Pastor Jacqueline Thompson
- Joseph Micallef, OIG Policy Analyst
- Captain Lisa Ausmus
- COS Montgomery

- Community Members: Anna’s iPhone, Rajni Mandal, Stephen “swoo” Woo, Teodros Hailye, Maggie, Orlando Johnson, S Kong, Wesley Osaze, Keeley O’Neil, Millie Cleveland, Reisa, Wesley Osaze,
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### **Main Topics:**

- **Pursuit Policy and Safety Concerns**
    - Discussion on the effectiveness and consequences of police pursuits in Oakland.
    - Examination of current statistics and data on pursuit outcomes.
    - Exploration of the impact of different policies on public safety and crime prevention.
  - **Use of Technology in Law Enforcement**
    - Potential integration of drones, fixed-wing aircraft, and other technologies to reduce the need for pursuits.
    - Discussion on how technology can aid in the prevention and monitoring of high-risk situations.
  - **Public Messaging and Community Relations**
    - The importance of clear public messaging regarding policy changes and enforcement strategies.
    - Addressing community concerns about over-surveillance and the perception of law enforcement practices.
  - **Impact of Criminal Activity on Local Businesses**
    - Concerns about the increase in crimes such as commercial burglaries and their effects on local businesses and the economy.
    - Discussion on the balance between crime prevention and minimizing risks to public safety.
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### **Questions and Concerns Raised:**

- Commissioner Jackson: Inquired about the psychological profile of suspects fleeing from police and the impact of pursuits on different age groups.
- Joseph Micallef: Asked about the percentage of pursuits that end in arrests and the rate of collisions during these pursuits.
- Professor Alpert: Raised concerns about the futility of pursuits and the risks they pose to public safety, questioning whether the current policies are justified.

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## Comments by Commission Vice Chair Ricardo Garcia-Acosta:

- **Out-of-Town Criminals:**
  - He highlighted a significant issue regarding individuals who are not residents of Oakland but come into the city to commit crimes, particularly during sidseshows and other coordinated criminal activities. He suggested that data on the residency of suspects involved in pursuits be tracked and analyzed to better understand and address this trend.
- **Public Messaging:**
  - Commission Vice Chair Ricardo Garcia-Acosta emphasized the importance of clear and strong public messaging to communicate any changes in policy or enforcement strategies. He believes that public awareness campaigns could help deter criminal activities, especially if potential offenders know that law enforcement has updated or stricter protocols.
- **Interest in Non-Fatal Injury Data:**
  - He specifically asked for data on non-fatal injuries resulting from pursuits, noting that this information is critical for assessing the overall impact of police pursuits on community safety.
- **Community Impact and Economic Concerns:**
  - Commission Vice Chair Ricardo Garcia-Acosta pointed out the broader impact of crime on the community, particularly in terms of businesses leaving Oakland due to increased criminal activities. He stressed the need for policies that not only protect lives but also help maintain the economic health of the city by preventing businesses from closing or relocating.
- **Call for Continued Exploration:**
  - Finally, he urged the Commission to continue exploring all aspects of the pursuit policy, including technological solutions, community relations, and enforcement strategies, to ensure a comprehensive approach to public safety.

## Suggestions and Recommendations:

- **Lt. Urquiza-Leibin:**
  - Emphasized the need for ongoing assessment of risk factors during pursuits and the potential for using spike strips and other methods to safely stop fleeing vehicles.
  - Offered ride-along opportunities for those interested in understanding the challenges faced by officers.
- **Professor Alpert:**
  - Recommended revisiting the data collected by the Cal Post and updating the national and local data to better understand the effectiveness of current policies.

- Suggested incorporating public messaging into the recommendations to the Public Safety Committee to ensure the community is informed about changes in law enforcement practices.
  - **Captain Ausmus:**
    - Agreed to compile and share a comparative analysis of pursuit policies from neighboring agencies to provide a broader perspective on how Oakland's policies align with others.
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#### **Next Steps:**

- **Draft Revision:**
  - Commissioner Riles will redraft the report, incorporating suggestions and recommendations, and present it to the Commissioners during the Special meeting on 9/19/2024.
- **Data Analysis:**
  - Further study on the psychological aspects of suspects who flee, and the percentage of non-residents involved in pursuits will be explored.
- **Public Safety Committee & City Council Presentation:**
  - The revised report will be presented at the special Commission meeting on the 19th for final approval before submission to the Public Safety Committee and City Council.
- **Continued Collaboration:**
  - Ongoing discussions and data sharing between the Oakland Police Department and the Commission will continue to refine and improve pursuit policies.

**Adjournment: 7:07 p.m.**

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#### **Chat Comments**

From Teodros Hailye to All Panelists

I'm just a regular citizen who lives next to Fruitvale. I agree with Ricardo Acosta that this is not a black & white issue. People doing dirt know that Oakland is a free-for-all. They come here from all surrounding communities and rob and shoot without consequence. The solutions must primarily come from people who live in Oakland.

CHP has held to pursuits in Oakland and captured and removed multiple firearms from felons. Bravo to them. Much respect to Mr. Alpert's career and studies. He addresses the pursuit injuries. But he does not address downstream injuries and deaths from felons who flee and get away to kill in the future (re CHP).

From Regina Jackson gmail to Everyone 06:08 PM

Joseph, really appreciate your research perspective! thanks for being on this call

From Millie Cleveland to All Panelists 06:09 PM

Can the public place a message that can be read into the chat?

From Ricardo Garcia-Acosta to All Panelists 06:10 PM

I'll inform Commissioner Riles that there are comments to be read in the chat. Thank you!

From William Febel to All Panelists 06:14 PM

To the commissioners, this is Captain Lisa Ausmus and I have been in the meeting from the start tonight, but I am only showing as an attendee. I just wanted you to know I am listening.

From Me to Everyone 06:14 PM

I'll send you a participant link

That was meant for a panelist.

From William Febel to All Panelists 06:16 PM

Thank you

From Me to All Panelists 06:16 PM

Lisa I sent you a link to join the panel

check your email.

From Teodros Hailye to All Panelists 06:16 PM

Echo Lt's comments - there must be consequences. Otherwise bad human behavior increases in frequency and harm.

From Lisa Ausmus to All Panelists 06:18 PM

Thank you

From Me to All Panelists 06:19 PM

you are welcome

From Orlando Johnson ( GPUS Credential Committee 2023-2025 ) Califor to All Panelists 06:22 PM

California is a state with a no-chase law for motorcycles. Other states with no-chase laws for motorcycles include: Arizona, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Texas. what policy can we learn from

From Reisa to All Panelists 06:23 PM

Amen to what Commissioner Garcia-Acosta is saying! OPD messaging has been "come here to commit crime because there's nothing we can do."

From Orlando Johnson ( GPUS Credential Committee 2023-2025 ) Califor to All Panelists 06:24 PM

vehicles

From Teodros Hailye to All Panelists 06:29 PM

Thank you for allowing the public to listen. I'm off to my own Neighborhood Council Community Meeting in beat 27X.

From Regina Jackson gmail to Everyone 06:36 PM

"Age out of chasing" fleeing is young person's challenge...

From Ricardo Garcia-Acosta to All Panelists 06:50 PM

brb

From Regina Jackson gmail to Everyone 07:00 PM

yes lots of people bring the drama to Oakland are not from here....

From Regina Jackson gmail to Everyone 07:01 PM

appreciate the offer Lt! I need to get out there again