



IN HONOR OF THE MEMBERS OF THE POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION

- WHEREAS,** the Berkeley Police Review Commission (PRC) was established in April 1973 by an initiative ordinance passed by the voters; and
- WHEREAS,** upon its establishment, the PRC was the first civilian oversight agency in the country with investigatory powers; and
- WHEREAS,** the purpose of the PRC is to provide for community participation in setting and reviewing Berkeley Police Department policies, practices, and procedures; and to provide a means for prompt, impartial, and fair investigation of complaints brought by individuals against the Police Department; and
- WHEREAS,** during its 48 years of existence, the PRC has served as an important tool to ensure that our Police Department is accountable to the public and operates in a manner reflecting the community's values; and
- WHEREAS,** over the years, the PRC has reviewed and provided recommendations on numerous police policies over the years, such as, policies related to crowd control and crowd management, use of pepper spray, integrity of evidence handling procedures, and fair and unbiased policing; and
- WHEREAS,** the current members of the PRC have worked diligently on a variety of significant matters, including: an updated Use of Force policy, a new ordinance regulating police use and acquisition of Controlled Equipment, the conversion of General Orders into the Lexipol policy system, and a new ordinance governing use and acquisition of Surveillance Technology to ensure preservation of civil liberties and privacy rights; and
- WHEREAS,** the PRC also proposed an amendment to the City Charter to strengthen the oversight body, which formed the basis for the City Council's proposed Charter Amendment, passed by the voters overwhelmingly in November 2020 as Measure II; and
- WHEREAS,** Measure II establishes the Office of the Director of Police Accountability that includes a new Police Accountability Board and Director of Police Accountability, which will replace the Police Review Commission in July 2021; and
- WHEREAS,** the current PRC members are the last Commissioners to serve on this body.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby recognize and commend all Commissioners, past and present, for their dedicated service and invaluable contributions as a Police Review Commissioner

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor

June 15, 2021