



City of Davis
Police Accountability Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 8, 2024
6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Members Present: Mary C. Bliss, Robert Canning (Chair), Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald (Vice Chair), Elizabeth Griswold, Dillan Horton, Don Sherman, John Myers

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Assistant City Manager Kelly Stachowicz, Councilmember Gloria Partida, Independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco (Zoom)

2. Approval of Agenda

Horton moved, with a second by Myers, approval of the agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Griswold, Horton, Sherman, Myers
NOES: None

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Council Liaisons

- *For 2024, Josh Chapman will be mayor and Bapu Vaitla will be vice mayor*
- *Commission interested in having future discussion on the state 2024 RIPA report, which was shared with commission. Question regarding reimagining public safety recommendation to hire a consultant to analyze the Davis RIPA data. Stachowicz said staff looked at several options last year but didn't contract with anyone. Gennaco explained that analysis of the data is complicated. Commissioner Griswold noted the ACLU just published report related to the data.*
- *Starting January 1, there is now 24/7 mobile crisis in Yolo County and hotline people can call if in mental health crisis.*
- *City-sponsored MLK Day event will take place on January 15 at the Veterans Memorial Center at 10:30am.*

4. Public Comment

Hiram Jackson, DJUSD: school parcel tax on the March 5 ballot to extend existing tax, raising approximately 10% of the District's funding. Parcel tax brings the school up to 90% of statewide funding levels. Funds a variety of programs and positions deemed important to the community.

5. Consent Calendar

- A. Commission Minutes December 4, 2023

Escamilla-Greenwald moved, with a second by Horton, approval of the consent calendar. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Griswold, Horton, Sherman, Myers

NOES: None

No public comment

6. Police Auditor Update

A. Current Caseload Update

B. Review of Completed Cases

- Complaint Regarding Failure to Handle Loud Music Call
- Complaint Regarding Unwillingness to Assist and Providing Misinformation

Independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco reviewed the two completed cases and noted he had no issues with either investigation. Davis Police Department only received 3 complaints last year, which is down from previous years.

Reviewed new law that went into effect January 1 that will have effect on policing: AB 2773. The law requires officer, when stopping a motorist, must first provide motorist explanation why they were stopped before any questions can be asked. This is an important development and will work with Chief to ensure new policy for Davis is in place. Questions about whether it covers bicycle stops, walking, or at a bus stop.

Hiring and Recruiting audit – OIR representative Stephen Connolly did final piece of review in December so hoping to have draft report within 60 days.

Senator Bradley likely to reintroduce SB 50 (pretextual stops). RIPA Board recommended it.

No public comment

7. Regular Items

A. Consideration of Replacement of Body Worn Cameras (BWC)/In-Car Cameras (ICC) as Part of Surveillance Technology Ordinance

General consensus among commissioners that both types of cameras are useful from accountability standpoint to determine how situations play out.

Questions/comments from commissioners include:

- *How much shopping around to find the best equipment?*

Cameras provide critical pieces of information to tell full story. Interest in talking about tightening policy (during next surveillance technology review) – to ensure policy details as to when cameras should be on.

Collectively does DPD track usage of when cameras on/officers following policy?

How long is information retained?

Who is getting cameras, who is not? (p22). How addressing privacy concerns (p19)

Myers moved, with second by Bliss, to recommend to Council that they purchase the Body Worn Camera and In-Car Camera equipment.

Discussion: Commission would like to agendize discussion of surveillance tech for future meeting to talk about policy interests. Specific questions: Will things actually go to cloud (p18)? What is intended by “don’t record medical treatment (p26 (Policy), #6)?

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Griswold, Horton, Sherman, Myers

NOES: None

B. November Public Outreach Meeting Debrief

The Commission discussed the meeting. Commissioners pleased with turnout. Speakers pleased to be included. Would be helpful to share feedback with police department. Would like to have seen more young people attend and turnout be a reflection of the demographics that have interaction with the police. Would like to have an event to look at other aspects of accountability, for example related to race or identity.

Flavor of this event (property crime) was different than the kind that the commission has done before and may have attracted a different audience. Interest in engaging the campus community. Might want to consider doing something with UC Davis Police Accountability Board. Consider an engaging topic, and think about ways to engage early. Mental health response might be an interesting topic. UC Davis Law School – maybe we could get the law students involved. Griswold will connect with law school.

Subcommittee appointed to do preliminary planning: Canning, Horton, Sherman.

C. Election of 2024 Chair and Vice Chair

Myers nominated Canning, which was seconded by Escamilla-Greenwald. Canning declined the nomination.

Canning nominated Horton as Chair and Griswold as Vice Chair, seconded by Escamilla-Greenwald. The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Griswold, Sherman, Myers

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Horton

Dillan Horton will be the Chair for 2024 and Elizabeth Griswold will be the Vice Chair.

8. Subcommittee and Liaison Assignment Updates

- A. Independent Police Auditor Review (Canning, Myers) – Canning asked commissioners to complete questions and send to staff*
- B. Subcommittee on Challenges in Police Hiring Audit – (Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Myers) – Covered by Gennaco in earlier item*
- C. Subcommittee on Local Voices Outreach (Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton) – Escamilla-Greenwald will check in with them*

9. Long Range Calendar: Upcoming Meeting Dates and/or Potential Agenda Items

Surveillance Tech policy review –subcommittee of Canning, Griswold and Horton

Horton as Subcommittee of 1 will come up with questions that PAC should be asking related to lessons learned regarding the May stabbing incidents.

Griswold also interested in artificial intelligence for next outreach meeting. Horton suggested “tech meets police”

10. Adjournment

Escamilla-Greenwald moved, with a second by Horton, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm.