




Office of the City Manager

ACTION CALENDAR

December 1, 2015

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:  Dee Williams-Ridley, Interim City Manager

Submitted by: Michael K. Meehan, Chief of Police

Subject: Response to PRC Report on BPD Response to December 6 Protests,
Revision of Police Crowd Management Policies

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the City Manager to have the Berkeley Police Department collaborate with the Police Review Commission to further develop mutually agreed upon revisions to the Berkeley Police Department's policies and procedures regarding response to protest activity and to report back to the Council within 180 days for an update.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On June 9, 2014, the Berkeley Police Department published a Post Incident Review of the protests and police response of December 6 & 7, 2014 in Berkeley. Since that time the Berkeley Police Department has worked with the Berkeley Police Review Commission to support their efforts to review the same events and to produce a report to the City Council titled Investigation into the Police Department Response to Protests on December 6, 2014.

Reflecting the universal desire to minimize conflict and ensure peaceful and safe first amendment protests in Berkeley, many of the PRC recommendations are similar to those found in the BPD Post Incident Review. In addition, the BPD supported the work of the Police Review Commission throughout the entirety of their review of the incidents of December 6 & 7 including having a team attend every Police Review Commission meeting where protest response was discussed.

The PRC concurs with six of BPD's recommendations as written. There is substantial agreement between BPD and the PRC's recommendations. They also agree that improvements can be made in the following areas"

- Radio Interoperability
- Public Communication
- Social Media

- Protest Negotiations
- Tactical Command
- Mission Clarity
- Deployment of Resources
- Crowd Management
- Joint Police & Fire Teams
- Skirmish Lines
- Medical Aid
- After-Action Reporting
- Crowd Management Training

Continued collaboration between the Berkeley Police Department and the Police Review Commission will result in a modern, comprehensive crowd management policy for Berkeley.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Michael K. Meehan, Chief of Police, 981-5700

Additional Information:

Berkeley Police Department Post Incident Review:

<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/police/BPDPostIncidentReview/>