

Resolution of Initial Council Commitments addressing the Black Lives Matter Movement and Systemic Racism in the wake of the murder of George Floyd by the Minneapolis Police and calls for action from protesters and residents.

Whereas, protests have erupted across the country and in Iowa City in response to the murder of George Floyd by the Minneapolis police; and

Whereas, the City of Iowa City strongly supports the fundamental, constitutional right to free expression and assembly, as carried out in peaceful protest; and

Whereas, protesters and residents are demanding that the City and the City Council take action to address the Black Lives Matter movement and systemic racism; and

Whereas, systemic racism is deeply embedded in the fabric of our country and our city such that an extended and intense effort will be required; and

Whereas, the City Council is committed to that effort and it is in the best interests of the City of Iowa City and its residents; and

Whereas, the City Council desires to set forth its initial commitments to the Black Lives Matter movement.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Iowa City, Iowa, that:

The Council commits to an extended and intense effort to address the Black Lives Matter movement and systemic racism, including but not limited to the following:

1. By December 15, 2020, develop a preliminary plan to restructure the Iowa City Police Department (ICPD) towards community policing, including, but not limited to, reduction of the public's reliance on police in non-violent situations through use of unarmed professionals, and consideration of community policing initiatives in other cities, including, but not limited to, Minneapolis, MN, Camden, NJ, Los Angeles, CA and San Francisco, CA; and
2. Allocate City funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 during the Fiscal Year starting July 1, 2020 for efforts to promote racial equity and social justice, including expansion of the Special Populations Involvement [SPI] program, creation of a new robust affordable housing plan, including, but not limited to, housing in the downtown and core neighborhoods, support of the to be determined efforts of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and hold a Council work session on or before August 1, 2020 to address specific allocations; and,

3. Elevate the City's commitment to racial equity and social justice, including expanding efforts to increase the number of minorities employed by the City including eliminating barriers to applications, increase resources devoted to those efforts as needed to better train all city employees and coordinate and report on the use of funds dedicated for racial equity and social justice; and,
4. By August 1, 2020, receive a report from the City Manager on the ICPD's involvement in the use of gas and flash-bang devices during the protest in Iowa City on June 3, 2020; and,
5. By October 1, 2020, create an ad hoc Truth and Reconciliation Commission to bear witness to the truth of racial injustice in Iowa City and to carry out restorative justice, through the collection of testimony and public hearings, with such work to include a recommendation to the Council of a plan for dedicating and/or renaming public spaces and/or rights of way in honor of the Black Lives Matter movement; and,
6. Make it a 2021 City Council legislative priority to advocate for and support our state delegation in enacting criminal justice reform, eliminating the war on drugs and making changes to state law that enable the City's plan to restructure the police department, enhance the authority of the Community Police Review Board (CPRB) and reduce disproportionate minority contact, including support of state legislation decriminalizing small amounts of marijuana; and,
7. Continue use of the racial equity toolkit by city departments and expand such training to the City Council, and work with our local business partners to educate and train the business community on use of a racial equity toolkit; and,
8. Request and receive, by January 1, 2021, a report and recommendation from the CPRB, in consultation with an attorney of its choice, regarding changes to the CPRB ordinance that enhance its ability to provide effective civilian oversight of the ICPD, including but not limited to those that address compelling the testimony of officers, with the report to include a summary of measures considered and rejected by the CPRB, whether it be for policy or legal reasons; and,
9. Direct staff to provide a detailed expenditure summary of the police budget on the City's website; and,
10. Send the letter attached as Exhibit "A" to the Johnson County Sheriff supporting divestment of the MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle and obtain a report from city staff on the military grade equipment in the ICPD's inventory and the federal contracts that provide support to the police department; and,
11. Direct the City Manager to expressly ban, in the ICPD's general orders, any use of chokeholds or any other maneuver that cuts off oxygen or blood flow; and,
12. Direct the City Manager to ensure that ICPD's policy and practices regarding employment of officers is consistent with the goals of recently enacted Iowa House File 2647 to ensure that officers working in Iowa have not committed serious misconduct, as defined therein.; and,

EXHIBIT A



CITY OF IOWA CITY

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Iowa City, Iowa 52240-1826
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www.icgov.org

June 17, 2020

Lonny Pulkrabek
Johnson County Sheriff
P.O. Box 2540
511 S. Capitol Street
Iowa City, IA 52244

Dear Sheriff Pulkrabek,

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Iowa City, I am writing to request that the Sheriff's office divest itself of the MRAP (Mine- Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle. A military-grade vehicle designed for warzones is not suitable for use by local law enforcement. It undermines public confidence and trust in law enforcement and thereby interferes with the goal of keeping the community safe

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Teague". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce Teague, Mayor
City of Iowa City

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Date: June 19, 2020

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is entered into by the Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Iowa City Police Department, University of Iowa Department of Public Safety, Coralville Police Department, North Liberty Police Department and University Heights Police Department to grant authority to our law enforcement officers from each jurisdiction to intercede if unreasonable force is observed.

DUTY TO INTERCEDE

Any law enforcement officer present and observing another law enforcement officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force.

Sworn officers and deputies must protect the public and other employees regardless of tenure, rank, or member agency, and must safely intervene by verbal and physical means.


A law enforcement officer who observes another employee use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law should promptly report these observations to a supervisor.

We agree and hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve.

Respectfully,



Bill Campbell, Iowa City Chief of Police



Scott Beckner, Director of Public Safety U of Iowa



Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County Sheriff



Shane Kron, City of Coralville Chief of Police



Diane Venenga, North Liberty Chief of Police



Troy Kelsay, University Heights Chief of Police