

Police Review Commission (PRC)

## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON POLICE ACQUISITION & USE OF CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT ORDINANCE**

Commissioners Mizell (Chair), Leftwich, Mikiten

**Wednesday, September 9, 2020  
12:00 p.m.**

### **PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE**

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, this meeting of the City of Berkeley Police Review Commission's Subcommittee on Police Acquisition & Use of Controlled Equipment Ordinance will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference and there will not be a physical meeting location available.

To access the meeting remotely: join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device using this URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87979306346>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, use the drop-down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon on the screen. To join by phone: Dial **1 669 900 6833** and enter Meeting ID **879 7930 6346**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press \*9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*(Speakers are generally allotted up to three minutes, but may be allotted less time if there are many speakers; they may comment on items on this agenda only.)*

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS (discussion and action)

Continue review of proposed ordinance regulating police acquisition and use of controlled equipment.

*(See materials posted for this subcommittee at:  
<https://www.cityofberkeley.info/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=12962>)*

#### 5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE

#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

##### **Communications Disclaimer**

Communications to the Police Review Commission, like all communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the PRC Secretary for further information. City offices are currently closed and cannot accept written communications in person.



##### **Communication Access Information (A.R.1.12)**

To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date.

##### **SB 343 Disclaimer**

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available to the public by being posted on the Police Review Commission's web page within three business days of the meeting.

Contact the Police Review Commission at (510) 981-4950 or [prc@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:prc@cityofberkeley.info).

**2.99.050 Compliance for Existing Surveillance Technology**

The City Manager shall submit to the Action Calendar for the first City Council meeting in November of 2018 a Surveillance Acquisition Report and a proposed Surveillance Use Policy for each Surveillance Technology possessed or used prior to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this Chapter. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

**2.99.060 Determination by City Council that Benefits Outweigh Costs and Concerns**


The City Council shall only approve any action described in Section 2.99.030, 2.99.040, or Section 2.99.050 of this Chapter after making a determination that the benefits to the community of the Surveillance Technology, used according to its Surveillance Use Policy, outweigh the costs; that the proposal will appropriately safeguard civil liberties and civil rights to the maximum extent possible while serving its intended purposes; and that, in the City Council's judgment, no feasible alternative with similar utility and a lesser impact on civil rights or civil liberties could be implemented. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

**2.99.070 Oversight Following City Council Approval**

The City Manager must submit to the Council Action Calendar a written Surveillance Technology Report, covering all of the City's Surveillance Technologies, annually at the first regular Council meeting in November. After review of the Surveillance Technology Report, Council may make modifications to Surveillance Use Policies. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

**2.99.080 Public Access to Surveillance Technology Contracts**

To the extent permitted by law, the City shall continue to make available to the public all of its surveillance-related contracts, including related non-disclosure agreements, if any. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

 **2.99.090 Enforcement**

This Chapter does not confer any rights upon any person or entity other than the City Council to cancel or suspend a contract for a Surveillance Technology. The Chapter does not provide a private right of action upon any person or entity to seek injunctive relief against the City or any employee unless that person or entity has first provided written notice to the City Manager by serving the City Clerk, regarding the specific alleged violations of this Chapter. If a specific alleged violation is not remedied within 90 days of that written notice, a person or entity may seek injunctive relief in a court of competent jurisdiction. If the alleged violation is substantiated and subsequently cured, a notice shall be posted in a conspicuous manner on the City's website that describes, to the extent permissible by law, the corrective measures taken to address the violation. If it is shown that the violation is the result of arbitrary or capricious action by the City or an employee or agent thereof in his or her official capacity, the prevailing complainant in an action for relief may collect from the City reasonable attorney's fees in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 if he or she is personally obligated to pay such fees. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

**2.99.100 Whistleblower Protections**

All provisions of Berkeley's Protection of Whistleblowers Workplace Policy, as promulgated by the City Manager on November 2, 2016 and including any updates or replacements thereto, shall apply. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

#### **2.99.110 Severability**

If any word, phrase, sentence, part, section, subsection, or other portion of this Chapter, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance, is declared void, unconstitutional, or invalid for any reason, then such word, phrase, sentence, part, section, subsection, or other portion, or the prescribed application thereof, shall be severable, and the remaining provisions of this Chapter, and all applications thereof, not having been declared void, unconstitutional or invalid, shall remain in full force and effect. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this title, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase of this Chapter, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases is declared invalid or unconstitutional. (Ord. 7592-NS § 2 (part), 2018)

## **Section 10. Enforcement**

- 1) Any violation of this Ordinance, or of a Surveillance Use Policy promulgated under this Ordinance, constitutes an injury and any person may institute proceedings for injunctive relief, declaratory relief, or writ of mandate in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce this Ordinance. An action instituted under this paragraph shall be brought against the city entity, the City of Berkeley, and, if necessary to effectuate compliance with this Ordinance or a Surveillance Use Policy (including to expunge information unlawfully collected, retained, or shared thereunder), any third party, except a city employee, with possession, custody, or control of data subject to this Ordinance.
  - a) Prior to the initiation of any legal proceeding under subsection 1), the City of Berkeley or City entity must be given notice of the violation(s) and an opportunity to correct such violation(s) within 30 days of receipt of the notice.
- 2) Any person who has been subjected to a surveillance technology in violation of this Ordinance, or about whom information has been obtained, retained, accessed, shared, or used in violation of this Ordinance or of a Surveillance Use Policy, may institute proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction against any person who committed such violation and shall be entitled to recover actual damages.
- 3) A court shall award costs and reasonable attorneys' fees to the plaintiff who is the prevailing party in an action brought under paragraphs (1) or (2).

## **Section 12. Whistleblower Protections**

- 1) It shall be a violation of Section 12 for the City or anyone acting on behalf of the City to take or fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take, an adverse employment action with respect to any employee or applicant for employment, because:
  - a) The employee or applicant was perceived to, about to, or assisted in any lawful disclosure of information concerning the funding, acquisition, or use of a surveillance technology or surveillance data based upon a good faith belief that the disclosure evidenced a violation of this Ordinance.