

Lee, Katherine

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To: Lee, Katherine
Subject: Principles to Consider

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Dear Commissioners,

These are principles I would like us to keep in mind during the discussion on 9/30.

- 1. Existing policies.** Carefully crafted Use Policies exist for many items on this list. A Controlled Equipment ordinance should give the option of relying on those policies, where they are sufficient.
- 2. Overlap between Use of Force and Controlled Equipment.** This Controlled Equipment ordinance was drafted while the Use of Force policy was in motion. Use of Force reporting requirements were crafted by our subcommittee to move the bar toward increased reporting. Deployment of most of the items on the Controlled Equipment would be captured under the Use of Force reporting requirements. I suggest making the CE reporting requirements applicable only to things not captured in Use of Force reporting, OR, if you must have a stand-alone annual CE report, at least make sure the threshold for reporting is the same.
- 3. Administrative burden.** The Council goal is to make the Department more efficient and focussed. Please consider the administrative load when you consider inventories and detailed accounting.
- 4. An officer's perspective.** It's important to hold in mind how the Department will experience this ordinance. Rather than a committee-style, holistic discussion of public safety challenges and options, the proposed process sets up a debate format and asks the BPD to be the sole advocates for tools. This exacerbates the misperception that the Department holds a different set of values from the rest of the community. We've all seen how difficult it is to have a nuanced conversation at the Council level. The PRC is able to hold constructive conversations, mainly through our sub-committees, where we give issues the dialogue they deserve, and that is impossible in a public hearing. We do want public conversation and transparency. For that reason, I suggest hosting these CE discussions at the PRC level, and reporting our decisions to Council. They can call up any decision they want into the Council forum, but it would not be mandated.
- 5. Existing powers.** Note that Council already has the power to review policies, and the PRC has the power to put anything we want onto our agenda. Mandating annual policy reviews would be burdensome for this body.

Thanks, All.

Elisa