

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. On the left side, there are several overlapping circular elements. A prominent one is a large circle with a scale around its perimeter, marked with numbers from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Other circles include dashed lines, solid lines, and arrows, some pointing inward and some outward, creating a sense of motion or rotation.

COLORADO SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION DISCUSSION

JUNE 11, 2020

AGENDA

- Background
- Next Steps
- Austin Group Presentation on Exploratory Panel on Police Transparency and Accountability
- And/or Formal City Committee

BACKGROUND

- February, Council decision to join others from community at NACOLE Symposium
- March 6, NACOLE Symposium in Austin (including Councilmember Williams and two police officers)
- March – June, biweekly meetings of Austin Group
- April 14, Promise Lee and Wayne Williams present at Council Work Session on work being done, including possible creation of committee
- June 11, Today's discussion

GENERAL PURPOSE

To advance public safety, community trust, and the highest purposes of law enforcement and to recommend positive, evidence-based police transparency and accountability practices.

Note: Colorado Springs City Charter provides that the civilian, popularly elected Mayor oversees all policies and day to day operations of the CSPD. The Committee would make recommendations to Council who in turn could choose to adopt some or all of these as recommendations to present to the Mayor.


ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES (ONE OR BOTH)

Acknowledge independent
Exploratory Panel on Police
Transparency and Accountability

Establish formal City Council
Committee

- Open records and open meetings required
- Staff support required

AUSTIN GROUP PRESENTATION ON EXPLORATORY PANEL ON POLICE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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COUNCIL OPTIONS

- One option is to acknowledge work of Austin Group and await the recommendations of their Exploratory Panel on Police Transparency and Accountability.
- Alternatively, City Council may want to establish an additional formal City Committee to seek input from the Exploratory Panel on Police Transparency and Accountability and others in the community.

FORMAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE GOALS

- 1. Review CSPD's policies and practices.
- 2. Using input from the Austin Group's Exploratory Panel on Police Transparency and Accountability and others, examine best practices in police transparency, accountability, and other policies and procedures, recognizing such practices that may be in place at CSPD.
- 3. Provide the communities most impacted, the Colorado Springs City Council, the Mayor, CSPD, and the larger city of Colorado Springs reliable information on positive practices that may improve police outcomes.
- 4. Make evidence-based recommendations for the adaptation and implementation of other positive practices to improve policing outcomes and relationships between law enforcement and the community.

FORMAL COMMITTEE TYPE? – 2 IN RULES

- **RECOMMENDATION: 5-1. COUNCIL BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS.** Council boards, committees, and commissions are generally advisory in nature to assist Council and staff by preparing recommendations for Council decision. Board, committee, and commission members may not speak or act for Council except when formally given such authority for specific purposes. Council boards, committees, and commissions cannot exercise authority over staff without specific authority from the Council. Members of boards, committees, and commissions shall be selected in accord with the provisions of the ordinance creating the board, committee, or commission from within El Paso County and shall serve without compensation....
- *Alternative: 5-2. PRESIDENT’S BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS. The President may appoint special boards, committees, or commissions composed of Councilmembers and/or citizens to assist in the study of items before the Council. A working group so appointed shall serve until the matter is disposed of by the Council unless sooner terminated by the President.*

FORMAL COMMITTEE NAME & SIZE?

- Colorado Springs Police Accountability Advisory Committee
 - Or Law Enforcement Accountability Advisory Committee
 - Or Others?
- Size: This is a public committee and there will be opportunities for public comment. Given size of dais, recommend up to 11, depending on applications.
- Note: staff support will be necessary from Council Staff, City Attorney, CSPD (including Amanda Terrell-Orr), and potentially City Auditor and other parts of administration (such as human resources).

OTHER OPTIONS?

- Proposal for Citizens Accountability Advisory Committee, received today
- Others?

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- How does Council wish to proceed?

FORMAL COMMITTEE COMPOSITION & POTENTIAL MEMBERS/SOURCES

- Councilmember, likely Wayne Williams (Austin attendee)
- Reverend Promise Lee (Austin attendee)
- CSPD, likely Commander Mike Velasquez (Austin attendee) or Deputy Chief Adrian Vasquez
- Additional Austin Group member(s)*
- Colorado Springs Police Protective Association
 - Austin program emphasized need for employee buy in
- District Attorney or representative
- Other interested citizens

*Presence of more than two members of formal city committee may impact private efforts.

FORMAL COMMITTEE SELECTION PROCESS

- Open Applications
- Potential Interview Committee
 - Sherryl Dillon
 - Promise Lee
 - Richard Skorman
 - Wayne Williams

TENTATIVE TIMELINE IF FORMAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE WERE ESTABLISHED

- Applications, June 12-26
- Interview Process, June 29 - July 10
- Confirmation, July 14 City Council Meeting
- Meetings beginning in July
- Periodic Council Presentations at Work Sessions with Council consideration of recommendations to make to Mayor and CSPD as appropriate