

CSC Letter in Support of Black Lives

July 15, 2020

Commissioners: Artavia Berry, Varsha Chauhan, Arti Garg, Saira Guzman, Alicia G. Lawrence, Linda Moore, Corina Vasaure

Background

- At our June meeting, in light of nationwide protests against police violence and systemic racism, the Hayward Community Services Commission (CSC) discussed writing a letter to Hayward City Council in support of Black Lives
- Several commissioners formed an *ad hoc* group to draft a letter for consideration by the Commission during our July meeting
- The letter is comprised of:
 - Main letter body
 - Attachment I - CSC Commitments & Intentions
 - Attachment II - Recommendations to City Council
 - Attachment III - Portion of the Hayward Municipal Code showing the charge and purview of CSC

Key Points of Main Letter

- Acknowledgement of recent police murders of Black Americans
- Statement by CSC affirming that Black Lives Matter
 - Affirmation of our commitment to righting the legacy of slavery and tackling ongoing systemic racism
- Discussion of Hayward's legacy of racism and ongoing injustice toward our Black, Brown, and Indigenous residents
- Discussion of the need to look beyond the services funded through programs for which CSC makes recommendations to all city services, including those currently housed in Hayward Police Department
- Support for the City's Racial Equity Action Plan
- Description of the Attachments

Attachment II - CSC Commitments & Intentions

1. Review of the CSC funding process to prioritize funding recommendations for agencies and projects that directly support our Black residents.
2. Expand the racial equity lens to supporting agencies with leadership and staffing representative of the communities they serve.
3. Request and receive an annual reporting from the Hayward Police Department (HPD) regarding all social services under HPD's purview.
4. Prioritize Arts and Music funding to support city-wide celebrations of Black Culture & Liberation in honor of Juneteenth.

CSC Recommendations to Council (Up to 3mos)

1. Issue a statement of support in solidarity with the Black Community from the City of Hayward.
2. Issue an apology to the Black Community for complicity in institutional racism in the City of Hayward.
3. Commission an analysis on a Ban of the Use of Deadly Force by HPD
4. Adopt a resolution that the HPD Community Advisory Panel (CAP) will abide by the Brown Act rules and direct HPD to report out monthly to the CAP on the number of people killed or hospitalized by HPD, number of complaints filed against HPD, and the number of officers terminated due to brutality or complaints.
5. Demilitarize the police. (*Demand #3 of the “7 Demands”*)
6. Freeze Police Department hiring indefinitely including incoming police academy candidates/graduates. (*Demand #4 of the “7 Demands”*)

CSC Recommendations to Council (6-9 mos)

1. Ensure the appointment process results in a CSC that continues to be racially representative of the Hayward community.
2. Declare June 19th “JUNETEENTH” in the City of Hayward, and direct the Economic Development Special Events funding to support celebrations in honor of this day.
3. Greater visibility from the GARE team regarding their work on the history and cultural contributions of Russell City with a community input process for recommendations on how the City can better recognize and honor this legacy.
4. Redistribute 10% of the police’s budget for FY 2021 to non-police, community-based services outside of the police department. (*Demand #1 of the “7 Demands”*)
5. Establish a city-wide, participatory committee for all residents (regardless of citizenship status) that will dictate how to reallocate another 10% of the police budget to non-police, community-based services for FY 2022. (*Demand #7 of the “7 Demands”*)
 - *CSC suggests that the CAP may be able to fulfill this role, **should** short-term recommendation 4 be fulfilled*

CSC Recommendations to Council (9-12 mos)

1. Council direction to the Development Services Department and Planning Commission regarding increasing Black homeownership and sensitivity to gentrification, urban renewal, and opportunity zones.
2. Council direction to the Economic Development division regarding business development that prioritizes the needs of Black small business owners.
3. An evaluation of the implementation of 3-1-1 as an urgency hotline to address public safety issues that are unrelated to law enforcement or an analysis with Alameda County regarding leveraging 2-1-1 to fulfill this purpose.