The killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers using a controversial choke hold has caused a number of police departments across the country to review their use of carotid holds, which restrict or block the flow of blood to the brain. On June 8, 2020, the Police Department (LAPD) instructed its officers to stop using any carotid holds. The Department also placed a moratorium on training officers in the use of carotid holds, pending a review by the Department and the Police Commission. In addition, state legislation was recently introduced with the backing of the governor which would prohibit the use of carotid holds state-wide.

The LAPD already had significant restrictions in place on the use of carotid holds, and these actions strengthen those. It is important that the public is informed of these policy changes, and how they will be implemented. Further, the public should be advised of the disciplinary actions faced by officers who use this prohibited technique.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department report on how the Department will update its use of force standards as related to the use of carotid holds, and what disciplinary actions could be taken against officers who continue to employ the technique now that the Department has ended its use.

PRESENTED BY: CURREN PRICE for MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON (verbal)
Councilmember, 8th District

BOB BLUMENFIELD (verbal)
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: MIKE BONIN (verbal)
Councilmember, 11th District

jwd