

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to peer intervention programs and related peer intervention training within the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Rodriguez - O'Farrell):

DIRECT the LAPD to:

- a. Report within 30 days in regard to Identifying peer intervention training programs to include a plan for fully adopting peer intervention training and incorporating peer intervention principles throughout the LAPD.
- b. Report within 30 days in regard to the LAPD's current peer intervention policy and fully integrate peer intervention training and policies into the department's early warning system, otherwise known as TEAMS II, as well as other risk management functions of the LAPD, to better identify, track, and report an officer's misconduct to include plans for implementation.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On August 11, 2020, the Public Safety Committee considered a Motion (Rodriguez - O'Farrell) relative to peer intervention programs and related peer intervention training within the LAPD. According to the Motion, on May 25, 2020 George Floyd died in the custody of Minneapolis Police officers because one officer pinned his knee to Floyd's neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. George Floyd did not die in an instant. Three other officers who were there all watched, but none of them stopped what was happening. Many experts, civil rights advocates, and law enforcement leaders argue that peer intervention training might have prevented Floyd's death. However, only a handful of police departments across the country have these training programs.

Peer intervention training instills the expectation that officers have a duty to act as a check on their fellow officers' misconduct, such as using excessive force. They are legally obligated, the training teaches, to quickly stop an officer from committing misconduct before it leads to more serious behavior and/or consequences, such as being fired, being charged criminally, or unnecessarily causing a person's death. Failure to intervene in another officer's misconduct should be met with swift punishment. Proponents of peer intervention say by putting the responsibility on fellow officers to actively intervene, it could lead to a culture shift in law enforcement and a disbanding of the "blue wall of silence". Peer intervention training incorporates active bystandership into everything an officer does and provides officers with the tools and resources needed to do it well. Peer intervention strives to redefine police culture so that intervention to prevent or stop harmful action is not an exception to good police work; it is the very definition of it.

It has become more important than ever to create a police culture in Los Angeles that

encourages and requires peer intervention and holds officers accountable when they fail to do so. The LAPD should not only train its officers on peer intervention but also incorporate active bystandership throughout the entire department: from recruitment and hiring to the academy to patrol to investigations. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Public Safety Committee moved to approve the Motion, as detailed in the recommendations above. This matter is now transmitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
RYU:	YES
LEE:	YES

ARL 8-11-20

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-