From: Sarah Chodorow
To: Alder Work Group Creating MPD Independent Civilian Oversight
Subject: Logistics and Operational Details for MPD Independent Civilian Oversight
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020 2:48:10 PM

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Dear Alder Work Group,

Thank you so much for your commitment to implementing the important recommendations for civilian oversight of the Madison Police Department.

I am writing to urge you to implement the creation of the Independent Monitor position and Civilian Oversight Board exactly as recommended in the report generated by the Policy and Procedure Review Ad Hoc Committee. The work done by this Ad Hoc Committee included extensive research into the elements necessary to make civilian oversight mechanisms effective. "These elements include full independence, adequate jurisdiction, adequate authority (including capacity to conduct independent investigations), unfettered access to records and personnel, full cooperation from police and other city partners, access to independent legal counsel, adequate resources, public reporting and transparency, and community outreach and involvement" (p. 30, Ad Hoc Committee Report).

Additionally, the Ad Hoc Committee lays out very specific instructions as to the composition of the Civilian Oversight Board, including that "a majority of board members should be nominated by a designated set of community-based organizations with appropriate characteristics" (p. 30) and that the make-up of the board must include diverse members across race, gender identity, socioeconomic status, and disability status, in order to comprise membership where those most impacted by police encounters are fully represented. It is absolutely crucial that organizations such as Freedom Inc, Urban Triage, and Centro Hispano be engaged and given voice and vote in determining the membership of the Civilian Oversight Board. It is also crucial that membership of this board be adequately compensated so as to ensure equity in membership.

Thank you so much for your time, attention, and efforts.

Sincerely,
Sarah Chodorow, LCSW
(she/her/hers)
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