

1. Demystifying PPB Policy for the Community

PPB Policy is laid out in a series of [publicly available](#) directives. While the Bureau has published a limited set of “[executive summaries](#)” that seek to provide an overview of policy reviews, many of the most important policies (including use of force and policies related to mental health crises) have not been summarized in a manner that allows the majority of residents to easily understand the rules governing PPB behavior. For example, the policy on the use of force ([1010.00](#)) is over 10,000 words and is written as a legal text (i.e. with sections and subsections).

As a result, while the Bureau should maintain the granularity of the existing policy directives, *PCCEP recommends that the Bureau-- as part of the Community Engagement process-- take a series of steps to demystify PPB policy for the public.* This may include committing to publishing executive summaries of all PPB policies, as well as creation of explanatory videos about how policies work in practice, similar to a recent effort by the Oregon State Bar (see consumer rights videos [here](#)). These policies and videos should be translated into multiple languages.

2. Revision to Mission Statement

The Community Engagement mission statement currently reads as follows: “To build and strengthen meaningful relationships between community members and the Police Bureau, enabling us to work together to address specific issues affecting safety and quality of life in our communities.”

PCCEP recommends that the Bureau add an additional clause at the end, which could read as follows:

“and to provide an opportunity for the community to give--and for the Bureau to respond to-- concrete feedback on public safety issues affecting their neighborhoods.”

This addition would center the idea that the PPB is not only seeking to build relationships to enhance its mission, but is committed to being an active listener and learner regarding the issues most of concern to the community. This is in direct response to [recent survey data](#) showing that a majority of community members believe that the PPB is “not effective at engaging and listening to the community to hear their concerns.”

3. Exploring a Truth and Reconciliation Commission Model

As noted in [recent survey results](#), “The community and some officers feel that an acknowledgment of the history of racism in Portland and in the PPB is a necessary first step to improved trust and legitimacy.”

In response to a question from a PCCEP member at the March 2019 PCCEP meeting, Chief Outlaw acknowledged the promise of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) model for

airing and acknowledging the history of discrimination in Portland. [Nascent efforts](#) in the U.S. (in Greensboro, NC and Maine) have shown encouraging signs, but more should be done to study the process and work with the community to develop a plan for a Portland-specific TRC model.

To that end, PCCEP recommends that the PPB-- as part of the Community Engagement plan-- formally create a TRC Working Group to analyze various models and develop a plan to implement a TRC in Portland within the next three years.