



# PCCEP Recommendation

Cover Letter

June 7, 2020

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## Vote

Passed by a vote of 8-2

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**PCCEP recommends that the city defund the police and refund our communities. We furthermore ask that the city develop culturally specific alternative services that can address the needs of the houseless and those suffering from mental health crises and drug and alcohol addiction. This narrowing of the purview of the PPB will enable them to do what they are trained to do at the same time as freeing up funds to address the tremendous social needs in Portland.**

*In June, in addition to the \$11.8 million PPB budget reduction required as a result of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on General Fund resources, the City Council voted to defund the Portland Police Bureau by an additional \$15 million. The City Council voted to reinvest \$8.4 million of the \$15 million as follows:*

- *\$4.8 million to Portland Street Response program*
- *\$1.0 million to a Black Youth Leadership Development initiative*
- *\$1.0 million to a participatory budgeting process with the houseless community*
- *\$68,389 to the Office of Government Relations to support the work of the Tribal Relations Director*
- *\$56,528 to the Office of Equity and Human Rights for a Civil Rights Title VI Program position*
- *\$1.47 million in contingency for future allocation by City Council*

During this year's Fall Budget Monitoring Process, City Council voted to pass \$3 million investment in participatory budgeting process for Black Portlanders in partnership with Reimagine Oregon. Approximately \$1.9 million are from cannabis tax revenues, placing the City's investment of those dollars in alignment with community demands. The remaining funds are the funds that were taken from PPB and placed in contingency during the June budget vote.

Furthermore, recognizing the need for a more holistic approach to addressing the needs of those suffering from behavioral health crises and drug and alcohol addiction, the City Council voted to allocate \$70,000 to a Program Manager position under CareOregon (which will match the funds invested by the City), in partnership with the Mayor's Office. This position will lead work around the development and coordination of a 24/7, multi-partner triage and assessment unit that will be designed to provide a network of services for individuals experiencing behavioral health crises and addiction. The partnership with CareOregon also includes support from UNITY, DePaul Treatment Center, Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare.



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While these steps are important steps, they are not enough, and the Mayor's Office will continue to partner with other government agencies and organizations to continue addressing the needs of vulnerable Portlanders.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "E. Wheeler", written over a horizontal line.

November 21, 2020

**Mayor Wheeler**

**Date**

**Reason for not adopting:**