



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2015

Portland City Auditor Requesting Budget for Additional Investigator Positions for Independent Police Review

Portland City Auditor Mary Hull Caballero is seeking two investigator positions for the Independent Police Review (IPR) during the City's fall budget adjustment process. This budget request is aimed at effectively meeting increased demand for the police oversight function that IPR provides. The two primary drivers of this budget request are continued implementation of the Settlement Agreement between the City and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) and the recent passage of a new Oregon law (House Bill 2002) prohibiting profiling by law enforcement.

Requests are currently under review by the City Budget Office and will be taken up on October 27 by City Council during a work session, which is open to the public.

The Settlement Agreement requires that IPR have the ability to conduct "meaningful independent investigations" of allegations of officer misconduct. The Settlement Agreement was originally approved by City Council in November 2012 and formally went into effect in August 2014. Since then, IPR has streamlined its processes and made significant strides in its investigative capabilities. With the input of DOJ attorneys and their experts, IPR has continued to increase its capabilities as an oversight agency. One DOJ recommendation has been that IPR should move to a model where all allegations of officer misconduct are subject to a full administrative investigation by either IPR or the Police Bureau's Internal Affairs, as opposed to the current model where 75% of misconduct complaints are dismissed after an initial investigation by IPR. Additional investigators will be needed to increase the number of cases IPR investigates.

House Bill 2002 was signed by Governor Kate Brown on July 13, 2015, and significantly expands the definition of profiling and requires that cities investigate all allegations of profiling by law enforcement. By their nature, allegations of profiling and disparate treatment are time intensive investigations which require a thoughtful investigative approach.

Additionally, based on feedback from the public during a series of community engagements sessions held this summer, IPR has made a commitment that it will conduct a full administrative investigation of claims of disparate treatment by a Portland Police Bureau officer.

For more information, please contact City Auditor Mary Hull Caballero, (503) 823-4082.



City of Portland

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 140 | Portland, OR 97204 | (503) 823-0146

Fax: 503-823-4571 | IPR@portlandoregon.gov