

## The Oregonian

# Portland's mayor queries police chief about tactics used during June 4 protests

*By Maxine Bernstein  
June 13, 2017*

Mayor Ted Wheeler on Tuesday praised police for keeping the peace during tense dueling protests earlier this month in downtown, but questioned some of their tactics, echoing public criticism about arrests and use of force.

[Wheeler's letter to Police Chief Mike Marshman](#) coincides with an announcement that the city's Independent Police Review Division will also examine the police response. The division, part of the city auditor's office, received about 10 complaints about the police response to the June 4 demonstrations downtown.

Wheeler asked Marshman to explain the Police Bureau's policy on receiving help from people providing security for protests in making arrests, how police determine when to have officers in riot-control gear versus officers on bicycles stand guard, what prompted police to use flash-bang grenades and pepper balls to clear out Chapman Park and why police photographed people's ID cards.

"In the end, we avoided the worst potential outcomes," Wheeler wrote. "I am grateful that there were no reports of major injuries and that arrests were minimal. This is all the more remarkable, given the complex situation on the ground, with several simultaneous demonstrations taking place within several different law enforcement jurisdictions."

The mayor asked Marshman to respond by June 23.

Marshman is on vacation this week, said police spokesman Sgt. Pete Simpson. "The answers, presumably, will be provided to the mayor directly," Simpson said.

Wheeler had asked federal authorities to revoke the permit for a "Trump Free Speech" rally in Terry Schunk Plaza, across from City Hall, in the aftermath of the brutal May 26 attack aboard a MAX train that left two good Samaritans dead and another seriously injured. The three Good Samaritans intervened when they heard a man spewing racial and anti-Muslim slurs at two teenage girls on the train.

The U.S. General Services Administration, which oversees the plaza, declined, saying organizers had legally obtained the permit.

Lines of Portland police and officers from the Federal Protective Services and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security stood between the rally goers and counter-protesters organized by labor unions, immigrant rights and religious groups. Police arrested 14 people and seized knives, bricks, sticks and other weapons. Police cleared nearby Chapman Park after saying protesters there threw bricks and other objects at officers.

The U.S. Attorney's Office is reviewing why a man doing security for the free-speech rally helped tackle and handcuff a black-clad protester. Others have publicly asked why Portland police photographed people's identification after they were corralled in a so-called kettle at Southwest Fourth Avenue and Morrison Street.

Meanwhile, the city's police oversight division will review police policies in the handling of the demonstrations. Staff will interview community members, police and public policy experts and issue a public report.

Constantin Severe, the division's director, said the complaints to his office didn't identify a particular officer but addressed tactics, so he decided to do a policy review of the police response. It should be completed within about 90 days, he said.

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **Wheeler questions some police protest tactics**

*By Jim Redden*

*June 14, 2017*

Mayor Ted Wheeler has praised the Portland police for their response to competing downtown demonstrations last Sunday but asked questions about a number of tactical decisions in a June 13 letter to Chief Mike Marshman.

"As police commissioner, I don't make strategic decisions, but I need to understand the justification for what happened," Wheeler told the Portland Tribune editorial board when discussing the letter Monday.

Wheeler said he was generally pleased the protests ended without anyone getting hurt or any property being damaged.

Among other things, Wheeler asked why police moved so-called anti-fascist activists out of Chapman Park. He also asked the legal justification for corralling many of them as they marched down Southwest Fourth Avenue and why they were detained until they showed and were photographed with identification.

A Portland Tribune reporter and photographer were among those temporarily detained.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon has criticized the tactics as unconstitutional.

Wheeler also asked about police policies concerning receiving help from citizens making arrests. The Department of Homeland Security has been criticized for requesting and receiving assistance from a right-wing militia member providing private security for pro-Trump protesters.

You can read the letter [here](#).

Wheeler has asked Marshman to reply by Jan. 23.

You can read a previous Portland Tribune story on the protests at [tinyurl.com/y8y93hl4](http://tinyurl.com/y8y93hl4).

## **Willamette Week**

### **Portland Marathon Rejected City Entreaties to Discuss a New Race Route**

*By Rachel Monahan*

*June 14, 2017*

For 45 years, the Portland Marathon has held a race through the city's streets.

But that run could soon be over.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation denied organizers a permit June 9 after they declined for months to change the course. Starting in October, city officials warned race organizers they needed to discuss setting a new route—one that would require less police staffing.

Portland Marathon director Les Smith says he'll appeal the decision. "We're an an iconic event that's been on the same course for 25 years," he tells WW.

But several signs point to disarray at the nonprofit that coordinates one of the city's largest recreational events.

Here's a breakdown of the numbers that threaten a tradition.

## **2 million**

Dollars collected in annual entrance fees for the Portland Marathon, according to the latest available tax return (2014) filed by the nonprofit Portland Marathon Inc.

## **2**

Number of years the nonprofit Portland Marathon Inc. has been delinquent on its tax filings, according to the Oregon Department of Justice.

## **80**

Number of officers from the Portland Police Bureau that would be required to staff the planned route, which is the same as last year's (see map).

## **33**

Maximum number of officers the Police Bureau will provide to outside events in 2017 in order to limit overtime costs.

## **8**

Number of months ago the bureau asked marathon organizers to come up with a new route.

## **We Ask City Officials: How Can Portland Square Its Climate Goals With Adding Lanes to I-5?**

*By Rachel Monahan*

*June 14, 2017*

Last month, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler burnished his environmental credentials—and took a swipe at President Donald Trump—by setting dramatic climate action goals for the city, committing to using 100 percent clean energy by 2050.

But he and his four colleagues on the Portland City Council also support a \$450 million project to expand Interstate 5 at the Rose Quarter, creating new auxiliary lanes for car traffic.

Critics say the council's support for the transportation package being honed by the Oregon Legislature is hypocritical.

"At a time when we're working hard to reduce the amount of driving in Portland, adding lanes is not a particularly productive investment," says Chris Smith, a member of the Planning Commission who voted against the proposal and argues the package needs to address areas of greater safety risk. "We're simply applying resources in the wrong place."

WW asked Portland's five commissioners to justify their backing of the I-5 expansion.

### **Mayor Ted Wheeler**

"The freeway portion of the project is designed to prevent crashes and to ensure that stalled or damaged vehicles can safely leave the right of way. There are as many associated street improvements as there are highway improvements, including a new overpass that will encourage bicycle and pedestrian travel in the area."

### **Commissioner Amanda Fritz**

"It seems likely the emissions from vehicles crawling in this section are worse than those at normal speed. The purpose is to address the current bottleneck rather than to add capacity. I believe this is not inconsistent with our climate action plan goals."

### **Commissioner Dan Saltzman**

"The Rose Quarter Project will deliver multiple new bicycle and pedestrian connections through the district and provide an opportunity for Oregon's first congestion-pricing effort to limit single-occupancy vehicles."

### **Commissioner Nick Fish**

Fish's office confirmed that he was supportive, but declined requests for him to comment.

### **Commissioner Chloe Eudaly**

Her office did not respond. She was in Barcelona but voted with her colleagues for the legislative agenda that included the highway expansion project.

## **Mayor Ted Wheeler Asks Portland Police Bureau to Justify Its Use of Crowd-Control Weapons on Antifa Protesters**

*By Tom Berridge*

*June 13, 2017*

Still have questions about Portland police tactics during the June 4 protester standoff? So does Mayor Ted Wheeler.

Wheeler today sent [a letter to Portland Police Chief Mike Marshman](#) that asks five detailed questions about the methods police used to [drive left-wing protesters from Chapman Square](#) and detain them in downtown streets.

Wheeler's questions cover much of the same ground as [a June 6 WW story that summarized a persistent complaint from the Sunday protests](#): that Portland police cracked down too aggressively on local antifascists and anarchists.

The mayor's letter is especially interesting because it asks the bureau to defend not only its June 4 actions but explain its guiding policy on how it responds to political protests. Wheeler asks why police arrive at rallies in riot gear, and what grounds the bureau uses for deploying crowd-control weapons like stun grenades and rubber bullets. (Both were used on June 4.)

"I have heard from people who claim they were protesting peacefully and following instructions, but nevertheless were affected by the use of crowd control devices," the mayor writes. "What steps are taken to minimize the use of crowd control devices? What steps are taken to attempt to ensure that when they are used those protesting peacefully and following instructions are not affected?"

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon [has said police overreacted to a few protesters reportedly throwing bricks and red-dyed tampons at officers](#). "To our knowledge, no other police force in America uses crowd control weapons with the regularity of the Portland Police Bureau," the ACLU wrote last week.

In response to those complaints, Wheeler's office told WW last week that it would send Marshman a detailed list of questions about police policy.

This morning, the city's Independent Police Review announced it would investigate police tactics at the June 4 protests.

Here are the questions Wheeler asked today:

- 1. The law enforcement response to the June 4 events necessitated coordination between the Portland Police Bureau and Homeland Security. There have been questions raised as to why Homeland Security agents received assistance from a person or persons providing security for the rally in Terry Schrunk Plaza. Does the Portland Police Bureau have a policy pertaining to citizen involvement in making arrests? To what extent, if any, does the Portland Police Bureau coordinate with event organizers on security arrangements?*
- 2. One point of comparison often drawn between Portland Police Bureau and the police departments of other cities is Portland Police Bureau's use of officers in so-called "riot gear" during protests. On June 4, what factors were considered to determine when officers will wear additional protection and when those officers will appear on scene? How do you evaluate the use of officers in protective gear versus, for example, bicycle officers?*
- 3. Portland Police Bureau made the determination that counter-protesters in Chapman Park should move north, away from Terry Schrunk Plaza. Subsequently, Chapman Park was closed and crowd control devices were deployed. What were the circumstances that led to the deployment of crowd control devices? What steps were taken to communicate with people in and around the area prior to deploying crowd control devices?*
- 4. I have heard from people who claim they were protesting peacefully and following instructions, but nevertheless were affected by the use of crowd control devices. What steps are taken to attempt to ensure that when they are used those protesting peacefully and following instructions are not affected?*
- 5. Portland Police Bureau detained a group at 4th and Morrison. Those present were asked to produce identification, and their identification was photographed prior to being released. What circumstances led to the decision to detain the group? What will the Portland Police Bureau do with the photographic evidence collected?*

## **The Portland Mercury**

### **Hall Monitor: The New Villagers**

*By Dirk VanderHart*

*June 14, 2017*

TWO DAYS before the city's new tiny home village finally opened up for its first 14 female residents, someone drove in at night to do doughnuts in the adjacent gravel parking lot.

Was it a statement of opposition to the small—yet symbolically huge—addition of a government-implemented homeless village in Kenton, or mere youthful exuberance? Opinions varied during an open house on Friday, June 9, showing off Kenton Women's Village for the first time.

Neither motive would surprise. In March, when the Kenton Neighborhood Association held a vote to see whether residents supported a community of homeless women in an unused lot near Kenton Park, a strident minority would not be budged in their opposition—mostly rooted in the fears around safety and hygiene that cling to any discussion on homelessness.

This is precisely where Kenton Women’s Village’s key promise lies. Beyond the good the village might do for the women who live there over the next year, the project has the potential to further pave a way for new and innovative models to help address the city’s homelessness crisis.

“We know that traditional shelter does not work for everybody,” Michael Cox, a spokesperson for Mayor Ted Wheeler, told a small crowd at the recent open house. (Wheeler was at a meeting elsewhere.) “We know that a model like this really can work for people.”

That Kenton Women’s Village even exists is a testament to advocates and volunteers who’ve been relentlessly pushing this and similar models for the last year under the banner of the Village Coalition. As [we’ve reported](#), those efforts eventually pulled in local architects and others who designed and built the tiny homes now sitting in the Kenton lot.

They also spurred the city to spend something like \$200,000 cleaning the lot (which it owns), covering it with gravel, and purchasing two one-of-a-kind shipping containers outfitted to serve as restrooms and a kitchen. Multnomah County is chipping in nearly \$150,000 to pay for a site manager and connect residents with social services through Catholic Charities.

The early buy-in makes Kenton Women’s Village an outlier—other sanctioned camps around the city got their start as acts of protest, before eventually winning over officials. But there are other signs the village model is progressing as well.

When at long last it made its way to a new home near the Moda Center earlier this month, rest area Right 2 Dream Too brought some new additions: 10 tiny homes built by students at Benson Polytechnic High School.

The new homes will go to “members” of the nonprofit, who stay in camp full-time to help run things. They’re another step toward more experimentation, helping familiarize Portland residents and leaders alike with what these villages look like, and the assistance they can provide.

The goal is that that will pay off when the proposal for the next village comes around.

As Todd Ferry, an architect with Portland State University, told the crowd at last week’s open house: “We’re hoping that you all will partner with us on the next village—and the next village.”

## OPB

### Portland Joins Effort To Publish Removed EPA Climate Change Website

*By Amelia Templeton  
June 12, 2017*

The city of Portland is joining a national effort to post climate change data that was removed from the website of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Visit the EPA’s current website, and you can find pages for topics including lead, pesticides and even bedbugs. But the main climate change page was taken down in April.

[Instead](#), there’s a message that says the page is being updated “to reflect the EPA’s priorities under the leadership of President (Donald) Trump and Administrator (Scott) Pruitt.”

The message also includes a link to an archived snapshot of the same climate change website on Jan. 19.

The Washington Post [reported](#) that the information taken down was not limited to policy statements and included research and basic educational information about climate change that had been published on the site in some form for two decades.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, who served in President Barack Obama's administration, responded by using his city's website to republish the page that the Trump administration had taken down. It includes information on the ways greenhouse gas emissions affect weather.

Now, Portland has joined Chicago and [published](#) a copy of the climate change page on the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability site.

In a press release, the bureau notes that Portland was the first city in the United States to craft its own carbon emissions reduction plan, in 1993.

“Any vision for the future of our city needs to acknowledge climate change. It isn't just our planet that's at stake, it's our very existence,” said Mayor Ted Wheeler.

Other cities re-posting the data include Seattle, Houston, Atlanta and Boston.

The Chicago Department of Innovation and Technology has uploaded the information to an [open-sourced site](#) and is offering it to other cities and universities that want it.