

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 03/16/2021 10:29 PM

Council File No: 20-0729

Comments for Public Posting: Written by a team of six LAPD veterans, the report sanitizes much of LAPD's violence during the protests and recommends increases to police resources and surveillance powers, worst of all the creation of a new LAPD bureau devoted to "public order policing, incident command systems, and liaising with outside agencies." This type of proposal is the exact opposite of what people took to the streets to demand: defunding LAPD. Over 62.4% of Angelenos support proposals to "redirect some money currently going to the police budget to local programs" (Loyola Marymount University). Hundreds of thousands of Angelenos protested to defund the police, not expand the police. The report proposes the creation of a permanent new LAPD bureau devoted to "public order policing." This is extremely dangerous and will lead to more surveillance and criminalization of protestors. The proposal to create a new "Public Order Policing" bureau is a barely veiled effort to revive the Public Disorder Intelligence Division, which was created as a reaction to the Watts Rebellion and infiltrated hundreds of community groups and kept secret dossiers on thousands of activists as well as City Council members, judges, and Mayor Bradley. The report's proposals are part of a historical cycle: (1) LAPD brutally attacks Black communities protesting police violence (2) LAPD insiders recommend expanding police resources rather than listening to community demands (3) LAPD repeats its brutality the next time the community protests police violence. I ask that the Public Safety Committee strongly oppose the creation of a "Public Order Policing" bureau and call out the corruption of this report.