

Community of Antioch Wants Police Reform Discussion

2020-06-19 Police reform debate draws 700 speakers at Antioch council meeting After listening to roughly 700 people's opinions about the best way to address police conduct and other issues, the Antioch City Council this week decided to hold a series of community forums on the subject.

The public comments — a record number in recent council history — took more than seven hours spread over two special virtual meetings Tuesday and Thursday to read into the record. "I don't think we have ever had this many citizens participate in both sides," Wright said. "This is one of those topics that's very important for us as we go forward. It's important for the nation, it's important for Antioch." <https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2020/06/19/antioch-council-rejects-police-reform-committee-opts-for-larger-forums/>

Make A Stand in your Community (Antioch) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MASIYC>

Action 1 Reviews & Disciplinary Action for Police Bad Conduct

We need a Nationwide Registry of Use of Force & public complaints about Police Officers. Community Transparency of Police Hiring's! In Meantime Antioch needs to be extra diligent in who is on their Police Force Members of the Community including local families of victims of police brutality as a first step are demanding the firing of several police officers whose actions and behaviors are not in the best interests of the community of Antioch. There are other police officers who need a transparency review of possible questionable conduct.

Officer Michael Mellone

2020-06-11 Antioch Police hired former San Francisco cop faulted in fatal 2016 shooting, riled residents hold protest The hiring of an Antioch police officer last year following his resignation as a cop in San Francisco has angered residents because it happened before that officer could be disciplined for actions that led to the fatal shooting of a homeless man more than four years ago. Antioch police are now reviewing Mellone's hiring in light of recently released documents from San Francisco police under that state's police transparency law, Senate Bill 1421, a department spokesperson said. Mellone started as an Antioch cop in August, quitting his job across the Bay. He resigned just before internal affairs investigators in San Francisco recommended he be suspended for 10 days for shooting a man with a bean-bag gun that set off a chain of events that ended with Mellone and another officer killing the man moments later. <https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2020/06/11/antioch-police-hired-former-san-francisco-cop-faulted-in-fatal-2016-shooting-riled-residents-hold-protest/>

Police Union President Officer Steve Aiello

2020-06-23 Investigation underway after police union president makes controversial comment on Facebook The Antioch Police Chief is investigating after the police union president made a controversial comment on Facebook. Corporal Steve Aiello said he believes slapping protesters who flip off police is 100-percent justified.

Some people are now planning a protest tomorrow and asking him to step down from his position. "He's advocating violence against peaceful protesters," Kevin McManimen said. "I felt scared. I was distraught. I could not believe what he just said," Shagoofa Khan said. "It brought me confusion. It brought me a lot of emotions whether it's anger, disappointment just because he is a leader in our community," Khan said. <https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/investigation-underway-after-police-union-president-makes-controversial-comment-on-facebook>

Action 2 Implement the “8 Can’t wait reforms

2020-06-08 Council Member Lamar Thorpe seeks 8 immediate policy reforms Councilmember Thorpe fully endorses the enactment of eight specific policy recommendations that are part of the national 8 Can’t Wait Campaign. Two of eight recommendations are policy in Antioch. Thorpe is calling on Antioch Chief of Police to enact the remaining six.

Following are the eight policy recommendations:

1. Ban police use of chokeholds and strangleholds, including the carotid restraint
2. Require officers to de-escalate situations whenever possible
3. Require officers to exhaust all options before shooting, including less lethal force
4. Ban officers from shooting at moving vehicles
5. Establish a use of force continuum that restricts using the most severe force to most extreme situations
6. Require comprehensive reporting for each time an officer fires or points their weapon at someone
7. Require verbal warnings before using deadly force (already an Antioch policy)
8. Require officers to intervene to stop excessive force by other officers (already an Antioch policy)

Action 3 Need a Community Ad Hoc Committee on Police Reform

2020-06-08 Antioch councilman calls for city to consider police reforms Thorpe said he plans on Tuesday to call on fellow council members to form an ad-hoc committee and involve the community to consider possible changes.

“While it’s important for our city to take immediate preventative steps, such as banning use of carotid restraints, creating successful police reforms will require the involvement of the entire community,” Thorpe said in a statement. “The ad-hoc committee approach is one of the best tools we have as city councilmembers to create lasting policy change that works.” <https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2020/06/08/antioch-councilman-calls-for-city-to-consider-police-reforms/>

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But it voted 3-2 against the idea of forming an ad-hoc committee to directly address police reform. Mayor Sean Wright and council members Lori Ogorchock and Joy Motts voted against the committee idea and Monica Wilson and Lamar Thorpe for it.

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