

**City of Portland**  
**Police Accountability Commission (PAC)**  
**Advance Public Comment for 07-13-23 Meeting**

*Advance Public Comment begins after this line.*

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**Comment #1**

**Name:** SJ

**Zip Code:** 97211

**Please identify what topic is your public comment related to:** Transition Plan (including how the oversight system will be implemented for the first time, how long existing systems will be maintained, and key dates and timelines)

**Public comment:** I am a blind taxpaying citizens in Portland, Oregon. I will work in the world center area in the past five years has gone to work. Had to walk in the street because the tents are blocking the sidewalk. I've often found myself stepping on people sleeping on the sidewalks, or they're either intoxicated on the sidewalks Being a blind individual having these obstacles is very very difficult when you're trying to go home or trying to go to work. I've also encountered other unfortunate things like garbage, feces, and things that people told me to watch out for like dirty needles. Makes me sad.

**Comment #2**

**Name:** C.H.

**Zip Code:** 97209

**Please identify what topic is your public comment related to:** Transition Plan (including how the oversight system will be implemented for the first time, how long existing systems will be maintained, and key dates and timelines)

**Public comment:** I am a 39 year old blind man. I have been unable to navigate the streets of portland due to the infringement of my rights under the ADA to have access of up to 10 feet of sidewalk to travel around using my cane or guide dog. I have become a prisoner in my home because drug users have taken over the sidewalks and made accessibility impossible for me. This is a direct infringement of my civil rights and against Federal Law. Please up hold this ADA lawsuit that was unanimously adopted to insure my Federal right to safe and accessible travel on the sidewalks of Portland.

**Comment #3**

**Name:** G A C

**Zip Code:** 97214

**Please identify what topic is your public comment related to:** Broader System (including how the oversight board will relate to other levels of government and other parts of the City, as well as changes to City government as part of implementation of the new system)

**Public comment:** I have lived and worked in the City of Portland since 2001. I am I am fortunate to be able live and work from my house in Portland's central east side. Any Police "accountability" effort needs to be broader than just investigating specific instances of alleged misconduct. Accountability efforts should, broadly, consider ways to increase the effectiveness of safety officers. The City has seen an increase in drug use, dealing, and violent crime; crimes that disproportionately impact people of color and vulnerable residents such as the disabled, aged, and mentally ill. If you focus on specific instances of misconduct in a reactionary mode, you'll never solve root causes or improve methods of delivering safety services. A police department that has restored its public confidence can achieve adequate staffing and return to providing community policing, which will greatly improve trust among Portland residents. It has been reported that Oversight Board will be funded at \$12 million/year, equivalent to 5% of the police budget and a fourfold increase over funds currently allocated to the PAC. This seems inefficient given the reactionary nature of the Board's planned efforts. This money would be better spent delivering needed safety programs. Furthermore, at this funding level, and given Portland City code, these organizations need to have a Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) to oversee their budgetary decisions. The BAC membership should be appointed by a neutral party and should not be related, in any way, to the PAC and OB membership.

**Comment #4**

**Name:** Kelly

**Zip Code:** 97214

**Please identify what topic is your public comment related to:** Broader System (including how the oversight board will relate to other levels of government and other parts of the City, as well as changes to City government as part of implementation of the new system)

**Public comment:** Accountability and compliance with applicable laws appear to require a separate budget committee to oversee the significant budget for the Police Accountability Commission.