

From: [Bailey & Jay](#)
To: [KCC - Committee Assistants \(Email Group\)](#)
Subject: Comments for Law and Justice Committee: Proposed Ordinance No. 2021-0113.
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:34:32 PM

Dear Councilmembers:

My name is Bailey de longh and I live on Vashon Island. I am a member of the ACLU People Power Group on Police Accountability focused on King County and the legislature. I am offering a comment on Proposed Ordinance No. 2021-0113.

The proposed ordinance being discussed is an important step towards a more inclusive process in the selection of the next Sheriff. It also begins the discussion of alternative ways to provide true public safety to all. The selection of the individuals serving on the Advisory Committee is critical to the success of this important endeavor.

The proposal does not specify the means by which individuals from the following categories will be selected:

- 2 from overpoliced communities
- 2 from rural unincorporated communities
- 2 from urban unincorporated communities
- 2 with knowledge or experience related to law enforcement reform

I believe the following elements are necessary to increase confidence and participation in the process and to honor the County's Equity and Social Justice Initiative:

- Transparency in and adequate time given to both the recruitment and the selection process—while time is of the essence a short application time frame is counter productive in the long run and the community should know how these critical steps are being handled;
- Selection preference for Black, Indigenous, other People of Color and folks from other marginalized communities;
- Selection of folks who have been at the forefront of the conversation around what policing should look like, folks whose critique has been challenging and not always been easy to hear like members of the Washington Coalition for Police Accountability—we all learn better from such folks;
- Payment to community members serving--too often County advisory groups are made up of professionals or retired folks of means with flexible schedules;
- A commitment to fit the Advisory Committee schedule to the availability of all of its members; and
- The hiring and assignment of staff and facilitators with demonstrated capacity to assist multiracial groups in achieving time sensitive goals while respecting the

experience and contributions of all participants.

Thank you for your efforts to make the areas of King County policed by the Sheriff safer for everyone and to put King County in the forefront of re-imagining public safety.

Sincerely,

Bailey de longh

Vashon, WA