

# Seattle Community Police Commission



## Mid-Year Report 2024

Cali Ellis, PhD  
CPC Executive Director

July 9, 2024  
Seattle City Council  
Public Safety Committee

Seattle  
**Community**  
Police Commission



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2023-24

# CPC's Year of Change

Amendments to  
Accountability  
Ordinance

Leadership &  
Staff

Community  
Engagement



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# Seattle Community Police Commission

Section  
3.29.01

2017 Police  
Accountability  
Ordinance

## **CPC's Mission:**

*“to help ensure public confidence in the ... responsiveness of the police accountability system to public concerns by engaging the community to develop recommendations on the police accountability system and provide a community-based perspective on law enforcement related policies, practices, and services affecting public trust; all for the purpose of ensuring constitutional, accountable, effective, and respectful policing.”*



# CPC Authority & Responsibility


<b>Monitor</b>	Monitor the implementation by SPD, OPA, City elected officials, and other City departments and offices of recommendations made by the Inspector General, the OPA Director, and CPC.
<b>Review</b>	Review closed OPA investigations to identify opportunities for systemic improvements.
<b>Collaborate</b>	Collaborate with SPD, OPA, and the City Attorney's Office in improving system transparency.
<b>Input</b>	Review and provide input into SPD recruiting, hiring, and promotional practices.



# Seattle Community Police Commission




## Structure




## 15 Commissioners

Three appointing authorities: Mayor, City Council, CPC  
Each appointee must be confirmed by City Council  
Three year terms



## Staff



Executive Director  
Policy  
Community Engagement  
Communications

# Commissioners



New Commissioners,  
including  
representatives for  
**public defense, civil  
liberties, & SPMA**



In-person New  
Commissioner  
orientation with  
presentations from  
OIG, OPA, CAO, SPD



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# Accountability Ordinance Revisions



**Engagement on Ordinance Revisions – beginning in August 2022**



**Public Commission Discussion and Unanimous vote – May 3, 2023**

- Deputy Director
- Establish qualifications and removal of the CPC Executive Director
- Return the size of the Commission from 21 to 15
- Clarify CPC authority to remove Commissioners “for cause”
- Removing Council District Assignment for Commissioners

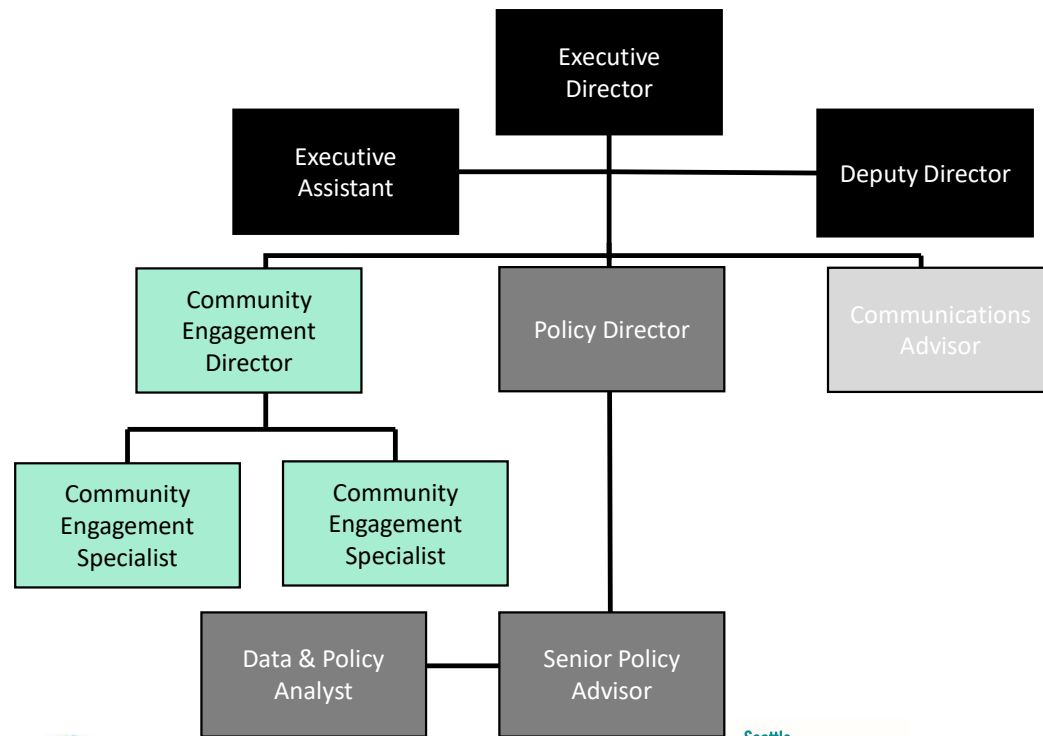


# CPC is the Smallest of the Oversight Partners

CPC: 10 FTE in 2024

OPA: Approx. 28

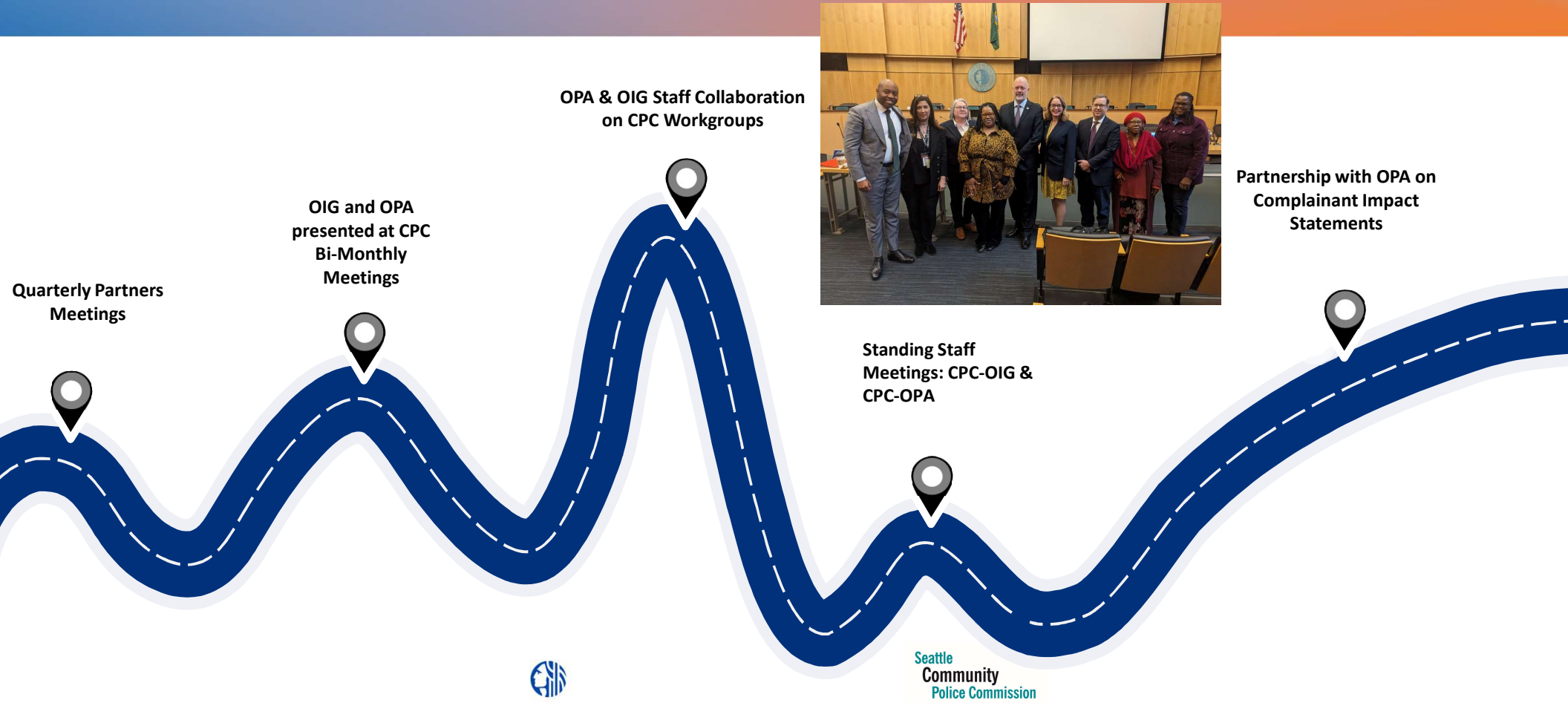
OIG: Approx. 21



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# Accountability Partner Collaboration



**OPA & OIG Staff Collaboration on CPC Workgroups**

**Partnership with OPA on Complainant Impact Statements**

**Standing Staff Meetings: CPC-OIG & CPC-OPA**



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# Priorities for 2024-25

## Organizational

Responsiveness

Restructuring

Operational Review



## Systemic

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Commitment to the Police Accountability Ordinance

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Police Contracts: Transparency and information sharing

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Community input to SPD policy

# Communications & Media



MULTIMEDIA  
CONTENT



NEWSLETTER &  
STATEMENTS



SOCIAL MEDIA  
ENGAGEMENT



WEBSITE REBUILD



# CPC Newsletter



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## May work updates around CPC

We are so glad to be back in action with our newsletter! If you missed our newly relaunched newsletter from 2 weeks ago, [take a look](#) to catch up. We always post our newsletters to the CPC website on our News page, so [navigate there](#) if you're ever in the mood for some light reading.



In staff news, we are pleased to announce that we have filled CPC's important Policy Director position, and that person will start with CPC on June 5. Be sure to tune into our Bi-Monthly Meeting on that day to meet them and learn more. Additionally, we have opened the recruitment for our first-ever CPC Deputy Director, which is a huge role that will help guide the staff and direction of CPC's work. Know anyone who might be a good fit? Pass along the [deputy director job posting](#) before it closes June 4.

We want to take a moment and mention how grateful we are to have such amazing partners in accountability here at the city: that's [OPA](#), [OIG](#), and [CPC](#). As required in the Accountability Ordinance, we meet quarterly to collaborate, share notes, and generate ideas together. Happy reading!

**Questions?** We always want to hear from you. Reach out to [OCPC@seattle.gov](mailto:OCPC@seattle.gov).

## CPC Videos

Watch these two recent videos to catch up on our work.

### May 15 CPC Bi-Monthly Meeting



View our most recent meeting for updates from Co-Chairs & staff, our City Council SPOG vote takeaways, and a 2024 workplan

### Why police accountability now?



Find out from CPC Co-Chair Joel Merkel why the next SPOG contract is so important to fully implementing Seattle's landmark 2017



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# Policy Engagement: 2023-24

SPMA and SPOG contracts

Consent Decree Filing

Legislative Engagement

- Traffic Safety Reform
- Independent Prosecutor for Police Misconduct

Office of Independent Investigations (OII)

CPC Statements

- Enforcement Actions at Seattle LGBTQ+ Bars
- SPD Technology Assisted Crime Prevention Pilot Program
- Emergency Vehicle Operations Policy

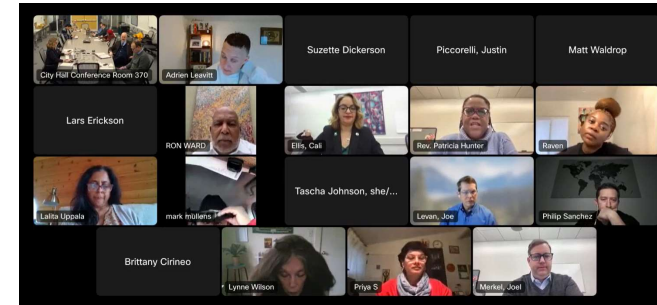
# Community Input to SPD Policies

## 3.29.300 Community Police Commission established – Functions and authority

- CPC shall review and provide input to OPA, OIG, SPD, and other City departments and offices, including the Mayor, Council, and City Attorney on the police accountability system, police services, and SPD policies and practices of significance to the public...



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### Seattle Police Department Manual

#### 13.030 – Emergency Vehicle Operations

Effective Date: 03/01/2018

##### 13.030-POL

##### 1. Defining Emergency Response

**Emergency Response** – When an officer operates an authorized police vehicle in a manner that is substantially outside of a normal traffic pattern.

##### 2. Officers May Drive in an Emergency Response Only When the Need Outweighs the Risk

The preservation of life is the highest priority. Criminal apprehension and the preservation of property are secondary.

Misdemeanor or property crimes do not justify an emergency response unless:

- Responding to an in-progress crime, or
- Where there is a legitimate concern for the preservation of life.

##### 3. Officers Shall Modify Their Emergency Response When Appropriate

Emergency driving shall be modified or terminated:

- As ordered by a supervisor;
- Or
- When the totality of the circumstances indicates the risk of continuing the emergency driving outweighs the need.

The officer's decision shall be reviewed based on the information available to them at the time.



## Community Engagement & Building Trust

### Key Partnerships

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- African-American, East African, LGBTQ, Filipino and SPD Precinct Advisory Councils
- City of Seattle – OPA, OIG, SPD, Office of Civil Rights, Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Youth Employment Program, City Auditor

# Responsive to Community Needs & Concerns

CPC shall be responsive to community needs and concerns through means including, but not limited to, the following:

- Engaging in community outreach to obtain the perspectives of community members and SPD employees on police-community relations, SPD policies and practices, the police accountability system, and other matters.
- Maintaining connections with representatives of disenfranchised communities and with other community groups in all of the City's legislative districts, as well as with SPD demographic and precinct advisory councils.
- Providing SPD, OPA and OIG with community feedback relevant to their operations received as a result of its public outreach activities.

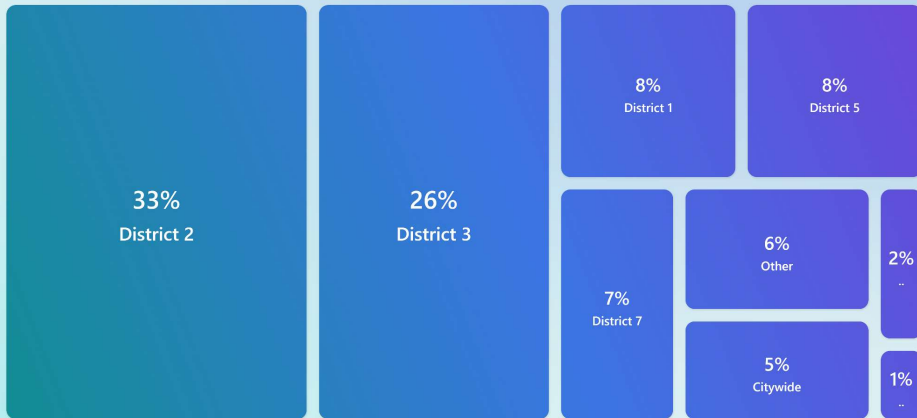




# Community Engagement Reporting

- Precinct Advisory Councils
- Public Safety Meetings
  - West Seattle
  - Central District
  - Mayor's Public Safety Forums
- Special Events
  - Juneteenth
  - Rainier Beach Community Health Fair

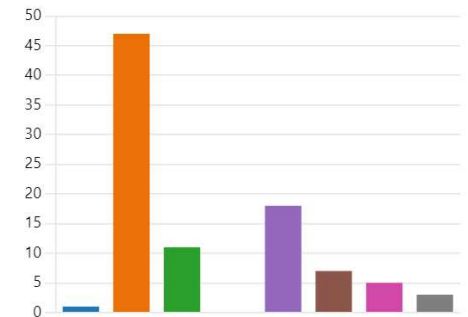
## City Legislative District



## 3. Type of Event

[More Details](#)

● Tabling	1
● Meeting	47
● Recurring Meeting	11
● Protest	0
● Event	18
● SPD Advisory Council Meeting	7
● Personal Conversation	5
● Other	3



# 2023 Annual Report Meeting

August 31, 2023

Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute

Ordinance Mandate

Partners from community, SPD, OIG, OPA, OII, CAO



# Questions

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