DOSS
Public Safety Committee
January 14, 2025
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Amendment 2 to CB 120916 Crowd Management Ordinance

Sponsor: Councilmember Saka

Mayoral proclamation of emergency required for use of blast balls

Effect: This amendment would require SPD policy to prohibit the use of blast balls to move or disperse a crowd unless the Mayor has issued a proclamation of civil emergency pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 10.02. Additionally, SPD policy shall prohibit the use of blast balls to move or disperse a crowd unless specific facts and circumstances establish an imminent threat of violence against persons or significant property damage.

Once allowed per the requirements above, any SPD officer ranked Lieutenant or higher may order use of blast balls to move or disperse a crowd. This is the current standard set in SPD's Crowd Management, Intervention and Control policy (SPD 14.090).

Delete the first paragraph of subsection H to CB 120916, as amended, and add the following:

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H. Police Department policy shall prohibit the use of blast balls to move or disperse a crowd unless the Mayor has issued a proclamation of civil emergency pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 10.02. Additionally, SPD policy shall prohibit the use of blast balls to move or disperse a crowd unless specific facts and circumstances establish an imminent threat of violence against persons or significant property damage.