HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES



DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

200 N. Spring St. Ste.2005 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Telephone: (213) 978-1551

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Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

Council File #: 20-0729

Title: George Floyd / Crowd and Riot Control Tactics / Curfew and Dispersal Order Enforcement / Los Angeles Police Department / Gerald Chaleff / Review

Council File #: 20-0731

Title: George Floyd / Protests / Los Angeles Police Department / Tactics and Use of Force / Office of Inspector General

Position: Support

Summary:

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council (HHPNC) extends its support to these motions (20-0729/20-0731), calling for the investigation by the Inspector General's office the Department of Civil and Human Right and the LAPD for the LAPD's use of force tactics in response to peaceful protestors. Including the use of less than lethal weapons such as rubber bullets and other riot control ammunition. The murder of George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis Police Department has lead to a world wide public outcry for the rights of African Americans as well as other people of color against a racist system that marginalizes, abuses, and murders those for the color of their skin. In exercising their first amendment rights to speech and protest many Angelenos took to the streets, upset not just at the murder of Mr. Floyd but also by the history of racial violence by the LAPD. The protests, such as the gathering at Pan Pacific Park, contained all walks of Los Angeles life, young and old, families and friends, strangers and allies. They were there in support of each other and to declare, "Black Lives Matter." It is inconceivable that the LAPD and its commanders on the scene monitoring a protest largely based in opposition to police violence would decide to escalate the situation by firing rubber bullets into the crowd and beating down the bodies of peaceful protestors with truncheons. And yet that is the exact course of action the LAPD has taken. Not only did the LAPD feel it sufficient to try and suppress a peaceful protest they did so in lieu of pursuing those who were looting and burning down buildings. The HHPNC denounces this use of force by the LAPD and advocated for a complete and thorough investigation and after action report.