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**CITY of DAYTON, OHIO**  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION**

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April 22, 2021

TO: Police Reform Working Group- Use of Force

FROM: Ariel Walker  
Director, Office of the City Commission

RE: Recommendations on Use of Force

On March 22, 2021 the Use of Force Working Group voted to put forward the following recommendations to the Dayton City Commission:

1. Revise the Use of Force Policy to adopt a statement of “purpose” that provides that officers must respect the sanctity of all human life, act in all possible respects to preserve human life, do everything possible to avoid unnecessary uses of force, and minimize the force that is used, while still protecting themselves and the public.
2. Revise the use of force policy to adopt a policy statement that requires that officers use only that force which is necessary, proportional to the level of resistance/aggression/noncompliance, and objectively reasonable based on the totality of the circumstances as outlined in the Supreme Court case of *Graham v. Connor*, 490 US 386. Further, that when safe and feasible to do so, officers shall take all reasonable measures to de-escalate an incident and reduce the likelihood or level of use of force. Further, that any use of force that is not necessary, proportional, and objectively reasonable and does not reflect reasonable de-escalation efforts, when safe and feasible to do so, is prohibited and inconsistent with department policy.

In reference to these recommendations and the related recommendation made on March 27<sup>th</sup> regarding the Use of Force Policy, the City Commission requests additional time during the implementation period for the Law Department to review the language and consult with national experts. They will review the statement of purpose, changing the use of force standard, and the statement of core principles with a particular focus on adding “proportionality” and “necessity”.

The City Commission directs the Law Director to work with members of the Use of Force Working Group after completing additional research and consultation to inform her final recommendation to the Commission.

As all five Reform Committees continue their work and make recommendations, the City Commission is committed to providing updates during the due diligence and implementation process.

Thank you for your work on behalf of the City of Dayton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ariel Walker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ariel Walker

Cc: Ms. Dickstein, Mr. Parlette, Ms. Lofton, Ms. Doseck, Chief Biehl