May 6, 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 April 1, 2021 the Use of Force Working Group voted to put forward the following recommendations to the Dayton City Commission (abbreviated below):

1. Insert language of de-escalation policy developed by the training group into core principles “Section C. De-escalation”.

2. Utilize a committee consisting of department members, community members, and member of the Use of Force Working Group review and revise “Section IV. Definitions”, specifically adopting a formal definition of “force” and other relevant concepts.

3. The remaining sections of the Use of Force Policy be reviewed by a committee consisting of department members, community members, and member of the Working group to determine where revisions are warranted, including, but not limited to, review of the following specific provisions: sit, kneel, or stand on a subject’s head, race, neck, except where use of deadly force would be authorized.

In reference to recommendation 1 regarding the insertion of language of the de-escalation policy developed by the training group into core principles “Section C. De-escalation”, the City Commission Agrees. The City Commission directs the City Manager to work with the DPD to complete this policy change.

In reference to recommendation 2 regarding a committee consisting of department members, community members, and member of the Use of Force Working Group review and revise “Section IV. Definitions”, specifically adopting a formal definition of “force” and other relevant concepts, the City Commission Agrees. The City Commission directs the City Manager to work with the DPD and Law Department to define “force” and identify other relevant concepts to be reviewed.

In reference to recommendation 3 that the remaining sections of the Use of Force Policy be reviewed by a committee consisting of department members, community members, and member of the Working group to determine where revisions are
warranted, including, but not limited to, review of the following specific provisions: sit, kneel, or stand on a subject’s head, race, neck, except where use of deadly force would be authorized, the City Commission Agrees. The City Commission directs the City Manager to work with the DPD and Law Department to review these provisions and work with the new Use of Force Committee when seated.

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,

Ariel Walker

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