

RESOLUTION 21-11013

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A CITIZEN POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, the City of Billings Vision Statement is: The Magic City - A diverse, welcoming community where people prosper and business succeeds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Billings has identified Integrity, Collaboration, Service and Stewardship as the organization's Core Values; and

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Billings Police Department is to improve quality of life through a customer service, problem-solving partnership with the community; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2021, the Mayor and City Council approved an Initiative directing the City Administrator to prepare a Resolution to re-establish a Citizen Police Advisory Board to assist the Chief of Police, City Administrator, and City Council with four key objectives of recruitment, retention, and workforce diversity; crime prevention and diversion; community support and engagement; data collection and analysis; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Police Operations and Data Analysis Report from the Center for Public Safety Management suggests a comprehensive, long-term improvement plan for the City and the Billings Police Department, and a Citizen Police Advisory Board can help develop recommendations that are intended to form the basis for such a plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Police Operations and Data Analysis Report from the Center for Public Safety Management indicates a need to work collaboratively with community members to address the conditions that foster crime; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Annual Report for the Billings Police Department outlines strategic goals that include more efficient service delivery, an improved sense of safety in our community, and developing and strengthening partnerships.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA, THAT A CITIZEN POLICE ADVISORY BOARD BE CREATED AS FOLLOWS.

1. CREATION. There is hereby created a seven (7) member Citizen Police Advisory Board whose members will be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

Additionally, up to two (2) ex-officio representatives of City departments, may be appointed by the City Administrator.

2. DURATION. The Board shall expire at the end of four (4) years or when the Board members determine by majority vote that their work has been completed, whichever comes first.

3. APPLICATION PROCESS. Citizen members shall apply to serve on the Board and must indicate their qualifications in the fields of crime prevention and/or the key issue areas outlined in the duties of the Board.

4. APPOINTMENT TERMS. Five (5) citizen members shall be appointed to four-year terms beginning on January 1, 2022.

5. APPOINTMENT OF SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS. In addition to five (5) citizen members serving four-year terms, two (2) members from the following coalitions shall be appointed annually, so long as the coalitions remain active. Each coalition representative shall be nominated by his or her respective coalition and then approved by the mayor and city council in their discretion:

- a. Yellowstone County Continuum of Care; and
- b. Yellowstone County Substance Abuse Connect.

6. ALLOCATION OF STAFF TIME. City staff shall be allocated to assist with coordination of meetings, objectives, and activities of the Board, including but not limited to Board facilitation, internal and external communications, and administrative duties.

7. BOARD ORGANIZATION. The Board, upon creation, shall adopt bylaws providing for meeting schedules, officers and their election, and other appropriate conditions for the conduct of its members.

8. DUTIES OF THE BOARD. Members will examine and make recommendations to the Chief of Police, City Administrator, and City Council on the following key objectives:

- a. Recruitment, retention, and workplace diversity;
- b. Crime prevention and diversion;
- c. Community support and engagement; and
- d. Data collection and analysis.

9. REPORTS TO CITY COUNCIL. The Board shall report its findings and recommendations to Chief of Police, City Administrator and City Council on an annual basis.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Billings City Council on this 27th day of September, 2021.

CITY OF BILLINGS:

By: William A. Cole
William A. Cole, Mayor



ATTEST:

By: Denise R. Bohlman
Denise R. Bohlman, City Clerk