

# Public Comments

## Agenda Item # 1



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**From:** Wright, Shelby on behalf of City Manager  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:43 AM  
**To:** Coffey, Sarah; Public Comment  
**Subject:** FW: Study Session About Use of Force Policies and Policing in Pacifica

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**From:** Danny Estrella [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:23 AM  
**To:** City Manager <cmoffice@ci.pacifica.ca.us>; steidle@pacificapolice.org  
**Subject:** Study Session About Use of Force Policies and Policing in Pacifica

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Hi Kevin,

I plan to attend the Study Session About the Use of Force Policy and Policing in Pacifica on Wednesday June 17. Thanks for presenting this session. I read the Pacifica Use of Force Policy and have some questions that I hope can be addressed during this meeting. In March 2014 Pacifica resident Errol Chang was killed by the Daly City police Swat team at his home in Pacifica. How does the police handling of this situation inform the current Pacifica Use of Force Policies and Policing? Do Pacifica policies override an outside agency's policies? How do Pacifica policies protect Pacifica citizens (in this case Errol Chang)? Will Pacifica police defer to a mental health agency?

I think this would be a good example to demonstrate how the current policies provide for a better outcome of a similar situation.

Thank you,

Danny Estrella

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**From:** Meg Lamont [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 1:37 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 1 June 17, 2020

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

To the City Council:

I want to comment on the agenda item "Policing in Pacifica Related to Racial Equity/Use of Force Study Session." I am moved to comment because of a specific experience my family had with the Pacifica Police. I am a white woman. My husband is a Mexican-American who immigrated to the US when he was in Middle School. He, his siblings, and his parents are US citizens. We have lived in Pacifica for 6 1/2 years.

Here is what happened that leads me to comment now: As I was driving to work, I realized I had a flat tire. I pulled to the side of the road and parked my car 1 1/2 blocks from our house and walked back to the house. My husband and father-in-law were at the house, and I explained what happened. My husband lent me his car so I could drive it to work, and said he and his father would fix the flat tire.

While they were fixing the flat tire, Pacifica police arrived and hassled them. Even after my husband indicated that he lived just 1 1/2 blocks away, and the police could see they were very clearly fixing a flat tire rather than engaged in any nefarious actions, the police continued to question them. My husband felt harassed in his own neighborhood, and my father-in-law felt unwelcome in our community.

Even if a neighbor had called the police because they saw two Latino men fixing a flat tire on the street (an unfortunate possibility all too common, as we have seen from various instances of people calling the police on people of color because they considered people of color doing normal things suspicious), and even if by police department policy such calls must be responded to (I am not sure on that policy), the officers could have and should have interacted differently with my husband and father-in-law once they arrived on the scene.

Adding insult to injury, my husband noted that at least one officer in this incident was frequently at the coffee shop where I and my husband are also frequent customers. That is, there is every reason the police officer should have been able to recognize him as a member of the local community.

Finally, in terms of the unequal access to a voice, my husband never felt comfortable speaking to this officer, even when we saw him again at that coffee shop, because of the possibility he might be singled out for further harassment without recourse.

When I looked for a way to lodge a complaint, I could not find directions (I could find such directions for other police areas nearby, such as San Francisco). This leads me to think there should be a better complaint process, as well as better training for Pacifica police officers so that they treat community members of color in such a way that they message they serve and protect them just as much as they serve and protect white members of the community. This is not the sense I or my family got from this incident.

Sincerely,

Margaret Lamont

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**From:** Carlos Davidson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 1:59 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** comment for policing study session

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Carlos Davidsion, Pacifica Resident. I wanted to voice my support for Pacifica bringing our police use of force policy into compliance with state law and limiting use of force only to situations where it is necessary to protect life. I would also urge the council to pursue policy forbidding the hiring of police officers with prior records of police misconduct. Finally I support Pacifica signing on to the Obama Foundation's Mayors Commitment.

Thank you

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**From:** peter k [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To:** \_City Council Group; Public Comment; Steidle, Daniel  
**Subject:** Previous email meant as comment for the Study Session on June 17 (was: Demographics on Traffic Stops & Racial Equity)

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Previous email meant as comment for the Study Session on June 17

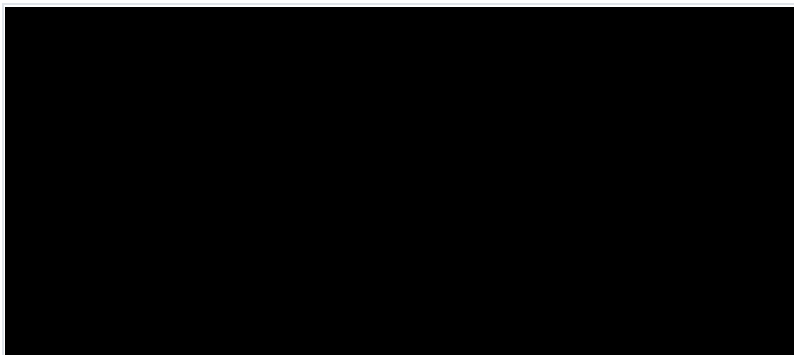
On Wednesday, June 17, 2020, 02:11:28 PM PDT, peter k [REDACTED] wrote:

Several of my my non-white friends have reported being stopped for no apparent reason. Is this a sign of Driving While Black?

Does Pacifica PD have demographic information on the traffic stops in town?  
If so, where is it available?  
If not, why not?

Peter Key  
Linda Mar, Pacifica

ps A link about Driving While Black: [Driving While Black: Racial Profiling On Our Nation's Highways](#)



**Driving While Black: Racial Profiling On Our Nation's Highways**

By David A. Harris, University of Toledo College of Law  
American Civil Liberties Union Special Report June 1999 I...

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