

City of Cleveland Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Office of the Mayor Cleveland City Hall 601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 202 Cleveland, Ohio 44114 216/664-3990 • Fax 216/420-8766 www.cleveland-oh.gov

July 20, 2023

Dear Commissioners,

I want to express my appreciation for your service and dedication to constitutional policing and public safety through the Community Police Commission (CPC).

The City Charter requires that I appoint an Executive Director of the CPC, charged with representing the Commission and overseeing its day-to-day operations. To fill this role, the Commission is responsible for submitting nominations for my review.

I intend to appoint a best-in-class Executive Director who will follow through on residents' clear desire for the CPC to work cooperatively and support constitutional policing in our community. To that end, I commend the Commission for having established a hiring subcommittee and committing to a transparent and community-involved recruitment process. I fully support this open and public approach.

Regrettably, it does not appear that the CPC followed through with its plans to conduct such an open and public process. Instead, the CPC has submitted a nomination of the current interim Executive Director. It is not clear what process the Commission followed to get to this nomination, which is to say that it could not have been transparent and inclusive of community input.

Further, Issue 24 provided a clean slate for the CPC, and I am now concerned that the issues that plagued its previous iteration continue to do so today. Under Mr. Goodrick's tenure as Interim Executive Director, there has been significant internal conflict, a loss of confidence, and insufficient progress. This is not the fresh start voters envisioned. For these reasons, I reject the CPC's nomination of Jason Goodrick as Executive Director of the CPC.

I recommend that the Commission follow through with the transparent and inclusive selection process it committed to earlier this year, and that it nominate 2-3 candidates for my review. By conducting a thorough vetting process for this crucial position, we will demonstrate to our residents and the entire nation that we are fully committed to the CPC's essential mission. It is imperative we get this right.

For additional questions, please contact Delante Spencer Thomas, Chief Ethics Officer, at (216) 664-2819 or dthomas3@clevelandohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Justin M. Bibb

Mayor | City of Cleveland

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