

# County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2015 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 2

## Resolution No. 16 -2015

**Introduced by:** Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, Jennifer Terrasa, and Jon Weinstein

A RESOLUTION requesting that the Howard County Police Department's Citizen Advisory Council establish a Committee on Community Policing and make recommendations related to community policing.

---

Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted\_, Adopted with amendments\_, Failed\_, Withdrawn\_, by the County Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

Certified By \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1           **WHEREAS**, both the Howard County Police Department and Howard County  
2 citizens value safe communities and fairness in application of the law, protection of the  
3 public, and law enforcement and criminal justice practices and procedures; and

4           **WHEREAS**, Howard County enjoys a relatively low rate of crime, high  
5 standards of police conduct, the support of its citizens for safe communities and public  
6 safety officials who protect them, and forward-thinking law enforcement leadership; and

7           **WHEREAS**, the County has embraced community policing by adding resources  
8 to allow for more school resource officers and bicycle patrols, posting police in  
9 neighborhoods, providing housing incentives for eligible officers to live in the  
10 community, and engaging police officers as volunteers in numerous community and  
11 charitable events; and

12           **WHEREAS**, the Police Department has an active Citizens Advisory Council that  
13 meets monthly with the Chief of Police and his staff; and the Police Department has  
14 implemented numerous community-outreach programs, including a partnership with the  
15 African American Roundtable; an expanded Community Outreach Section, which  
16 includes a full-time multicultural liaison officer; a robust youth services program, which  
17 includes a gang and violence-avoidance youth camp, known as P.L.E.D.G.E., among  
18 many other community-based programs; and

19           **WHEREAS**, in the absence of crisis, it is prudent to consider opportunities to  
20 focus on strengthening relationships between police and the community to improve  
21 public safety, including enhancements to police presence in the community; to the  
22 equipment and resources available to law enforcement officials, including new uses for  
23 technology such as body cameras; and to adoption of best practices in law enforcement;  
24 and

25           **WHEREAS**, new uses of technologies, such as body cameras, must respect  
26 protections of privacy that are afforded by law to citizens and officers alike, and policies  
27 governing the adoption and new uses of technologies should reflect both the intention to  
28 safeguard those protections and to emulate best practices in selection and deployment of  
29 the devices; and

1           **WHEREAS**, an examination of the potential for enhancements in community  
2     policing, including the use of resources which may strengthen community trust and  
3     confidence, is timely;

4           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard  
5     County, Maryland, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015 that the Council requests that  
6     the Howard County Police Department's Citizens Advisory Council establish a  
7     Committee on Community Policing that will:

- 8       1. review relationships between the police and the community and make  
9       recommendations to enhance existing successful policies and practices and seek  
10      out examples of model community policing programs in the U.S. for possible  
11      applicability in Howard County;
- 12      2. evaluate the operation, impact and effectiveness of the county's seven  
13      Neighborhood Community Policing Offices and make recommendations as  
14      appropriate;
- 15      3. evaluate emerging technologies in law enforcement, such as body cameras, to  
16      determine if they may have application in Howard County;
- 17      4. investigate enhanced training opportunities for police to address growing and  
18      changing County demographics, and make recommendations for implementation  
19      both in the police academy and in-service training for employees.

20  
21           **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard  
22     County that the Committee on Community Policing should include members from a  
23     variety of community groups, faith-based organizations, minority and business  
24     organizations, and other groups that reflect the diversity of Howard County;

25  
26           **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard  
27     County that as the Committee on Community Policing accomplishes the work outlined in  
28     this Resolution that it should solicit input from a variety of stakeholders, including,  
29     without limitation:

- 30      1. The Chief of the Howard County Police Department;
- 31      2. The Howard County State's Attorney;

3. The Sheriff of Howard County;
4. The Howard County NAACP Youth Council;
5. The Howard County Police Officer's Association, Lodge 21;
6. Conexiones of Howard County;
7. The Jewish Federation of Howard County;
8. The Howard County Muslim Council;
9. The African American Community Roundtable of Howard County;
10. The Korean American Community Association;
11. The Howard County Chamber of Commerce;
12. The Howard County Association of Student Councils;
13. The Howard Community College Student Government Association;
14. The Howard County Mental Health Authority; and
15. The Howard County Human Rights Commission.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County that as the Committee on Community Policing accomplishes the work outlined in this Resolution that it should hold meetings, including at least two public hearings to facilitate broad citizen input.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County that the Council requests that the Committee on Community Policing present its findings and recommendations to the Chief of Police, the County Executive, and the County Council on or before October 30, 2015.