



Press Advisory

Independent Police Commission Ballot Measure-Sponsored by Oakland City Council Members Kalb and Gallo, Goes to Public Safety Committee on Tuesday

Contact: Pamela Drake, [510-593-3721](tel:510-593-3721), pamelaadrake@gmail.com
Rashidah Grinage, [510-306-0253](tel:510-306-0253), rashidah@earthlink.net

Oakland, CA- Oakland Council Members Dan Kalb and Noel Gallo will join the Coalition for Police Accountability [coalitionforpoliceaccountability.org] at a press event, Tuesday, June 14th, at 12:30 pm on the steps of Oakland City Hall. Council Member Kalb, a member of the Public Safety Committee where the measure will be unveiled at 4 pm, said, "We are bringing this community-vetted measure to the ballot to enhance the process for structural reform--reform that cannot come soon enough to OPD. We must assure the public that we are responding to the problems and challenges within OPD with a proposal that is not mere window dressing--setting up an independent Police Commission with real authority--along with effective reforms in the police discipline process to make it more just."

Council Member Gallo, also a sponsor of the measure and member of the Public Safety Committee added, "My job is to listen to the community I represent and get them what they need. I'm proud of our work with the coalition."

Berkeley City Council Member Jesse Arreguin will attend the press conference and noted that "We will be voting on a similar proposal Tuesday night at the Berkeley Council meeting."

A partial list of Oakland community leaders joining the elected officials to speak at the press conference is as follows: Linda Handy, Peralta Trustee, Ben McBride, Director of City Team Oakland and Clergy with PICO, CA, Gwen Hardy with PUEBLO, Carroll Fife, Oakland Alliance, Marilyn Lawson and Allene Warren, Block By Block Organizing Network, Sokhom Mao, former CPRB member, Anne Weills, the National Lawyers Guild, Pastor George Cummings, Imani Church, civil rights attorney Walter Riley, and Trish Gorham of the Oakland Education Association.

The next step in the Oakland process is to push the measure forward to a full council discussion in time to place the initiative on the November ballot. For more information and updates, see Coalitionforpoliceaccountability.org