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2016/2017**

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12/17/2016

Council Member Dai Thao

Ward 1 Office

310-A City Hall

15 Kellogg Blvd. West

Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Members of the Saint Paul City Council,

The Summit-University Planning Council (District 8) fully supports removing police officers from the Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission. The Board of Directors voted in favor of this position at the December 6, 2016 board meeting.

We urge the Members of the Saint Paul City Council to listen to the people of Saint Paul, who have clearly stated that they do not want police officers to be on the PCIARC. There's been two audits and community conversations that recommend this change as well. You are presented with a tremendous opportunity to stand beside your community and support their voices.

So many people showed up for the community conversations regarding this issue. You know from experience that people don't show up in those numbers unless it is something very important. If we are going to ask people to participate in City issues and have these difficult conversations, we have to value what they say. Listen to our communities, we need this change.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and all of the work you do for our City,

Jens Werner

Executive Director

Summit-University Planning Council

627 Selby Ave Suite A

Saint Paul, MN 55102