

# **Police Use of Force Work Team**

## **Background**

At the April 10, 2002 Executive Committee meeting, Council President Ostrow “moved to direct John Moir [City Coordinator] and [Mayor] R.T. Rybak to report to ... the Public Safety & Regulatory Services and Health & Human Services Committees ... with a plan for community dialogue on use of police force.” This direction was a result of a series of police incidents involving the use of force including, the police shooting death of a mentally ill Somalian man, crowd control after the University of Minnesota won the NCAA Frozen Four, and the Critical Mass bicyclist incident.

## **Work Team**

John Moir requested that a staff work team be formed to develop a community dialogue process on police force. Staff work team members include:

Cyndi (Montgomery) Barrington, MPD Public Information Officer

Sgt. Ron Bellandier, MPD Police Academy Director

Sara Dietrich, Communications

Deputy Chief Greg Hestness, MPD

Kinshasha Kambui, Mayor’s Office

Lori Olson, Assistant to the City Coordinator

Pierre Willette, Public Works (former Mayoral Aide on police/community issues)

## **Charge**

The outcome for the process is to have a community supported policy on the use of police force. To reach this outcome, the charge of the work team is to develop a recommendation for engaging the community in a dialogue about the use of police force policies, including:

- Organizing a series of community meetings that will engage key constituencies and have the broadest impact
- Educating the public on the purpose, history and rationale for certain use of force policies and the legal limitations for information sharing
- Comparing Minneapolis use of force policies with other similar-sized jurisdictions policies (best practices analysis)
- Developing recommendations for a standard for dialogue between police officers and the public when use of force issues are questioned

## **Timeline**

As to not conflict with the Civilian Review Authority Redesign process, which is holding public meetings in May, the Police Use of Force Work Team will meet internally the month of May to develop a process and hold public meetings in June.