1.06.075 Police Department Community-Initiated Complaint Oversight.

A. Community-Initiated Conduct Complaint System. The City Manager shall appoint a City employee who does not work for the Tacoma Police Department, and who reports directly to the City Manager, to perform the following functions:

1. Receive and forward Community-initiated conduct complaints to the Police Department;

2. Ensure complainants are notified that their complaint has been received and forwarded and that they are informed of all findings;

3. Produce statistical reports;

4. Serve as a liaison to the Community’s Police Advisory Committee;

5. Other duties related to implementation of this section, as may be assigned by the City Manager.

Community’s Police Advisory Committee

B. Creation of the Committee.

1. There is created a Community’s Police Advisory Committee (“Committee”), consisting of 11 members, one member from each City Council District and five members from the general community; and one designated youth seat, with a minimum of 40 percent of the members from traditionally underrepresented communities or groups that reflect and represent the diverse communities in the City of Tacoma. Members must be residents of Tacoma. Commissioned law enforcement professionals and their family members are eligible to serve, provided that no current member of the Tacoma Police Department or his or her immediate family may serve. However, the Committee will consist of no more than three members that are commissioned law enforcement professionals or retired commissioned law enforcement professionals.

2. Members shall be appointed by the City Council. Members shall serve staggered one-, two-, or three-year terms. No member shall serve more than ten years. The youth seat designation shall be for a one-year term.

C. Duties of the Committee.

The Committee shall perform the following duties:

1. Foster understanding and communication between the Residents of Tacoma and the Tacoma Police Department and review and advise the Chief of Police on community relations between the Police Department and the community.

2. Hold regular public meetings to promote awareness of the community complaint process, solicit input from the community, and convene community conversations regarding police
services, programs, and issues of public safety to encourage and develop an active Community-police partnership with an emphasis on improving relations between the Police Department and residents in Tacoma. The Committee shall forward community complaints to the community-initiated conduct complaint system.

3. Work to strengthen and ensure the application of equal protection under the law throughout the community.

4. Review the investigative process and results of completed administrative investigations of complaints, such as alleged excessive use of force or police brutality, for discussion purposes with regard to what processes may be considered in preventing the occurrences of future activities.

5. Generate community interest and involvement, and promote public awareness of the City’s police services and programs, including, but not limited to, business and residential crime prevention programs, safety training, domestic violence intervention, community-oriented policing, and other areas of community relations.

6. Review, develop, and recommend strategies to the City Council, City Manager, and Chief of Police concerning Police Department policies, procedures, rules, training, and programs. Examples of potential areas that may be reviewed or studied include such areas as police misconduct investigation procedures, in-service training in human relations, Citywide crime prevention efforts, community participation and education on rights and responsibilities and community-oriented policing. The specific study or review areas set forth above are to be considered as examples of the areas to be studied and reviewed and are not intended to be limitations.

7. Notwithstanding the duties of the Committee as described above, the Committee shall have no power or authority to investigate, review, or otherwise participate in matters involving specific police personnel or specific police-related incidents. Should any concern raised by the Committee remain unresolved after receiving a response from the Chief of Police, the Committee may request the matter be referred to the City Manager.

D. The Committee may adopt by-laws and processes for its internal organization.

E. The City Manager’s Office will appoint staff to support the Committee.