

IS THIS ANY WAY TO ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY?

Under the consent decree with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, the city is required to develop new policies related to use of force, stops, searches and arrests, and non-discriminatory policing. As part of this process, the city is required to hold “at least three public engagement sessions on each topic area.” This is one of these required sessions.

It's important that the city not just check the box on community engagement but that there be a real process. So far, that's not what we're seeing.

- 1) The city made no effort to make the policies available for the public to read in advance. For example, the Draft Use of Force policy isn't one policy—it's actually 15 policies/72 pages. The Draft Stop, Search and Arrest policy is actually 6 policies/65 pages. Despite this, the city didn't provide a link to the draft policies or make it clear how to find them so people could read them before the meeting. How can anyone give thoughtful feedback on a large document they can't read in advance? (Hint: You can find them on our website at www.cuapb.org)

- 2) The draft policies don't indicate what has changed from the current policies. How can we tell if they are an improvement or not?
- 3) There are just too many topics in each two-hour session for the community to provide serious feedback.

The city will tell you that you can also go online and send feedback. **Online responses are limited to 200 words.** And how will we know what is done with the suggestions they get? The city should post all recommendations from the meetings and online to the city website as they are received and tell us which ones they adopt.

We all have a stake in having a professional, accountable, constitutional police department. This can only happen if the community has a real seat at the table.



Information provided by **COMMUNITIES UNITED AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY**. Join us! We meet every Saturday at 1:30 at 4200 Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis. For more information or for help with a police brutality incident, call our 24-hour hotline: **612-874-STOP** or see our website at www.CUAPB.org.