

Statement

The Dayton Community Police Council Has Asked You to Speak, Be Heard and to Be Considered. The Dayton Community Has Spoken, Been Heard and Considered. It Is Time for Action!

Background

The CPC was convened to help ensure that Dayton remains unified around its common goal of safety, fairness, respect, and justice and to facilitate a process in which community and police can have open and honest conversation about a strained relationship and work together to find solutions. Since 2011, the CPC has grappled with serious concerns that threaten public safety and challenged the relationship between the Dayton Community and the officers who serve them and has diligently worked to give the residents the opportunity to speak, be heard and to be considered.

Recent events, both nationally and locally, have not only invoked passionate community responses, but have prompted the CPC to announce a series of recommendations to improve community-police relations based on years of data collection and community feedback.

Action

The CPC recommends that both the Dayton Police Department and City of Dayton Residents commit to the following action steps:

- The Dayton Police Department conducts training in the areas of cross-cultural competency, procedural justice, implicit bias, ethics and professionalism, and de-escalation for current and new DPD recruits. The CPC shall review and make additional recommendations to enhance DPD training particularly as it relates to cultural diversity, sensitivity and fairness.
- Participate in “Reverse Ride alongs”, “The Cost of Poverty Experience” and “The Messy Truth VR Experience,” and other initiatives designed to improve officers understanding of Dayton residents and the diverse community in which they serve. The CPC recommends an additional block of training be implemented for DPD recruits on the history of race relations in the Dayton community to be conducted by community leaders.
- Work with City of Dayton to develop and implement restorative justice approaches for low-level offenders.
- Assume a more active role in the community response in speaking out against violence, crime and incivility.
- Participate in neighborhood-based problem-solving groups in targeted neighborhoods, scenario based training, Citizens Police Academy, Ride-alongs, neighborhood association meetings and Dayton Police Department outreach activities such as Coffee with a Cop and others.
- Participate in CPC listening sessions to advise the Dayton Human Relations Council on additional opportunities to improve community-police relations and address immediate issues as well as develop more long-term recommendations for strengthening the bond between residents and police, particularly as it relates to cultural diversity, sensitivity and fairness.

Next Steps

Through collaboration with the Dayton Human Relations Council, Dayton City Commission, and Dayton Police Department, the CPC commits to review and discuss implementation, schedule community forums to for continued dialogue and provide bi-annual updates to the community. It is our hope that these recommendations will build on the progress that has been made over several years, as we seek to build bridges that create common ground, mutual understanding, and lead to new solutions to old problems.

The CPC will continue its commitment to improving relations between the Dayton Police and the communities they serve. For further information call (937) 333-1437 or visit www.Daytoncpr.org. Thank you!