



HENNEPIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A-2400 GOVERNMENT CENTER
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55487-0240

June 12, 2020

RE: Support for Police Reform

Dear Legislator:

Our entire organization mourns the horrific death of George Floyd. We are committed to the work of reforming the justice system so that incidents like this never occur again. That is why we recently amended our 2020 state legislative platform by adding the following language: "Support legislation reforming use of reasonable force by police officers so that greater police accountability is achieved; support and/or increase the ability of local jurisdictions to remove police officers who violate law enforcement best practices and/or community standards." The direction of the criminal justice reform package under consideration in the House on Saturday, June 13, is consistent with our goals. We offer our support.

In Hennepin, it is our mission to serve residents and to ensure that they are safe and thriving. Our organization's Mission Statement reads, "We envision a future where residents are healthy and successful and where our communities are safe, and vibrant. We will strive to meet and exceed expectations by engaging people and communities in developing innovative solutions to challenges." This mission statement now inspires us to recover, improve and drive progress. Hennepin County supports the evaluation and reform of historical patterns of misconduct by law enforcement.

We know we must join together with our communities and state partners to address these issues in order to realize any meaningful change in the policing and protection of our all our citizens. Common sense, practical reforms are critical to improve safety and wellbeing for communities of color. The reforms will benefit all our residents and will rebuild trust. We hope you see the urgency in this need. We stand ready to partner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marion Greene".

Marion Greene, Chair
Hennepin County Board of Commissioners

Cc: Commissioner Mike Opat
Commissioner Jan Callison
Hennepin County IGR Staff
David Hough, Hennepin County Administrator