

## **Columbus City Charter Amendment Summary**

### **Civilian Police Review Board and Department of the Inspector General for the Division of Police**

The proposed charter amendment asks the electors to create a Civilian Police Review Board. Board members will be chosen to reflect the diversity of the City of Columbus.

This board, independent of the Division of Police and led and staffed by civilians, will have the authority to receive and cause the investigation of complaints of officer misconduct. The board will have the power - with some exceptions based on state law, federal law, and labor contracts - to subpoena testimony and evidence during the course of an investigation. The board will also have the authority to initiate complaints and recommend resolutions to complaints and investigations, including discipline. The charter amendment requires the Division of Police to provide to the board records requested by the board in the course of an investigation, with certain exceptions.

Sufficient, consistent, and annual funding for the board and their operations, including personnel, is included in the charter amendment as well as a prohibition against a reduction of the board's budget that is disproportionate in scale to other budgetary reductions. If any budget cuts are made to the board, then specific cause must be provided. The board will develop rules that govern their work and will develop a procedure for how complaints are reviewed.

The charter amendment also creates an independent Department of the Inspector General for the Division of Police. The Civilian Police Review Board will reside within this department and the inspector general will both be appointed and governed by the board.