



City of Tukwila

City Council

September 15, 2020

Mayor Allan Ekberg
6200 Southcenter Blvd
Tukwila, WA 98188

Re: Police Chief Search

Dear Mayor Ekberg:

We are writing this letter to provide you with the City Council's thoughts as you seek a replacement for Chief Linton.

As you know, we are living in challenging times. There is a strong desire for equity, transparency, and accountability for all levels of public service, including law enforcement.

While we know that the Tukwila Police Department has been forward thinking and has led the way for innovative policing, we cannot overstate the need to be visionary at this time of transition. We are confident that you will search for a visionary leader who can and will embrace where we are headed as a community – unburdening and reimagining public safety – but that is not our only interest. Mayor Ekberg, we are encouraging, imploring, and asking of you, to seize the opportunity to make that innovative hire that will not only meet the needs of Tukwila today, but be a part of the racial reconciliation our community seeks. Please factor in the values set forth in the City's Equity Policy, and consider inviting the Equity and Social Justice Commission to participate by providing input into the hiring criteria. Your hiring decision will have a long reaching effect into the future of Tukwila.

We understand as members of the Legislative branch, hiring of personnel is outside our scope of work, but it is within yours. Therefore, we offer our support by urging you to consider a hire that will have a positive impact for generations to come. Tukwila is at a crossroads, and your influence on the hiring decision will resonate for years. Please do the work necessary to make the right decision in hiring our next Chief of Police.

Respectfully,

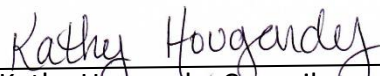
Tukwila City Council



De'Sean Quinn, Council President



Verna Seal, Councilmember



Kathy Hougardy, Councilmember



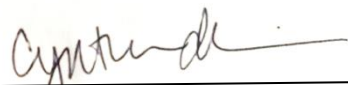
Kate Kruller, Councilmember



Thomas McLeod, Councilmember



Zak Idan, Councilmember



Cynthia Delostrinos-Johnson, Councilmember