

I am writing today to express my support for Mendocino Black Lives Matter request for the ordinance to establish a Citizen's Advisory Committee for Law Enforcement Oversight.

I am not convinced that Citizen Review Boards can effectuate change without transparency and accountability authority given contract/Mou and LE Bill of Rights language. I am convinced, however, and my overarching conviction is that we MUST limit and reduce opportunities and interactions between LE and citizens by funding appropriate community-based programs to respond to the vast majority of LE calls and incidents.

With that in mind, I support the call for an audit and deeper examination of the proportion of funds being devoted to LE and carceral programs rather than health, housing, education, translation services, and community well being.

Laura Diamondstone