



Department Source: Law  
To: City Council  
From: City Manager & Staff  
Council Meeting Date: December 21, 2020  
Re: Proposed Amendments to Chapter 21

## Executive Summary

The Citizens Police Review Board respectfully requests that the City Council amend Chapter 21 to increase the number of days to file an appeal or to request limited review from twenty-one (21) to thirty (30) days. In addition, the Citizens Police Review Board requests that Council grant the Board the ability to vary from or waive any of the requirements of Chapter 21, Article III upon a finding of good cause.

## Discussion

On July 8, 2020, and again on August 12, 2020, the Citizens Police Review Board discussed providing more access to civilian oversight by increasing the deadlines for requesting review or appeal to thirty days. The deadlines are currently set at twenty-one days. The board unanimously passed motions to send these recommendations to Council.

In Article III of Chapter 21, there are three sections that provide time limits for filing appeals.

Section 21-51 provides that appeals to the board must be filed “within twenty-one (21) days after the notice of the chief's decision was given.”

Section 21-51.1 states that “[r]equests for limited review pursuant to this section shall be filed with the city clerk within twenty-one (21) days after the person is given notice of the determination by the police chief.”

Section 21-53 sets forth the requirements for complainants, officers, and community service aides to file appeals to the City Manager or to the Personnel Advisory Board. The time limits in this section are currently set at twenty-one days after notice of the right to appeal has been given.

The Board also passed a motion to recommend that the City Council amend Article III of Chapter 21 to grant the Board the authority to vary from or waive any requirement in the Article upon a finding of good cause. The Board feels that these changes will increase access to civilian oversight and, as a result, increase the public's trust.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None  
Long-Term Impact: None



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Social Equity, Secondary Impact: Public Safety, Tertiary Impact: Operational Excellence

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

## Legislative History

Date	Action
08/12/2020	Citizens Police Review Board passed a motion to send a report to Council to request that all twenty-one day deadlines in Chapter 21 be changed to thirty day deadlines.
07/08/2020	Citizens Police Review Board passed a motion to send a report to Council to request that Council amend both Section 21-51 and 21-51.1 for the time of complaint to be extended to 30 days, plus or minus three days for date of mailing. They also passed a motion to request Council grant the Board the authority to grant a variance or waiver from any requirement in Chapter 21, Article III, upon a showing of good cause.

## Suggested Council Action

Passage of the ordinance as recommended by the Citizens Police Review Board.