



Bruce Harrell
Seattle City Councilmember

March 6, 2014

Interim Chief Harry Bailey
Seattle Police Department
610 Fifth Avenue, PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

RE: 2014 May Day Preparation

Dear Chief Bailey:

In our last meeting, we discussed planning for May Day 2014. As you well know, the City of Seattle has demonstrations and marches planned for the first of May. With May Day approaching in two months, I am writing to request the Police Department to prepare a memo describing the Seattle Police Department's preparation for this year's May Day activities. It would be ideal to have this memo submitted to the Public Safety Committee by April 1, 2014. Please let me know if that is not feasible.

By way of background, the events of May Day 2012 resulted in several helpful documents describing the events that occurred and areas where we can improve. The City applied those new recommendations and best practices for May Day 2013 and while we received overall positive feedback, we have great opportunities in continuing to improve our performance this year. My expectation is that 2014 will provide an opportunity for the City to provide optimum service under your leadership in what will no doubt be a chaotic atmosphere.

For your reference, I have attached the following documents relating to May Day 2012 for your review:

- 1) Seattle Police Department After-Action Review May Day Events 05/01/2012 (AAR May Day 2012.pdf)
- 2) Final Executive Report May Day 2012 Prepared by Michael R. Hillmann March 2013 (Final Executive Report May Day Hillmann 2012.pdf)
- 3) Mayor Proclamation declaring civil emergency to allow SPD to confiscate weapons – including dowels, other sign sticks, hammers, etc. – from May Day protestors and marchers. (Mayor Proclamation 2012.pdf)
- 4) Mayoral Proclamation terminating Proclamation of May 1, 2012 (May 2 PROCLAMATION.pdf)

While I fully understand specific police strategies need to remain confidential, I think it is imperative SPD openly work with march organizers (with permits), 15Now organizers, business and property owners in the Downtown/Capitol Hill corridor for a safe demonstration. It is critical for the Seattle Police command staff to provide clear, unequivocal instructions for specific enforcement and performance during the May 1st demonstrations and advise other vested stakeholders, as well. As you well know, preparation should not be done in a vacuum.

Thank you very much for your leadership in this area and working towards a safe, peaceful, constitutional march that upholds the spirit of International Workers' Day in America.

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Sincerely,

Bruce A. Harrell

Seattle City Councilmember

Chair: Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee

cc: Mayor Edward B. Murray
Council President Tim Burgess
Councilmember Nick Licata
Councilmember Sally Bagshaw
Deputy Mayor Hyeok Kim
Tina Podlowski

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