



SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL
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Ben Stuckart
Council President

November 14, 2013

Dear City Administrator Sanders

In your letter dated November 13th you asked for Council's written direction. After gathering input on your four questions from Council Members in the last 24 hours I see no clear consensus on any of the issues. Thus I am suggesting two paths forward for your consideration.

1. Cooling off period

3 members of the council have strongly suggested that all 7 council members, the public, and stakeholders need to meet over the next 30 days to come up with 2 items. These items would include a firm make-up of the commission that everyone is comfortable with and a clear minimal definition of independent investigatory authority that we are looking for inclusion of in the tentative agreement.

2. Negotiate inclusion of "independent investigatory authority" in the TA

All council members agree that "independent investigatory authority" means investigation outside of the internal affairs process. I would negotiate the ability of the commission to pull out of the internal affairs process and have the ombudsman investigate independently in extraordinary circumstances. The language brought to us Monday was close but needs to be a bit less restrictive for it to work for 4 members. The language then needs to be in the TA, not just an ordinance. I would bring this to council before signing anything.

In summary I see 2 council members willing to give more money, 2 council members wanting to negotiate less money and 3 happy with where things are at but not wanting to go higher. I also see 7 different descriptions of independent investigative authority but I believe last Monday we were close to an acceptable compromise. If I were looking at costs I would try to increase one-time costs instead of ongoing annual increases.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Stuckart".

Ben Stuckart
Council President

CC: Erin Jacobson
Spokane City Council

Attachments: Council Matrix