RESOLUTION 95-31

To Accept the Recommendations of the Law Enforcement Policies and Civil Liberties Committee and to Establish a Standing Committee of the Council to Implement Them

WHEREAS, as a result of the concerns raised when the police officers on the evening shift at the Bloomington Police Department stopped and frisked a group of juveniles at People's Park on March 24th, the Mayor and four Councilmembers established the Law Enforcement Policies and Civil Liberties Committee (Committee); and

WHEREAS, a number of individuals participated on the Committee including the Mayor, four Councilmembers, the Corporation Counsel, the Chair of the Board of Public Safety, the Chief of Police, representatives from the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, representatives from the schools, and two high school students; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Committee was "to review, develop, and recommend City and Police Department policies and procedures in order to assure an appropriate balance between law enforcement concerns and the protection of individual civil rights and liberties, and to specifically address the management structure, chain of command, and training issues in the Police Department;" and

WHEREAS, in carrying out that mission the Committee held meetings from April to July of this year; and

WHEREAS, during that time the Committee viewed a police generated video of the "pat-down" and heard from the shift personnel about their decision and action that night, and their experience with the increase in violent juvenile and local gang activity in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the Committee heard comment from citizens on the "pat-down" in particular, and the relations between the police and the community in general; and

WHEREAS, the Committee heard about local hiring procedures from Prof. Pat Baude, Chair of the Board of Public Safety, and about local training practices from Deputy Chief Mike Hostetler, and about methods of police accountability from Prof. Alex Weiss; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of those hearings the Committee prepared a set of recommendations which were forwarded to and received by the Board of Public Safety at their July 27th meeting, and which are attached to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, one of the recommendations called for the establishment of a Council Standing Committee to oversee the implementation of these recommendations, and to enhance the dialogue and problem-solving in regard to police and community relations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

1. The Recommendations of the Law Enforcement Policies and Civil Liberties be accepted by the Common Council.

2. The Police and Community Relations Committee shall be established, pursuant to BMC 2.04.210, to oversee the implementation of these recommendations, and to enhance the community dialogue and problem-solving in regard to community and police relations. The committee shall consist of three councilmembers appointed in accordance with the code. And, from time to time the committee may, at its discretion, appoint a Citizen's Advisory Group to assist in furthering its purpose. The Committee shall make semi-annual reports to the Council

on their activities.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 13th day of December, 1995.

Iris Kiesling

IRIS KIESLING, President
Bloomington Common Council

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this ___ day of December, 1995.

Tomilea Allison

TOMILEA ALLISON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

ATTEST:

Patricia Williams

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution accepts the recommendations of the Committee on Law Enforcement Policies and Civil Liberties and establishes a standing committee of the Council to implement them.

Signed copies to:
Mayor Brd Public Safety
Police Dept