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Gary Christenson, Mayor

February 3, 2022

Malden City Council
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

RE: Malden Use of Force Policy - Final Report of the Advisory Group for Obama's Pledge

Dear Members of the City Council:

I am pleased to share with you a copy of the Final Report submitted by the Advisory Group on Obama's Pledge (AGOP) on Malden's Use of Force Policy.

As you may recall, in June of 2020, as part of UniteMalden 2020, we answered the Obama Foundation's call to action and signed the "Reimagining Policing Pledge." The initiative called on Mayors and local officials across the United States to review and reform their use of force policy. Malden joined many of our neighboring communities who also took on the pledge, including over 300 cities nationally.

By signing on, we committed to working with the Malden Police Department (MPD) and the community to review Malden's use of force policy. An Advisory Group for Obama's Pledge (or AGOP) was formed made up of community members who leveraged their experiences and backgrounds to provide input on the current policy. They have worked tirelessly over the last 18 months to review, research, provide insight, and identify areas of improvement specifically through the lens of a community member. Their recommendations are included in the Final Report which was submitted to me, Police Commissioner Salvatore Gennetti, and Police Chief Kevin Molis.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the AGOP which included Jay Bhimani, Kelli Collomb, Isadel Eddy, Ben Hartzell, Karen Colón Hayes (now City Councillor-at-Large), Darren Josey, Tihun Lawrence, Carey McDonald (now City Councillor-at-Large), Yu Sin Mok, Erga Pierrette, Tamerlie Roc, and Birukti Tsige. Also working with

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Strong Past... Proud Future

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the group were City Councillors Amanda Linehan and Stephen Winslow, former City Councillor Neal Anderson and Maria Luise from my office. Community input was critical to this process and their time and commitment to this work is sincerely appreciated.

I look forward to working with you, Commissioner Gennetti, and Chief Molis to address the recommendations and work together to ensure more transparent and equitable public safety policies in Malden.

Sincerely,



GARY CHRISTENSON
Mayor, City of Malden