



Seattle

Police Department

October 15, 2024

Director Gino Betts, Jr.
Office of Police Accountability
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Betts,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

Case Numbers: 2023OPA-0291/2024-COMP-0005

Topic: Pursuing Alternative Transportation

Summary of the Management Action:

A complainant alleged that a named employee used unauthorized force by using their patrol vehicle to stop a subject fleeing on a bicycle.

Original Recommendation:

- SPD and its accountability partners should continue researching and developing best practices for police pursuing alternative transportation and appropriate pursuit-ending tactics.
- SPD should continue to lead in this emerging area by incorporating best practices in its policies and training.

Action Taken:

SPD has revised Policy by adding section 13.032- Fleeing Subject on Alternative Transportation. Alternative forms of transportation have been listed as well as considerations for officers to contemplate when pursuing subjects mounted on alternative forms of transportation.

Currently, there are no safe or feasible pursuit ending options for subjects on bicycles however Policy states Sworn employees will terminate a pursuit when the risk to any person(s) outweighs the need to stop the eluding vehicle. SPD policy does address pursuit termination of subjects fleeing on motorcycles, categorizing it as deadly force per SPD Policy 13.021.

SPD Considers this Management Action:

Fully Implemented

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue Rahr", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Sue Rahr
Interim Chief of Police