

## **RESOLUTION:COMMITTEE ON POLICING AND POLICE REFORM**

*Submitted to the New Rochelle Democratic Committee, April 25, 2024, slightly revised for May 23, 2024.*

*Amended as below and approved unanimously, May 23, 2024.*

**Whereas** we, the members of the New Rochelle Democratic Committee (NRDC), are deeply concerned that in the course of three years we have seen two young Black men of our community shot and killed by New Rochelle police officers who had initiated contact in circumstances where no prior violent incident was under investigation, Jarrell Garris on July 3, 2023 and Kamal Flowers, June 5, 2020, and

**Whereas** elected officials of the Democratic Party have controlled our City Council for the past 32 years, and

**Whereas** the Democratic Party has, over the past 60 years, been committed to working against the effects of racism and racial prejudice in our society, and

**Whereas** such effects include discrimination in housing and employment, adverse outcomes in education, healthcare and financial wellbeing, and substantial physical, social and psychological trauma from over policing, of which the killings of Garris and Flowers are only the more publicized of many incidents, and

**Whereas**, of these various areas of disadvantage, the only area under the full authority and responsibility of the City of New Rochelle and our City Council is the activity of the New Rochelle Police Department, and

**Whereas**, in March, 2021 the New Rochelle City Council passed the “City of New Rochelle New York—New York State Police Reform and Collaborative Plan” as a blueprint for police reform in New Rochelle, one major element of which, the establishment of a Civilian Complaint Review Board, is over a year and a half behind schedule; now be it

**Resolved** that the NRDC declares policing and police reform to be a major issue of concern and a priority for our political engagement, and be it further

**Resolved** that the chairs of the NRDC will appoint a committee on Policing and Police Reform beginning at this time and continuing until the expiration of the terms of County Committee Members to be elected in the primary of June 25, 2024 and be it further

**Resolved** that this committee will keep abreast of policing and police reform in the City of New Rochelle by following media reports and consulting with ordinary citizens, elected and unelected officials and persons with expertise, and will report to the full NRDC periodically on their findings and recommendations, and be it further

**Resolved** that the NRDC will strongly encourage city elected officials to report regularly on the status of policing and police reform, with no less urgency or frequency than they report on development, flooding, pot holes, parks and other areas of city responsibility.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Eugene V. Tozzi**

**DATED: April 25, 2024, revised, amended and approved May 23, 2024**