

**FY 2021-2022 Virginia Beach Budget
Response to Council Questions**

Question Number: 57

Question: What would it take to fund an independent review panel with investigative authority and subpoena power?

Date Requested: 4/14/21

Requested By: Councilmember Rouse

Department: Budget

Response: It is currently estimated that it would cost the city \$221,051 to support a Citizen Review Panel that would act as a law-enforcement civilian oversight body. These funds would be used to potentially hire two FTEs (Investigator and a Coordinator), provide outside legal support, as well as training efforts. It is important to note that the amount of funding necessary could change depending on the scope of services Council wished for this review panel to provide.

For example, the City of Alexandria is appropriating \$600,000; however, their panel and staffing model is a rather robust program. The Alexandria Community Policing Review Board will not only be looking at complaints and use of force incidents, but also will be reviewing the Police Department's policies, directives, programs, and patterns. The ordinance adopted by Alexandria also establishes a new City Council appointed position, the Independent Policing Auditor/Investigator, to staff this new review board.