

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

What's Next for Police Oversight in Albany?



July 26, 2024

To learn more about the transition, visit www.albanycprb.org or scan the QR code.



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ABOUT THE CPRB

Background

- The CPRB was created by the City of Albany in November 2000.
- Its purpose is to improve the relationship between the City of Albany Police Department (APD) and the communities they serve by enhancing communication, increasing police accountability, and improving credibility with the public.
- This is done primarily by maintaining a complaint review process that is free from bias and informed by actual police practice.

Mission

- The CPRB reviews and investigates complaints of misconduct committed by officers of the Albany Police Department (APD).
- The CPRB's goals are to improve communication between APD and the community and increase police accountability and credibility with the community it serves.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Ways we've been able to serve you:

- Collaborated with multiple stakeholders (community members, APD, union representatives) to develop a Discipline Matrix for the Chief's review and integration into APD policy.
- Hired Independent Counsel to address conflicts of interest with Corporation Counsel.
- Integrated technology platforms for case management, confidential document/evidence access and review.
- Planned and held a public meeting facilitating subject statements, and emotional public comment around a difficult and sensitive case that involved integrating trauma-informed facilitation
- Proposed policy revisions to the Chief informed by community input and data analysis of complaints and investigations and developed a policy recommendation tracker recording APD's responses
- Amended the CPRB's bylaws, rules, and procedures to align with the CPRB's new authority under Local Law J of 2020.



A Time of Transition



THE CPRB'S ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY

The Government Law Center (GLC) at Albany Law School has provided administrative support to the CPRB since the creation of the CPRB by the Albany Common Council in 2000.

The GLC continues to provide substantial support services to assist the Board in its duties and day-to-day operations pursuant to a contract between the City of Albany and Albany Law School.

The contract is set to expire at the **end of 2024**. The GLC will not seek to renew this contract—leaving the CPRB in **urgent need** of administrative scaffolding.

Without an administrative agency or some similar structure, the Board cannot continue to do its essential work.



THE CPRB'S ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY (CONT.)

Without action by the Common Council and passage of Local Law D of 2024, the CPRB will lose:

- **Staff**, halting the Board's duties and day-to-day operations;
- **Access to budget or accounting assurance;**
- **Email or online presence**, hindering transparency and public awareness efforts; and
- **Physical space** for meetings, events, and more.



LOCAL LAW D OF 2024

Local Law D would:

- Incorporate the CPRB's operations and staffing into the formal structure of the City of Albany under the oversight of the Common Council.

Read Local Law D: bit.ly/LocalLawD

Printed copies are available.





WHY LOCAL LAW D OF 2024?

Local Law D would enable the CPRB to:

- Remain a distinct agency with independent day-to-day operations.
- Establish a sustainable and cost-effective model for the CPRB's long-term staffing and operational needs.
- Fully implement and integrate the spirit of Local Law J by developing infrastructure based on research and review of the efficacy of community police oversight models in other jurisdictions.



CPRB FUNDING

The CPRB budget is funded by public money, including taxpayer money.

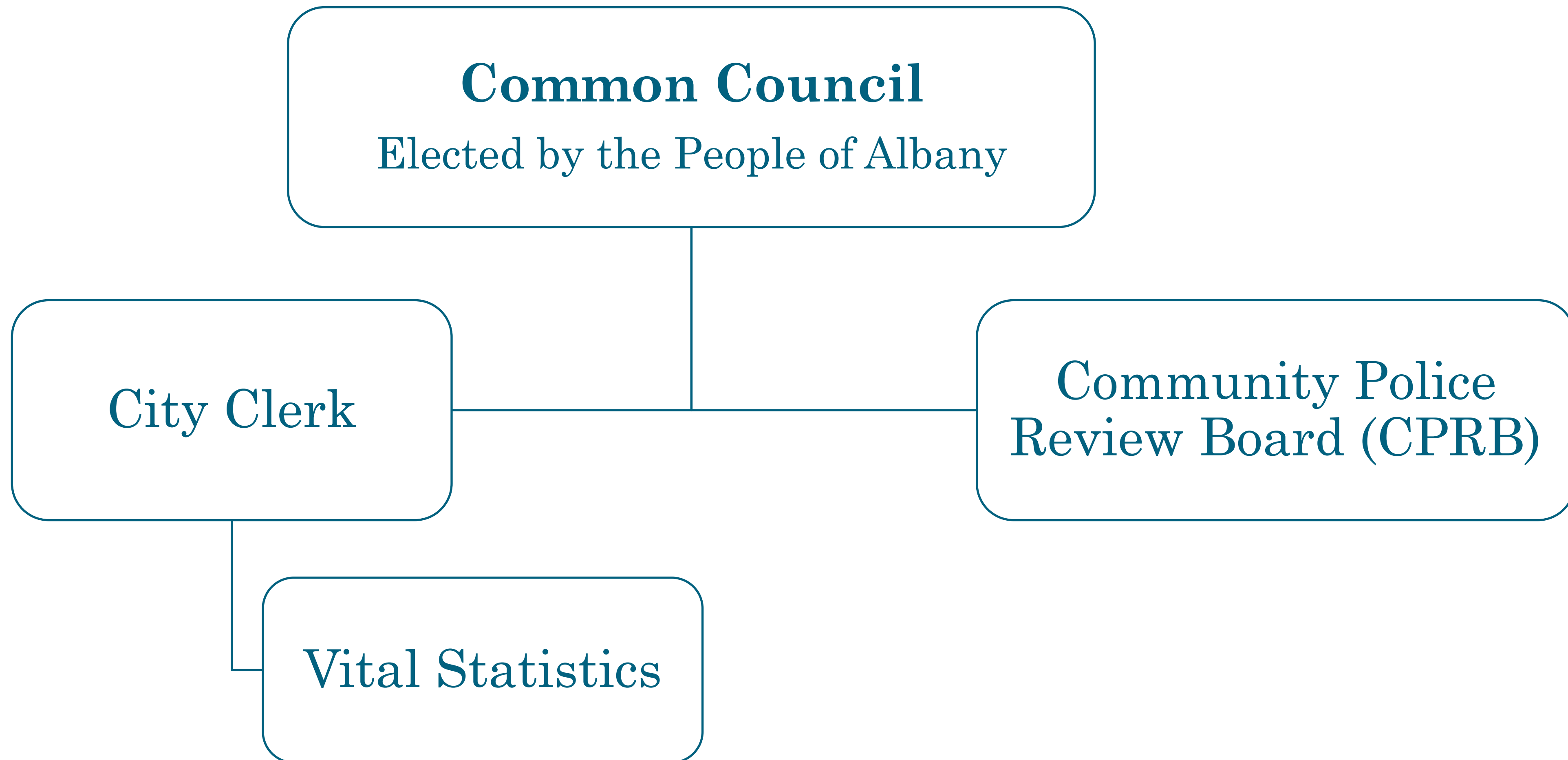
Under the Administrative Agency Model employed since 2000:

1. Administrative Agency pays up front for expenses related to CPRB, including contracted services (investigators, monitors, counsel).
2. Administrative Agency sends invoice to City for reimbursement.
3. City reimburses Administrative Agency for CPRB expenses pursuant to contract and CPRB budget.

As a City entity, CPRB could leverage basic shared services and logistical infrastructure such as IT and HR support, accounting and audit services, and physical office space. Moving away from third-party contract administration would allow the CPRB to benefit from in-house employees and maximize its budget instead of relying exclusively on external investigators and monitors.

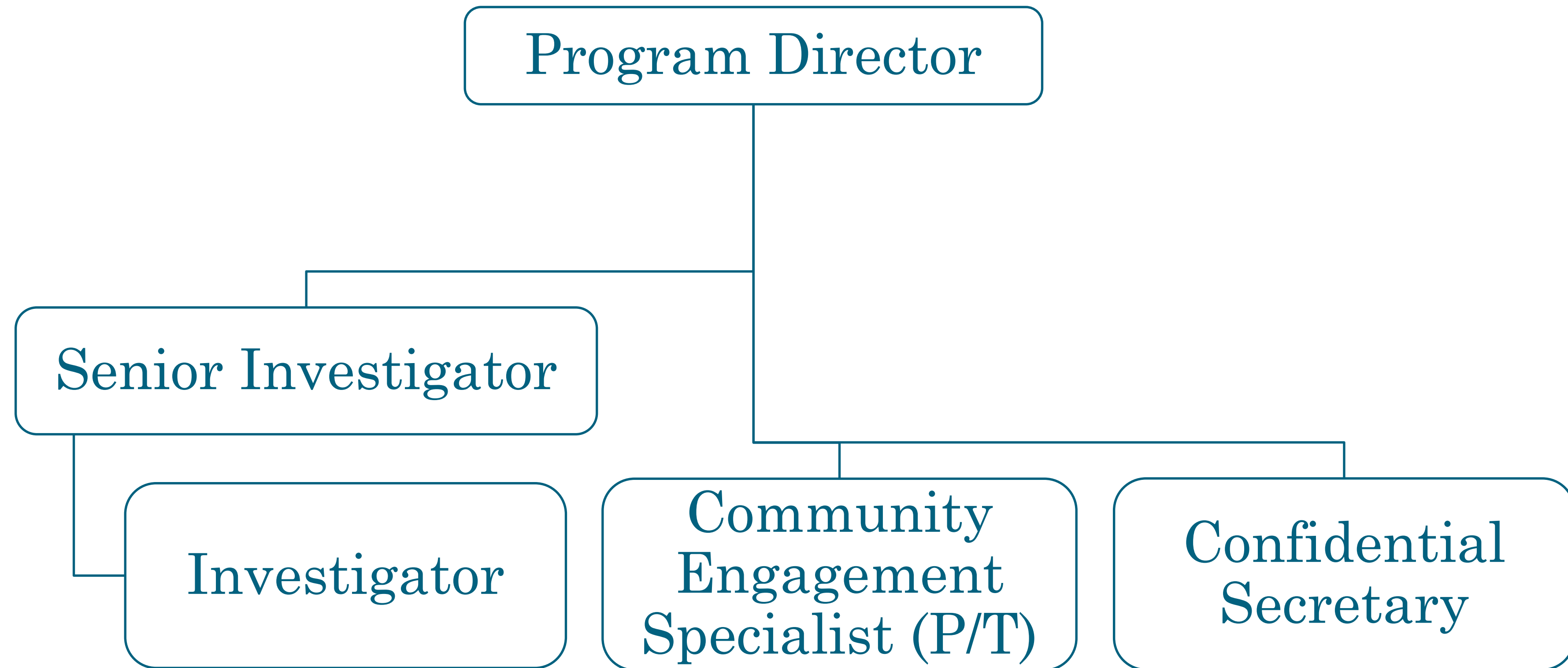


PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





PROPOSED STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Contracted Services: Outside Counsel



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You called for oversight, you called for enhanced oversight and now we need you to call for sustained police oversight and accountability.

Community members can call on the Common Council to:

- Pass legislation **Local Law D of 2024**
- Ensure that the CPRB, which is an **essential** resource for community oversight of police misconduct, is **sufficiently funded and resourced**.
- Initiate a process which allows the CPRB to operate as an oversight administrative agency, or department, within the City of Albany.



CONTACT Us

Albany Community Police Review Board
c/o Government Law Center, Albany Law School
2000 Building, Room 315
80 New Scotland Avenue
Albany, NY 12208
518-445-2383
cprb@albanylaw.edu
www.albanycprb.org

Follow us: www.facebook.com/AlbanyCPRB