PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 33 - 2021

A RESOLUTION to adopt the Amended Nassau County Police Reform and Reinvention Plan

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 203, directing local governments with a police agency to perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and to develop a plan to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, and practices, for the purposes of addressing the particular needs of the communities served by such police agency and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color, and to convene the head of the local police agency and stakeholders in the community to develop such plan; and

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo directed that such plan consider evidence-based policing strategies, including but not limited to, use of force policies, procedural justice; any studies addressing systemic racial bias or racial justice in policing; implicit bias awareness training; deescalation training and practices; law enforcement assisted diversion programs; restorative justice practices; community-based outreach and conflict resolution; problem-oriented policing; hot spots policing; focused deterrence; crime prevention through environmental design; violence prevention and reduction interventions; model policies and guidelines promulgated by the New York State Municipal Police Training Council; and standards promulgated by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive convened the Nassau County Police and Community Trust Initiative ("PACT") and the Community Collaborative Task Force ("CCT") and the Police Commissioner constituted the Commissioner's Community Council ("CCC") and the County held a series virtual town halls for the purpose of conducting such a comprehensive review and formulating a plan in furtherance of the purposes of Governor's Executive Order No. 203; WHEREAS, over 120 public input sessions and written proposals submitted by the residents and community stakeholders were received by these groups as well as through other means over a seven-month period and were carefully considered during this process; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this comprehensive collaborative process, a proposed plan was developed which covered all the areas mandated by Executive Order No. 203 as well as other matters; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the proposed plan before the full Legislature on February 24, 2021, at which representatives of various police reform and civil liberties interest groups testified, and presented comments on the proposed plan and made alternative proposals; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive and Legislature have fully considered this testimony and as a result, certain amendments have been made to the proposed plan; and

WHEREAS, such amended plan has the following three main corner stones for Police Reform and Reinvention: (i) Robust Community-Oriented Policing; (ii) Transparency; and (iii) Accountability;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nassau County Legislature that Nassau County adopts the Amended Nassau County Police Reform and Reinvention Plan.