

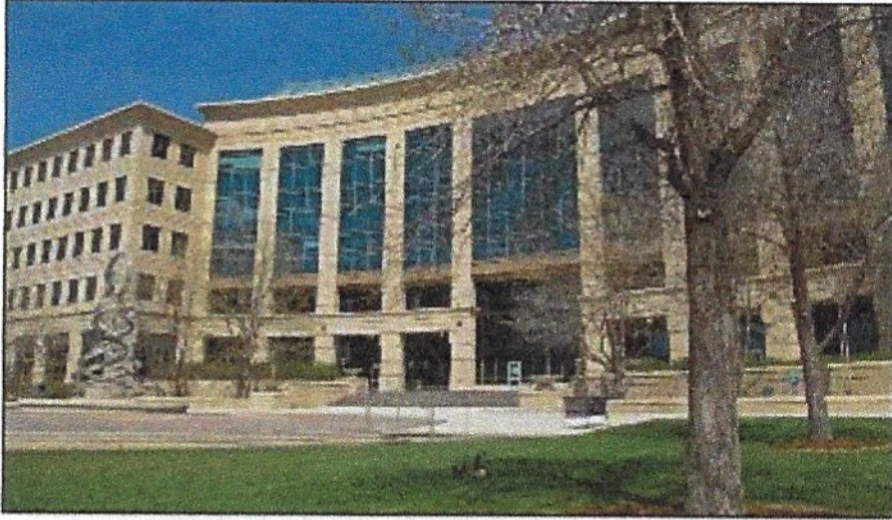
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# New Aurora council micromanages, muzzles cops

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The Denver Gazette · 22 May 2026 · B4 · Jimmy Sengenberger is an investigative journalist, public speaker, and longtime local talk-radio host. Reach Jimmy online at [jimmysengenberger.com](http://jimmysengenberger.com) or on X (formerly Twitter) @SengCenter. JIMMY SENGENBERGER

“You haven’t looked up one f—ing time this whole night, you useless f—k.”



The profane words of a holier-than-thou activist rang out like an incensed teenager at Monday’s meeting of the Aurora City Council. ([www.tinyurl.com/3dfc6kt6](http://www.tinyurl.com/3dfc6kt6))

The difference? Petulant children like far-left activist Jeff McFarland now hold sway in Aurora.

As the council prepared to pass a policy muzzling the Aurora Police Department, McFarland blasted members who advocate public safety. He was never gaveled down.

“Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Angela Lawson and Francoise Bergan, I need your f—ing opinions like I need a second vasectomy,” he ranted, revealing a small mercy for everyone else: At least this guy can’t have kids. But McFarland is among those calling the shots. You’re either “on the f—ing boat” or you aren’t. “We’re coming for each and every one of your positions,” he declared.

His tirade is supposedly because the previous council didn’t acquiesce to the far-left demand for the Kangaroo Court of Public Opinion to judge police officers accused of killing unarmed Black men — even though the cops never were criminally charged following thorough investigations.

“I wouldn’t be active in this scene, and you wouldn’t be standing here listening to me,” he snapped. “So it’s your own f—ing fault. How about you do the bare minimum and pass this resolution? How’s that?”

Let’s be clear: This is intimidation dressed as grassroots grievance; a public shaming, not a debate. And the double standard is everything.

When former Councilwoman Danielle Jurinsky’s 81-year-old father addressed the new council after they took office, he was interrupted, laughed at and booed. McFarland’s performance theater featured F-bombs and veiled threats. He received applause.

Welcome to the new Aurora City Council. Is this what voters bargained for?

In a 6-4 vote Monday, the council passed “emergency rules” ordering police to clear press releases and social media posts with the city manager before publication.

No posting booking photos, either, or naming suspects unless they’ve pled guilty or are convicted — except in a public safety emergency.

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APD officials are also barred from commenting on “official social media sites, media releases, or as a representative of the City on any pending or enacted city, state, or federal legislation” without prior approval.

Proponents claim APD’s social media crossed a line from public information into “editorializing.” In reality, it amounts to conversational storytelling about crime in Aurora to promote greater public understanding.

“Getting your kicks by committing crimes isn’t worth it,” one post had stated, noting “these three were out way past their bedtime.” Another read, “You may have all the right tools to commit a burglary, but doesn’t mean APD won’t catch you in the act. We will beat you at that game every. Single. Time.”

Modern law enforcement builds trust with posts like these, including photos or bodycam footage. If that’s editorializing, we need more of it.

On Facebook, Mayor Mike Coffman acknowledged legal concerns from the city attorney that a social media post “editorializing” about a suspect’s prior convictions “could prejudice the prosecution of the case.”

But he noted the policy adopted Monday goes far beyond that concern. It restricts Chief Todd Chamberlain’s “ability to publicly share his judgement on policy matters (that) could impact his department.” The council’s new majority could have talked to the city manager — Chamberlain’s boss — and asked him to address concerns. Instead, they rushed through an “emergency resolution.”

Let’s be real: This isn’t about reining in law enforcement storytelling. It’s about the council restricting the flow of public safety information.

One has to wonder if it has something to do with Councilman Rob Andrews, who was arrested for driving under the influence at more than three times the legal limit in January.

Andrews quickly apologized. “Accountability has to be more than words,” he posted at the time, adding he was registering for classes, meeting with Mothers Against Drunk Driving and “taking proactive steps” not to do this again.

Andrews was arrested on Jan. 17 yet still hasn’t entered a plea. His arraignment isn’t until June 2 — nearly six months later.

His attorneys initially went after the arresting officer, James Shupe, by challenging his credentials to administer breathalyzer tests in February. APD confirmed Shupe’s certification is active.

Bodycam footage of Andrews’ breathalyzer test was released April 24, indicating blood-alcohol content “quite a bit higher” than the legal limit.

Now the police themselves are a target — silenced over spurious claims of “editorializing.”

Is this retribution? The timing certainly raises questions.

Andrews leads the council’s public safety subcommittee, which oversees APD. Being drunk on camera isn’t a good look for the man overseeing public safety.

Meanwhile, the council is advancing legislation to create a new oversight office reporting to the city manager — a buffer with the public safety committee. Perhaps they don’t trust Andrews (who would?) but lack the political courage to outright remove a “progressive leader.”

Underlying it all is an anti-cop agenda. The contrived new office means more red tape handcuffing law enforcement. As The Denver Gazette reported, the ordinance mandates that APD notify the office of

any critical incidents within 30 minutes and assign liaisons to families of anyone killed or injured. Office members will gain unrestricted access to employees, information, records, footage and facilities. The City Council micromanaging and muzzling cops won't protect the public. With people like Rob Andrews and Jeff McFarland driving policy, this is just the beginning. Andrews leads the council's public safety subcommittee, which oversees APD. Being drunk on camera isn't a good look for the man overseeing public safety.

