

Attachment A

Phoenix City Council Public Safety and Justice Subcommittee Summary Minutes Wednesday, February 9, 2022

City Council Chambers
200 W. Jefferson St.
Phoenix, Ariz.

Subcommittee Members Present

Councilwoman Ann O'Brien, Chair
Councilwoman Yassamin Ansari
Councilman Jim Waring
Councilmember Carlos Garcia

Subcommittee Members Absent

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman O'Brien called the Public Safety and Justice Subcommittee to order at 9:32 a.m. with Vice Mayor Garcia, Councilwoman Ansari, and Councilman Waring present.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Alexander Stein expressed comments related to Councilmembers.

Bryan Wellington expressed comments related to a recent program from the Biden Administration.

Laurel Langmade discussed the Human Services Campus in the City and the relocation of unsheltered individuals. She suggested turning Papago Golf Course into an unsheltered campus.

Cynthia Graber discussed the benefits of Community Action Officers and the work they have done in the community. She requested the subcommittee grant 19th Avenue and Glendale the same safety program as 27th Avenue.

Michael Philips discussed the recent cuts in Community Action Officers. He emphasized the importance of having Community Action Officers and their role within the community.

Tom Thomas expressed his support for the Community Action Officer program and the necessity of Community Action Officers. He discussed the benefits of having an officer in the community getting to know the residents and how it promotes the Police.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

1. Minutes of the Public Safety and Justice Subcommittee Meeting

Councilman Waring made a motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 12, 2022, Public Safety and Justice Subcommittee meeting. Councilwoman Ansari seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 4-0.

Consent Action (ITEMS 2)

Item 2 was for consent action. The subcommittee may vote to discuss Item 2 in Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S Section 38-431(A)(1).

2. Donation from Phoenix Police Foundation of Motorist Assist Vehicles

Councilman Waring made a motion to approve Item 2. Councilwoman Ansari seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 4-0.

INFORMATION ONLY (ITEMS 3)

3. Phoenix Police Department Hiring and Recruitment Monthly Report

Information only. No Councilmember requested additional information.

Cynthia Graber added to her previous comments regarding Community Action Officers and the neighborhood safety program.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION (ITEMS 4)

4. 2021 Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Chairwoman O'Brien introduced Item 4 and Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Brent Olson.

Mr. Olson discussed the purpose of a hazard mitigation plan and federal requirements. He highlighted the County's history of hazard mitigation planning and noted initial planning delays that took place. Mr. Olson highlighted the benefits of multi-jurisdictional planning and introduced Kim Gathers from the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Ms. Gathers discussed the planning process and the stakeholders involved. She noted the mitigation plan updates, which included areas such as dam inundation, excessive heat, levee failure, and wildfire. In addition, she emphasized the findings in the vulnerability analysis, which identified buildings and critical facilities exposed to hazards.

Mr. Olson requested the Public Safety and Justice subcommittee recommend City Council adoption of the 2021 Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Phoenix.

Councilwoman Ansari thanked Fire and Emergency staff for their work. She asked if the City had thought about incorporating air quality mitigation in the Hazard Mitigation plan.

Mr. Olson stated it was possible to include air mitigation into the plan.

Councilman Waring made a motion to approve Item 4. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Ansari and passed unanimously 4-0.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEM 5-6)

5. Street Racing Task Force Update

Chairwoman O'Brien introduced Item 5 and Assistant Chief Sean Connelly with Phoenix Police.

Assistant Chief Connelly thanked the subcommittee for their time and support. He introduced Commander Derrek Elmore to provide an update on the street racing task force.

Commander Elmore gave a brief background of the task force and the multi-agency collaboration efforts that had been taking place. In addition, Commander Elmore noted the Prosecutor's Office cooperation and collaboration. He also highlighted the Council's action to allow vehicles involved in street racing to be impounded for up to 30 days. Commander Elmore noted that intersection takeovers had been reduced by five percent and an overall reduction in street racing citations and charges.

Councilwoman Ansari asked for a walk-through of the process for getting a citation and what leads up to an arrest. In addition, she asked if marketing strategies to deter street racing had worked.

Commander Elmore went over the process and circumstances that lead to arrest for street racing. He noted a decrease in the number of repeat offenders due to the anti-street racing marketing campaigns and progressively increased fines for repeat offenders.

Chairwoman O'Brien thanked the Police department for their hard work in keeping streets safe and Arizona State Senator Paul Boyer for championing the street racing law.

Daniel Herrera asked for confirmation on the presenters and what preventative measures the Street Racing Task Force was taking.

Chairwoman O'Brien stated she was not aware of any preventative measures that the Task Force was taking.

Assistant Chief Connelly stated Police and the Prosecutor's Office were constantly in communication on ways to evolve the Task Force and policies around street racing.

6. Community Assistance Program (CAP) Update

Chairwoman O'Brien introduced Item 6 and Deputy City Manager Ginger Spencer.

Ms. Spencer discussed the previous action taken by the Council to expand the Community Assistance Program (CAP) and thanked outgoing Fire Chief Kara Kalkbrenner and incoming Fire Chief Mike Duran for their leadership on CAP.

Assistant Fire Chief Duran gave a brief overview of the presentation and introduced Program Administrator Dolores Ernst and Assistant Finance Director TJ Martin.

Ms. Ernst discussed the expansion of CAP and the various steps being taken to ensure community behavioral health services. She noted new fleet procurement and collaboration between the Real Estate division on identifying locations for crisis response units throughout the city. Ms. Ernst noted the CAP Dispatch Review Team and their collaboration with the Harvard Kennedy School's Government Performances Lab. In addition, she reviewed the hiring of CAP personnel, which consisted of a CAP Administrator, four Casework Services Coordinators, and eight Crisis Response Unit positions.

Ms. Martin discussed updates on the telehealth and peer recovery support RFP process.

Ms. Ernst gave an in-depth look into the CAP timeline and discussed community engagement tactics.

Chairwoman O'Brien thanked the CAP team for their innovation and hard work and expressed her enthusiasm for the CAP units to be in operation in April. She asked how many total teams would be available in April.

Ms. Ernst stated that there would be nine behavioral health units and ten crisis response units available in April.

Councilwoman Ansari asked how CAP could assist with easing the burden on Police and better serve the community. She expressed her concern about the lack of community awareness of CAP and emphasized the need for community outreach.

Ms. Spencer discussed the community's desire to have an alternative response to Police when dealing with behavioral health calls. She stated that collaboration between City departments would help provide increased and improved services. In addition, she noted the partnership with Gunn Communications Inc. to survey the unsheltered community and CAP's plans on attending community events to spread awareness.

Chairwoman O'Brien thanked Fire Chief Kalkbrenner for her years of service to the City.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Harrison
Management Intern

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