

Public Safety Committee Meeting Record

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Meeting Date: March 3, 2008

Convened: 12:03 p.m.

Adjourned: 2:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem, Dr. Elba Garcia, **Chair**
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway, **Vice-Chair**
Jerry R. Allen
Tennell Atkins
Sheffie Kadane
Ron Natinsky
David A. Neumann
Mitchell Rasansky

City Staff Present:

Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Fire-Rescue Chief Eddie Burns, Sr., DFD
Executive Officer Leanne Siri, DFD
Captain Doug Dickerson, DFD
Police Chief David M. Kunkle, DPD
Deputy Chief Calvin Cunigan, DPD
Lt. Craig Miller, DPD
Lt. Chesley Williams, DPD
Sam Hawk, Assistant City Attorney, CAO

Committee Members Absent:

None

Guests:

Dr. Eric Fritsch, UNT
Dr. Robert Taylor, UNT

AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order**

Presenter: Mayor Pro Tem, Dr. Elba Garcia, Chair

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Mayor Pro Tem, Dr. Elba Garcia called an Open Session of the Public Safety Committee Meeting to order at 12:03 p.m., Monday, March 3, 2008 at City Hall, 1500 Marilla, 6ES, Dallas, TX, 75201. A quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 19, 2008**

Presenter: Mayor Pro Tem, Dr. Elba Garcia, Chair

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

The February 19, 2008 Public Safety meeting record was unanimously approved.

Motion made by: **Tennell Atkins**

Item passed unanimously: **X**

Item failed unanimously:

Motion seconded by: **Ron Natinsky**

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

3. **Fire Ops 101**

Presenter(s): Executive Officer Leanne Siri, Dallas Fire-Rescue Department and
Captain Doug Dickerson, Dallas Fire-Rescue Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Executive Officer Siri gave an overview to the Fire Ops 101 event. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2008, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., at the Dodd Miller, Jr. Training Center, located at 5000 Dolphin Road. The purpose of the event is as follows: (1) give you a taste of the fire service (2) spend a hands-on day as a first responder (3) expose you to the complex issues of the fire service like staffing, adequate equipment, and presumptive health and (4) live a day as a firefighter.

The committee had the following concerns/recommendations: (1) recommend inviting the junior's of the Explorer Program to the Fire Ops 101 event.

Follow up: The chair requested a memo inviting the full council to the April 5, Dallas Fire Ops 101, a one-day basic fire ground operations orientation.

4. **Crime Report**

Presenter(s): Chief David M. Kunkle, Dallas Police Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Chief Kunkle provided the committee with a discussion of the crime briefing. One of the key focus areas is public safety and one of the most important goals is to reduce crime. The highest single goal is how the department is doing as it relates to crime. The following is a summary of the current crime report: (1) homicides are down 25% compared to the previous year (2) 2006 the City of Dallas had the fewest number of homicides (3) 2007 the City of Dallas had the second lowest per capita homicide rate and (4) sexual assaults are up about 17%. The Sam Houston State Study Area color coded map indicates the 7 patrol divisions and the yellow color coded numbered areas on the map are 21 areas identified as the highest crime areas in the City.

The committee had the following concerns/recommendations: (1) substation strategies (2) beat policing concept (3) decrease response time (4) action plan to resolve the crime issues in hot spots (5) apartments and truck stops (6) continued implementation of neighborhood patrol strategy (7) connectivity with neighborhood and beat officers is essential (8) community involvement (9) VIP program (10) random gunfire improvement (11) partnership with apartment manager's (12) non violent crime increase and (13) continue to work with county and jail population release.

Follow up: The committee would like a list of all homeowner associations for each council district.

5. **Homicide Analytical Monthly Report**

Presenter(s): Lt. Craig Miller, Dallas Police Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Lt. Miller gave an overview to the Homicide Analytical Monthly Report. Highlights of the presentation were as follows: (1) homicide unit murder investigations and (2) 2007 vs. 2008 type of locations, murders by division, motives and contributing factors, victims by race and gender and all suspects by race and gender.

The committee had the following concerns/recommendations: (1) open field/vacant lot (2) gunshot detection system (3) economic development (4) tax incentive programs and (5) single car parking garages in apartments.

Follow up: The committee would like 2006-07 homicide stats for City of Dallas and top 10 cities in the U.S.

6. **2007 Police Traffic Contact Data Annual Report (Racial Profiling)**

Presenter(s): Deputy Chief Calvin Cunigan, Dallas Police Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Deputy Chief Cunigan gave an update of the 2007 Police Traffic Contact Data Annual Report (Racial Profiling). It is the goal of the Dallas Police Department to provide public safety service that is both effective and fair. To achieve this goal, racial profiling is strictly forbidden and will never be tolerated in the Dallas Police Department. Highlights of the presentation were as follows: (1) philosophy statement (2) 2007 traffic contacts, searches from contacts, consensual searches and custodial arrests from traffic contacts (3) racial profiling complaints and (4) external review of data and 2008 recommendations.

The committee had the following concerns: (1) Senate Bill 1074 of the 77th Legislature (2) DPD complying with racial profiling law (3) tier II data on traffic stops (4) procedure for citizens to file an IAD complaint (5) consensual search procedures (6) number of complaints to the Citizens Police Review Board related to racial profiling (7) video camera's in patrol vehicles and (8) number of patrol units.

7. **High Risk Victims and Trafficking Program**

Presenter(s): Lt. Chesley Williams, Dallas Police Department

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Lt. Williams gave an overview of the High Risk Victims and Trafficking Program. The program primarily targets young girls in the city of Dallas currently involved in prostitution. Those designated as "high risk" due to their history of frequently running away from home. Highlights of the presentation were as follows: (1) Dallas HRVT program impetus (2) scope of the problem (3) local retrospective review (4) review findings (5) entry into prostitution risk factors (6) goals (7) intervention strategies (8) results (9) child exploitation squad (10) immediate needs and (11) placement.

The committee had the following concerns/recommendations: (1) status of suspects (2) teen summit to juvenile detention center (3) 10:00 p.m. curfew (4) youth commission (5) social services for prostitution hotline (6) county support on foster care (7) community involvement (8) City radio station (9) ages of juveniles involved and (10) CPS.

8. **Video Magistrate**

Presenter(s): Gloria Lopez Carter, Director, Court & Detention Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

This item was not briefed to the committee. It will be briefed during the April 7, 2008 Public Safety committee meeting.

9. **Upcoming City Council Agenda Items for March 2008**

- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant 2008-2009
- Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Year 10

A motion was made by Mr. Allen to support the Victims of Crime Act Grant and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Year 10 and to recommend it to the full Dallas City Council for approval on March 26, 2008 council agenda. Mr. Kadane seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

10. **Administrative Reports**

Presenter: Deputy Chief Calvin Cunigan, Dallas Police Department
Currently there are no new police involved shooting investigations pending by Internal Affairs. All completed investigations have been presented to the committee.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): none

11. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments made.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

Mayor Pro Tem, Dr. Elba Garcia, Chair
Public Safety Committee

Shun Session, Coordinator
Public Safety Committee