

**Public Safety Council Committee
Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 9, 2010
12:00 p.m.
Plaza Room B**

Members Present: Councilmember John G. Clamp, *Chair, District 10*
Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, *District 2*
Councilmember David Medina, Jr., *District 5*
Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: Erik Walsh, *Assistant City Manager*; William McManus, *Police Chief*; Mike Burns, *Deputy Police Chief*; Jeff Humphrey, *Deputy Police Chief*; Christopher Looney, *Planning & Development Services Interim Assistant Director*; Hollis Young, *Deputy City Attorney*; Robert Reyna, *Assistant City Attorney*; Samuel Adams, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Chris Bove, *KTLA*

Call to Order

Chairman Clamp called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

2. Approval of minutes of the March 31, 2010 and May 12, 2010 Public Safety Council Committee Meetings.

Councilmember Lopez moved to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2010 and May 12, 2010 Public Safety Council Committee Meetings. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CCR (D4) – Consideration of a request for staff to bring forward an ordinance banning the use of mobile communication devices for texting or internet browsing while driving

Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police

Chief William McManus stated that a Public Hearing regarding the proposed ordinance was held on May 12, 2010. He reported that the consensus of those present spoke in support of the proposed restrictions. He noted that the proposed ordinance would ban the use of communication devices for texting or internet browsing while driving. He added that school zone restrictions would remain unchanged and cited the following exceptions:

- ✚ Using the device while operating an authorized emergency vehicle
- ✚ Reporting illegal activity to a law enforcement agency

- ✦ Communicating with an emergency response operator, a hospital, physician's office, or a health clinic regarding a medical or other emergency situation
- ✦ Prevent injury to a person or property

Chief McManus stated that if approved, warnings would be issued during the first 90 days after adoption, and that educational efforts would be made to inform the public of ordinance requirements and the maximum fine of \$200.00.

Councilmember Taylor stated that enforcement may be difficult and spoke of the importance of educating the public on the requirements of the ordinance. Councilmember Lopez expressed concern with enforcement issues and suggested consideration of forwarding said issue to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee to explore legislative options.

Erik Walsh noted that there were many options to consider; however, he cited the importance of awareness and education regarding distractions while driving.

Chairman Clamp asked the Committee if they would like to proceed with the proposed recommendation or have staff explore additional options with a more holistic approach. Councilmember Taylor spoke in support of moving forward with the proposed recommendation and cited the importance of providing awareness and education to the public. Councilmember Medina concurred. Councilmember Lopez recommended an additional Committee meeting to explore additional options prior to full Council consideration.

Mr. Walsh clarified that the proposed terminology indicates that all uses of the phone with the exception of dialing are prohibited while driving.

Councilmember Lopez moved to forward said item, with concise terminology included, to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CCR (D3) – Consideration of a request for staff to amend Section 21-52 – Noise Nuisance Enumeration, so as to reduce the decibel threshold for property defined in Section 21-52(a), (10)-(12) to 63 decibels when such property abuts areas that are zoned residential

Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police

Chief McManus provided information on a request by Councilmember Ramos, District 3, to amend the Noise Nuisance Enumeration to reduce the decibel level threshold by 7 decibels. He noted that the existing code allows for the 7 decibel reduction at night for all properties except residential. He stated that staff recommended that no changes be made to the current City Code Noise Ordinance and that staff was working to identify businesses that abut residential properties and generate noise complaint calls in order to increase enforcement and awareness. Additionally, staff further recommended purchasing more noise meter device units that are smaller and easier to use to provide patrol officers the tools to enforce immediate enforcement demands.

Mr. Walsh indicated that staff is working with Councilmember Ramos to resolve some local issues within her District and that staff was exploring options to outfit officers with the appropriate noise meter devices.

It was the consensus of the Committee to table said item. Mr. Walsh stated that said item would be placed as a pending agenda item until further discussion.

Councilmember Medina spoke in support of new, smaller noise meter devices and stated that he looked forward to the implementation of said devices.

Councilmember Lopez moved to table said item. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Update on Towing Services Contract

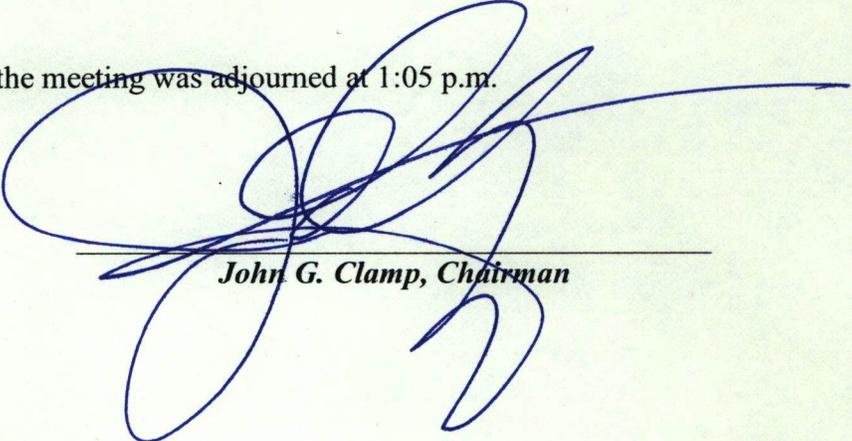
Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police

Chief McManus reported that all towing service contractors were requested to submit a financial audit by a certified public accountant by April 28, 2010. He stated that all of the contractors had requested and been granted extensions to complete the audit. He noted that during the month of March 2010, all towing contractors maintained a successful Response Time Performance Rating. Additionally, he indicated that the Department was moving forward with the implementation of the hand-held mobile devices. He stated that the Contract Administration Office, Wrecker Service Unit and ITSD were currently conducting testing on the software.

6. Consideration of items for future meetings

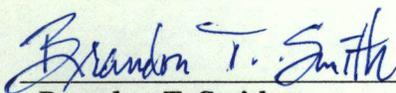
7. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.



John G. Clamp, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk