

**Public Safety Council Committee
Minutes**

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Municipal Plaza Room B

Members Present: Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, *Chair, District 7*
Councilmember Delicia Herrera, *District 6*
Councilmember John Clamp, *District 10*

Members Absent: Councilmember Philip Cortez, *District 4*

Staff Present: Erik Walsh, *Assistant City Manager*; Richard Varn, *Chief Information Officer*; William McManus, *Police Chief*; Peter Zaroni, *Office of Management & Budget Director*; John Bull, *Presiding Municipal Court Judge*; Fred Garcia, *Municipal Court Clerk*; Rodney Hitzfelder, *Deputy Fire Chief*; Stephen Gaffigan, *Information Technology Systems Assistant Director*; Joe Nino, *Deputy City Attorney*; Robert Reyna, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Carol Sutherland; Mario Llano

Call to Order

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

At this time, the Committee addressed Item 3.

3. Briefing and possible action on COPS Hiring Recovery Program Grant

Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police; Peter Zaroni, Office of Management and Budget Director

Peter Zaroni provided a summary of the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) Grant and stated that the majority of grant funds would cover Police Officer costs for a three-year period. He noted that the CHRP Grant required the City to retain Officers for 12 months beginning in year four. He presented funding opportunities and the impact to the City budget for an additional 25; 50; 75; 100 Police Officers.

Chief McManus stated that 100 Officers would bolster the SAFFE Program and noted that the majority of the Officers would be used primarily for community policing.

Councilmember Herrera expressed concern regarding the impact to the City's General Fund and asked how the proposed funding would be afforded due to possible budget cuts in the future. She also questioned how said proposal could be accomplished without cutting services or increasing taxes.

Erik Walsh indicated that based on the option for 100 Police Officers, the City would receive approximately \$20 million in federal funds from 2010 – 2014 and the cost to the City during that period would be \$13 million. He noted that the City would be leveraging \$20 million. Councilmember Herrera acknowledged the leveraging of funds and requested that it be noted at the April 9, 2009 City Council Meeting.

Mr. Zanoni stated that staff would confer with the City Manager to reserve funds in preparation for the 2014 fiscal impact to the General Fund.

Councilmember Clamp spoke in support of additional neighborhood policing and suggested the use of motorcycles for neighborhood patrols in addition to patrol cars.

Chairman Rodriguez spoke in support of requesting 100 Police Officers through the grant.

Councilmember Herrera moved to forward said item, as recommended by staff, to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Clamp seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of minutes of the February 11, 2009 Public Safety Council Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2009 Public Safety Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Clamp seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Briefing on Proposed Revisions to the Teen Curfew Ordinance
Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police

Assistant Police Chief Harry Griffin reported that staff recommendation was to amend the current ordinance to establish a year-round curfew from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m. and be revised to limit the number of defenses to the current ordinance. He stated that the Police Department procedure would issue a warning citation and re-connect the youth with the parent. He noted that violators would be transported to the Roy Maas Center if parents had not been located after six hours.

Councilmember Clamp recommended the implementation of a reporting mechanism and stated that the Committee should be informed regarding the effectiveness of the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Herrera requested a timeline regarding the proposed ordinance. Erik Walsh stated that the current ordinance expired on July 29, 2009. He noted that there would be at least one Public Hearing scheduled and the ordinance revision process would commence in May, 2009.

Councilmember Clamp suggested that a Municipal Court update be included as a regular item on the Public Safety Council Committee Agenda. Chairman Rodriguez concurred and requested that Mr. Walsh coordinate said effort. Councilmember Clamp cited the

importance of an update on the success factors of the proposed program and other considered programs.

5. Briefing on U.S. Department of Homeland Security Public Safety Interoperability Grant

Presented by Steve Gaffigan, Information Technology Systems Assistant Director

Steve Gaffigan reported that the State of Texas SCIP had mandated that all public radio systems be system-to-system interoperable (P25) by 2015 to ensure that all public radios communicate as one system. He noted that staff recommendation was that the City partner with the City of Austin and the State of Texas to establish a 700 MHz radio system that would provide a P25 interoperable system.

Mr. Walsh stated that an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Austin would be presented to the City Council in May, 2009m along with options on how to utilize the \$2.1 million Public Safety Interoperability (PSIC) Grant.

It was noted that said item would be brought back to the Committee at a future date.

6. Proposed Driver Safety Awareness Campaign

Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police

Chief McManus reported that the San Antonio Police Department would begin a public awareness campaign utilizing television and radio Public Safety Announcements (PSA) to address specific state traffic regulations which had been identified as problematic on roadways within San Antonio. He noted possible exploration of funding options to broadcast the PSAs during prime viewing times.

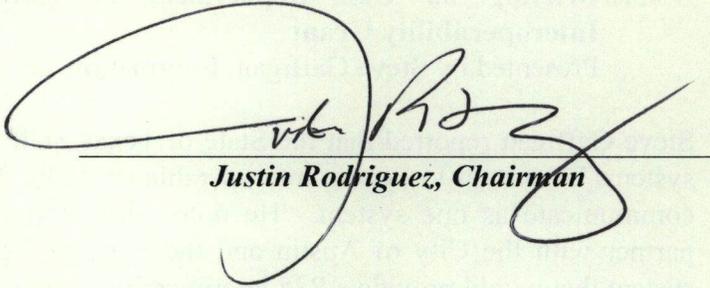
7. Consideration of items for future meetings

- ✦ SMART Program
- ✦ Cameras
- ✦ Cell Phones
- ✦ CAD/RMS Project

Mr. Zanoni provided information on the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Grant Application for law enforcement assistance to combat criminal narcotics activity stemming from the Southern Border. He also provided information regarding a Justice Assistance Grant. He noted that the application would be submitted in collaboration with Bexar County and other small cities.

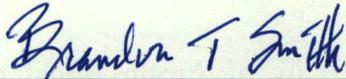
8. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11: 20 am.



Justin Rodriguez, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



**Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk**