



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, February 3, 2014**

**The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, February 3, 2014 at City Hall, 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Kim Rossmo, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:06 PM.**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Kim Rossmo  
Mike Levy  
Michael Lauderdale  
Reynaldo Moreno  
Ramey Ko  
Sam Holt

**Board Members not in Attendance:**

Kent Anschutz

**1. Approval of Minutes**

- The minutes for the regular meeting on 12/02/2013 were approved on Commissioner Lauderdale's motion, Commissioner Moreno's second and a 6-0 unanimous vote.

**2. Citizen Communications**

- **Malcolm Yeatts** – Mr. Yeatts, representing Sector 9 of the Austin Neighborhood Council, presented slides offering a visual representation of the 2013 Halloween Flood weather activity, the City response timeline and the Austin Neighborhood Council's commitment to educating neighborhoods about 911 reverse calling.
- **Mario Cantu** – Mr. Cantu, representing the Austin Neighborhood Council Flood Subcommittee, offered suggestions from the Flood Committee regarding future flood response efforts.

**3. Discussion and Possible Action Items**

**a. Plaque Presentation to Dr. Michael Lauderdale – Public Safety Commission**

- The Public Safety Commission presented Dr. Lauderdale, former Chair of Public Safety Commission, with a plaque in appreciation of his years of service.

*For more information on the Public Safety Commission, please contact Austin Police Department Chief of Staff, David Carter at (512) 974-5030. The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date. Please call Tara Long at the Austin Police Department, at (512) 974-5747, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.*

***b. Anticipated Timeline for completion of City of Austin Halloween Flood Efforts After Action Report – AFD Chief of Staff Harry Evans***

- Chief Evans provided an overview of the internal process for completing an after action report citing an anticipated completion date for mid-March.
- He also updated the Commission about the City's meeting with the Austin Neighborhood Council to gather their feedback about the flood response and how the report will be using to revise response protocols.
- Bob Nicks, President of the Austin Firefighters Association, spoke about the need for boats in flood response efforts and the potential need for more.
- Chair Rossmo requested that this item be tentatively placed on the April 2014 Public Safety Commission agenda.

***c. City Council Appointment to the Austin Regional Intelligence Center Policy Committee – Greg Foster***

- Greg Foster introduced himself to the Commission and presented his credentials for serving on the Privacy Policy Council.
- The Public Safety Commission offered their suggestions for what they would like from Mr. Foster as an appointee to the Policy Council.
- Chair Rossmo requested a joint update on the Austin Regional Intelligence Center from the Austin Police Department and Greg Foster on a date to be determined.

***d. Distracted Driving Legislation – Bianca Bentzin, Division Chief of the City of Austin Legal Department***

- Ms. Bentzin presented an overview of distracted driving studies, the gaps in the current City of Austin distracted driving ordinance, recommended revisions, challenges to enforcement of the current ordinance and attitudes about expanding the existing ordinance.
- The Commission passed the following recommendation on a 6-0 vote after Commissioner Ko's motion and Commissioner Lauderdale's second:  
We advise the City Council to form a taskforce for the purpose of amending, updating, and improving the current ordinance related to texting while driving and to address the broader issue of distracted driving. We recommend that the taskforce be made up of necessary stakeholders including representatives from the Austin Police Department, Ms. Bentzin of the City's Legal Department, Commissioner Ramey Ko of the Public Safety Commission and members of the public. We further recommend that the draft ordinance be presented for approval by the Public Safety Commission prior to it going before the Mayor & Council for their consideration.

***e. Overview of 2013 Traffic Fatalities***

- Chief Manley provided a summary of the 2013 crash events, traffic fatality factors and the Tuesday 6AM to 6PM anomaly, a year to year comparison and legislative changes impacting crashes.
- The Commission requested further breakdown of 2012 and 2013 fatal crash drivers with a suspended driver's license or no driver's license.

***f. Suggestions for Boards and Commissions Under 10-1 System***

*For more information on the Public Safety Commission, please contact Austin Police Department Chief of Staff, David Carter at (512) 974-5030. The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date. Please call Tara Long at the Austin Police Department, at (512) 974-5747, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.*

- Chair Rossmo requested that Commissioners submit their suggestions for the transition taskforce to him before the April 2014 meeting. These suggestions could address any or all of the following: thoughts on the potential consolidation of boards/commissions, the number of board/commissioner members and the makeup/appointment process under the new 10-1 form of government, and the scope, structure and mandate of the Public Safety Commission.
- The Chair requested that these suggestions come before the entire Commission for approval at the April 2014 meeting.

**4. Discussion Regarding Potential Future Agenda Items**

- Commissioners Future Agenda Items for March 2014:
  - i. Wildfire Update - AFD
  - ii. Preventing Wrongful Conviction Series Part II – Guarding Against False Confession – APD
  - iii. Overview of External Forces Impacting APD Staffing – Outside Guests to be Invited by Dr. Lauderdale
  - iv. Update of Austin Regional Intelligence Center Operations - APD
- Have all PowerPoints and documents the Thursday before the meeting.

**5. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Vice-Chair Holt, seconded by Commissioner Lauderdale. Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.