



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 2, 2014**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, June 2, 2014 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Kim Rossmo, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:12 PM.

Board Members in Attendance:

Kim Rossmo
Mike Levy
Reynaldo Moreno
Sam Holt
Michael Lauderdale

Board Members not in Attendance:

Ramey Ko
Kent Anschutz

1. Approval of Minutes

- The minutes for the regular meeting on 05/05/2014 were approved on Commissioner Holt's motion, Vice Chair Levy's second and a 5-0 unanimous vote.

2. Citizen Communications

- **Bill Oakey** – Mr. Oakey spoke on the need to fully fund the City's 911 call center and requested that the Public Safety Commission recommend a \$1 million dollar transfer into the center. He also requested that the Commission recommend that the City Council ask the City Manager for a break down by Department of the funding that is available based on 900 positions that were not filled in order to consider using those funds in the FY14-15 budget process. Commissioner Lauderdale asked for funding available within the public safety agencies from the vacancies.
- **Sara Levine** – Ms. Levine spoke about the need for better late night transportation and parking options including late night bus and rail service and other alternative transportation options including designated transportation stops. Vice Chair Levy requested a copy of Ms. Levine's proposal.

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.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items**a. Urban Trails Master Plan- Nadia Barrera**

- Nadia Barrera, Project Coordinator for the Public Works Department, briefed the Commission on the Urban Trails Master Plan including the background, process and goals of the Master Plan. The Commission requested a formula to calculate estimated public safety costs for the expansion of trails. Vice Chair Levy encouraged the trail discussion to include both APD and the Austin Police Association. Chair Rossmo suggested that Public Works examine other cities who have expanded their trail systems, the issues that occurred as a result of those efforts and how each dealt with them.

b. Distracted Driving Update – Assistant Chief Brian Manley

- Assistant Chief Brian Manley provided the Commission with an update on the efforts of the Distracted Driving Work Group. Vice Chair Levy suggested working with the Southwest Insurance Group moving forward citing their interest in the issue of distracted driving and the background information they can provide. Chair Rossmo moved that the proposed distracted driving ordinance apply to all vehicles including bicycles and motorcycles. Commissioner Lauderdale provided a second and the motion passed unanimously on a 5-0 vote with Commissioners Ko and Anschutz absent. Chair Rossmo moved that the proposed distracted driving ordinance exempt vehicles that are not in motion. Commissioner Lauderdale seconded and after a brief discussion, the motion was passed on a 4-1 vote with Vice Chair Holt declining to support the measure and Commissioners Ko and Anschutz absent. Chief Manley stated that he would take the two recommendations back to the work group.

c. FY 15 Budget Forecast – Public Safety Departments

- The Austin Police Department, the Austin Fire Department and the Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services Department provided the Commission with a presentation of their respective FY14-15 budget forecasts. After discussing the forecasts and the budget process, the Commission voted unanimously on a 5-0 vote, with Commissioners Ko and Anschutz absent, to approve the following recommendation made by Chair Rossmo and seconded by Commissioner Lauderdale:

The Public Safety Commission has serious concerns about the current public safety forecasts in that they do not address long existing and emerging needs. Therefore, we recommend the following to the Austin City Council 1) All special events pay their own way in terms of their use of public safety services 2) The 911 call center be adequately staffed to meet the needs per the forthcoming report and 3) Weaknesses and needs that were exposed by the Halloween flooding such as the need for additional boats for the Austin Fire Department be addressed in the City's final FY14-15 budget

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- Lisa Hinely encouraged neighborhood housing, social services, transportation infrastructure and economic development be involved as components in the Restore Rundberg Initiative.

4. Discussion Regarding Potential Future Agenda Items

- Performance Metrics for the Public Safety Departments
- 911 Call Center Assessment Report
- Onion Creek Flood Update

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Lauderdale, seconded by Chair Rossmo. Meeting adjourned at 6:18p.m.