



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 7, 2018

The Public Safety Commission convened a meeting Monday, May 7, 2018 at City Hall 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair, Rebecca Webber called the Board Meeting to order at 4:00p.m..

Board Members in Attendance:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Rebecca Webber, Chair | Daniela Nunez |
| Brian Haley | Ed Scruggs |
| Carol Lee | Noel Landuyt |
| Rebecca Gonzales | Preston Tyree |
| Kim Rossmo | Michelle McCurdy |

Commissioner Sam Holt not in attendance

Staff in Attendance:

Mark Spangler, Commander, Austin Police Department
Jasper Brown, Chief of Staff, Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services
Richard Davis, Assistant Chief, Austin Fire Department

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –Chair Webber informed the board the minutes only needed to be voted for approval if a board member found an error in the minutes and requested correction, then a vote would be taken to approve the minutes with the correction. Webber asked if there were any corrections to the minutes, hearing none no vote was required.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS –

- Grace Rivers – Austin Fire Department Response times and supporting a temporary Fire – Del Valle
- Dorothy Dolittle – with Austin Interfaith, spoke on Quality of Life for Austin families and Community
- Maria Emerson – Community Policing
- Jeff Orr - CEO, of Map Orr, commented on his program FAST MAP and how it could be used by city staff who are Crisis Communicators

- Pat King – Support of temporary Fire Stations for Del Valle
- Tony Maldonado – Support of temporary Fire Stations for Del Valle
- Ashley Yonkin – Support of temporary Fire Stations for Del Valle

7. What can the City of Austin do immediately regarding needed fire stations?

Sponsored by Michelle McCurdy and Rebecca Webber

Commissioner Webber-moved to item #7 for board members to be able to discuss /question some of the comments from the citizens of Del Valle concerning the need for fire stations (temporary and permanent) in their community. Commissioner Rossmo asked who provided the fire safety services to this community prior to Travis County. His second question to the constituents was, "what is the tax contribution to City of Austin from Del Valle?"

There were more questions from other board members, but the item was tabled by Chair Webber to be brought back later in the meeting.

3. Process for Public Safety Commission to participate in FY2018-19 Budget Process

Sponsored by City of Austin Budget Staff

Prior to introducing this budget item, Chair Webber paused to introduce new commissioner for District 2, Michelle McCurdy and welcome her to the Public Safety Commission.

Ed Van Eenoo presented on FY2019 Budget Process and Timeline. Ed discussed the

-new strategic plan from council this year to be used for completing a new budget

-shared the FY 2019 Budget Timeline

-Community Engagements meetings being held in each district so citizens are informed and can share their ideas/comments for the 2019 budget.

- General Fund Priorities from Council

-Council's Top Ten Priorities for Improvement

-Five-Year General Fund Outlook FY 2019-23

- Recommendations on the FY19 budget to be received by June 8, 2018

There was discussion with the board and questions from board members. The presentation ended with Chair Webber asking board members to forward any additional questions they have concerning the budget to her for submitting to the Budget Office.

Public Safety Commission did submit a recommendation regarding for Important Public Safety Programs in FY 2018-2019

Recommendation no. 20180507-003

Vote:

For: 10 (Commissioners Webber, Lee, Haley, Nunez, Gonzales, Rossmo, tyree, Landuyt, Scruggs and McCurdy)

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 (Commissioner Sam Holt)



Public Safety Commission Recommendation no. 20180507-003

Regarding Funding for Important Public Safety Programs in FY 2018-2019

Date: May 7, 2018

Subject: Recommendation that Council fund three important public safety programs in the next fiscal year (2018-2019)

The Public Safety Commission recommends that City Council fund three important public safety programs in the next fiscal year.

The recommended programs will advance the following of Council's *Priorities for improvement*:
Health & Environment: Accessibility to quality health care services, both physical and mental
Government that Works: Condition/quality of City facilities & infrastructure and effective adoption of technology

1. A modern, GPS-based emergency vehicle traffic signal pre-emption system that will allow ATCEMS, APD, and AFD vehicles to more safely navigate congested intersections and lower response times.
2. An expansion of the highly successful, data-driven ATCEMS Injury Prevention Program that educates and trains Austinites and distributes resources such as car seats, safe baby beds, and medication trackers to lower the rates of the most preventable, yet common injuries to babies, children, and senior citizens.
3. Set up and staffing of temporary AFD/ATCEMS stations as soon as possible in the top two high needs areas identified in the Austin Fire Department's 2016 analysis (Del Valle and Travis Country) to bring more timely emergency services to residents.

Vote

For: 10 (Commissioners Webber, Lee, Haley, Nunez, Gonzales, Rossmo, Tyree, Landuyt, Scruggs, McCurdy)

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 (Commissioner Sam Holt)

Attest: *[Staff or board member can sign]*

Janet Jackson, Board Liaison,
Austin Police Department

4. Report on the Austin Travis County Emergency Medical Services Injury Prevention Program-sponsored by Commissioners Rebecca Webber and Daniela Nunez
Lisa Seppulveda, ATCEMS Community Services Program Manager and Randy Chhabra, Captain, ATCEMS presented.

Presenters shared information with the board on the:

Number of staff for this department

Reason for the program – to address preventable causes of injury/death

Empower families through education and providing necessities to keep safe

The program is data driven- community centered and people focused

Community Programs are: Safe

Baby Academy Child

Passenger Safety Senior

Home Safety

There were questions and discussions with the boards members in more details about each of the three community care programs.

5. Arc Upgrades needed to the Austin emergency vehicle preemption system?

Sponsored by Anthony Davis, Assistant Chief, Austin Fire Department

Presenters: Bob Nicks, President, Austin Firefighters Association and Anthony Davis

Chief Davis introduced the subject

- o What is Traffic Signal Preemption
- o Why is Signal Preemption Important
- o Opticom Type Device
- o Examples of Receiver Locations
- o Current Status of Preemption Devices
- o Current Use of Preemption Devices
- o The Future of Preemption Devices
- o Benefits of newer GPS Type Technology
- o AFD's Support for Next Generation EVP
- o 2minute Video on emergency response with and without preemption devices

Public Safety Commission board included this item in the recommendation for funding for important Public Safety Programs in FY 2018-2019.

6. Recommendation to Council regarding sale of used firearms by Austin Police Department –
Sponsored by Commissioners Carol Lee and Rebecca Gonzales

Gyl Switzer, Executive Director, Texas Gun Sense

Commissioner Lee gave a brief introduction on this item and why after a recent media report and a speech by State Representative Gina Hinojosa indicating that APD sold a large number of

depreciated handguns into private market that this is a timely item for reviewing and possibly making a recommendation to council.

They were articles distributed to the board from Texas Gun Sense and Commissioner Lee. Ms. Switzer stated that Texas Gun Sense would support a recommendation to city council banning the sale of firearms by Austin Police Department.



Public Safety Commission Recommendation no. 20180507-006

Regarding City of Austin sales or trade-ins of Austin Police Department used firearms

Date: May 7, 2018

Subject: Recommendation regarding sales or trade-ins of Austin Police Department used firearms

Motioned By: Commissioner Rebecca Gonzales

Seconded By: Commissioner Ed Scruggs

WHEREAS the Public Safety Commission supports policies that help ensure the safety, health, and welfare of Austin residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS gun violence claims more than 30,000 lives annually¹, and firearms-related fatalities are a primary cause of death for police officers killed in the line of duty²; and

WHEREAS firearm-related injuries are estimated to be \$46 billion in hospital charges per year³; and

WHEREAS the Austin Police Department requires high-caliber firearms and must periodically purchase new guns and render older guns obsolete;

WHEREAS the Austin Police Department recently traded in a large number of firearms to a licensed gun dealer for resale, and

WHEREAS existing laws do not prevent the possibility that firearms sold to a licensed gun dealer could be purchased by an individual who would fail background check standards or resale or transfer the weapon to an individual who has criminal intentions; and

WHEREAS there is no process for tracking whether guns sold by the Austin Police Department are subsequently used in a violent crime; and

WHEREAS alternatives exist for deactivating firearms and reusing the metal or pieces of obsolete law enforcement firearms;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Safety Commission recommends to the Austin City Council that a policy be developed that prevents any city department to enter into a contract for the sale or trade-in of any City-owned weapons or firearms to licensed gun dealers or any party other than current Austin Police Department Officers or certified police who are employed by the City at the time the firearms are rendered obsolete.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Public Safety Commission recommends that any current contract for such an agreement be terminated immediately.

Vote 8-2-0

For: 8 (Commissioners Carol Lee, Rebecca Gonzales, Preston Tyree, Noel Landuyt, Ed Scruggs, Daniela Nunez, Kim Rossmo, and Michelle McCurdy)

Against: 2 (Commissioners Rebecca Webber and Brian Haley)

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1 (Commissioner Sam Holt)

Attest: *[Staff or board member can sign]*

Janet Jackson, Board Liaison,
Austin Police Department

7. What can the City of Austin do immediately regarding needed fire stations?
Sponsored by Commissioners Michelle McCurdy and Rebecca Webber

Chair Webber introduced this item and shared that she and Commissioner Rossmo have heard this request for additional fire stations over the past several years while serving on the board. The two locations discussed as most pressing for a temporary station are Travis Country and Del Valle. This item was included in the recommendation # 20180507-003 for funding. There was discussion on locations for the temporary stations and Bob Nicks shared history on the funding and answered questions from the board members.

Adjourned at 6pm