PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 5, 2026

Committee Members Present:

1. Chair José Velásquez
2. Vice Chair Krista Laine
3. Council Member Duchen

Committee Members Absent:

1. Council Member Siegel
2. Council Member Qadri

Call to Order

Chair José Velásquez called the committee meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Public Communication: General

There were no speakers.

Approval of the minutes

1. **Approve the minutes for the Public Safety Committee Meeting of August 3, 2026.**

The minutes of the August 3, 2026 Public Safety Committee Meeting were approved. The motion was made by Vice-Chair Laine and seconded by Council Member Duchen. The motion was approved on a 3 – 0 vote, with Council Members Qadri and Siegel absent.

2. **Approve the corrected minutes for the Public Safety Committee meetings of October 14, 2024, September 22, 2025, and the special called meeting of March 31, 2025.**

The corrected minutes were approved. The motion was made by Vice-Chair Laine and seconded by Council Member Duchen. The motion was approved on a 3 – 0 vote, with Council Members Qadri and Siegel absent.

Briefings

3. **Briefing on emergency response to the April 13, 2025, northwest Austin house explosion incident in the Great Hills Neighborhood.**

The committee received a briefing from Jim Redick, Director of Austin Emergency Management, Tom Vocke, Fire Chief and Robert Luckritz, Chief of ATCEMS.

4. **Briefing on improvements to warning notifications and alerts for residents during active emergencies.**

The committee received a briefing from Jim Redick, Director of Austin Emergency Management.

5. **Briefing on wildfire prevention and mitigation strategies utilized by the City.**

The committee received a briefing from Tom Vocke, Fire Chief and David Skowron, Assistant Fire Chief.

Future items

6. **Identify items for future meetings**

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No items were identified

Chair José Velásquez adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

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