

January 18, 2008

To: Honorable Mayor Gayle McLaughlin
Members of the City Council

From: Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee

SUBJECT: SUMMARY
Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee
Thursday, January 17, 2008, at 10:05 a.m.

Present: Chair Marquez, Members Sandhu, Thurmond and Vice Chair Bates.

Absent: None

Approve summary notes of the Public Safety Committee held on December 20, 2007

OUTCOME:

A motion was made by Vice Chair Bates, seconded by Councilmember Sandhu, approved the summary notes, by the unanimous vote of the Committee.

Discuss & Consider strategic and operational plans to address issues of crime and violence

- a. Collaboration with other responsible agencies*
- b. Police Department staffing augmentation*
 - 1. Contract with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) or other outside law enforcement agencies to increase police presence in the City.*
 - 2. Contract with Contra Costa County for Contra Costa Sheriffs*
 - 3. Hire retired Richmond Police Officers on short term contracts to supplement the Police Department*

- Chief Magnus stated that at this time, there has not been a formal response from the State regarding CHP assistance to the City of Richmond, but is confident that there will be a commitment, and recommends that no additional assistance from other local agencies be pursued at this time.
- Chief Magnus gave the Committee copies of an article from the San Francisco Chronicle regarding the proliferation of guns and how that affects the epidemic of violence.
- The Richmond Police Department is currently working toward a possible collaboration with the Department of Justice regarding the formation of a “gun team” to deal with gun enforcement issues.

- Chief Magnus introduced newly promoted Captain Allwyn Brown who will be working in the Central District.
- Councilmember Sandhu asked where funding for the possible rehiring of retired police officers would come from. Chief Magnus replied that there is only a small number of retired police officers who would meet the criteria to be able to return. The department is carefully reviewing this matter and there is currently funding available in the departments budget to cover the costs.
- Comments were given by County Supervisor John Gioia; Deputy District Attorney Erik Butts; Maryann Morgan, County Health Department; Russ Miller County Probation Supervisor; Cmdr. Kevin Ryan, County Sherriff's Office; and Muriel Martin, Parole Unit Supervisor, Richmond Unit.

Receive update on the draft General Plan Public Safety and Noise and Health Elements and direct staff to make changes where applicable.

- Elizabeth FitzZaland, MIG, gave a PowerPoint presentation. The working draft Public Safety and Noise element contains the draft goals and policies developed by the General Plan Team. The General Plan Team used the Vision Framework, existing City documents, and input from staff and the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) as the basis for developing draft citywide recommendations for the element. The Working Draft Community Health Element contains the draft goals, policies, and actions developed by the General Plan Team. The content of the Health Element is also based on the work conducted with the Health Element Technical Advisory Group.
- The following are goals that the City seeks to achieve through the Public Safety and Noise Element: Geologic and Seismic Safety, Flood Control, Emergency Planning and Preparedness, Hazardous Materials, Conditions and Water Management, Police and Fire Protection, and Noise Reduction. The goals to achieve through the Community and Wellness Element are Access to Recreation and open Space, Access to Healthy Food and Nutrition, Access to Medical Services, Access to Public Transit and Safe Active Transportation, Access to Quality Affordable Housing, Access to Economic Opportunity, Completeness of Neighborhoods, Safe Neighborhoods and Public Spaces, Environmental Quality, and Green and Sustainable Development and Practices.
- A full administrative draft document will be released in February 2008.

Approve for distribution a Request For Proposal to solicit security services for the Housing Authority's Public Housing Senior Sites

- Tim Jones, Housing Executive Director provided the committee with a draft copy of the Request For Proposal (RFP) to be used to solicit security services and the current contract with DP Security. The Committee expressed the desire to review

the draft RFP to ensure that all concerns have been addressed and to provide staff with additional input before the RFP is released. The RFP was revised to reflect that security services are specific to the senior sites only, that Friendship Manor was included in the effort, the composition of the Evaluation Panel should not be pre-defined to allow various residents and other community advocates to participate, the RFP process should be consistently managed at the highest level of authority at the Housing Authority, and that the RFP should provide an option of selecting one or more prospective bidders.

- Vice Chair Bates expressed his opposition to the evaluation panel process and that the lowest responsible bidder should be selected.
- Councilmember Thurmond suggested that the panel conduct the selection of the security firm without knowing the name or address of the firm in order to ensure the highest level of integrity in the selection process.
- Janet Schneider, Administrative Chief, stated that another option can be that the security company first submit technical proposals and then submit cost proposals. This allows ranking of service levels prior to reviewing cost.

OUTCOME:

Councilmember Sandhu made a motion to continue with the evaluation panel and have the Housing Director return with the proposed list of panel participants. The motion died for lack of a second. Vice Chair Bates made a motion to proceed with the bid without the use of the evaluation panel process. The motion died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Thurmond made a motion that this RFP move forward with the criteria that the lowest bidder get the job. The motion died for lack of a second. This item was referred to the City Council without a recommendation from the Committee.

Appoint a Chair and a Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee for the 2008 calendar year.

A motion was made by Councilmember Thurmond seconded by Councilmember Sandhu, appointed Councilmember Bates as Chair. A motion was made by Councilmember Thurmond, seconded by Councilmember Marquez, appointed Councilmember Sandhu as Vice Chair.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT

Naomi Williams asked that the policy for the issuance of new police cars be reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. The next Public Safety Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.