

March 27, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor Irma L. Anderson
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, March 23, 10:43a.m.

Present: Chair Marquez and Members Bates, McLaughlin and Rogers

Absent: None

Consider recommendation of an ordinance adding Section 14.64.030 to Chapter 14.64 of the Richmond Municipal Code to prohibit vehicle cruising on posted streets in the City of Richmond - *(removed from the agenda)*

Consider installation of a 4-way stop sign on Andrade Avenue & 26th Street

- Rich Davidson, City Engineer, stated that a traffic consultant was hired to prepare the traffic counts.

OUTCOME:

This item will be placed on the 4/20/06 Public Safety Agenda.

Discussion regarding Red Light Camera Enforcement

- Trina Jackson, Administrative Analyst to the City Council, stated that she has contacted two vendors to obtain system information. The Police Department provided data pertaining to incidents and accidents at various intersections.
- Councilmember McLaughlin stated that this matter be rejected at this time due to the traffic accident information not warranting this expense at this time.
- Chair Marquez suggested that a trial use of these cameras be placed in certain locations.

OUTCOME:

Chair Marquez suggested that this matter be held over indefinitely in order to obtain additional information from both the vendors and police department about the cost associated with implementation of cameras and how much revenue generation will be created.

Discussion regarding instituting a Senior Citizen Liaison position in the City of Richmond

- Over the past several years, programs designated to assist the senior citizens of Richmond have continuously decreased and/or been eliminated due to lack of funding and staffing issues. Programs lost include, but are not limited to, the Older Adult Clinic, Senior Outreach Services, Adult Daycare Services, and Elder Abuse Prevention.
- Walter Bank, Contra Costa Senior Legal Services, Linda Schaefer, Shirley Gilbert, West County Senior Coalition, Nhang Luong, John Rudolph, West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee, Arnie Kasendorf, Chair Commission on Aging, and Robert O. Brown spoke in support of instituting a Richmond Senior Liaison position in the City of Richmond.
- Councilmember Bates stated that surrounding cities, as well as the county, should be participating in obtaining needed services for seniors.

OUTCOME:

On motion of Bates, seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin to refer to the City Manager for further research and how such a position can be funded. This matter will be forwarded to the full City Council agenda for discussion as part of the City's overall budget within 60 days.

Discussion regarding a proposed herb shop on 3817 Macdonald Avenue

- Linda Jackson, National Remedies Health Center asked for support to be able to continue her business and provide ill persons with the option of safely and legally using medical marijuana. Her dispensary is in the C-2 zoned district, which does not allow for this use currently.
- The current zoning ordinance does not currently allow for applications of medical marijuana dispensaries. The proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to allow for medical marijuana dispensaries was before the City Council and was sent back to the Planning Commission for further study.
- Lori-Reese Brown, Planning Department, stated that a moratorium was placed on uses such as medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Richmond.

- The Planning Department presented an amendment of the current zoning ordinance to the Planning Commission to allow for uses such as medical marijuana dispensaries in C-3 zoned districts only.

OUTCOME:

On motion of Councilmember Bates, seconded by Councilmember Rogers this matter was referred to the full City Council to discuss whether to Council wants to pursue allowing the zoning change to allow for medical Marijuana dispensaries.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 a.m.