

MINUTES

NEIGHBORHOOD AND PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES COMMITTEE

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1995

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CALL TO ORDER

The Neighborhood and Public Safety Issues Committee was called to order by Chairperson Steinberg at 7:00 p.m. on the above date at City Hall Council Chambers, 915 I Street, 2nd Floor, Sacramento, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Fargo, Kerth, Waters and Steinberg

Long-Term Public Safety Funding Strategies

RECOMMENDATION OF STAFF: COMMITTEE INFORMATION ONLY

Darrell Steinberg, Chair of the Neighborhood and Public Safety Issues Committee, gave an introduction in terms of what was hoped to be covered during this meeting. First, discussion of long-term public safety funding strategies. Second, the report backs from the committee meetings of March 1 and March 6, 1995, regarding civilianization in neighborhood policing. Third, at the request of the Mayor and the City Manager, discussion of the Mayor's Budget Tours. The purpose being to educate and interact with the community.

Mr. Steinberg stated, with reference to long-term safety funding strategies, he had asked the staff to put into simple, explainable terms what our budget deficit is currently, separate from the Police department and he also asked the staff to describe what the financial challenges are in implementing the COPS Program.

He explained that the public and the committee agree that public safety comes first, and the committee's task is to educate and to demonstrate to the public in terms of either re-prioritizing existing services or funding increases to meet the strategic plan or not to meet the strategic plan. The intent during this meeting is not to discuss specific possibilities in terms of tax or revenue increases, but rather the magnitude of the dilemma if we want to fund these programs. A full discussion of revenue increases will be postponed until the next meeting.

Jack Crist, Deputy City Manager, explained he would divide his discussion into an overview of the status of the General Fund and focus on the expenditure side of the budget. Revenue alternatives would be saved for a later discussion.

He related that the priorities in spending are economic development, neighborhood revitalization and enhancement, positive youth alternatives, citywide inclusiveness of the diverse population, fiscal liability and reinventing the government and the high priority of public safety. A Police Strategic Plan was adopted but the central dilemma is how to fund that Strategic Plan and pay for things like neighborhood policing on a comprehensive basis citywide. The other dilemma is if a Grant Strategy is pursued, which the city did with COPS I, and assuming the city pursues a Grant Strategy, when the grants terminate, what is the financial strategy at that time.

Mr. Crist then showed various General Fund charts to set the financial stages. The first chart, Tax Revenue which funds most of the city programs, has three primary taxes: Property Tax totaling 33% of the taxes, Sales Tax totaling 30%, and Utility Users Tax totaling 29%, leaving 8% for Other.

The next chart, Use of Tax Revenue, showed 48% going to the Police, 27% for the Fire Department, 9% for Neighborhood Services, 5% for Library, 7% for Debt Service and 4% for other costs.

The third chart showed the status of the General Fund for 1993-94 and 1994-95, as to Property Taxes, Sales Taxes, Utility Users' Taxes, Business Operations Tax, and Property Transfer Tax. Mr. Crist further explained that a shortfall was expected in Property Taxes and Utility Users' Tax but expects a gain in Sales Tax.

The next chart, Assessed Property Values, showed the shortfall in Property Taxes being caused by devaluations.

Mr. Crist then switched to expenditures and used the fifth chart to explain the Status Quo Expenditures. This chart depicted the approved revenues, revised revenues, and base expenditures.

The next chart dealt with the realities in terms of demands upon the General Fund for Additional Programs. He explained what was a balanced budget with a status quo situation on the previous chart becomes a shortfall between revenues and costs in 95/96, so if you assume growth in the expenditure base then there will be an unbalanced budget in 95/96 and 96/97.

Mr. Crist stated that the pressure points on the General Fund include the Crime Bill Match, the Fire Joint Powers of Authority, the joint communications 911 Center, the COPS MORE grant match, the new Regional Radio (800 megahertz) System, salary and benefits agreements with labor unions, modifications or restructuring within the current budget for technology and training, other costs from changes in the Debt Service Schedule and small capital improvement projects such as Meadowview Community Center.

Mr. Crist further stated that the purpose of this meeting was to talk about funding alternatives for police programs and showed the next chart, Funding Options, which was four alternative ways to fund any program. The first was described a Pay-As-You-Go which means wait until revenues are sufficient to fund additional programs. The second alternative is to use the reserves which are meant to absorb unanticipated revenue shortfalls, not to fund additional programs, and is a policy issue for the Council. The third alternative is raise revenues, and Mr. Crist stated that a 1 percent increase in General Fund taxes generates about \$1 million in revenue. He further stated, however, that this meeting is about the expenditure side of the budget, re-prioritizing within our existing budget base.

The fourth alternative for funding was shown on the next chart, page 8 - Potential Re-Prioritizing (% Cuts) - which is a broad conceptual way of how to go about re-prioritizing the existing budget base and listed three options. Option one, assuming that the Police department would fund these proposals out of the police department's existing budget, then this is what you'd be looking at: The Crime Bill Match would be roughly 1.7 percent of the Police Budget, COPS MORE Cash Match would be nine tenths of 1 percent and the other requirements would be roughly 4.2 percent.

Chairperson Steinberg asked what Mr. Crist meant by "other requirements?"

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that the first two are two specific grants. The other things include all those additional programs previously mentioned.

Chairperson Steinberg asked if he meant other non-police department requirements?

Deputy City Manager Crist responded that in some cases they were citywide issues such as adjustments to labor contracts.

Chairperson Steinberg asked if there were examples other than labor contracts?

Deputy City Manager Crist replied yes, the capital improvement projects, such as Meadowview Community Center Project. He went on to explain that to do these things with the existing budget, under these three options is how it might affect safety and non-safety departments. So if you wanted to fund the Crime Bill Match, the COPS MORE Grant and some other things mentioned, then the reductions would be 6.8 percent in police and 4.2 percent in other city departments.

In response to Chairperson Steinberg's question "to do what?" Mr. Crist replied if the Council's policy was to not raise revenues, we will live within our existing revenues, but in order to fund the additional programs mentioned earlier within the existing resources, the City Manager would have to be instructed to re-prioritize the budget and what page 8 depicts is the percentage of reductions in the existing programs.

Chairperson Fargo stated in reference to pages 7 and 8 of the handout, page 7 shows four funding options and page 8 showed only three options and asked if one was eliminated, or are they related, and if so, what was their relationship?

Deputy City Manager Crist replied there was a relationship and that the last funding option was re-prioritizing the existing resources. Mr. then focused on the funding options for Option #4: 1) Ask the police department to make reductions for the police-related programs in order to fund them. This is not for the total of \$10 million, but for the Crime Bill Match and the COPS MORE Grant. This would result in a cut of approximately 6.8% to the police department. 2) Instruct the Manager to re-prioritize the existing budget totaling \$10 million and make reductions for the police department. There would be no cut to the police department; however, all other city departments would be reduced by approximately 7.7%. 3) Instruct the Manager to fund the Crime Bill match and the COPS MORE Grant from Police, and reduce other city departments by approximately 6.4% (including Fire).

Mr. Steinberg asked for examples of what the cuts would mean to other city departments economically.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that \$10 million would be a significant impact no matter what option was chosen. He then reviewed the police department's budget and stated that 91% of their costs go toward labor, 4% are for support costs (vehicles, etc.), and 5% other costs. The majority of this budget goes toward staffing 585 sworn officers and 352 non-sworn personnel. He stated that through aggressively seeking grants, the police department has been able to fund 73 officers. When looking at funding police officers with grant matches, consideration must be taken regarding the grant match as well as policy implications in the out years when the grants terminate. He went on to explain some factual information regarding the costs of police officers. With no grant funding, the cost of a police officer the first year is \$103,000 and the ongoing cost thereafter is \$86,000. This includes the cost of the officer, and support for the officer. He then summarized financial points made during earlier presentation. He concluded by stating that if all of the potential costs were funded, there would be a sizeable General Fund gap even before the police grant matches. In the upcoming budget process prioritizing existing programs and looking for efficiencies in restructuring will be covered.

Councilperson Kerth asked about what changes are in the future in the debt service payments.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that approximately 7% of the budget is dedicated to funding.

Councilperson Kerth asked if there was an estimate on the Parking Fund and if the bailout is going to be this go-around.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that he did not believe there was going to be a need of a General Fund subsidy for the Parking Department fund. He stated that changing from what had been a need to subsidize the Parking fund to not subsidizing will help solve part of the current \$4 million shortfall.

Councilperson Kerth then asked the Transient Occupancy Tax.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that the Transient Occupancy Tax is dedicated to funding the debt service on the expansion of the Convention Center as well as renovation of the Memorial Auditorium.

Councilperson Kerth questioned whether there was a shortfall on that fund.

Ken Nishimoto, Budget Manager, replied that the Transient Occupancy Tax revenue is slightly down from what had been projected.

Councilperson Kerth inquired if there has been a re-estimation of any growth funds or is it assumed that there are predicted growth rates from a lower base.

Mr. Nishimoto replied that the growth function is being revised and updated.

Councilperson Kerth questioned Chief Venegas about the cost of an officer for SHRA in the second and subsequent years.

Chief Venegas replied that the cost of an officer for the second and subsequent years was \$86,000. He then added that it is projected that SHRA will continue funding at least half the number of officers currently in place.

Councilperson Kerth then asked if equipment was purchased by SHRA, do they then own it; if officers are placed in new areas, could SHRA move funds or equipment to the new areas to avoid the first-year purchase.

Chief Venegas stated that the equipment is part of the contract to the city and at some point it has no real value. If the equipment is still useable, there is a possibility that it could be transferred.

Councilperson Waters asked what the difference was in the pie chart that showed \$135 million in the General Fund and the bar graph that shows \$220 million.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that the chart was depicting the three major tax sources that make up the bulk of the taxes in that fund.

Councilperson Waters asked how \$3 million could be generated.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that it would have to come from the Utility Users Tax or other categories that Council has the discretion to change. Property taxes and sales taxes cannot be modified by Council. They must be voted on.

Councilperson Waters inquired about raising garbage rates or water and sewer rates and if those monies had to stay within their programs.

Deputy City Manager Crist advised that those monies are dedicated to providing those services. However, you could charge a Utility Tax on your own city utilities, like water.

Councilperson Waters stated that he had a problem with Option 2 of "Potential Re-Prioritizing" because of the cuts to other departments and none to the police department. He then asked about using the \$10 million reserve fund to fund something on a one-time basis.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that fund was established to be a buffer in the event of revenue shortfalls in order not to immediately impact programs and citizen services. He further clarified that it is one-time money and not ongoing -- it would not support additional police officers on an ongoing basis.

Councilperson Fargo pointed out there are a few other funding sources that the Council could use to raise money such as creative financing, Hotel Tax, competitiveness of the convention center, and the Lighting and Landscaping Act which would have a public safety component to it. She also finds it unacceptable to take all of the cuts from the other departments in the city. If there are going to be cuts, all departments should be involved. She suggested taking a look at the training budget for the police department and possibly some of it is not necessary.

Councilperson Cohn asked for clarification between the bar and pie charts referred to by Councilperson Waters. He wanted to know whether the difference between the \$135 million and \$128 million was the debt service and how they related to each other.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that they were trying to depict the total taxes compared to those programs in the General Fund that are tax-supported.

Councilperson Cohn asked what the reaction would be if management was given the opportunity to decide how they could best utilize their funds.

Deputy City Manager Crist responded by saying that would be a challenge. The factor that now exists with the police department is that the majority of their costs are for personnel. It would be difficult to carve out monies within a budget that is essentially personnel.

Councilperson Cohn realizes it is a difficult choice and that is one reason he is interested in exploring giving management the discretion. He feels that management should be given the opportunity to decide how a specific lump sum would be spent. Possibly a reward/penalty system could be set up for meeting or failing to meet certain targets.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that last year managers were told if they saved money in their budget, they could keep some for their use. However, another revenue shortfall was superimposed on that concept. So, they will probably be using their savings to cover the shortfall rather than for technology or equipment.

Chairperson Steinberg feels Councilperson Cohn's question is a good one. He stated that a variation of his suggestion will take place in the budget process with the identification of core/non-core budget items. The departments will identify what they consider essential services and thereby could tell us where they would cut if we did tell them they had only so much money.

Councilperson Cohn replied that his suggestion was going beyond that by giving management more discretion on how to use their budgeted funds coupled with rewards and penalties for meeting certain agreed-upon targets.

Chairperson Steinberg asked what the consequences would be if SHRA cuts off most of its grants. He asked Chief Venegas what would happen if the current NPO projects were defunded and the only funds available to fund these NPOs were federal funds and matching funds for the COPS I Grant -- would the officers then be redeployed from the newly recommended sites to the existing sites.

Chief Venegas stated that this was a no-win scenario. His recommendation would be to analyze each project site on a case-by-case basis and see if the officers could be removed from an area and redeployed to another area. In reality, some will be able to be moved, some not.

Chairperson Steinberg asked what magnitude it would have to cut every department if COPS I Program and COPS MORE Program were funded in 95/96.

William H. Edgar, City Manager, stated that the deterioration in the parks is very obvious. Mowing is now down to once every two weeks, edging is not being done, and flowers are not being planted except for occasionally. The general level of maintenance in the City is going to deteriorate.

Chairperson Steinberg inquired about the ability to raise revenue and questioned whether we could legally pass a Property Tax Assessment if it were tied specifically to public safety.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that it could be done and that it had been done with putting Measure T on the ballot.

Chairperson Steinberg asked if Council could that without putting it on the ballot.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that Council was advised it could be done that way, but they chose not to.

Councilperson Waters asked if the 4.2% cut in Option 1 was per department or for the entire city.

Deputy City Manager Crist replied that it was for each department. In recent years across-the-boards cuts have been avoided. We have tried to hold harmless to some degree the safety services when past reductions were made.

Councilperson Waters inquired about Option 2 and asked if a 6.4% cut would come out of Fire and none out of Police.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that was correct.

Councilperson Fargo requested that a summary be given of what percentage of staffing has been cut in the last couple of years and how many millions of dollars have been cut.

Deputy City Manager Crist answered by stating that over the last three fiscal years the General Fund has been reduced \$47 million - 15% in terms of dollars and 12% in terms of staffing. The work force has gone from 4,200 employees to 3,700.

Chairperson Steinberg invited the public to speak.

Tom O'Neil, member of Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee, recapped the committee's meetings with Mr. Edgar and Mr. Crist regarding the budget. At their first meeting in December 1994, it looked as if there was going to be a \$2 million surplus which would have offset the \$1.9 million grant program. He has spoken with Councilperson Cohn during the past year about efficiencies in trying to run

government more like a business. He suggests looking at the labor costs as a way to save jobs. Perhaps some employees would be willing to flatten out their pay in order to save others their jobs.

Sandi Morris, lives in the Garden Land area of South Natomas, feels that a park near her residence could be shut down because of the crime that occurs there. She feels there are many parks the city should take a closer look at because of the crime that occurs there.

Councilperson Cohn replied that shutting down a park might save a little on maintenance, but there is still open space and that criminal elements can still congregate.

Ms. Morris replied that the money saved on maintenance could be turned over to the police department. The gangs have a really cushy place to go and terrorize neighbors. Perhaps the neighbors near the parks would be willing to keep them up. The parks are good for the children; if their playgrounds are littered with syringes, the children cannot use them.

Chairperson Steinberg suggested talking about this later because usually when the good people leave the parks, the bad people move in.

Councilperson Fargo stated that public safety is more than the police department and syringes in the sandboxes are a public safety issue. When park maintenance is given up so are the recreation leaders and the supervision of the parks and we then lose them to gang members.

Dot Busher understands that the charter for the city puts public safety first. She feels after reading the staff report that the city has changed that priority to economic development. She states that police protection for the majority of the citizens is nonexistent. She further stated that growth will occur despite anything; we need well-planned and directed growth. If this is done, we can get the quality of growth we deserve without trying to buy it.

Hans Huber, member of Ad Hoc Committee for Public Safety, spoke regarding the ten-year strategic plan. He stated that perhaps we should abandon or revise this plan in light of the fact we cannot produce the \$6-\$10 million annually it calls for. He thinks that of the options presented in the staff report, Number 1 ("Pay-As-You-Go") and Number 2 ("Re-prioritize Existing Resources") are the way to go.

Bruce Booher reminded the Council of the many dollars donated to this city by volunteers throughout the Sacramento area. He further stated that many of those same people will use their energy to fight anything that appears like the past Measure T proposal. He suggested that the city look at the development of new parks and cut back in those areas especially in light of the fact the current parks cannot be maintained. He also suggested charging for various services to increase revenue and look at a "city income tax" for those people who do not live in Sacramento but drive in to work.

Councilperson Fargo stated that every year she brings up the idea of charging more for parking to those people who don't live in the city. If the city has a monthly parking pass, it should be a discount if you are a resident of Sacramento; if you live out of the city, it should be more.

Walter Mueller, member of Ad Hoc Committee for Public Safety, stated that he is fearful when the Council actually considers cutting more police officers and the Neighborhood Services Division. We should look for efficiency, changing or restructuring departments, but not cutting police officers or the Neighborhood Services Division.

Jim Hastings asked if this budget includes the income we will be getting from the new Fire Department ambulance service.

Chairperson Steinberg advised that program is on hold by federal court.

Mr. Hastings continued by stating that if it pays, go with it; it doesn't pay, then we are in a budget crunch. He further suggested selling some assets that are cash drains for short-term funding. He suggested that the police department could use more computers in the Records Management Department to increase the efficiency of that department. He stated that he feels \$25 million could be raised by taxing every commuter from outside the city limits the equivalent of one monthly bus pass (\$35). He is not in favor of adding any more of a tax burden to the residents of Sacramento. He concluded by asking why we were apologizing to people who complained to their councilperson because they were ticketed for illegally parking.

Chairperson Steinberg advised Mr. Hastings that the direction will be to start to explore with the Council all the alternatives put forward.

Mr. Hastings stated that there was a total of nine suggestions and they would be presented to the committee members in writing as soon as possible.

Mary Brill stated that she is not clear on what the working definition of public safety is and without a working definition it becomes difficult to suggest long-term funding opportunities. She suggested that area captains and area managers develop a definition in partnership with neighborhood leaders. She believes that dangerous building inspectors, code enforcement officers, and parking enforcement fall within this definition. She put forth the following suggestions: 1) Change the focus of the Youth and Community Services section to focus on enforcement of the city's Curfew Ordinance and Truancy Laws since many of their current activities are covered by schools, city parks and recreations, and community-based organizations. Instead of being an isolated unit, the staff would be assigned to each sector and report to the area captain. 2) Safe Streets take over the responsibility of funding the Neighborhood Watch programs. 3) Take 10 POP officers and two CSOs and make them NPOs and/or deploy them back to patrol or focus on crime series. 4) Cost recovery for jail bookings to cover the costs the police department is currently being charged for these bookings. 5) Use Transient Occupancy Tax for the continued match funding for the COP Phase I Grant for years two and three. 6) Look at Measure G funds to augment the ten-year strategic plan.

Jim Terry, member of Ad Hoc Committee for Public Safety and Tahoe Park Association, related the level of fear residents of his neighborhood have. He spoke of a neighbor moving to the foothills to escape the crime problem that this area is experiencing and feels there are many more people out there contemplating the same thing. He has overheard developers who are building in the foothills say that with the current level of crime, the perception of crime and the actuality of crime in Sacramento, the people are going to move out. Sacramento will become a commuter city much like Oakland.

Red Banes just arrived from a Neighborhood Association Advisory Group with the following points: 1) Look for sponsorship of computers for the police department (Packard Bell). 2) Go into some of the neighborhoods and ask the residents if they feel they need more police officers.

Chairperson Steinberg asked when the Council will begin reviewing the budget and specifically the police department budget.

Deputy City Manager Crist stated that next week the midyear review process will start. The Manager will have a prepared budget document by May 1. April and May will be the busy months for really getting your teeth into this budget.

Chairperson Steinberg stated that it would be best for the Committee to explore some of these alternatives before going to the full Council so they may have a more complete discussion.

Councilperson Cohn suggested that perhaps some members of the Committee attend the next Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

Chairperson Steinberg agreed. He further stated that he feels there is still a need for a Council forum, whether Committee or full Council, to thoroughly go through the details of these ideas.

Councilperson Fargo asked when the budget hearings start and they start having double and triple Council meetings per week. Part of the committee's charge was not to delve into the budget arena, so while this can be dealt with by the committee, the entire discussion will need to be repeated with the full Council. When will there be time for the committee to do this?

City Manager Edgar stated in the past, on May 1 the Manager presented the City council with a budget. Then there was a series of hearings and a budget was adopted in June. In the last two years the Council has been involved much earlier through small policy reports regarding status of the current budget or on items that would be a major part of the budget. So, essentially, the budget will be before the Council every week.

Chairperson Steinberg asked what would be more manageable in terms of staff work and presentation: take some of these ideas before the full Council or before the Committee.

City Manager Edgar replied that the Council wants to review and be involved in the entire budget. He suggests that at the staff level all ideas be assembled, analyzed, and then brought to Council.

Councilperson Waters asked if there was one more meeting on the original schedule.

Chairperson Steinberg responded by advising that this was the last meeting of the original schedule.

Councilperson Waters stated that it is important to get some of these ideas brought before the Committee so they may be taken to the full Council.

Chairperson Steinberg suggested not deciding on a date tonight, but to have move discussion and adequately notify the public of the next meeting. He then asked for a brief report on the budget tour and the general subject of public safety.

City Manager Edgar reported on the budget tour. He stated that the purpose of this budget tour is to physically describe how the budget is put together. The General Fund operates by support of the taxes and is for the general operations of the city. Very little of the General Fund is used for capital improvements, but there are some capital improvements such as Meadowview Community Center and the Communications Project for the police and fire. There are enterprise funds in which the city operates as a private business such as solid waste, water, etc. And then there are special revenue funds for which revenues come into the city and can only be used for certain purposes such as the Quinbee fees, lighting and landscaping fees, Measure A funds, etc.

Mr. Edgar further stated that he wanted this issue on the agenda for this evening's meeting because of the committee's involvement with the budget issues.

Councilperson Fargo indicated that she would like some specific items pointed out during this tour. She stated that the tour group should be made aware of the impacts the city deals with from the county and the state such as in areas where the city is required to provide improvements in front of state buildings, but the state is not willing to contribute to the assessment district. She also feels it is important to inform the tour group about the Flood Control Assessment district and the fact that in the first year households will be required to pay between \$89 and \$150.

Chairperson Steinberg asked for other questions from the committee members. He believes that the tours are a very good idea and hopes these tours will educate in terms of the budget and what we can spend the various sources of money on.

Chief Venegas presented report backs from past meetings: 1) Communications Policies and Procedures - of the 1,006,000 calls there were only 16 formal complaints. We do encourage the public to advise us if they are not receiving the service they feel they deserve. 2) Policing in other cities - with all the information available from other cities, it will be an enormous task to compile this information. 3) Quick reference of NPO/POP Programs - the police department is compiling a functional organizational telephone directory that should assist in reaching the various personnel assigned to NPO/POP Programs. 4) Community outreach - creating advisory groups that are representative of the police sector and Neighborhood Services District. 5) Uses of NPO facilities - listed in the staff report. 6) Copies of COPS publication to SPD staff - redistributing to assure all personnel have received a copy. 7) Boundary maps - attachments in the staff report. 8) Information on calls for service and 93/94 crime statistics include in staff report. 9) Attrition of civilian personnel - clarified the large number released in 1993 as being crossing guards.

Councilperson Kerth asked for a clarification on the definition of calls for service so the average citizen understands exactly what is meant by a "call for service." The community's understanding of this definition is different than the police department's.

Chief Venegas agreed and said the police department will take another look at the definition.

Councilperson Kerth also would like the number of actual officer-on-scene incidents.

Chief Venegas replied that number is represented by the number of calls when the officer has actually been dispatched or when the officers generate an activity and have actually reported it.

Councilperson Kerth asked how calls for service reflect in the size of the electronic dispatch precincts (EDPs) and to what extent are citizen requests treated in the dimensions of the EDPs.

Chief Venegas replied that the police department utilizes a software program to analyze all of the calls for service that are captured in the system. With this information, the workload is then equalized as much as possible throughout the city. There is a weight assigned to the priority of calls depending on the type of call received.

Councilperson Kerth questioned why an area does not get smaller by putting more officers in the area.

Chief Venegas replied that the officer-generated calls are not the same priority as a call that is generated by a citizen in a request for service. If a citizen makes a call vs. an officer just stopping, the officer's stopping will not go into the computer as a high priority item. The officer-generated activity is the last thing that is considered in the personnel distribution; we actually look at citizen-generated activity.

Chairperson Steinberg asked how long the terms are for the Police Advisory Council members and how often does the Council meet.

Chief Venegas replied that they meet approximately every two to three months and the terms are dependent upon the individual.

Chairperson Steinberg called for public testimony.

Walter Mueller addressed the staff report. 1) Advisory Council - no one from the neighborhood on it. According to a discussion he had with Chief Venegas, the people are selected for their ability to procure funding and grants. 2) Appendix A - SPDs Quick Reference of NPOs - after some research, it was determined that none of the 30 officers work on Sunday; 14 don't work on the weekend; 14 work partially on the weekend. In his community most of the activity occurs on the weekend and he would like to know why so few officers are assigned to the weekends. 3) Maps - thinks it's very important to have the population listed on all the neighborhood maps to indicate how large the area actually is.

Councilperson Fargo stated that Mr. Mueller's comments about the officers' schedules for the weekend was a very good point.

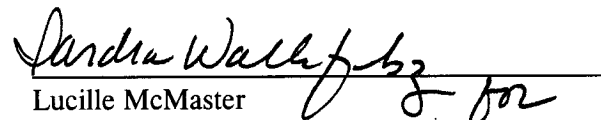
Chief Venegas addressed the issue of weekend assignments by stating the days off are flexible. They are listed so the officers can do some planning. As to the map sizes, they are generated by GIS. It was not done by design that one is larger than the other; that's the way the computer printed them.

Chairperson Steinberg would like to see the time frame for development of the community outreach plans by the area captains and area managers.

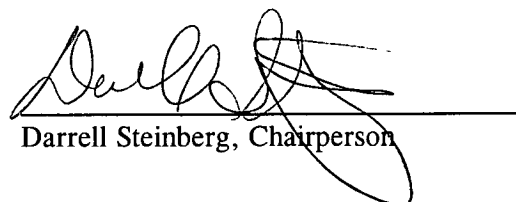
Albert Najera, Deputy Chief of Police- Operations, responded that a basic plan should be in place in 30 days.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted,


Lucille McMaster

Approved:


Darrell Steinberg, Chairperson