

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SAN JOSE
PUBLIC SAFETY, FINANCE AND STRATEGIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010

The Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee of the City of San José convened in Special Session at 6:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Council Wing, City Hall.

PRESENT: Council Member Madison Nguyen, Council Member Peter Constant, Vice Chair, Council Member Pierluigi Oliverio.

ABSENT: Council Member Kansen Chu. (Excused)

STAFF: City Manager Debra Figone, Chief Deputy City Attorney Danielle Kenealey, Deputy City Manager Deanna J. Santana, Assistant City Clerk Dennis Hawkins and Legislative Secretary Susan M. Davis.

Documents Filed: (1) Information memorandum from City Manager Debra Figone, dated February 5, 2010, providing the report on the various efforts underway by the Administration to address questions regarding the San José Police Department's use of force and to provide a status report on the referral issued to the Administration regarding use of force where the only booking charge was resisting arrest or interfering with a police officer (California Penal Code Section 148). (2) Memorandum from Deputy City Manager Deanna J. Santana and Police Chief Robert L. Davis, dated November 12, 2009, recommending that the Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee accept the staff report on the outcomes from the October 14, 2009 Special Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee meeting. (3) Staff presentation outlining the Community Engagement Efforts, Administration Efforts and the Next Steps dated April 14, 2010.

OPENING COMMENTS

Council Member Nguyen presented introductory remarks and pointed out that the purpose of this meeting was to hear the community's views and to elicit feedback on the City's efforts to improve police services and policing in San José.

REVIEW OF MEETING PURPOSE AND FORMAT

City Manager Debra Figone highlighted efforts to address public concerns regarding policing in San José through community engagement.

Deputy City Manager Deanna J. Santana outlined the logistics for the meeting.

City Manager Debra Figone stated that the goal was to provide a verbal status report on the efforts that are being taken to improve police services in the City of San José.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Chris Block, American Leadership Forum, presented an update on community engagement efforts, summarized input gathered at an American Leadership Forum sponsored meeting on April 1, 2010 and announced plans for another community dialogue in May 2010.

ADMINISTRATIVE EFFORTS

City Manager Debra Figone outlined the Administration's four areas of focus: training efforts, police accountability, community relations and innovations.

PUBLIC INPUT

Various members of the public commented on the four questions posted on the Agenda and related topics.

- (1) Beth Shafran-Mukai encouraged a continuation of community and civic engagement, support for services which work to strengthen neighborhood groups and expressed concern about the police officer rotation schedule being too short and not allowing enough time to establish relationships with the community members.
- (2) Tili Ayala voiced concerns about crime and police response times in the Park Avenue area.
- (3) Rick Beets observed that the community engagement efforts by American Leadership Forum have been extremely helpful and that the City should continue to outreach to other members of the community to engage them also.
- (4) Bob Sippel commented the City for opening the doors and allowing the communication to happen. He encouraged more involvement by Neighborhood Groups.

PUBLIC INPUT

- (5) Vinh Pham commented on the officer-involved shooting of his son, Daniel Pham.

OPEN FORUM

Members of the public provided comments to the Committee.

- (1) Ken Kelly suggested that the Committee communicate more information to the public about meetings on this subject. He noted that the number one issue among neighborhood groups is the police rotation system and agreed with others that there is not enough time for police officers to establish relationships with community members.
- (2) Roger Lasson stated that states, cities and counties are in a non-sustainable mode as it relates to employee salaries and pensions. He appealed to the Council Members to look at the fiscal situation long term and do the right thing.
- (3) Alofa Talivaa requested that police officers get out of their cars when they are not busy to spend time with the residents, particularly young people. She stated that public safety is the community's number one priority and expressed concern about reducing the number of police officers.
- (4) Joseph Young commented on his experiences with police officers throughout the country.
- (5) Bertha Ward remarked that she attends downtown events with others and they do not feel safe but are grateful for the police presence downtown. She added that police officer response times in her neighborhood are very good.
- (6) Hiep Luong complained about confrontations with another individual and asked for the Police Department to help him.

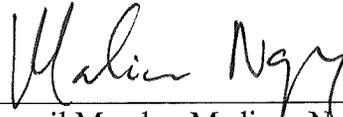
COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND CLOSING COMMENTS

Council Members Nguyen, Oliverio, and Constant thanked the community members and expressed appreciation for their participation in the meeting and their comments and suggestions. Assistant Chief of Police Dan Katz responded to questions from Council Member Oliverio regarding Police policies and procedures on shift changes and rotation of officer assignments.

Council Member Constant suggested that the City Manager send information regarding the American Leadership Forum or other meetings to the Council Offices so that Council Members can distribute information via their email lists and newsletters for additional community outreach.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Nguyen adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



Council Member Madison Nguyen, Chair
Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee

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