

**PUBLIC SAFETY, COURTS & CIVIL SERVICE MEETING
JULY 30, 2020**

Members Present: Council Member Allison Hiltz, Chair
Council Member Curtis Gardner, Vice Chair
Council Member Angela Lawson, Member
Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Johnston
Council Member Alison Coombs
Council Member Dave Gruber
Council Member Juan Marcano
Council Member Marsha Berzins
Council Member Crystal Murillo

Others Present: J. Batchelor, A. Robnett, B. Sauder, C. Hills, C. Andersen, D. Parker, D. Wilson, F. Gray, H. Glidden, J. Bergeron, J. Heckman, J. Lanigan, J. Campbell, J. Schneebeck, L. Condreay, C. Amsler, M. Dudley, M. Chapman, M. Fassio, M. Moore, N. Rodgers, R. Weber, R. Ross, S. Day, S. Stowell, S. Redfearn, T. Buneta, V. Wilson, Z. DeBoyes

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 16, 2020 minutes approved and signed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CONSENT ITEMS

None.

COMMUNITY POLICE TASK FORCE UPDATE

Summary of Issue and Discussion

Dr. Ryan Ross, CEO of the Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado, provided an update on the progress and future goals to the Committee. The Task Force just had their second meeting earlier this month. It consisted of building community and teamwork amongst the members. An orientation meeting was held where they discussed expectations for involvement and began creating their plan for moving forward in order to meet the goal of having recommendations completed by the end of 2020 to formally present to Council in January 2021. The Task Force is comprised of thirteen members and one ex-officio member. The group has put a plan together to hear from the community upfront and ongoing. A subcommittee has been announced to make sure that individuals in the community that may not have access to technology can be heard as well. Their progress will be presented at a meeting in about a month. The next meeting in August will be a listening session with the community. The Task Force thought it would be really important to hear from the community and be transparent and be accessible to the community. Staff put email access together for the community to reach the Task Force. The information about the listening session will be posted on the City website and will be available for sharing on social media. They have completed the education plan where the Task Force members were brought up to speed on things that are happening in the City, process and procedures, authorizing environment, and training. They have identified areas, systemically, or where recommendations will come from. Recommendations will fall under four categories; Immediate, short-term, long-term, and then suggestions around what accountability could look like around all the recommendations.

A schedule through the end of the year has been set. They will meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. There will potentially be a couple days added on, if necessary.

CM Hiltz commended Dr. Ross for the way he's running the meetings efficiently online. Mayor Pro Tem Johnston also recognized the fine work by Dr. Ross, Claudine McDonald, and Jason Batchelor. They are a good team. She noted that when she or other Council members tune in, they are just listening and wants the Task Force to be community driven. She appreciates the initiative of identifying that some community members aren't being included due to lack of access to the website and finding other ways to reach them. She looks forward to upcoming meetings. DCM Batchelor added that it has been a privilege to watch Dr. Ross work with such a large group with strong and diverse opinions. He does a masterful job at running an excellent meeting.

Outcome

Information Only

Follow-up Action

None.

LOBBYING POSITION OF MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

Summary of Issue and Discussion

Police Division Chief Lee Condrey presented this item to the committee. This presentation is in response to Council's request for information on positions of organizations the Aurora Police Department (APD) is associated with. The organizations include International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), Major City Chiefs Association (MCCA), and Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). Responses on each organizations' position on the specific topics were included in the agenda packet for review. L. Condrey explained that he didn't list the PERF responses because his research indicated they don't take positions on topics and that they pride themselves on being a research and leadership training program. They are an international program and what works in one country may not work in other countries or, specific to the United States, what works in a small department may not work in a large department. PERF reaches out to departments to gather policies and procedures, hold conferences, and determines what best practices are. Regarding the backup provided for the other organizations, many of the documents provided are several years old. They do not update the documents annually. In some cases, the organizations do not necessarily take a position on the topic and instead write papers on the topics. Or, if they do support the item, it could be with caveats. MCCA was the most willing to provide current information.

CM Gardner explained he brought this forward for two reasons; The first being this is a transparency item when it comes to Aurora taxpayers because ultimately this is taxpayer funded lobbying. If we're going to use tax dollars to lobby, in light of the current environment, that we know where the money is going. Second, it's important to point out that there are instances where the positions of some of these organizations may conflict with all of council, some of council, or the general sentiment in Aurora. He recognizes there are benefits beyond the advocacy of the lobbying. He asked staff to speak to other benefits such as training or whatever else they provide. L. Condrey explained training is a large part, especially with PERF. They have a nationally recognized leadership program. APD sends Lieutenants and above ranks to that program when they can. The training isn't specifically focused on police-related issues. It's more focused on leadership and they bring instructors from Harvard and MIT that aren't necessarily familiar with law enforcement but they're very knowledgeable in leadership training and bring it to the law enforcement profession to help improve law enforcement as a whole and the individual professionally. Interim Police Chief Vanessa Wilson added that throughout the COVID pandemic, MCCA holds weekly updates to allow chiefs across the nation

to discuss what each agency is doing during the pandemic and brainstorm. It's been a really good opportunity for collaboration between agencies. PERF sends daily news blasts to keep everyone informed about what's happening around the country so agencies can keep up with best practices and trends. Members of these organizations also received discounted training which allows opportunities to send more people through specialized training for the same amount of money.

CM Gardner noted that he requested information on these four organizations because they were identified as organizations APD pays membership dues to annually. He asked if there are alternatives to these organizations with the same benefits that are separate from lobbying. V. Wilson noted that she wasn't aware of alternatives and added that the ability to talk with other agencies in real time about issues such as the pandemic has been invaluable. It would take a lot of time to research news article from across the nation. PERF does this daily and provides that information to their members. CM Gardner asked what if one of the organizations or a member of an organization takes a position on something that conflicts with the City of Aurora and if there a formal policy for how, in most cases, the Chief is supposed to proceed. V. Wilson noted that there was a Chief that said something that was controversial during the COVID pandemic and he was brought to task by other Chiefs. The Chief still has the authority to take the information they receive and implement it into policy or stand up and say they don't agree as a member. The Aurora Chief can always make the stance of Aurora known and if there is something that is radically different from the direction Aurora is headed then the membership can be reviewed.

CM Lawson noted that she doesn't recall these issues coming to the Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (FSIR). She would like to know why these organizations and their positions have never been presented to FSIR. In addition, she doesn't recall a time where policy or position papers were provided to the FSIR committee for review or discussion. Looking at this, she would be interested in having this implemented in FSIR agendas. V. Wilson advised that she didn't have an answer at this time. However, it could be implemented for future items that come to the attention of APD from any of these organizations with regard to federal items they are lobbying for. CM Lawson noted that some of the lobbying is being done at the State Capitol. She believes if taxpayer dollars are being spent to participate in these things then they should be looped into the discussion in some capacity at the policy level and through Council as well. Deputy City Attorney Nancy Rodgers added that in the past Deputy Chief Paul O'Keefe was the representative that would monitor legislation for APD. Division Chief Darin Parker is now filling this role. It's her understanding that APD would be notified of all the legislative bills and if there was a bill that APD was interested in and wanted Council to take an active position on, P. O'Keefe would bring the information to FSIR to talk about it. Otherwise, APD would just monitor what the organizations were doing and not get actively involved without Council approval. As far as a request for testimony down at the Capitol, staff would get approval from FSIR or Council. CM Lawson added that it would be interesting to have a broad summary of what the organizations are doing and she would be open to further discussion about it. It seems to her that there have been gaps in information passed along through the Committees or Council. N. Rodgers explained all the active legislation could be an ongoing item much like on other Committees with other departments. CM Lawson noted that it could be discussed at another time. Deputy City Manager Jason Batchelor added that he made a note to circle back to Roberto Venegas and Luke Palmisano that this would be coming up for discussion at FSIR.

CM Hiltz agreed that it would be nice to get some feedback on what is being done as an active member of the organization even if there isn't an active position from APD. It's important to know what the organization is doing because they are still lobbying on behalf of APD even if we don't go down and lobby personally. She noted that one of her requests was what is budgeted for these organizations and how much money is actually spent, particularly as we're moving forward and trying to look at ways to reallocate funds and in light of the current budget. DCM Batchelor explained that information had been provided in a separate email. CM Gardner noted that he had the email pulled up and he provided the information for the record. Annual

dues for the police organizations are: IACP \$1,670; CACP \$1,500; MCCA \$5,000; PERF \$2,020. Aurora Fire Rescue (AFR) annual membership dues for Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association is \$2,265 and International Organization of Fire Chiefs is \$465.

CM Gardner asked for clarification that PERF only provides training and doesn't participate in lobbying. L. Condrey confirmed that to his knowledge PERF does not participate in lobbying, that their organization focuses on research and training. CM Hiltz thanked staff for the presentation.

Outcome

Information Only.

Follow-up Action

DCM Batchelor will follow-up with Roberto and Luke about upcoming discussions at FSIR.

2ND QUARTER CRIME STATISTICS

Summary of Issue and Discussion

Police Deputy Chief Harry Glidden provided the year-to-date statistics to the Committee. Public Safety Communications has taken 117,770 police calls for service and 550,000 overall. The language line is predominantly used for Spanish speakers and other languages are about 18%. There have been 25 homicides year-to-date. Of those homicide victims 15 were African American males, 4 Caucasian males, 2 Hispanic males, 2 Caucasian females, and 2 African American females. There are 28 homicide suspects; 7 of those are unknown races at this moment, 12 are African American males, 3 are Caucasian males, 5 are Hispanic males, and 1 Hispanic female. There has been 1 domestic violence homicide, 8 drug sale homicides, 2 gang homicides, and the other 12 are unknown as the investigations are still on-going. There have been 8,078 major index crimes year-to-date, that's an increase of 11.1%. Major violent crimes are at 1,703, indicating an increase of 19.6%. There have been 138 Sex Assaults, indicating a decrease of 37.4%. There have been 1,148 Aggravated Assaults, indicated an increase of 32.9%. Those are not broken down into shootings. There have been 393 Robberies, up 21.7%. Major Property crimes are 8,078, up 11.1%. There have been 847 Burglaries, up 15.7%. There have been 1,619 Motor Vehicle Thefts, up 28%. Overall Larceny and Theft is 3,909 which is up 1.6%. There have been 3 Officer Involved Shootings, 1 fatal and 2 non-fatal. Total arrests this year is 3,156, down 40.1%. Criminal Summonses issued is 2,613, down 14.6%. DUI and DUD arrests are at 365, down 36.5%. Total arrests this year are 5,769, down 30.8%. Municipal Traffic tickets issued is at 9,265, down 38.7%. Tickets issued via general offenses reports for Traffic 1,864, down 37%. The Motorcycle Enforcement Team has written 11,129 tickets, down 25.6%. Total summonses written year-to-date is 12,365, down 39.5%. Domestic violence and drug enforcement information will be provided to the Committee at a later time.

Pre-COVID, COVID and Protect your Neighbor time frame statistics were also provided. Pre-COVID was determined to be January 1 to March 14. During this time there were 4 murders, 53 sex assaults, 304 aggravated assaults, 136 robberies, 315 burglaries, 493 motor vehicle thefts, and 1,455 larcenies. Total major crimes were up 10.4% during this time period. COVID was determined to be March 15 to May 14. During this time there were 5 homicides, 43 sex assaults, 281 aggravated assaults, 82 robberies, 287 burglaries, 474 motor vehicle thefts, and 1,160 larcenies. Total major crime was down 1.1% during this time period. Protect your Neighbor was determined to be May 15 to July 15. During this time there were 14 murders, 38 sex assaults, 532 aggravated assaults, 162 robberies, 240 burglaries, 592 motor vehicle thefts, and 1,248 larcenies. Total major crimes during this period was up 17.9%. CM Hiltz noted that the numbers were concerning and the increases are alarming.

CM Lawson asked how drug-related crimes are related to the categories provided and is there a breakdown of those statistics. H. Glidden explained drug-related crimes are broken down in homicides but to capture

data to determine if someone steals a car for drugs is not possible. CM Lawson acknowledged this would not be possible and asked about the drug-related homicides that were discussed earlier in the presentation. H. Glidden noted it is known that 8 of the homicides this year were a drug deal. There are 12 homicides still being investigated so the involvement of drug-related activity is still unknown and 2 were specific to gang activity. V. Wilson added that there are issues with drugs and alcohol and could be associated with the reasons the crimes are being committed. It's not being tracked right now but she believes a majority of these crimes would have the drug element to it and would be along the lines with the issues seen across the country, especially when talking about opioid use and theft. CM Lawson noted that she understands everything can't be tracked but it would be interesting to capture this data if there was such a database to do so because people do commit crimes to support drug and other addictions. This information could be used by APD and other departments to see if, as a community, there is a way to deal with these issues. V. Wilson added that the jails and court probation do drug and alcohol assessments. Staff can reach out to these partners and see if they have information that can be shared for future discussion.

CM Hiltz asked if it is known why sex assaults have decreased and if that it could be related to a reporting issue, is it not being captured, or is actually going down. V. Wilson responded that she hopes its going down and not a reporting issue. She believes that the stay-at-home order has had an impact and that it is trending down in the community, but staff will keep an eye on it. CM Hiltz noted the different dynamics in each Police district, and she is wondering if staff is working with the Council member representing those affected Wards to maybe address and try to figure out what is going on in those particular areas. Because it's different for each Ward a city-wide approach may not be as effective. V. Wilson responded that PAR Officers attend the Ward Town Hall meetings. It's been more difficult since COVID restrictions to participate in the same way so she would encourage everyone to bring trends to the attention of the APD and call in crimes. She added that with the jails being closed, APD was unable to take in prisoners and it has really limited the amount of arrests. There were single offenders that would commit multiple crimes and APD was unable to arrest because it didn't meet the level needed to make the arrest and take them to jail with the COVID restrictions. CM Hiltz noted that a conversation about what needs to be done should take place sooner rather than later but would be a separate meeting conversation.

CM Marcano said his question was a follow-up to a conversation they had in February. He noted, in regard to youth violence, that the racial makeup is known but he has previously requested the socio-economic data, specific to living conditions for the suspects and victims. He asked if it is possible to get this data compiled because it would be beneficial information to know to steer policy discussions for Council going forward around this topic. V. Wilson apologized that staff hasn't had an opportunity to discuss how this data could be gathered. She advised she would delegate this request to Business Services Manager John Schneebeck who will work with Records staff to come up with ideas as to how to capture what is being requested. CM Marcano added that it could be possible to look at census-tracked information for the areas where they live to give a general idea.

CM Berzins asked if there are statistics on crimes against children with the kids being out of school, parents being out of work, and everyone is together. V. Wilson explained Crimes Against Children (CAC) does have cases they are dealing with and statistics of summonses related to child abuse could be provided. CAC could also present to the Committee information on the felony child abuse cases they are investigating. CM Berzins noted that should would be interested in that information.

Outcome
Information Only.

Follow-up Action

Staff will provide Domestic Violence and Drug Enforcement statistics to the Committee. Staff will contact jail and court probation partners for drug and alcohol statistics. Staff will provide demographic information and will look at capturing socio-economic data related to youth crimes. A presentation from CAC with child abuse stats and cases at a future meeting.

FITZSIMONS CAMPUS RESPONSE

Summary of Issue and Discussion

Fire Commander Allen Robnett presented this item to the Committee. The Fitzsimons campus is about a mile on all sides. Infrastructure includes 3 major hospitals, Veterans Affairs (VA) clinics, and the University of Colorado Teaching and Research Facilities. There are approximately 45 buildings dedicated to UHealth. There are approximately 5 million square feet of floor space. UHealth is 303.8 million square feet of the 5 million. The VA adds about 1.1 million square feet of floor space. The average daily population is approximately 25,000 employees and doesn't include the people seeking services in the areas. Projections at build out will be approximately 50,000 employees. The Bioscience buildings are moving forward and plans have been submitted for approval. The hotel is nearing completion and the Innovation hotel is set to restart this Fall. They have planned 800 residential units. Some of the apartments are open already. Most of the buildings will be research and educations. The annual responses for the campus did see a drop from 2018 to 2019. CM Gardner asked for clarification on the time periods being presented. A. Robnett confirmed all data was for full years except for 2020, which is year-to-date. Based on calls for service for EMS in 2019, the most calls for service came from Aurora Day Resource Center and Comitis Crisis Center, respectively. A Medical Service Unit (MSU) was added to Station 2 on July 1, 2020, based on the number of calls for service. This will hopefully help to bring down the call loads on the two apparatus. There was an increase in response times from 2015 to current of approximately 35% due to a number of factors such as an uptick in calls and the units being busy. Dispatch also implemented a ProQA process that does take a little longer to work through the process. Changes in 2019 that could have attributed to the decrease in call load include the change the method Comitis uses to house people by going from a daily to 3-week lottery system for single occupants. Family occupancy is still on a daily system. Comitis is projecting changing their system again to a longer-term option. UHealth began a hospital response team that has been very effective and there has been a decrease in calls for service to their facilities. The Community Health Programs focuses on contacting high users to help them get the services without using the 911 system. In cases where the Community Health Officer was able to intervene, there was an 85% reduction in 911 calls and an 87% reduction in hospital transports. Solutions that AFR is considering or has already implemented includes the addition of the MSU at Station 2 and AFR will continue to work with business and care sites on the campus to reduce the dependence on EMS system for routine needs. Other initiatives include a store front at the Day Resource Center for UHealth which will provide services for the residents there such as medicine or on-going health care to prevent them from going into crisis. AFR is also looking at the addition of predictive software that would use historical data and statistical data to project growth and optimize allocation of resources. AFR is also looking upgrading the Opticom system to a GPS system for preemptive technology to get through traffic safer and more efficiently.

CM Gardner asked about the calls by station data provided. It appears that 2020 is on track to exceed 2019 stats. His concern is the Community Health Office was implemented but the calls for service continue to go up, specifically on Engine 2 and Ladder 2, and it's going to reach a point where they are not able to handle the call load. Fire Chief Fernando Gray agrees that the call volume continues to increase holistically. Their strategy is not just about adding resources, they've looked at technology such as the AVL system, to make sure the closest resource is dispatched, in addition to the implementation of the Community Health Program. They have also recently added the MSU to Station 2, effective July 1, 2020. One of the strategies is to look at additional resources there. CM Gardner asked about future growth in the area to include number of people on the campus, traffic, and development such as light rail stations. All of these things will have a significant

impact on call volume. F. Gray agreed that they need to be forecasting 5, 10, and 15 years. That's one of the reasons why they have aggressively been looking at additional technology that will help them in that area. They do have a research and plans group that looks at that information right now. To ensure they are more efficient and effective they would like to look at software that can help them in this area. They know that this area will continue to grow and have an increase in demand for service and they will continue to look at different methodologies and approaches to make sure that they are responding in an effective manner. However, they do know they will eventually need more resources in that area. CM Gardner added that, in addition to purchasing GIS software, we should look at purchasing new EMS software as something to help with efficiencies. Referring to the slide on response times, it appears that it was growing and has since stabilized or even decreased and would like to know what would be the factor for the changes. A. Robnett explained the increase beginning in 2015 was when the campus really started to take off from a response standpoint. In regard to 2017-2018 they believe the ProQA process extended the response time. They seem to be consistent with the infrastructure in and out of the area. Engine 3 doesn't have access to the area from Fitzsimons Parkway, but this should be remedied in a matter of months. As the call volume continues to grow, they anticipate response times may increase as well. As Chief Gray mentioned, they will then begin looking at alternative response models and maybe adding resources to keep the response times within their guidelines. CM Gardner asked when the Community Health Officer was implemented. A. Robnett responded that it was implemented in around mid-year 2018. F. Gray explained staff was assigned to the position in 2018. However, it hadn't been utilized in Aurora up until that time and it does have a positive impact on response times as it relates to not having units respond to the same situations over and over again. It took approximately 6 months after the program was initiated to start getting a client base and process them.

CM Lawson noted the response times for 2015-2020 looks like it all peaks the same. Particularly in 2018 and 2019, there was a lot of growth in the area and with so much density and all the growth, is there any difference in the trends. Could there be discrepancy in the data. A. Robnett noted that the discrepancy would be minimal. CM Lawson asked if there is a statistical difference in response times for 2018 and 2019. A. Robnett noted that this is something they watch very closely and as response times increase they add resources or use alternative response models. In 2019, the changes made on the campus were done to reduce response times in the area. They should never really vary that much because they want to get behind the ball and will take immediate action to rectify the situation. They will also continue to work with their partners in the area. CM Lawson added that she isn't challenging the data but was wondering how all the growth and projects have affected the area. F. Gray noted that this would be a good opportunity to provide some context to the changes in response. A. Robnett explained the Beat-based concept is specific areas (Emergency Response zones) that belong to a station. If a call dropped in Station 2 area, even if they were no where near the call, it would be assigned to them. AVL has no borders; it looks at who is geographically closer to the call and assigns it to them. The AVL can, within 3 feet, tell which rig is closer. Particularly for Stations 1 and 2, who are on the campus a lot, they will pick up a number of calls on the campus while in transit from the hospitals and reduce call times because they are already in the area.

CM Hiltz noted that she gets frustrated by this area and has been for years. She also has the same concerns as CM Gardner related to Engine 2 and Ladder 2 response times. Particularly because some of the other options have been implemented. So that indicates that the Community Health Officer is reducing calls in certain areas, but means calls for service are going up at a faster rate in other areas. She added that Anschutz needs to invest in the area. We got to be the busiest in the country without them investing in any resources in this area and they are now looking to double in size and they need to step up and invest in the area when it comes to these responses and whatever resources, whether that be a station or an engine. There's no excuse for them to have not done this so far and they shouldn't wait until the city forces them to because it's not a good PR look. CM Hiltz asked what the Station 2 MSU service area is. A. Robnett noted that it's a two mile buffer around the station. Anything outside of the 2 miles will go to the AVL dispatch. CM Hiltz asked if, with the Community Health Officer, are they able to monetize cost savings and have they thought about

how to reallocate those savings within the department. F. Gray explained they can put a dollar value to the cost avoidance but he doesn't believe that it would be productive to invest in additional community health positions in lieu of adding response resources. And the reason he says that, in a growing community the high utilizers are just a percentage of the call volume. So the call volume will continue to increase outside of the high utilizers. His recommendation is to utilize a cost avoidance approach as opposed to redeployment of officers to community health to offset costs. CM Hiltz explained she wasn't suggesting they not put it into other resources. She was saying that if it is known that there are cost savings, staff could look at purchasing additional apparatuses or hiring more personnel with some of that money. Especially when we're looking at this area we talk about response times, call volume, using data. But these are still human beings on the rigs and they're running 24/7. Unlike other rigs where they may have time for breaks in between calls, that's not the case in this area so what is being done to address the human component? What she doesn't want is to get to a point where they are optimized by a data standpoint but forgetting that there's people on the other end of successes. So if we know that we're not spending money to send rigs out the door, where can it be reinvested in the department. The data doesn't show that we're at the peak with calls and they keep going up in this area and there hasn't been any conversation about the health or mental health of the firefighters who work out of these stations. CM Hiltz would like to see the monetized cost avoidance for the Community Health Program. She would also like to get more information on the call volume over the years for the campus in terms of the hospitals and universities. She's curious what the data would look like separate from the other entities such as the Day Resource Center and Comitis. She and staff can talk offline about what she would like to see based on what is available. Despite all the investments the city has made there are still issues because the campus is still growing with no investment from any other entities.

Outcome

Information Only.

Follow-up Action

Staff will provide monetized cost avoidance for the Community Health Program. CM Hiltz and staff will meet offline to discuss the data available and what she would like to see in regards to calls for service specific to the hospitals and universities.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

None.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

The August 13 meeting will include Discipline and Lawsuits follow-up, Personnel Intervention System follow-up, Use of Force follow-up to include race and jurisdictions, Fireworks (AFR), Safer Aurora (CM Murillo), Cardia Arrest Data (Falck), and Wellness Unit Presentation that was previously on the Aug 27 agenda.

CM Lawson requested the No-Knock item be moved to the August 27 agenda to allow for outreach before it's presented.

CM Hiltz will send out the full agenda proposal to the committee for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm

APPROVED: 
Allison Hiltz, Chair