



Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service Committee

August 11, 2022

Members Present Dustin Zvonek, Chair
 Danielle Jurinsky, Vice Chair
 Steve Sundberg, Council Member

Others Present A. Botham, J. Schneebeck, J. Batchelor, A. Robnett, D. Oates, M. Hanifin, C. Juul, T. Edwards, J. Marcano, M. Platt, S. Stowell, S. Day, R. Moody, J. Prosser, I. Evans, A. Garcia, J. Heckman, M. Erickson, F. Goodrich, S. Newman, D. Lewis, Brandt, E. Wittman, R. Weber, C. Tassin, L. Eddy, C. Atkinson, S. McGhee, J. Lanigan, J. Nicholas, C. Hills, M. Wasserburger, C. Poppe, M. Cain, T. Brown P. Schulte, J. Vaccarelli, D. Brotzman, D. Wilson, W. Lippman, M. Lovine, C. Carlson, M. Chapman, J. Kessler, J. Twombly, R. Jackson, A. Soustek, J. Bajorek, S. Aurakzai-Foster, T. Alcorn, M. Hays, M. Nelson, E. Hill, KMGH DENVER7

1. **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 8:30.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

July 14, 2022 Minutes will be review for approval at the September 8, 2022 Committee meeting.

Jason Batchelor stated that they had trouble producing the minutes.

3. **Consent Items**

3.a **August 2022 Police Attrition Update**

3.b **July 2022 Aurora Fire Rescue Attrition Update**

3.c **Aurora911 Staffing Update -- July 2022**

Item 3.a. through 3.c. were approved.

4. **General Business**

4.a **Public Safety Action Plan Update (August)- Various**

Jason Batchelor, Chief Chris Juul, Chief Daniel Oates, Chief Jad Lanigan, Lieutenant Chris Poppe, Jessica Prosser, and Courtney Tassin provided an update on the Public Safety Action Plan according to its five core strategies.

1. Fully staffing the Aurora Police Department and providing ongoing and industry-leading training

Last week, a team of recruiters was sent to New York City. The Aurora Police Department (APD) also advertised the positions through social media platforms and the Police Benevolent Association to 24,000 of their members. A home base was established in a hotel, and a conference room was used where members would come to submit applications and get information. Teams were also sent to precincts in New York City, Brooklyn, Bronx, and Harvard patrol. They were invited into the precincts to talk to and recruit officers. APD generated 14 direct lateral applicants and more leads that are being worked on for the October or January lateral class. Civil Service also generated numerous applications out of New York. A fringe benefit was that there are NYC officers that did not have three years of qualifying experience but would be willing to go through the basic academy. There were also people that were interested in enforcement but were not on the job yet. The social media information that was sent out reached other areas such as Las Vegas and Los Angeles which granted leads across the country. The APD is putting together information to be put up on the website.

D. Oates: If I could offer a quick comment, this was really a leap of faith that this new way of recruiting might work. I think one of the most important things is we learned a whole bunch of lessons in this first foray, and we've got other targeted areas of the country where we think that cops are significantly underpaid versus what we can offer, and also quality of life that we could offer. I have every confidence that we will refine this process as we go to other areas of the country. It is a great learning opportunity for all of us.

CM Jurinsky: Okay. Sorry, I was having a hard time getting on the meeting this morning, so I didn't get to hear the first about minute and a half. I heard that we're generating leads. Have we hired anybody?

C. Juul: So, from the effort, we have the applications. They're starting to get processed right now. As far as actually job offers, no. At this point, there haven't been any job offers from the trip.

CM Jurinsky: And how many are in our, and maybe this is in, is Schneebeck giving a presentation today? Does anybody know?

CM Zvonek: He's not on there, but we could ask him to because we're on 3A, which is the action plan, and we're talking specifically about the first of the fully staffed and Chief Juul just went through the highlights from the New York recruitment effort. I think the thing that he mentioned that you may have missed, was that there were 14 lateral applications that came out of the New York trip, and then there were others that came through the Civil. They've heard through the Civil Service Commission, that there were some people who did not qualify for the lateral

application but have applied through the basics. So, obviously, this is just specifically referring to the New York recruiting effort.

CM Jurinsky: So, I guess my big concern is if we're not doing anything to address the morale within the department, and we're going to put in all this effort to bring in officers from New York or from wherever we're doing these recruitment efforts, I don't think we're really solving anything. I did send an email to you, Jason Batchelor, requesting an updated list of officers that had left in June and July. I wanted numbers of officers that have left. I wanted how many, and I also wanted their names. I never heard back from you. I was hoping Schneebeck would be on here this morning to get that update. What I've been doing in the meantime is I have a pretty solid group of officers within the department that have been compiling lists of officers that have left in June and July, as well as officers that currently have their notice in to leave the department, and that's anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks that all of these officers will be leaving. This is a pretty significant list I have, and I just wanted to cross-reference it with what the department has, and I want to make sure that we are getting accurate information because what it looks like to me is that we are not stopping the bleeding, and we are not stopping officers leaving. So that's fine. We can be out doing all these recruitment efforts in New York or wherever, but we are not addressing the problems in the department, and officers are still leaving at an alarming rate. And this list of officers that I have, this is a list of officers with experience, and so that's basically my concern, and we're chasing leads, we've hired no one. We've made no job offers, and we still have people leaving at an alarming rate. I would like a list from whomever of all officers and their names that have left in June and July, and the ones that have notice in.

CM Zvonek: Is there anybody who can answer the question about the numbers for June and July?

J. Batchelor: Sure. So, the backup for 3A includes the numbers for a month. You'll see that in June and July. We had six in June, and six in July. Year to date, the number is 49. As we've discussed in the past, that includes both losses from the academy, losses during field training, and then, resignations, retirements, or any other separation. So, the good news is through July, we are at 49. That compares very favorably to some previous years. At this point last year, we were at 77. We've certainly seen that number tick down, and we'll have to look at what we're seeing. Officers do not have to provide weeks ahead. I know there's often some notice, but a lot of times, it's not necessarily a formal notice. So, we can certainly check on those numbers and see where we're at.

CM Jurinsky: Council Member Zvonek, those numbers do not add up with the list that I have. I have more names of officers that have left other than six in June, and six in July. So, I would just like to put that out there that my list does not add up to that. I also have a list of officers with notices in that are leaving.

CM Zvonek: Okay. Well, is there a reason, Jason, why would we have different numbers in terms of officers leaving?

J. Batchelor: Not having seen her list, I'm not sure. But we're happy to provide the details on all our numbers in terms of what's in those six, in terms of resignations, in terms of retirements or field training, or that. We're happy to provide that breakdown.

2. Improve data collection, utilize hot spot analysis, and improve efficiency through data analytics

The DART team has been deployed for its first two weeks. They worked four days during the first week and two days during the second week. Throughout this period, they have made 10 felony arrests and 14 misdemeanor arrests, recovered 11 stolen cars, and seized 3 guns. They are stationed in North Aurora around Colfax and Beeler. They did a larger operation around the town center and made numerous arrests. The DART Team has made numerous deployments of the StarChase System to follow stolen cars. Out of all arrests, the team only had one use of force.

CM Jurinsky: Chief Lanigan, are we having any problems with either our jail or Arapahoe County jail taking these people that the DART people are getting off the street or is that a pretty smooth effort?

J. Lanigan: Right now, we're not having any problems with the jails taking any of our arrests. It'll be interesting to see how that moves through the judicial system. That's one of the things we are also tracking, is how these cases are adjudicated at the end. As you know, adjudication can take anywhere from a month, they could go in, and just plead guilty, or it could take years for it to adjudicate through the process. Hopefully, in the next month or two, we'll have some better ideas of how some of these auto theft cases are being adjudicated, both in our municipal court and our county court. One big thing to know is many of these arrests, and Lieutenant Poppe can probably give you the data on it, but they're all juveniles. The juvenile system is a struggle for law enforcement, not only just in Aurora, but across the country on how to keep those juveniles from getting on the recidivism rate of what they're doing.

CM Jurinsky: If you guys are going to gather this data, can you also include, not just how they're adjudicated, but can you also include judge's names on each case? And I would also like to know, on each case, which ones were defended by our own Public Defender's Office.

J. Lanigan: I'm going to defer to Lieutenant Poppe. I'm not sure if we can get judge's names off of our data. Maybe Lieutenant Poppe will know that off of Colorado courts.

C. Poppe. Yes. I don't think that that's a huge problem for us to do. As we track these things through the Colorado Court System, it'll note what judge presided over various hearings, at least on the felony and county court level. I'm not real familiar with how we do that through municipal court. So that would probably take a little research on my part to figure out just how we come up with that answer.

CM Jurinsky: Okay. Yes. Whatever we can do on that. I want the judge's names for each case.

J. Lanigan: We'll do our best, ma'am, to include as much data in the outcome with each case we can.

D. Oates: Council Member Zvonek, it might be helpful to have at this point a conversation about auto theft prosecutions in state versus muni.

CM Zvonek: Yes.

D. Oates: We're going to discern and make those referrals. It's a little complicated because when there are other charges associated, it's further complicated when there are juveniles.

CM Zvonek: Right.

D. Oates: So, Jad, could you explain to the Council Members how that's going to go? And our commitment is we're going to track those cases and see what the results are in light of the new order. Jad, if you could.

J. Lanigan: Sure. If and when we can, our best bet is to always charge everything in the muni court because we'll have a better sentence out of the muni court, especially after Council Member Zvonek's recent push for sentencing guidelines. Let's just say that if there's a stolen gun in the car, and we end up going to a POWPO case, which is when a felony offender's in possession of a firearm, we might have to send that whole case. We can't bifurcate the case and send half to county court and half to municipal court. On all these arrests, Lieutenant Poppe's involved with each one of those, and we're always looking at how we can get the biggest bang for the buck, if you may, in whichever court will oversee that prosecution.

CM Sundberg: Chief Lanigan, can you refresh my memory on what the StarChase System is?

J. Lanigan: Sure. The StarChase System is a GPS tracking system. We'll get up behind a stolen vehicle or a vehicle that we know might have just been used in a robbery or a crime spree of some kind, and we can shoot a big, gooey blob. It hits the back of the car or the side of the car or something, and then we can track that car wherever it goes. We can try to then arrest the people inside of that car when they stop. It's a tactic that we can use to assure that we can take them safely into custody, and we don't get into a car chase or anything like that.

CM Sundberg: Thank you. And then sort of a follow-up, related to the juveniles being arrested. There's data collection, I imagine, that's going to take place. For example, the average age of these young people, are they truant with respect to the last school year, where they are registered for school, where they might reside, etc. That's all being collected?

J. Lanigan: We are tracking age. Truancy, there's no way that we will have that information. That's a school issue.

CM Sundberg: Unless we work with the school system?

J. Lanigan: Yes. But that will be a bigger undertaking. We'll have to look into that to see if they are truant or if they're going to school at all. Of course, when they get

to that 17 or 18-year-old age, we just don't know. But we can look into that and try to see if they are truant and where they're at in the school system.

CM Sundberg: Okay.

J. Lanigan: And you had another part of your question, I'm sorry.

CM Sundberg: No. I think that's about it. Perhaps where they reside in the city, and just some similarities, perhaps.

J. Lanigan: We can definitely track whether they're a resident of the city. We can track residents or nonresidents. We'll have their address. We can always go back into the system and see what they list as their home address. But on our database, we can track them, so we quickly know whether they're a resident or a non-resident.

CM Sundberg: Okay. Thank you, sir.

J. Lanigan: You bet.

3. Restore and expand the Aurora Hand Reduction Impact Program to address youth violence

Christina Amparan has recently resigned from her position. Sadiya will oversee the Youth Violence Prevention Program temporarily. She is working with J. Prosser to ensure that the direction given by Council is continuously implemented.

CM Zvonek: A recommendation or guidance, I guess, would just be as we're getting ready to go back into a new school year. I know both the bigger school districts in our city, APS and Cherry Creek are -- this is obviously a major topic for them as well, and I think just making sure that we're doing as much as we can to coordinate efforts with our two major school districts would be beneficial and helpful. If nothing else, then we go into item four.

4. Increase the number of clinicians on Crisis Response Team to increase response to mental health calls

The internal audit results were presented last month. City staff members are working on implementing those and preparing the budget. In September, a more detailed response to the audit and efforts with both the CRT and AMRT will be presented. An RFP has been opened for a clinical service provider last August 1. It will close on August 29th and is expected to be under contract by November to begin the transitions and onboard clinicians.

5. Address public health and safety challenges from encampments along highways, businesses, and neighborhoods

Staff members are continuing to track data related to abatements., which include location and the number of people that receive shelter There were about 29 camp abatements in July, with 10 from CDOT. There will be ongoing meetings with CDOT regarding physical barriers around interchanges. Construction is underway for new pallet shelters at two outdoor spaces. These will be installed in two weeks to provide opportunities for people in encampments to transition into the pallet

shelters. They will also look into bringing on additional staff to help with coordination with entities such as CDOT to get camps posted and abatements done more efficiently. Conversations with APD Chief Carlson are being had to have PAR Officers be on site.

CM Zvonek: Jessica, one question I had is that have we had any holdups as a result of bed capacity in terms of abatements?

J. Prosser: Council Member Zvonek, we have not. We do have, even with the new pallet shelters, additional space at Comitis. We have had some folks that have gone over to Comitis, but we have not had any holdups based on bed capacity at this time.

CM Sundberg: So, Jessica, in the event of abatement with the police, do the police, in each situation, typically, offer the choice of services, whether that is a shelter, a meal, or services beyond that?

J. Prosser: During the days before the abatement and then the day of the abatement, we do have our outreach teams that come out. So those are the folks that are interacting with people experiencing homelessness. Typically, we're offering services for them to come into the Day Resource Center to receive those services. Case management, food, medical workforce, anything like that is done usually at the Day Resource Center. We're offering transportation. During the day of the abatement, we're really more focused on transferring people.

CM Sundberg: Okay. Thank you.

CM Jurinsky: Yes. My question was also about shelter beds. Jessica, I wanted to know, you just said, a few of them have gone to Comitis. Are they going to Comitis as a result of abatement or are these people just showing up randomly off the street that have nothing to do with an abatement?

J. Prosser: No, these are folks from the abatement that are being transported over Comitis or agreeing to go into the shelter and are being transported. So that's specifically from the abatement.

CM Jurinsky: And you said we abated 29 camps in July. How many people took us up on our offer to go to the shelter?

J. Prosser: I don't have that number in front of me, specifically. I want to say it was less than 10, but there's obviously more than 30 people abated, some of the camps have several people in them. But I'm happy to get that number back to you. We can include that ongoing in these updates as well.

CM Jurinsky: Okay. Thank you.

CM Zvonek: Yes. I think that would be helpful, Jessica, just to know, because part of the intent of the camping ban was to try to get some of these folks who are in the encampments on the sides of the roads and getting them into the shelter system so that hopefully they can have access to services that they're otherwise not receiving in the camp. That would be a good data point, I think, going forward.

Outcome:

Information Only.

Follow-up Action:

None.

4.b AFR - Resolution Approving the Mutual Aid Agreement between AFR and South Adams County Fire Protection District

Deputy Chief Rodney Weber presented the Mutual Aid Agreement between Aurora Fire Rescue (AFR) and South Adams County Fire Protection District (SACFD). This is a partnership between jurisdictions that involve a formal request for assistance. This agreement will only be for fire-related emergencies, such as structure fires, but not EMS calls. Both entities will supply either an engine or ladder truck upon request. AFR will respond to E 81st Avenue South, Buckley Road West, E. 96th Avenue North, and DEN Airport East. SACFD will respond to E. 26th Avenue South, N. Dunkirk Street West, Peña Boulevard North, and N. Hayesmount Road East. SACFD contacted AFR to produce a new mutual agreement since the areas in question were once covered by Sable/Altura Fire Department and were recently annexed by SACFD.

CM Zvonek: Okay. Thanks for the presentation. We'll move this forward to Study Session.

Outcome:

This item will move forward to Study Session.

Follow-up Action:

Staff will add the resolution to the agenda for Study Session.

4.c AFR - EMS Protocol - New Sedative Added (Droperidol)

Dr. Eric Hill, medical director of the Aurora Medical Center, presented this item. Aurora Fire Rescue (AFR) EMS providers are trained to render aid to an individual in a life-threatening or potentially life-threatening emergency. Initially, the patients are assessed to determine the medical emergency, if they require medical treatment, and if they have the decision-making capacity. If a patient has proper decision-making capacity, they are free to accept or refuse aid. However, when the patient lacks decision-making capacities which may be due to illness or injury, EMS providers act under implied consent. Then, the EMS providers use verbal de-escalation to lower the levels of agitation. These patients may have severe levels of agitation or combative behavior, which makes it physically unsafe to render aid such as assessment and treatment. Due to this, sedatives are needed to be administered. EMS providers use Midazolam, which is a benzodiazepine medication used for seizures. It provides a calming effect and allows EMS to safely assess and treat. EMS providers are not trained to use overwhelming physical force to restrain a patient. Protocols are being updated to include Droperidol, which is an antipsychotic medication, as a sedative. Droperidol works on dopamine receptors

and has a different mechanism from Midazolam. There is no one ideal medication to sedate patients. If a patient has a head injury and is intoxicated, providing them with Midazolam may cause respiratory depression because both the medication and alcohol affect the GABA receptors. In this case, the risk would be lowered when given Droperidol. Droperidol is a widely used medication across Colorado, and every Denver Metro agency uses this approach. Adding Droperidol to the list of sedatives will allow AFR EMS to be compliant with the standard of care and best medical practices. AFR EMS conducted individual training on assessing decision-making capacity, proper de-escalation, and proper sedation management. This will be monitored the same way that current sedatives are used in the continuous quality improvement (CQI) process. All calls will be reviewed to ensure that the medications are used appropriately by indication, protocol, and documentation. All information will be submitted to the Consent Decree Monitor. The monitor has also been updated with the process. An independent consultant, who is a physician and medical director, was hired to review the protocol. The protocol was found to be medically appropriate and consistent with best medical practices.

CM Zvonek: This was information only, correct?

E. Hill: This is information only. Correct.

CM Jurinsky: I don't have any questions, but I just am having a really hard time talking about our Aurora firefighters injecting anybody with anything, while we have two up for murder right now. In fact, I wish that Falck would go ahead and deal with this because I would like to see all of our firefighters and all of our police officers go home at night, every night. Until we know the outcome of the Elijah McClain trials, I don't know why we're talking about injecting anybody with anything. Just my two cents.

Outcome:

Information Only.

Follow-up Action:

None.

4.d APD - Havana Corridor Retail Theft Initiative

Operations Division Chief Cassidee Carlson presented this item. The Havana BID meeting shed light on retail thefts. Loss Prevention Managers and retailers expressed concern regarding their losses and the rise of retail theft. Based on five-year data, it does not support that retail theft is a major issue. However, this is believed to be unreported. Traditionally, loss prevention managers are not to engage with shoplifters. This is supported by the agency for the safety of the store. Retailers will then wait for shoplifters to pass the point of sale, which helps with the prosecution. Reporting criteria also vary from store to store. Stores tend to call 911, make an online report, or not make a report at all. Once the police arrive on the scene, suspects are usually gone, which explains the low number of apprehensions. If the suspect is contacted, a summons is issued. For felony-level response, APD identifies the prolific shoplifter and the felony event. The detective will then look

at other shoplifting cases to see commonalities and build a bigger case. They will contact other retailers to connect previously reported thefts. Video evidence will also be gathered. This process is labor-intensive and inefficient. To address this, APD developed goals of improvement. These include the early identification of patterns of prolific offenders, improving the quality of cases, allocating limited patrol, streamlining processes for the department to address retail theft, and streamlining reporting process for retailers. Reporting the crime is essential for data analysis. The Intel Unit met with Loss Prevention Managers and is doing research on best practices to reduce retail theft. They are looking at Omaha, Castle Rock, and other agencies. The Department is collecting data from the previous five years. APD also increased membership in the Colorado Organized Retail Crime Association, which is a platform for retailers and law enforcement to share information. PAR unit created a retail theft prevention sheet which was shared with retailers and discusses how to protect their assets. Collaboration is done by the Intel Unit, crime analysts, PAR, and Investigations. APD will meet with retailers on August 12 and will ask to be provided information regarding their top shoplifters. They will come up with a Top 10 Prolific Shoplifter List and will work with the municipal and district courts on the prosecution. Previously, a successful shoplifting initiative was done related to Aurora Mall. Prolific shoplifters were identified and flagged and were issued a mandatory arrest. In one year, there was a 30% drop in shoplifts. APD is working with the City Attorney's Office and the 18th Judicial DA for mandatory arrests and next-day arraignments. A detective was designated to put the cases together and be the point of contact for retailers. Retailers mentioned that the online reporting system may be cumbersome given that they might have to report more than two incidents a day. The software company was contacted to explore ways to improve inefficiency such as having prefilled forms. This will improve data gathering and analysis. APD will also improve analyst notification on online reports to track patterns and suspects. To track outcomes, APD will assess if process improvements are leading to stronger cases, track the outcomes of cases filed with municipal and district courts, and solicit feedback from retailers and loss prevention.

CM Jurinsky: I don't have any questions, but I just wanted to say that I do actually have a retail theft ordinance coming forward very soon, and it is specifically regarding the Havana BID.

C. Carlson: Awesome. Thank you.

CM Sundberg: Just to comment on the data, we saw those vertical bar graphs, and there is a statement that evidence doesn't show an increase. But 2021 was the highest year out of those all. I think there might be a tendency just for retailers to just shrug their shoulders, and put their hands up, and say, "Why bother? If there's no recourse for these crimes, I mean, why report them?" But in what you showed me, I did see an increase in 2021, and perhaps that's carrying through.

C. Carlson: Yes. And I'm sorry if I said there wasn't an increase. Of course, we see that there was. I think what I meant to say is there wasn't -- it's not a major issue, but we do believe that it's happening more often than it's getting reported, and that's what we're trying to work toward, is improving the reporting.

CM Sundberg: Let me interrupt you right there, and just say, if you owned one of those businesses, it was a private business, and you're experiencing those thefts, then it is a major issue to you. Right? As the business owner, it's a major issue.

C. Carlson: Yes, correct. This is exactly why we're working to be better in how we can have better outcomes. Right? So that we're working with those stakeholders and those business owners about -- because we recognize those people are sticking around, even if loss prevention goes up and says, "Hey, we believe that you stole? Can you come back to our loss prevention office with us and wait for police?" Nobody really does that anymore. They just take off running. Our apprehension rate is very low compared to what it used to be when I gave those examples from 10 years ago. What we are hoping that we can do with a better partnership with the stakeholders is they're helping us play that role in the apprehension. So they're giving us -- they've got great video. They've got all the information about what was taken, and essentially giving us that information, and we'll work to identify whom that person is, looking for patterns. And while I'm talking about big retailers, we're also looking at the other smaller retailers in the area. Did they experience that? Could it be the same person? And developing better cases that we can then apply for a warrant because we have all the information now, and apply for a warrant, and hold this person accountable.

CM Sundberg: Thank you.

CM Zvonek: Yes. Chief Carlson, thanks for doing and putting this together. And at that meeting, it was clear. What you said Council Member Sundberg is absolutely correct, there is a level of frustration recognizing that once somebody's out the door, there's very little that they feel can be done. The fact that the data suggests that it's not a major issue is I think what Chief Carlson is saying, that is not reflective of the actual situation, which is that it is a major situation for businesses big and small. And our hope is to get them to be more engaged, and for us to be able to help take down, specifically, some of these prolific retail thieves. And it would be helpful to have -- I know that Council Member Jurinsky is bringing forward something, but the more teeth that we can put around with penalties towards some of these prolific offenders will be helpful. But just raising the awareness with the retailers big and small, that we need them to report. We had the same issue when we were talking about motor vehicle theft and break-ins, a lot of people would talk about it, but they weren't reporting it. And it doesn't help as we're trying to allocate resources if we don't have the data that suggests that this is as big of an issue as it actually is.

D. Oates: I spoke to the District Attorney John Kellner, and he was very aware of the recent media coverage on this issue in the Corridor. He and I had a conversation and wanted to make clear to us, and certainly share the message that if we can develop any quality felony cases, which, as Cassidee has pointed out, can be difficult to do. He's got a retail theft unit and he says he's fully ready to go. The challenge for us is what Cassidee has outlined.

CM Zvonek: Yes.

D. Oates: But the District Attorney is fully on board.

CM Zvonek: That's great.

Outcome:

Information Only.

Follow-up Action:

None.

4.e APD - Back to School Safety Update

Lieutenant Lonnie Eddy presented this item. Aurora Police Department (APD) currently staffs nine major high schools in Aurora with two School Resource Officers (SROs) per school. A directive on active critical incidents was updated to state that officers shall enter a location if they believe that a suspect is actively engaged in shooting other persons or still possesses an immediate threat. Previously, teams of at least two officers would go into schools that have a suspected active shooter. The updated directive requires the first officer on the scene to go in, without the need to wait for backup. For training, the APD focused on single-officer response. They trained in Visa Peak High School. APD works with AFR to extract victims and triage them for immediate care. They implement the ASHER system wherein police will clear certain areas of the school that may have victims. In July, the APD also trained with security teams from Aurora Public Schools and Cherry Creek School District. The department is also looking at improved access to schools. They already have proximity cards. However, these are not enough which is why they are reaching out to schools to get more cards and keys. Cherry Creek School Districts have Knox boxes, proximity cards, interior door keys, and QR codes on the box that would give you the floor plan of the school. Patrol officers, patrol sergeants, and SROs have access to the keys. Currently, they are working to get proximity cards handed to every officer in the department. If hard entry is needed, rams, pry tools, and breaching shotguns are available. The shotgun will defeat the locking mechanisms on doors and is low risk to anyone inside the rooms. These are stored in lockers in the event that they are needed. Training is also provided to school administrators, primarily the principals. They are offered a one-hour tabletop exercise to go over a hypothetical event and discuss what the officers will do, what their team will do, communication, and what to expect. Administrators are joined by a sergeant and two patrol officers. Eleven Aurora Public Schools have expressed interest in this program. For prevention, Safe2Tell is used in both school districts. Officers are alerted of armed students such as those that pose with guns. SROs, intelligence units, and patrol officers are mobilized to identify the person, make contact, investigate, and intervene. These incidents are documented and stored. APD receives information and anonymous reports through Safe2Tell about the possibility of violence, suicide, and homicide. These are monitored by the SRO. APD works with the CRT unit who uses their Targeted Violence Prevention Program. Reassurance messaging was sent to school staff. On July 25, Aurora Public Schools had a meeting with 150 deans and principals. The Chief gave a presentation and Aurora TV helped put together a

video to address the commitment to school security. In-service for Aurora Public school was done for 4,500 staff members and the video went out on August 5th. Cherry Creek School is doing its in-service the following week.

CM Jurinsky: So, in that, thank you for that presentation. In the update to an active shooter situation, that word “shall,” we’ve just seen it present a grey area a lot of times that it can be interpreted may or may not. It’s sad that we’re in a time when we would have to even tell officers, “Hey, if there are children being murdered inside this school, and you are the first officer on the scene, or you find yourself -- go inside and try to save children.” And it’s unimaginable for me to think that maybe we need to make this clearer, but I think we need to make this clear, I don’t like that term “shall.” And if we have any Aurora police officers that would be in that grey area, I’m sure that Uvalde Texas Police Department is hiring. I would just like to get rid of that “shall,” and make it a “will.” An officer will enter the building where children are being murdered.

CM Zvonek: Council Member Jurinsky, I’ll leave this to one of the city attorneys, but I think that the legal term shall is actually the strongest word that you can use because it requires them to do it. But I’m not an attorney, so I’ll have our attorneys answer that.

CM Jurinsky: Shall has been challenged in other things that we have done.

M. Platt: Council Member Zvonek, this is Megan Platt with the City Attorney's Office. That is correct. “Shall” is actually a stronger legal term than “will.”

CM Zvonek: Yes, that's what I thought.

D. Oates: Council Member Zvonek, I have some additional information. I had met with Chris Smith, superintendent of Cherry Creek Public Schools, I think, last week, and when Lieutenant Eddy showed you all that breaching equipment, as he explained, right now we have that available to the SROs, and in the sergeants’ patrol cars. Thanks to a generous donation from Cherry Creek schools, we’re going to purchase enough of those devices to put in every patrol car. Every officer will have that as soon as we can acquire that equipment. And we’re going to be putting a lot more of those breaching shotguns, not just in the sergeants’ patrol cars, but in others as well. Chris Smith has really stepped up with that donation, and we do fully expect that once we explain the tabletop exercises that we will offer to Aurora Public Schools, schools in Cherry Creek administrators are going to take advantage of that as well. So, good news out of Cherry Creek.

CM Zvonek: It's great news.

Outcome:

Information Only.

Follow-up Action:

None.

4.f APD - MESH Camera Expansion Proposal

Lieutenant Chris Poppe presented this item. Aurora Police Department (APD) has MESH cameras around the city to capture activity in major intersections, known crime locations, and other venues. The cameras help navigate traffic crashes, identify suspects or vehicles, monitor active incidents, develop suspect patterns, and track stolen vehicles. They allow officers to observe the location of a call for service remotely which results in pre-planning of response. Some existing technology in the APD includes MESH cameras, license plate readers, gunshot detection (ShotSpotter), and a real-time crime center. Video evidence is a primary source of evidence in a criminal investigation. These come from camera networks, body worn cameras, cellphone videos, business security cameras, RTD buses and stations, and neighborhood/residential systems. The APD requests to expand the MESH network and add on 40 cameras to have a total of 90. These cameras have pan, tilt, and zoom capabilities to help get the most advantageous view. They are also considered force multipliers and allow other officers to check cameras and figure out patterns where suspects are moving around while other officers are on the scene. The cameras allow APD to do immediate research and be able to broadcast information through emails or the CAD system to those working the shift and increase efficiency. Phase 1 of the proposed expansion will increase cameras at major travel corridors and hospitals. There are more shooting victims showing up at hospitals, and the cameras will help the APD figure out who brought them there. For Phase 2, coverage will be enhanced around schools, parks, and other major travel corridors. This year, funding was received through a JAG Grant to expand the network down Havana, 13th and Chambers, and Chambers and Hampton. These locations were pre-identified in 2021 based on the need. Corridors to be included in the expansion were consulted with homicide detectives, crime analysts, narcotics investigators, and patrol officers. Coverage will be increased in corridors with frequent criminal travel and an increased number of commuters/travelers like areas toward Murphy Creek, parks, schools, and hospitals. There are hospitals such as Aurora South Hospital and the University and Children's Hospital that have robust camera systems. However, APD does not have direct access to these. Including these areas in the expanded network will allow immediate access. To expand the MESH camera network by adding 40 new 4K resolution cameras, and training two civilian employees, the cost would total \$218,200.

CM Sundberg: Is there a capability here of a type of maybe rudimentary ShotSpotter detection from these cameras, if need be?

C. Poppe: That's a great question. The ShotSpotter technology is completely separate from our existing camera system. We explored ShotSpotter, and it is a great tool in many cities. When we analyzed the benefit that we were hoping to get out of ShotSpotter, we didn't find the benefit to be as valuable as what we believed we would get from the cameras. Just a brief explanation of the ShotSpotter on our research and what we've learned from our partners over in Denver, they're paying \$70,000 a year to cover one square mile of Denver with the ShotSpotter technology. They are paying for that largely with grants. We found that that was just not the best value for our money at this time. We felt that we would have a better investigative benefit from the camera systems.

CM Sundberg: I see. Thank you for the presentation, Lieutenant.

C. Poppe: You're welcome.

D. Oates: Well, if I could offer a comment, Council Member Zvonek. We can continue to revisit ShotSpotter, and maybe this is something for the new chief in a couple of months to tackle. We're convinced that for the buck, this is the most important investment we can make right now. Now, we fully expect to follow this with a second wave, and some adjustments and additions with regard to license plate readers. That's the other key tool. There are some challenges around our current platform, and it's time for an evolution in technology. We're trying to figure that out before we go forth and expand any of the license plate readers. We've seen ShotSpotter work really effectively in certain parts of the country, maybe where there's a little more density. But I fully expect the new chief will want to tackle that issue again with our internal folks. But for right now, the biggest bang for the buck is cameras, followed by an upgrade in our license plate reader system. Probably, a conversation in a couple of months once we figure out the new technology.

Outcome:

Information Only.

Follow-up Action:

None.

5. Miscellaneous Matters for Consideration

CM Jurinsky highlighted that there have been no applications from New York Police Officers. She added that the Union was not consulted, nor are they in support, about allowing AFR to administer sedatives. CM Jurinsky stressed that she stands firm on not having firefighters inject anyone with anything.

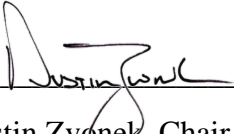
6. Confirm Next Meeting

Next meeting confirmed is September 8, 2022, 8:30 a.m. via WebEx.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

APPROVED:



Dustin Zvonek, Chair