

Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service Committee

November 9, 2023

Members Present

Danielle Jurinsky, Chair Dustin Zvonek, Vice Chair

Others Present

J. Batchelor, P. Schulte, Y. Emeson, M. Brown, T. Buneta, S. Griffin, M. Crawford, J. Schneebeck, M. Platt, R. Weber, M. Cain, M. Wasserburger, M. Hays, M. Chapman, S. Day, J. Heckman, E. Cadiz, A. Garcia, C. Atkinson, D. Carrel, H. Morris, C. Delena, M. Nelson, K. Tisdale, C. Tassin, C. Poppe, J. DeHerrera, J. Prosser, E. Knight

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:00.

2. Approval of Minutes

September 12, 2023 minutes were approved.

3. Consent Items

- 3.a Police Attrition Update
- 3.b Aurora Fire Rescue Attrition Update
- 3.c Aurora911 Staffing Update for November 2023
- 3.d Special Operations Crime Suppression Update
- 3.e Motor Vehicle Theft Recovery Voucher Program Update
- 3.f North Central Colorado Regional Child Abduction Response Team MOU
- 3.g FY23 JAG Grant IGA

All seven items to move forward.

4. General Business

4.a Update to Aurora Code 50-255, Conditions of Probation

S. Day discussed the update to Aurora Code 50-255, probation conditions. He said when they did the review for House Bill 12-22, they reviewed the standard probation conditions in their code and needed to do some clarifications and updates with the language.

4.b IGA with Colorado Judicial Department for Provision of Jury List

C. Atkinson said they were changing the vendor and going to the State to get a jury list once a year.

4.c Public Safety Action Plan Update

Staffing

J. Batchelor stated they wanted to make sure they were fully staffed. He said they would probably have firm numbers at the next meeting, but on track for 30 to 35.

CM Jurinsky asked if they had a second academy bill. It was answered that would be in January.

Crime Data

- J. Batchelor said there was an uptick in murders over the last four weeks, but motor vehicle thefts and robberies were trending down. He added they did not think the murders were random events.
- H. Morris added they were sitting at a 67% clearance rate for homicide for the year, which was well above average nationwide.

CM Jurinsky asked if a person that was murdered in Denver and the body found in Aurora would be counted in Aurora's stats.

H. Morris stated no, that was a Denver homicide.

Youth Violence

J. DeHerrera said the youth served to date was over 1100. He said they would be working with agencies and their dashboards for youth served and demographic information. He discussed Aurora Save and people they had been contacting to accept services and to get a better picture of what their needs were. He also mentioned they would be doing a year end celebration with all their NOFO grantees to enhance that collaboration.

Crisis Response Team

- C. Tassin updated on training and initiatives in the department. She said they had been working closely with Aurora Fire to coordinate joint training and policies for mental health calls. She expressed that they pushed out a series of informational videos to patrol and Aurora Fire on what an M1 was and how to do a good M1. She said they provided a presentation and training to partners in Colorado and had National Park Service reach out to set up a targeted violence prevention program.
- J. Batchelor said they would give an annual update in December or January on outcomes.

CM Zvonek inquired about demand and need for more clinicians and resources and the cost would be. He said it was important to the community and Council to see the program grow to meet the demand that was out there.

J. Batchelor stated C. Tassin had been working to make sure they could directly dispatch them and would include that in the update. He said they were not quite where they wanted to be in terms of directly dispatching them but knew there was demand out there.

C. Tassin stated they had done some preliminary research on total or related mental health calls for service coming into the city and wanted to make it more specific to get the most accurate number. She said preliminary data showed they were able to respond to around 10% of calls on a year basis.

Homeless Camp Cleanup

E. Knight stated they received 142 notifications for homeless services about encampments in October and were able to do 42 abatements, with 11 being CDOT related. She said two people accepted Comitis in October, and they would probably see more numbers as it got colder. She said 19 people were placed in Pallet shelter with two people housed. She noted she had a new staff member to help with abatements so they could respond in a more timely manner.

CM Jurinsky said she loved they were hitting Parker and 225 every Tuesday, but was concerned they would figure out that pattern and move back in Tuesday after they've gone home for the day. She requested switching the times up or going twice a week.

E. Knight said they were able to do it occasionally on Fridays as well, so they could do that when staffing was available. She also reiterated there was a huge camp on Arapahoe County property that they could not touch right now.

CM Jurinsky asked if Arapahoe County Commissioners were not willing to do anything.

E. Knight expressed they did not have a policy on it so they would not be acting on it in a proactive manner. She said they had been in talks with them, but it was not going great for the most part.

CM Jurinsky expressed she was willing to be a part of those conversations.

5. Miscellaneous Matters for Consideration

Chief Weber discussed the de-escalation training. He said they were inviting the committee to see it with the actors. He said the crews loved it and it was going really well. He stated they also started priority dispatch two weeks ago and it was taking away 30% of their calls. He reassured citizens were getting the right size EMS and crews had noticed a big difference.

CM Zvonek asked if there were ways to quantify the cost savings on that.

Chief Weber said it would probably take a year or so, but it would save on tires, fuel, wear, and tear of engines.

- T. Buneta added they were working to expand the number of medical issues with low acuity. She stated she had a report to forward them for review and found the estimated cost savings of over 1 million in the annual report for reduction of service and diversion to nurses. She said the nurse navigation program was now transporting individuals with low acuity issues that needed to be seen in person or afterhours with rideshares instead of an ambulance. She said they would report the metrics on that after a year. She also said they hired eight more people, bringing them to 97% staffing.
- P. Schulte asked for an update on the vendor working with dispatch to get the ability to have live video feeds on 911 calls.

T. Buneta said they had been researching it for two years and found a vendor that had integrated NextGen 911 capability in the call handling system and they were scheduled to replace the call management system in 2024. She said it would allow them to bring all those capabilities and preserve all that evidentiary information easily and distribute it and greatly expand their ability to engage non-English speaking community.

6. Confirm Next Meeting

Next meeting is confirmed January 2024. No December meeting.

7. Adjournment @ 01:25 pm.

APPROVED: 🔬

Danielle Jurinsky, Chair