



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Meeting Minutes Public Safety Standing Committee

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor – City Hall

Committee Members

The Honorable Reva Trammell – Chair
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert – Vice Chair
The Honorable Kristen Nye – Member

Others in Attendance

LaTanja Davenport, Council Budget Analyst
Greg Lukanuski, Deputy City Attorney
Pamela Nichols, Council Management Analyst
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Rebecca Sullivan, Assistant City Clerk
Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Reva Trammell called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Assistant City Clerk Rebecca Sullivan provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comment speakers.

Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of Tuesday, January 24, 2023, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

[CD.2023.051](#) January 24, 2023 Public Safety Meeting Minutes

Presentation(s)**Marcus Alerts in the City of Richmond**

John Lindstrom, Richmond Behavioral Health Authority CEO, Ph.D., presented Council with information regarding the implementation of the Marcus Alert program and gave an update on the program's current goals.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

[CD.2023.067](#) February 28, 2023 - Richmond Behavioral Health Authority

Vice Chair Ann-Frances Lambert requested that Marcus Alert information useful to the public be sent to Council member offices to be distributed to constituents.

Dr. Lindstrom addressed the importance of sharing educational information to the public, as well as, developing ways to reduce fears associated with using the service.

Stephen Willoughby, Director of Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response, stated that there were health profile cards that could be shared with Council offices to be distributed to the public.

Paper(s) for Consideration

There were no papers for consideration.

Discussion Item(s)**Speeding Program**

Rick Edwards, Interim Chief of Police, updated Council on traffic fatalities and incidents caused by speeding in the year of 2022. Chief Edwards also shared information about the new speeding reduction plan working to address specific locations prone to traffic accidents, and emphasized that it would require the entire network of law enforcement in the area to implement.

Vice Chair Ann-France Lambert requested the traffic incident reports be distributed to Council member offices.

Chair Reva Trammell inquired about the possibility of evaluating different locations within her district, such as Walmsley Boulevard.

Chief Edwards shared that the program would reevaluate and adapt to meet the city's needs.

Member Kristen Nye inquired about the costs necessary to hire or train more officers in order to address the speeding issues.

Chief Edwards suggested the need to hire more officers that could specifically focus on speed enforcement.

Graffiti Mitigation

Bobby Vincent, Director of the Department of Public Works, shared information regarding graffiti clean up in the city, and that the department had responded to 50% more requests than it had in the previous year.

Vice Chair Ann-Frances Lambert requested information on how to combat graffiti in her district.

Director Vincent shared techniques and resources available to facilitate mitigation of graffiti in Vice Chair Lambert's district.

Chair Reva Trammell asked for information on what steps could be taken to remove graffiti at the Lee Circle.

Director Vincent shared that the graffiti was currently a part of ongoing litigation involving the Commonwealth of Virginia, and could not currently be removed. Director Vincent also stated that he would find more information on what could be done to address the issue.

Chair Trammell requested to have further discussion on the state of the Lee Circle and its impact on the city. Chair Trammell also requested information regarding arrests involving graffiti crimes.

Rick Edwards, Interim Chief of Police, stated that he would share the specific arrest reports with the committee members.

Director Vincent shared information on how the department was working with local business agencies and artists to implement preventative measures against graffiti.

Board Vacancies

There were no board vacancies.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst, provided the committee with the February staff report.

[CD.2023.075](#) February 28, 2023 Public Safety Standing Committee Staff Report

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.