

**PUBLIC SAFETY  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 30, 2019  
2:00 PM  
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Ana Sandoval, Chair, *District 7*  
Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, *District 3*  
Councilmember Melissa Cabello Havrda, *District 6*  
Councilmember John Courage, *District 9*  
Councilmember Clayton Perry, *District 10*

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**Members Absent:** Councilmember Jada Andrews-Sullivan, *District 2*

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**Staff Present:** Maria Villagómez, *Deputy City Manager*; Andy Segovia, *City Attorney*; Liz Provencio, *First Assistant City Attorney*; Jim Kopp, *Assistant City Attorney*; William McManus, *Chief of Police, SAPD*; Robert Blanton, *Deputy Chief, SAPD*; Karen Falks, *Captain, SAPD*; Hector Salas, *Captain, SAPD*; Jesse Salame, *Lieutenant, SAPD*; Art Reinhardt, *Assistant Director, Transportation and Capital Improvements*; Denice F. Treviño, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Others Present:** Councilmember Shirley Gonzales; John Butchkosky, *Community Liaison, Texas Alliance for Human Needs*; Joe Galli, *News 4 San Antonio*

**Call to order**

Chairwoman Sandoval called the meeting to order.

**1. Approval of the May 22, 2019 Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

Councilmember Viagran moved to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2019 Public Safety Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

**Citizens to be Heard**

There were no citizens registered to speak.

**Items for Consideration:**

**2. Review of Topics Presented to the Public Safety Committee Since August 2017 and Committee Discussion on Potential Future Topics**

Maria Villagómez provided a report on the Public Safety Committee agenda items presented from August 2017 through June 2019. She noted that during that period 20 meetings were held with 43 agenda items. She reviewed the various agenda items presented.

Chairwoman Sandoval requested recommendations for future agenda items.

Councilmember Viagran requested an update on the School Bus Camera Program.

Councilmember Perry requested an update on arrestee processing with the Bexar County Sheriff's Office.

Councilmember Viagran requested agenda items presented in 2015 and 2016.

Chairwoman Sandoval requested a report on gun safety initiatives, and updates on domestic violence and the Cite and Release Program. Maria Villagómez stated that the first quarter report for the Cite and Release Program would be presented to the Committee in October 2019. Councilmember Perry asked what would be included in the report. Ms. Villagómez noted that the report would include performance data and demographics.

**3. Briefing and Possible Action on the Update of the April 2018 Independent Review of the SAPD Special Victims Unit.** [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus stated that the Special Victims Unit (SVU) Independent Review was conducted and the recommendations included:

- Standard Operating Procedures
- Span of control
- Caseload
- Technology

He noted that in 2017, a Detective was involved in a domestic violence incident and was removed from the SVU. He stated that as his cases were reassigned, it was noted that there were a number of cases that had not received attention and/or were improperly classified. He stated that as a result, a SAPD Interview of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and an independent review of the SVU was conducted. He noted that 10,000 felony cases and 1,500 misdemeanor cases from 2014-2017 were reviewed and no discernible pattern or practice of Detectives mishandling cases were noted, except for the actions of one Detective. He stated that the following actions were taken:

- One Detective fired
- Re-assignment of Supervisors
- Internal improvements made
- Resources added

Lieutenant Jesse Salame stated that the Internal Review Committee for the Internal Review of SOPs was comprised of sworn SAPD subject matter experts. He noted that the following SOP enhancements were made:

- Enhance supervisory review of cases
- Establish case audit schedule
- Establish victim communication guidelines

Lieutenant Salame noted that SAPD solicited input from advocacy groups, local universities, and neighborhood organizations.

Chief McManus stated that in January 2018, the Public Safety Committee was briefed on the Independent Review and update of the SOPs to:

- Establish more defined supervisory process
- Improve case management/customer service
- Achieve department objectives

Lieutenant Salame stated that the FY 2018 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment included funding for two additional SVU Sergeants to reduce the span of control which was the ratio of subordinates to supervisor. He noted that additional command oversight within the Major Crimes Division was added in FY 2019 to improve operational efficiency,

Captain Hector Salas stated that in June 2018, Detectives were assigned to the Crisis Response Team (CRT) to gain efficiency.

Lieutenant Salame reviewed the following performance metrics:

	2017	2018*	2019* (Jan.-Aug)
Total cases	11,156	9,964	5,950
Number of Detectives	45	46	46
Supervisor ratio	1:11	1:8	1:8

\*Beginning June 2018, misdemeanor family violence cases assigned to CRT at substations

Captain Karen Falks stated that the independent review of SVU resulted in the recommendation of a technology component which supported the investigative unit. She noted that in July 2019, SAPD went live with an upgrade to the Record Management System (RMS). She stated that procurement for a new RMS was underway and was anticipated for Council action in October 2019.

Captain Hector Salas stated that the FY 2020 Proposed Budget included positions for six new Sergeants and 10 new SAFFE Officers.

Chairwoman Sandoval invited Councilmember Gonzales to speak. Councilmember Gonzales asked if the SVU would handle cases of domestic violence and child abuse. Lieutenant Salame replied that it would. Councilmember Gonzales expressed concern regarding the time taken to implement new systems. Maria Villagómez stated that implementation of the RMS would occur in approximately 12 months and \$5 million was available in the Budget to replace systems citywide.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda asked when the mandatory issuance of an Emergency Order of Protection to victims of domestic violence began. Lieutenant Salame replied that it began on August 1, 2019 and the Emergency Order of Protection was effective for six months.

Councilmember Viagran requested an organizational chart of all units including information on responses.

Chairwoman Sandoval asked of the engagement of customer service. Chief McManus stated that customer service was enhanced by the call back response. Chairwoman Sandoval asked if the RMS would enhance reporting. Captain Falks replied that it would.

**4. Briefing and Possible Action on the SAPD Traffic Safety Programs.** [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

William McManus stated that the Traffic Section of SAPD was responsible for maintaining public safety through the enforcement of Traffic Laws and providing traffic control. He noted that the Traffic Section included:

- Traffic Enforcement Officers
- Motorcycle Detail
- Highway Interdiction Detail
- Helicopter Detail
- DWI Unit
- Emergency Operations Center
- School Crossing Guard Program

He reviewed the following enforcement data:

Citations	2018		2019 (YTD)	
	Citation	Warning	Citation	Warning
Speeding	75,148	9,415	39,897	10,557
Texting	10,892	2,670	3,107	3,079
Seatbelt	5,837	1,610	1,346	1,077
Intersection Violations	4,694	-	2,147	-
Child Restraint	1,719	364	705	110
DWI	4,650		2,706	

Chief McManus stated that the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant funds enforcement and DWI education and focused on outreach to schools and community events. He noted that since 2008, SAPD has been awarded over \$9.7 million in grant funds. He stated that Crossing Guards were available to all elementary and charter schools and there were 256 Crossing Guards citywide. He stated that surveys were performed to determine Crossing Guard assignments and SAPD maintained communication with schools. He noted that the department promoted Public Awareness Campaigns and shared traffic safety messages. He stated that the Public Resource Education Package (PREP) Program was a collaboration between SAPD and TxDOT to promote traffic safety and education at high schools, colleges, military installations, and at special events.

Art Reinhardt stated that in 2018, SAPD strengthened its partnership with Transportation and Capital Improvements (TCI) to provide high visibility enforcement and education outreach through:

- Education
- Encouragement
- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Evaluation

Chief McManus noted that SAPD Officers work closely with the community to investigate and address reported traffic concerns through:

- Crash data analysis
- Coordination with TCI
- Directed patrols
- Motorcycle Unit in school zones
- Deployment of mobile radar units
- Radar guns

Councilmember Perry stated that \$300 million had been set aside by TxDOT to reduce fatalities on Texas roads this year. He requested that a list of projects, which could be submitted to TxDOT during the application process, be presented to the Committee.

Councilmember Viagran requested a breakdown of Crossing Guards by location and any reductions of same observed.

Chairwoman Sandoval requested data on the number of citations and warnings issued since the inception of Vision Zero.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda asked if speeds limits could be reduced in neighborhoods. Mr. Reinhardt replied that State Law limits reduction of speed limits to no lower than 30 mph. He stated that the State makes an allowance for a reduction to 25 mph. for two-lane roads and the number of citations issued on the roads must be documented.

Councilmember Viagran requested an update on human and sex trafficking at a future meeting.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

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*Ana Sandoval, Chair*

*Respectfully Submitted*

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*Denice F. Trevino, Office of the City Clerk*