

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2020
2:00 PM
VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Members Present:	Councilmember Melissa Cabello Havrda, <i>Chair, District 6</i> Councilmember Jada Andrews-Sullivan, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Ana Sandoval, <i>District 7</i> Councilmember Clayton Perry, <i>District 10</i>
Members Absent:	None
Staff Present:	Andy Segovia, <i>City Attorney</i> ; María Villagómez, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Liz Provencio, <i>First Assistant City Attorney</i> ; William P. McManus, <i>Chief of Police</i> ; Charles N. Hood, <i>Fire Chief</i> ; Jim Kopp, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Norbert Dziuk, <i>Finance Department</i> ; Anna Salinas, <i>Officer Anna Salinas, SAPD</i> ; John Price, <i>Psychologist, SAPD</i>

Call to order

Chairwoman Cabello Havrda called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of minutes from the Public Safety Committee meeting on September 11, 2020

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan moved to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2020 Public Safety Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

There were no citizens registered to speak.

Written Testimony

There was no written testimony received.

Items for Consideration

2. Briefing on the San Antonio Police Department training curriculum for cadets and police officers [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus welcomed the Committee to the Police Academy and stated that following the meeting, Committee Members could participate in an exercise and the firing of firearms at the gun range.

Chief McManus reported that in 2016, the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) was recognized by the 21st Century Policing Task Force and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) for being at the national forefront in the following areas:

- Community policing
- Officer training
- Officer wellness

Chief McManus stated that SAPD remained committed to continually reviewing and updating training to ensure Officer and community safety. He noted that the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) was the regulatory body for Texas Peace Officers and required 696 training hours for Police Cadets. He indicated that Law Enforcement Agencies must maintain an 80% pass rate on the first licensing exam attempt and there was no minimum requirement for the Field Officer Training Program.

Chief McManus reported that SAPD Police Cadets received 1,337 hours (37-week curriculum) training hours which exceeded the TCOLE requirement. He stated that during the training, presentations were made by community organizations and advocacy groups such as the NAACP, the Rape Crisis Center, and the LGBTQ+. He noted that once Police Cadets completed their training they would take the TCOLE exam, and if passed, enter the 14-week Field Training Officer Program. He added that the average pass rate for the TCOLE exam was 94.7.

Chief McManus presented the following major Texas cities training comparison:

City	Training Hours
Dallas	1,431
San Antonio	1,337
Corpus Christi	1,300
Ft. Worth	1,280
Houston	1,028
El Paso	1,011
Austin	856

Chief McManus provided a comparison of SAPD and TCOLE training hours by focus areas:

Focus Areas	Training Hours (SAPD)	Training Hours (TCOLE)
Laws and investigation	391	293
Skills	242	166
Policy and Administration	186	37
Public Interaction	174	140
Force Options	134	28
Officer Wellness	106	32
Field Rides	104	0
TOTAL	1,337	696

Chief McManus provided details of the training in the focus areas and reported that TCOLE required 40 continuing education training hours every two years. He indicated SAPD Officers received 40 training hours annually with a separate curriculum for Officers and Supervisors. He noted that new curriculum was developed each year by Police Academy staff in conjunction with important issues which were prevalent at that time. He stated that SAPD required double the amount of in-service training than that of most Texas cities and over double the amount than the State in 2019.

Chief McManus stated that SAPD provided the following training after promotion:

- Uniformed Evidence Detective Investigator (UEDI) – 120 hours of technical training related to investigative procedures
- Sergeant – 40 hours of training related to supervisory function
- Lieutenant – 40 hours of training related to management and leadership
- IACP Leadership in Police Organizations (optional) – 120 hours over a three month period

Chief McManus reported that in October 2020, SAPD introduced monthly video training to supplement the in-service curriculum to reinforce objectives and areas of focus:

October	November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-escalation • Arrogance of authority • Escalated mental health crisis calls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural justice • Duty to intervene 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactions with the LGBTQ+ community • Dealing with sexual assault victims

Chief McManus provided details regarding training for de-escalation, crisis intervention, cultural diversity, and family violence. He stated that SAPD was recognized as a national model for Officer wellness and support training in 2016 by the DOJ. He noted that Psychologists worked with instructors to reinforce stress management in training and Performance Recovery Optimization. He added that the Officer Concern Program included a non-punitive plan of action to address areas of concern for Officers identified by supervisors, the Police Chief, and computer generated pop-ups.

Councilmember Perry asked how many weeks in a year were Police Officers on duty. Chief McManus stated that Police Officers were on duty for approximately 42 weeks per year. Councilmember Perry stated that he would like to discuss the impact of additional training on the amount of time Police Officer’s would be on duty.

Councilmember Sandoval asked if the training would be integrated in the City Manager’s review of police services or would it be discussed further. Deputy City Manager Maria Villagómez stated that the City Manager’s plan for review of police services would be brought before the Committee and training would be included in the plan.

Councilmember Viagran requested detail on the categories of training and asked if the Officer Concern Program and psychological services were optional. Chief McManus stated that placement into the Officer Concern Program was not optional. John Price noted that SAPD had free in-house psychologists who were available to Officers and their families on a voluntary basis.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan requested a comparison of the training curriculum for the City of Dallas and the City of San Antonio. She asked what the theory for force options was. Officer Anna Salinas stated that the theory of force options were the ramifications of the use of excessive force and not using sufficient force.

Councilmember Sandoval asked how much context Police Cadets received on the San Antonio community and the history of San Antonio. Officer Salinas reported that Police Cadets did not go out into the community as part of cultural diversity training. She noted that they did go out into the community through ride alongs and fair impartial policing training discussed how to navigate issues with the police.

Grant Applications and Awards

- 3. Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant award not to exceed \$650,000 for the FY 2020 Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP).** [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus reported that the Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking Grant would allow SAPD to expand Human Trafficking Task Force operations and would fund overtime, victim services, and a public awareness campaign. He stated that the grant period was from October 2020 to September 2023, and was \$650,000 with an in-kind match of \$242,305.

Chief McManus indicated that SAPD was a member of the Alamo Area Coalition Against Trafficking which included over 70 law enforcement agencies and advocacy organizations. He noted that core partners included SAPD, the U.S. Attorney, and Baptist Children & Family Services. He reported that services included coordinated investigations, community education and training, and victim services. He stated that the SAPD Human Trafficking Detail was a team of four comprised of one Lieutenant, and three detectives. He stated that Human Trafficking was a priority for SAPD and every Officer. He added that public awareness and community outreach was critical to identifying and addressing human trafficking. He presented the following data on human trafficking investigations:

	2019	2020 YTD
Investigations	97	80
Cases filed	29	15
Arrests	22	19
Indictments	16	9

Chief McManus stated that Baptist Children & Family Services provided for immediate needs for victims such as food/shelter, clothing and medical attention. He indicated that they also provided for long-term needs such as emergency rental payments, counseling services, and education. He noted that SAPD educated the public on how to recognize and report human trafficking through Human Trafficking Awareness Month, during major holidays, and high profile events.

4. Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant application to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the Click It or Ticket (CIOT) Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) in the amount of \$35,000. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus reported that the Click It or Ticket Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant would provide funding for enforcement of traffic safety related regulations, and public education and information campaigns. He stated that the grant period was from November to December 2020 and was for \$35,000 with an in-kind match of \$8,750. He added that the grant funded overtime to promote vehicle restraint and child restraint use.

Chief McManus stated that SAPD promoted the importance of wearing seat belts and practicing safe driving habits through schools and churches, businesses, and neighborhood and community events.

5. Briefing and Possible Action on a San Antonio Police Department grant application to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Impaired Driving Mobilization Program in the amount of \$65,000. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus reported that the Impaired Driving Mobilization DWI Enforcement Grant provided funding to reduce alcohol-related traffic crashes and subsequent fatalities and injuries and public education and information campaigns. He noted that the grant period was from December 2020 to September 2021, and the grant was funded for \$65,000 and included an in-kind match of \$81,250. He indicated that the grant funded overtime to resources dedicated to augment SAPD's efforts to reduce the incidence of DWI. He added that so far this year there had been 2,292 DWI arrests, 416 felony arrests, 11,796 traffic citations, and 79 aggressive driving citations.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of the use of the in-kind match. Chief McManus stated that the in-kind matches were for equipment, car usage, etc.

Councilmember Viagran stated that she would like to see further collaboration with local individuals and those who were victims of human trafficking.

Councilmember Viagran moved to approve and forward Items 3, 4, and 5 to the City Council for consideration on October 29, 2020. Councilmember Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Purchases of Equipment

6. Briefing on the purchase of an All Terrain Medical/Fire Response Vehicle (MedCat) for the San Antonio Fire Department. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; Charles N. Hood, Fire Chief]

Fire Chief Charles Hood presented a video depicting “fire as a weapon” incidents, active shooter incidents, and complex tactical events. He stated that the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) and SAPD needed to evaluate options to remove or protect civilians when being fired upon. He indicated that the needs of SAFD included:

- Tactical personal protective equipment for firefighters
- Training for responders to complex tactical incidents
- The ability to extinguish fire and treat patients in the immediate area of the incident while protected

Chief Hood reported that SAFD partnered with SAPD for enhanced response to complex tactical incidents, to include unified action plans. He stated that Rescue Task Force training continues and SAFD had purchased over \$725,000 worth of ballistic gear for responders. He indicated that the all-terrain medical/fire response vehicle offered protection for responding personnel and had medical and firefighting capabilities. He reported that the cost for the vehicle was \$346,972 through a General Services Administrative (GSA) Cooperative Agreement and it was funded in the FY 2020 Budget.

Councilmember Perry asked how many incidents occurred where this vehicle could be utilized. Chief Hood stated that there were three such incidents last year.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of the effect of armor piercing bullets on the vehicle. Chief Hood stated that SAFD was confident that the vehicle would be able to withstand large projectiles and keep personnel safe.

7. Briefing and possible action on the purchase of a replacement ballistic-resistant response and rescue vehicle for the San Antonio Police Department. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus stated that the current tactical response and rescue vehicle was 22 years old and was used for critical incidents such as: 1) Active shooter; 2) Natural/manmade disasters; 3) High risk search and arrest warrant services; and 4) Special events. He reported that the vehicle was utilized by the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team which was the only full-time Tier 1 Team in the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) region 18. He indicated that in order to maintain Tier 1 status, the SWAT Team was required to maintain two operational ballistic resistant tactical response and rescue vehicles. He stated that the purchase cost was \$225,000 and was funded in the FY 2020 Budget.

Councilmember Viagran asked if the vehicle would be utilized for a march, a gathering, or an assembly. Chief McManus replied that it would not.

Councilmember Sandoval asked how often this vehicle was used. Chief McManus reported that the vehicle was used every time SWAT was called. Councilmember Sandoval asked why it was important to maintain a Tier 1 Team. Chief McManus stated that it enabled SAPD to receive grant funding.

Councilmember Perry asked if this item would be released for a competitive bid. Deputy City Manager Maria Villagómez replied that the vehicle would be purchased through a GSA Grant, which was a State grant which allowed police and fire departments to purchase equipment. She added that the State had engaged in the procurement process.

Councilmember Viagran asked if purchases of militarized equipment would be brought before the Committee. Ms. Villagómez stated that they would.

Councilmember Perry moved to approve and forward Item 7 to the City Council for consideration. Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of items for future meetings

There were no items considered for future meetings.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:46 pm.

Melissa Cabello Havrda, Chair

Respectfully Submitted

Denice F. Trevino, Office of the City Clerk