

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 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:	María Villagómez, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; William P. McManus, <i>Chief of Police</i> ; Charles N. Hood, <i>Fire Chief</i> ; Jim Kopp, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Captain Michael Brown, <i>SAPD</i> ; Lieutenant Angel Castello, <i>SAPD</i> ; Detective Kristi Gentry, <i>SAPD</i> ; Randy Reyes, <i>Fire Engineer, SAFD</i>

Call to order

Chairwoman Cabello Havrda called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of minutes from the Public Safety Committee meeting on October 20, 2020

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan moved to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2020 Public Safety Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Sandoval seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Written Testimony

Public Comments have been submitted through the eComment system and are attached to the Minutes.

Live Testimony

None.

Items for Consideration

2. Briefing and possible action on the San Antonio Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services Program Overview. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; Charles N. Hood, Fire Chief]

Fire Chief Charles Hood provided a department overview and reported that the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) had 1,766 uniformed employees and 123 civilian employees. He noted that

- Texas Targeted Opioid Response (TTOR)
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Program for Intensive Care Coordination (PICC)
- Threat Assessment Group (TAG)
- High Volume Users (HVU)
- Blue Team

Chief Hood reviewed the EMS medical innovations and noted that SAFD received recognition from the Congressional Fire Service for the Whole Blood Program. He played a video demonstrating the capabilities of the Good Sam Application and the Clinical Dispatcher Program.

Chairwoman Cabello Havrda asked for an explanation of how ambulances were assigned to stations or zones. Chief Hood stated that zones were not utilized for the assignment of ambulances and noted that when an ambulance leaves the station it may not return for 24 hours. He indicated that since there were paramedics on every fire truck, adding ambulances was not necessary.

Councilmember Perry requested the response time for EMS vehicles compared with the average response time for the entire Fire Department. Chief Hood stated that he would provide that information.

Councilmember Sandoval asked of the background of clinical dispatchers. Chief Hood reported that all dispatchers were Paramedics and clinical dispatchers received training above that of Paramedics. He noted that only one clinical dispatcher at a time could be utilized per shift. Councilmember Sandoval stated that she would like to see the correlation between calls for emergency services and insurance coverage. She asked of efforts to ensure that females were supported in the Fire Department. Deputy City Manager Maria Villagómez stated that the City Manager's Office and the Fire Chief were committed to providing opportunities for females. Councilmember Sandoval requested a future update on those efforts.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked how vulnerable residents and those that live within the digital divide were educated. Chief Hood stated that residents without access to technology would be responded to with a fire truck and an ambulance if they called 9-1-1.

3. Briefing and possible action on civilian appointments to the San Antonio Police Department Complaint & Administrative Review Board (CARB). [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Police Chief William P. McManus reviewed the complaint process and noted that only formal complaints were brought before the Complaint & Administrative Review Board (CARB) and could be generated by a citizen or by police administration. He indicated that the case would then be investigated by Internal Affairs and forwarded to the CARB. He stated that if the CARB issued a ruling of sustained, the case would be forwarded to the Chief of Police with a recommended course of action to be taken and the Police Chief would send a contemplated notice of corrective action to the responding Officer. He noted that the Officer would be required to make an appointment with the Police Chief within seven days of the contemplated notice. He added that

based on the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), the discipline had to take place within 180 days of the incident unless the Officer was indicted.

Chief McManus reported that the CARB was comprised of seven uniform Officers and seven civilians and civilian members were required to complete 24 hours of training with Internal Affairs and a ride-along. He explained that 95% of the Police Chief's disciplinary action was within the CARBs recommended range. He reviewed the number of cases heard annually from 2015 to 2019.

Chief McManus stated that those applying for the CARB must: 1) Complete and submit an application to the Office of the City Clerk; 2) Be a resident of the City of San Antonio for two years; and 3) Cannot have been formally charged for any offense above a Class C Misdemeanor. He noted that the applicants would be interviewed by the Chief of Police, the City Attorney, and the Deputy City Manager. He indicated that following appointment by City Council, the member would complete Internal Affairs CARB training.

Chief McManus reported that interviews were conducted on September 21, 2020 and September 23, 2020 to fill five civilian vacancies (1 vacant position and 4 term limited). He stated that 19 interviews were conducted and the recommended appointments would be brought before City Council on December 3, 2020.

Chief McManus presented the recommended appointments and noted that the current CARB was comprised of 4 whites, 4 Hispanics, 5 African Americans, and 1 Asian/Pacific Islander. He added that there were 6 men and 8 women on the CARB.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked if training, other than the CARB training, was offered to civilian members. Chief McManus replied that CARB training was all the civilian members received. He noted that the members could take any training offered by SAPD.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the communication between CARB Members and the San Antonio Police Officer's Association (SAPOA). Chief McManus stated that everything connected with the CARB review was confidential and conversation between members would occur at the CARB meeting. Councilmember Viagran asked if CARB Members completed equity or unconscious bias training. Chief McManus stated that they did not. Councilmember Viagran suggested that CARB Members complete equity and unconscious bias training and asked for the types of cases heard annually in FY 2015 through FY 2018.

Councilmember Perry asked if applicants could be interviewed through a Council Committee. Ms. Villagómez stated that she would provide the Committee with a formal response to the question and noted that a new process would have to be negotiated in the CBA. Councilmember Perry requested the Council District for the current members. Chief McManus stated that he would provide that information.

- 4. Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant award in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 for the FY 2020 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau Justice Assistance (BJA).** [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus stated that the purpose of the FY 2020 Justice & Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant was to enhance SAPD efforts to mitigate threats of targeted violence while expanding the use of Mental Health Courts and establishing a local multidisciplinary threat assessment/management team. He noted that the grant would serve to:

- Prevent violent crime
- Reduce recidivism
- Assist individuals with mental illness
- Implement the Tri-Weekly Threat Assessment Group (TTAG)

Chief McManus reported that in October 2019, in coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Behavioral Analysis Unit, the Southwest Texas Fusion Center (SWTFC) created the TTAG. He indicated that the TTAG would assess, mitigate, and manage targeted violence threats. He noted that most cases involved individuals with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring disorders and all mental/behavioral health cases were managed by Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) staff. He added that TTAG had assessed, mitigated, and managed 257 threats since its inception within the 42-county area of responsibility of the SWTFC.

Chief McManus stated that TTAG participants included SAPD, SWTFC, SAFD, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), and Bexar County. He reported that the grant period was from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023 and included \$750,000 in grant funds and an in-kind match of \$499,104. He added that acceptance of the grant award was scheduled for City Council consideration on December 3, 2020.

5. Briefing and Possible Action on a San Antonio Police Department grant application in an amount not to exceed \$900,000 for the Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant from the Texas Department of Transportation. [Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager; William P. McManus, Chief of Police]

Chief McManus stated that the purpose of the Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant was to enhance SAPD's efforts to combat DWI, speeding, distracted driving, intersection-related violations, and traffic infractions and promote occupant protection. He noted that the grant would provide:

- Enforcement activity
- Community education & outreach

Chief McManus indicated that SAPD had been awarded the STEP Grant annually since FY 2002. He provided the following program results for FY 2020:

Violations	Citations	Warnings
Speeding	3,754	10,445
Texting	751	3,024
Seatbelt	164	416
Intersection	499	3,981
Child Restraint	55	27
Arrests		
DWI/DUI		24

He reported that the grant period was from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022 and included \$900,000 in grant funds, a cash match of \$265,000, and an in-kind match of \$77,500. He added that acceptance of the grant award was scheduled for City Council consideration on December 10, 2020.

Chairwoman Cabello Havrda requested more information on efforts to combat speeding. Chief McManus stated that extra enforcement was deployed and Officers were running radar, paying particular attention while working different traffic violations which were endangering the public. Chairwoman Cabello Havrda asked if enforcement was focused in neighborhoods. Chief McManus replied that it was focused in neighborhoods and on the highways.

Councilmember Sandoval asked how it was decided who would work overtime. Chief McManus stated that Officers who signed up to work the overtime detail were selected for work on the STEP Grant and members of MHI served on the FY 2020 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant. Councilmember Sandoval asked of performance metrics for the FY 2020 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant and information on how individuals would be diverted. Chief McManus stated that he would provide that information.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of the funding source for the in-kind match. Ms. Villagómez reported that the in-kind match was funded from the General Fund. Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked if the funds were allocated in the Budget. Ms. Villagómez replied that they were as part of the FY 2021 Budget.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan moved to recommend and forward items 4 and 5 to the City Council for consideration. Councilmember Perry 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 3:50 pm.



Melissa Cabello Havrda, Chair

Respectfully Submitted

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