

January 23, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor Irma L. Anderson
Members of the City Council

From: Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee

SUBJECT: SUMMARY
Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee
Thursday, January 19, 2006, 9:00am

Present: Chair Marquez and Members McLaughlin and Rogers (arrived @ 9:17 a.m.)

Absent: Councilmember Bates

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY
STANDING COMMITTEE**

Discuss a policy to address homelessness in the City of Richmond

- Chair Marquez read a letter from Duane Chapman, Homeless Advocate, which indicated that the City of Richmond needs to develop its own policies and procedures with regards to the homelessness in our City. A survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors found that request for shelter has increased an average of 13 percent over the last year. The request for shelters from families with children has increased over the last five years.

OUTCOME:

On motion of Councilmember McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, suggested that before a policy decision is made, that a letter be sent to the County asking for data regarding homeless shelters and other social service programs offered throughout the City of Richmond, and who and how many benefit from the services provided. Councilmember McLaughlin will work with staff to draft letter to the County requesting the information. An update will be provided at the next committee meeting.

Discuss Red Light Camera Enforcement Operation

- Information was obtained from seven cities regarding the outcome of installing red light cameras at various intersections in their cities.
- Councilmember McLaughlin stated that there was not sufficient information provided to be able to assess if the cameras have had an impact on the reduction of accidents and have increased revenues.

OUTCOME:

On motion of Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin to direct staff to provide a report to the full City Council in 30 days to include a list of vendors, cost analysis, expected revenue, and projected reduction of accidents if the cameras were installed. No recommendation was made by the committee.

Update regarding installation of a stop light at Hilltop Drive and Park Central

- Steven Tam, Engineering Division, stated that a traffic engineering consulting firm is in the process of collecting the traffic study data and this matter can return to the Public Safety Committee at the next meeting with more information.

Report on the outcome of the Richmond Black on Black Crime Summit

(Councilmember Bates was not at this meeting and requested that this matter be postponed to the next Public Safety Committee meeting). There were speakers that were allowed to comment.

- Rev. Andre Shumake, President of the Richmond Improvement Association, stated that he would like the discussion postponed because there is additional data that needs to be incorporated in the report. Many ideas and recommendations have come from the Summit regarding trying to stop the violence in the City of Richmond. The vision to deal with the violence is to see it with a Community and Economic Development approach. There needs to be a comprehensive strategy put together.

OUTCOME:

This matter will be agendized at the next Public Safety Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.