



PUBLIC INTOXICATION TASK FORCE MEETING – SYNOPSIS

MEETING DATE: 2/26/09

MEMBERS: PETE CARILLO, DOLORES CARR, RAUL COLUNGA, KATHY CORDOVA, EDWARD FLORES, MARY GREENWOOD, RAJ JAYADEV, ROSE LEE, Karen Fletcher on behalf of SHEILA E. MITCHELL, JEFF MOORE II, ALFREDO MORALES, Suzan Stauffer on behalf of SHIVAUN NURRE, SKYLER PORRAS, ROD SCHISLER, OTIS WATSON, JORGE WONG, WALTER WILSON

ABSENT:, VICTOR RODRIGUEZ

CHAIR: DEBRA FIGONE, CITY MANAGER

STAFF: Assistant Police Chief Dan Katz on behalf of ROB DAVIS, CHIEF OF POLICE, NORBERTO DUENAS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER, GEORGE RIOS, ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

FACILITATOR: SHAWN SPANO

Welcome/Introductions

- Debra Figone called meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
- Task Force members and staff introduce themselves (name and group affiliation); including their background. (Organization Roster is posted at www.sanjoseca.gov/publicintox.asp)
- Police Chief Davis is not in attendance due to his participation in a "Summit on Racial and Gender Equity" – sponsored by the Russel Sage Foundation. The conference will examine new ways for police departs to improve data gathering and practices to improve racial and gender equity- especially in the areas of racial bias in use of force. For more information, visit www.russellsage.org
- Ms Figone reviewed Task Force parameters of Council's direction and encouraged the Task Force to address alternatives to 647(f) arrests and objective evidence used to obtain 647(f) arrests.
- Ms. Figone reviewed her memo that was distributed on February 26, 2009 regarding the public release of 2007 647(f) police records, and a memo from Mayor Reed and Councilmember Campos supporting the release of the records

Questions/Comments

- Task Force member requests that Ms. Figone read aloud an email that was sent to the City Manager on behalf of some of the Task Force members (attached). Ms. Figone read the email aloud (attached) and addressed each point. For the record, La Raza Roundtable, The Latina Coalition, and Asian Americans for Community Involvement asked to be added to e-mail to express support.
- Several Task Force members expressed concern about going forward with discussion of recommendations without first discussing the problem.
 - Several Task Force members want to defer breaking into small groups until the police reports are distributed and the Task Force has a better understanding of the problem.
- Given that the police records will not be distributed for another few weeks, a majority of the Task Force feel that it is too premature to discuss recommendations.
- Task force members believe that the two categories 1) alternatives to arrest and 2) objective evidence; are too limiting.
- Task Force members believe that the reason that the Task Force was put together was because 57% of the 4,661 647(f) arrests in 2007 were Latinos, a disproportionate rate compared to their total population. -What is the decision making process for the Task Force?
- Task Force member believes that there have been many theories brought up as to why the Latino arrests are disproportionate and should now focus on bringing forth recommendations.
- Since the implementations of the PAS and supervisor oversight, what are the numbers regarding 647(f) arrests to date?
 - Task Force member understands the need to focus on Council's direction (e.g. recommendations for arrest alternatives and objective evidence), but as a community representative, believes he has a moral obligation to identify the nature of the problem before proceeding.
- Request to recommend to City Council that the Task Force be extended, and that the scope be broadened.
- Police Department is not forthcoming in making the police records public because the reason for not disclosing them keeps changing.
- A statistically significant sample of 200 reports is not sufficient; need all 4,661 to understand the extent of the problem.
- Some Task Force members expressed concern that the police reports will not give certain task force members what they are looking for.
- Some Task Force members expressed concern that it is too burdensome to request all of the police reports.
- The police reports may show that there is inconsistency in the content of the 647(f) police reports, which means there is not enough information as to how they came to arrest the individual.
- Maybe the focus should be on the standards for 647(f) arrests; this could be a starting point for the Task Force.

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- One Task Force member encourages all of the members to go on a ride-along; it will give an entirely different perspective.
- The issue is policing practices and a three month task force will not accomplish the goal of addressing the problem. This Task Force will not be able to take on the task of addressing the broader issue of police practices in such a short time frame.
- Task Force members should be consulted and involved in the Agenda making process.

Plan for March 26 meeting

- Individual Task Force members will review the 200 police reports that are being released, and report their findings to the full Task Force at the meeting on March 26. The 647(f) reports already released by the County should be included in the review.
- Discussion of how to review the police reports once they have arrived:
 1. Task Force members conduct separate reviews using whatever methodology they deem appropriate and effective.
 2. Task Force members are free to suggest to each other areas to review (suggestions to be made via email).
- Items to be redacted will include all identifying and confidential information.

Public Comment:

- The problem is the San Jose Police Department culture that doesn't believe that they have to show probable cause.
- All of the individuals that were arrested should be contacted and interviewed.
- Public as a whole appreciates the Task Force members' feelings of moral obligation to represent the community.
- Do not settle for 200 reports; it is not sufficient enough to make recommendations and will leave the public with suspicions regarding the other reports that were not analyzed.
- Citizen expresses gratitude for the Task Force time and dedication to this issue.
- Citizen commends the community activists for their participation in this task force.
- The Task Force needs to identify the problem, the reports may show inconsistency.
- Public should be able to speak at the beginning of the meeting.
- Task Force was not created to analyze forms; focus should be on police training.

Closing: Next meeting will take place on April 23, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, at City Hall in Wing Rooms 118-120.

Concerns and/or questions can be emailed to Norberto.Duenas@sanjoseca.gov, please type "Public Intoxication Task Force" in the subject line. He can also be contacted at (408) 535-8180.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm