

October 26, 2012

**To:** Honorable Mayor Gayle McLaughlin and Members of the City Council

**From:** Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee

**SUBJECT:** SUMMARY of the Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee, Thursday, October 25, 2012, at 10:06 a.m.

**Present:** Chair Booze and Councilmembers Bates

**Absent:** Councilmember Ritterman

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Receive a report from the Director of the Library Katy Curl regarding patrons of the library being directed to use the restrooms at 440 Civic Center Plaza.

*Library Director Katy Curl reported that the restrooms in the Main Library are closed on occasion due to vandalism and maintenance. She stated that the library staff directs patrons to 440 in these instances. Ms. Curl also reported that adult patrons are allowed to use the children's restroom on occasion. Ms. Curl stated that when the main restrooms are out of order, library staff will call security at 440 to inform them of the issue. Staff will monitor the number of times the restrooms are closed and the amount of time it takes maintenance to respond and report back to the Public Safety Committee.*

2. Update report from Police Captain Mark Gagan regarding an action plan to address scrap metal theft

*Captain Gagan reported that scrap metal theft happens on a daily basis and usually the crime affects street lights, light signals, and private property. He stated that arrests are rare and usually only happen when neighbors call to report. To stop the problem the city must engage in appropriate homeless encampment abatement, specifically along the Richmond Parkway. The police department will make an effort to remove loiters or individuals who stand at stop lights on freeway entrances to deter individuals from stealing metal from poles. Councilmember Booze requested a report on the number of people arrested for scrap metal theft and the disposition of each arrest.*

3. Receive a report from Deputy Police Chief Allwyn Brown on the crime statistics for the past 10 months of 2012.

*Councilmember Bates gave an overview of the item and turned the report over to Deputy Police Chief Allwyn Brown. Deputy Police Chief Brown reported that there were a total of fifteen murders and the disposition of each case. He also reported that gun violence was down; assaults were have decreased 37% since 2010; and overall violence was down 26% since 2008. Councilmember Booze requested an ethnicity breakdown of homicides. Deputy Police Chief Brown stated that Project Cease Fire was a contributor to the decrease in violence. He also stated that the Family justice center located at 24<sup>th</sup> street advocates for domestic violence. Councilmember Bates requested*

*staff to present a report for the public at the end of the year. Councilmember Bates stated that he was looking for a safer environment for conducting City business. City Clerk Diane Homes reported on a survey of cities safety procedures for city council meetings. Councilmember Bates requested Deputy Police Chief Brown explore the cost of installing metal detector in the Richmond City Chambers. Jackie Thompson gave comments.*

### **OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jackie Thompson reported that on 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Cutting Boulevard there was an issue with the traffic signal. She also reported that on Broadway Avenue turning on to Carlson Boulevard the ground was uneven and the lanes were not marked. Ms. Thompson also stated that on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Potrero Avenue there were no street lights.

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m. to meet again on Thursday, November 15, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.