

April 17, 2014

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, April 17, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Chair Bates and Councilmembers Boozé and Myrick

Absent: None.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Discuss safety concerns regarding drivers' limited visibility of oncoming traffic entering Dornan Drive from Western Drive.

Roger Craine stated that 95 signatures were obtained regarding the dangerous conditions of the tunnel. When entering Dornan Drive from Western Drive, it is difficult to see an oncoming vehicle and thinks flashing lights. Joel Camacho, Engineering Department, stated that traffic counts were done and the area does not warrant a stop sign. However, a solar powered amber light could be installed at a cost of \$10,000-\$16,000.

OUTCOME: This matter was continued to the May 15, 2014, Public Safety Committee meeting, for traffic accident information, alternatives, and a funding source. Councilmember Boozé requested a report on how much has been spent and how much is left from the traffic safety fund.

2. Consider recommending approval of the installation of 4-way stop signs at the intersection of 33rd Street and Clinton Avenue.

OUTCOME: Joel Camacho, Engineering Department, stated that study is complete and 33rd Street & Clinton Avenue is warranted and 4-way stop signs will be installed.

3. Discussion and recommendation regarding complaints from Farmers Market vendors regarding staff demands for business licenses and permits to operate.

Councilmember Boozé stated that vendors should not be forced to have an individual business license. Tom Cloman gave comments. The City said the sign announcing the farmer's market is too tall and too wide and that the signs and barricades chained to post in the middle of the lot should not be there. Non – agricultural vendors are required to get business licenses, but the agricultural vendors fall under the umbrella of the farmer's market license. Steve Ghigliotto, Manager of Richmond Farmers Market stated that the signs can be stored near the garbage dumpster area in the lot near the art center. Antonio Banuelos, Finance Department, stated that any vendor who sells produce is not required to get a

business license, however if a vendor sells anything else, they are required to obtain a peddlers license.

OUTCOME: This matter was continued to May 15, 2015, for further information regarding the signage and peddler's license issue. No further enforcement actions will be taken. Councilmember Boozé stated he will work with the market members individually.

4. Discussion and recommendation regarding the auto towing ordinance.

Councilmember Boozé stated that it is very costly to the victim when a stolen car is recovered and sent to the tow yard. If a vehicle is stolen the person should be given at least 48 hours to recover the vehicle with no storage cost. The cost is based on an agreement between the police department and towing companies and staff will try to negotiate with the tow companies to determine if a grace period can be allowed. Deputy Chief Medina, stated that the police department waives administrative fees for victims of crimes. Jackie Thompson gave comments.

OUTCOME: Councilmember Myrick requested a report on what percentage of vehicles towed are stolen and the exact cost. This matter was continued to the May 15, 2015, Public Safety Committee meeting.

5. *WITHDREW* the matter to consider a request from Ms. Renee Spearman and her neighbors to close the alley between South 27th Street and 28th Street for public safety reasons.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public speakers.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m., to meet again May 15, 2014.