



Charlotte City Council  
**COMMUNITY SAFETY  
COMMITTEE**

Meeting Summary for September 15, 2016

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

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- I. Subject:      21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing**  
Action:            None
- II. Subject:      Safety on the Greenway**  
Action:            None

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## COMMITTEE INFORMATION

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Present:          Julie Eiselt, Al Austin, Kenny Smith  
Guests:          Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles  
Time:             12:05 pm – 1:25 pm

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## ATTACHMENTS

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1. Agenda
2. Presentations

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## DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

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Chairwoman Eiselt called the meeting to order and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves. She then turned it over to Assistant City Manager Ann Wall.

**I.      21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing**

Ms. Wall stated that this item was a referral to the Committee by Interim City Manager Ron Kimble and is for information only. Police Chief Putney provided an overview of the President's Taskforce on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing and the efforts of CMPD to consider and implement recommendations. She stated that this presentation will discuss CMPD's work to date to review and address the strategies and recommendation in the report. She then introduced Police Chief Kerr Putney.

Chief Putney began reviewing the "21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing" presentation (copy attached). He

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discussed the background of the President's Task Force and reviewed the six pillars established in the Task Force; building trust and legitimacy, policy and oversight, technology and social media, community policing and crime reduction, training and education, and officer wellness and safety. Within each of these pillars Chief Putney reviewed and discussed different programs and processes that CMPD is currently doing and/or looking to expand on or implement.

## Q&A

Eiselt: How are the oversight committees impacted by the bills at the state level, specifically the body worn cameras? How does the current bill introduced affect us at the local level?

Putney: We strongly recommend the opportunity for any aggrieved party to see the videos from a body worn camera and this legislation allows for that. It is supportive of what we are trying to do as an organization and remain transparent, but it does not allow for an independent party to seek access to the footage.

Eiselt: Can an external committee or interest group see it without a district court judge approving it?

Putney: No.

Austin: Regarding technology and social media, do you use Snapchat and Instagram?

Putney: Not yet, but we do use Twitter and Facebook.

Eiselt: Are you hearing that some states are getting rid of body worn cameras because of how long the data has to be held?

Putney: Yes. There is an increased storage cost with data needing to be stored for a certain period.

Austin: How are we doing with diversity of our police officers? And how are we incentivizing them, i.e. housing?

Putney: The environment is hampering some of these efforts. It is harder to get minorities into this line of work now. We are looking at partner programs at UNC Charlotte. We do offer to move officers in fragile neighborhoods and they get incentives with better interest rates; however, that funding is a little tough.

Eiselt: How can we get people more engaged with this initiative and be a part of the solution?

Putney: We are working on a lot of outreach and having community safety forums. We are working on a communication strategy and we want people to get more involved with the community outreach. Connecting with Willie Ratchford's group in Community Relations is another great option.

The Committee thanked Chief Putney for his presentation and information and stated that this is

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just the first part of this conversation and initiative. There will be more to come at a later meeting.

## **II. Safety on the Greenway**

Ms. Wall stated that this item is a referral by the Mayor and is in response to recent events along the Greenway. Staff reviewed how CMPD and Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation work to address issues of safety along greenways. Ms. Wall then turned it over to Lt. Rich Stahnke and Greg Clemmer, Park Superintendent Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation.

Lt. Stahnke and Mr. Clemmer reviewed and discussed the “Greenway Initiatives” presentation (copy attached). Staff reviewed the greenway system and the recent crime numbers from 2014-2016. Since greenways are not accessible by vehicle it does make it harder to patrol. Urban greenways are required to have lighting on them since they are a transportation corridor and are required to stay open at night, which is inviting to some folks, unlike parks that have an official closing time and are dark at night. Lt. Stahnke read through the CMPD’s Patrol and Response options and the available tools they use to address crime on greenways.

Mr. Clemmer discussed the Safety Options slide and the communication strategy Parks and Recreation uses. He noted there are multiple signs in the parking lots at the greenway encouraging people to walk with a friend, beware of their surroundings, not to leave goods out in the open of your car, etc. The Committee discussed the use drones or motion cameras to monitor greenways, but legally motions cameras would not be lawful and drones have very strict FAA regulations. The Committee agreed that awareness goes a long way in regards to safety on the greenway and they encouraged wayfinding trail markers for a more accurate location of a person when they need assistance.

The Committee thanked the staff for their presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

**Community Safety Committee**  
**Thursday, September 15; 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Room 280**

Committee Members: Julie Eiselt, Chair  
Al Austin, Vice Chair  
Claire Fallon  
Greg Phipps  
Kenny Smith

Staff Resource: Ann Wall, Assistant City Manager

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**AGENDA**

**I. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing**

*Staff Resource: Chief Putney, CMPD*

Police Chief Kerr Putney will provide an overview of the President's Taskforce on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing and the efforts of CMPD to consider and implement the recommendations. This initial presentation will discuss CMPD's work to date to review and address the strategies and recommendations in the report. There will be several presentations over the coming months to consider all of the 59 recommendations included in the report.

*Action: No action, for information only.*

**II. Safety on the Greenway**

*Staff Resource: Lt. Dave Johnson, CMPD*

In response to recent events along the Greenway, CMPD has been working together with Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation to address issues of safety along the Greenway. Staff from both agencies will provide an overview on recent efforts and initiatives.

*Action: No action, for information only.*

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, October 20 at Noon in Room 280

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Distribution: Mayor/City Council  
Bob Hagemann  
Jon Hannan

Ron Kimble, Interim City Manager  
Stephanie Kelly  
Community Safety Cabinet

Executive Team  
Kerr Putney



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing

[The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Report](#)

Chief Kerr Putney

September 15, 2016



### Background

- On December 18, 2014, President Barack Obama signed an Executive Order establishing the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.
- Six pillars were established:
  - Building Trust and Legitimacy
  - Policy & Oversight
  - Technology & Social Media
  - Community Policing & Crime Reduction
  - Training & Education
  - Officer Wellness & Safety



## Building Trust & Legitimacy

- Promoting trust and ensuring legitimacy through procedural justice, transparency, accountability, and honest recognition of past and present obstacles:
  - Community Safety Forums
  - Open Data Initiative
  - System-wide Accountability
  - Focus on Victimization Disproportionality



## Policy & Oversight

- Developing comprehensive and responsive policies on key topics while also implementing formal checks/balances and data collection/analysis:
  - Internal Affairs Process
  - Internal Appeals Process
  - Civil Liberties Resolution
  - Civil Service Board, Citizens Review Board, State Bureau of Investigation, and Department of Justice
  - Professional Standards Division



## Technology & Social Media

- Balancing the embrace of technology and digital communication with local needs, privacy, assessments, and monitoring:
  - Body Worn Cameras
  - CMPD website updates
  - Facebook, Twitter, Media release protocols



## Community Policing & Crime Reduction

- Encouraging the implementation of policies that support community-based partnerships in the reduction of crime:
  - District Attorney
  - CharMeck Court Watch
  - POST
  - JPOST
  - Electronic Monitoring
  - Diversion
  - School Resource Officers



## Training & Education

- Emphasizing the importance of high quality and effective training and education through partnerships with local and national training facilities:
  - Cultural Proficiency Education
    - Jennifer P. Davis and Associates, LLC
    - Racial Matters for Juvenile Justice
    - Johnson C. Smith University



## Officer Wellness & Safety

- Endorsing practices that support officer wellness and safety through the re-evaluation of officer shift hours and data collection/analysis to help prevent other injuries:
  - Internal Advisory Committee
  - New fitness research and policy development
  - Full-time Clinical Psychologist
  - Crisis Intervention Team program
  - Peer Support



Questions?



## Greenway Initiatives

Lt. Rich Stahnke- CMPD  
Greg Clemmer- Parks and  
Recreation

## Greenway System Overview

- 43 Miles of Paved Greenways currently, and 55 total miles of paths including paved and unpaved
- Proposals to add additional 30 miles over the next five years
- Greenway construction generally does not allow for patrol by traditional motor vehicles
- Greenways are run like county park facilities, however greenways are open at night (due to DOT funding), unlike traditional parks
- Some Recent Crime Numbers 2014-2016
  - Little Sugar Creek: 2 robberies, 2 assaults, 1 larceny
  - Briar Creek Greenway: 1 larceny
  - McAlpine Creek Greenway: 1 larceny from auto
  - Four Mile Creek Greenway: 3 larceny from auto, 1 aggravated assault
  - McMullen Creek Greenway: 1 aggravated assault, 14 larceny from auto

## CMPD Patrol and Response

- Available tools: officers on foot, bike patrols, dual sport motorcycles, ATVs
- Foot Patrols: allows for citizen interaction, but limited mobility
- Bikes: Faster than foot patrols, but not as fast as motorized response in event of emergency, low cost
- Dual Sport Motors: high speed response, mobile, limits officer ability to see and hear for proactive patrol
- ATV: Fast response to a victim and allows for possible transportation out of greenway
- Dedicated Patrols Manpower Intensive

## Safety Options

- “Blue Light Phones”-used in past, infrastructure problems due to locations, solar not feasible in heavy woods-cell phone availability
- Funding requested for to purchase new/additional surveillance cameras—CMPD connectivity
- Wayfinding trail markers-current markers inadequate, investigating future options, coordinates will allow for mapping and more precise locations for first responders
- Parks/Rec staff now on notification list with CMPD-quicker response
- Off-Duty officers paid through Parks/Rec—limited availability
- Park Ranger operations at night to clear loiterers
- Public Awareness