



Charlotte City Council
Safe Communities Committee
Meeting Summary
October 13, 2020

COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

- I. SAFE Charlotte Overview - Informational
- II. Feedback on Safe Communities Plan from the Community Input Group - Informational and Input

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Committee Members Present: Larken Egleston (Chair), James Mitchell, Jr. (Vice Chair), Dimple Ajmera, Renee Johnson, Victoria Watlington

Additional Council Present: Braxton Winston

Staff Resources: Marcus Jones, City Manager

Meeting Duration: 11:05 a.m. – 12:32 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda
2. Safe Communities Committee Community Input Group Report

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Chairperson Larken Egleston. The Chair announced that most of the meeting would consist of an overview of all recommendations and the different components of the SAFE Charlotte initiative, as well as feedback from the Community Input Group.

SAFE Charlotte Overview

City Manager Marcus Jones shared the timeline for approving the Safety and Accountability for Everyone (SAFE) document. City Council is considering approval of the SAFE Report at the end of the month. The recommendations were provided to the Council during the October 5th Extended Strategy Session and reviewed at the City Council Business Meeting on October 12th. A report will be issued on Friday, October 23rd in time for public comment and Council Action scheduled for the October 26th Business Meeting. The final product will include outcomes based on the October 26th comments.

Feedback on Safe Communities from the Community Input Group (CIG)

Federico Rios, Office of Equity, Mobility and Immigrant Integration, noted that the CIG had been tasked by City Council to reconvene. He read input from some of the CIG members on the City Manager's

October 5th SAFE Charlotte presentation. Mr. Rios stated that any members of the community that would like to view the Community Violence Dashboard, which tracks violence data across agencies, should visit the Office of Equity, Mobility and Immigrant Integration website. In addition to the input, the group consensus was that the work of the CIG was a strong process and the breakout groups worked well, but technology was a challenge at times. The members would like to be a part of the process going forward. Suggested engagement included: emails and periodic updates from the Office of Equity, Mobility and Immigrant Integration, meeting reminders and quarterly updates from the Committee, more opportunities for the group to share among themselves and to be tied into the Intergovernmental Relations Committee. He emphasized that they were curious about which recommendations will move forward. CIG members Vicki Foster, Cindy Decker and Larry “No Limit Larry” Mims shared their feedback on the process and their feelings on the recommendations. In general, the CIG is encouraged by the progress being made.

The City Manager noted that Housing and Neighborhood Services Department is exploring a housing incentive for police officers who reside in Charlotte, but they must be sure not to violate in laws. For example, imposing a residency requirement for a certain group of employees could be an issue.

Mr. Jones expressed sentiments that cities throughout the country would be interested in replicating the community input model and that it supports the philosophy that Government cannot do the work alone. Mr. Jones stated that while it is an assumption that the proposed recommendations will be approved, they have moved forward in establishing a team to work on the recommendations over the next 60 days.

Chairperson Egleston reminded staff and Committee members that the Safe Communities Committee meetings will resume their noon meeting time. He also spoke about the bonds on the ballot.

Feedback from the Committee and other Elected Officials present:

1. Compile a list of all the recommendations made.
2. Ensure considerations for CMPD Health related programs are reflected in the budget.

Additional information was requested for the following items:

1. What governs an officer’s right to resign rather than incur legal action?
2. A preliminary investigation to determine what could be put in place to allow passive protest in the street to prevent damage. Statutory implications are recognized.
3. Consider a formal resolution between agencies for suggestions such as subpoena power for the Citizens Review Board.
4. Provide information to Mr. Rios on the work of the Freedom Division Advisory Group for Mr. Rios to share the model with the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.