

San Diego Association of Governments

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

June 20, 2008

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **2**

Action Requested: APPROVE

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

Meeting of April 18, 2008

1. ROLL CALL

Chair Mark Lewis (East County) called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 1 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present. See last page for attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor David Roberts (North County Coastal) and a second by Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (County of San Diego), the minutes of February 15, 2008, were unanimously approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Lewis welcomed students from San Diego State University who attended this meeting.

Councilmember Bob Campbell (North County Inland) stated that this past week he met at the California League of Cities in Sacramento. He met with legislative representatives in regard to the growing budget problem. There are a number of critical programs that are affecting us locally. If there is an elimination or reduction in the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program, that is not a good thing. The other concern is the release of prisoners back into the communities. The impact is certainly going to be a multiplier of additional problems of getting people off the streets. The State seems to believe they will give counties their support and the county can take care of it. Councilmember Campbell hopes this body can address this in advance before this occurs.

Chair Lewis directed staff to do further research and document the potential implications, what we need to look at in our local jurisdictions, and how we can work together to mitigate the impacts and bring the report back to the Committee at a future meeting.

Undersheriff Bill Gore (County Sheriff) stated he just returned from the State Sheriff's Conference in Northern California where the Governor came and talked. They have a committee very actively working the early release prisoner situation and coordinating it to flow in an orderly fashion. If there is going to be a release, the State Sheriffs want to make it an orderly release based upon some type of logic instead of just opening the doors. It will impact our jails which are already overcrowded. The Sheriff's Department is concerned.

Dr. Cynthia Burke (Director, Criminal Justice Research Division – CJRD) stated that a few years ago her division presented on a reentry mapping project that was compiled in partnership with the District Attorney’s office, based upon probation and parole data. It has not been updated, but she feels it is still relevant and will send to the members after this meeting. Her division is evaluating the SB 618 program through the District Attorney’s office, which is getting non-violent offenders going into Donovan more services so they can receive case management and hooking them up when released back into the community. This information will be presented later.

Deputy Mayor Roberts stated that Councilmember Campbell is the President of the San Diego Division of the League of California Cities. At their last meeting, Senator Denise Ducheny talked at length about public safety topics. Deputy Mayor Roberts encouraged staff to reach out to Senator Ducheny’s staff to learn of her topics. One topic was the reentry program. One of the concerns we are hearing out of Sacramento due to the budget is that they want to push more functions down to the counties, cities, and other agencies without the funding stream. We need to have a clear understanding of what they are doing. Deputy Mayor Roberts noted that North County Transit District (NCTD) (on which he serves as the Vice Chair with Councilmember Campbell) approved expanding the mesh network south into Encinitas, Solana Beach, and Del Mar using Homeland Security and NCTD funding. Deputy Mayor Roberts believes it would be a great asset to the region if the mesh network would tie into the Sheriff’s Department. He asked the Committee how this could be accomplished.

Deputy Mayor Roberts also introduced Barbara Gordon from the San Dieguito Alliance for Drug Free Youth who was in the audience. “420” day is coming up (April 20, 2008). Some jurisdictions have passed resolutions that, instead of 420 day, it is drug free day. It is important in our culture that we know drug references and work with community based alliances that can help educate the community.

Council President Pro-Tem Anthony Young (City of San Diego) stated that about four months ago the Committee looked at training for fire personnel using regional efforts. It would save us money by addressing training in a regional collaborative way. He would be Interested to hear from staff with an analysis of this issue.

Chair Lewis directed staff to look into regional efforts on training and put the analysis on a future agenda.

Pam Scanlon (Director, ARJIS) stated ARJIS does have a work program devoted to interoperability and communications that is in existence with SANDAG. This is an opportunity for us to look at the mesh network possibility. In regard to Councilmember Campbell’s comment, a more operational aspect, we have supervised release and officer notification applications that all the police officers and investigators have access to, as well as law enforcement-only mapping. There is a potential here to take the early release individuals and have them part of a supervised release or an officer notification system so that deputies, officers, and investigators would know what areas of town they are in and could more quickly and easily track them. There are some potentials here that we could actively look at deploying.

Chief Augie Ghio (Regional Fire/Emergency Medical Services) stated there is one additional program that Jill Olen has. The City of San Diego established the Regional Technology Partnership for which the core responsibility is regional interoperability issues. With ARJIS and the Regional Technology Partnership working together, there are plenty of resources.

REPORTS

4. REPORT FROM CHIEFS'/SHERIFFS' MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (INFORMATION)

Ms. Scanlon stated Chief Clifford Diamond (Former Chair of the Chiefs'/Sheriff's Committee) recently retired for medical reasons. The Chair position is currently vacant and will be filled over the next couple of months.

The Management Committee met on April 2, 2008. The primary items on the agenda will be discussed today, which is to recommend inclusion of the FY 2009 Budget and Work Program for ARJIS and CJRD and the Crime in the Region Report.

5. PRELIMINARY FY 2009 PUBLIC SAFETY WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET (RECOMMEND)

Dr. Burke gave an overall description of the CJRD Work Program and Budget. Dr. Burke stated the ARJIS Management Committee made the recommendation that the Public Safety Committee recommend to the SANDAG Executive Committee and Board of Directors the inclusion of the Budget and Work Plan in the OWP. Information was given on what the division is going to focus on, priorities, projects, and what the current funding status is.

Ms. Scanlon highlighted the ARJIS Work Program and Budget. In FY 2009, ARJIS is recommending no increase in ARJIS member assessments and user connectivity fees. For subsequent fiscal years, the cost model will be examined with possible modifications recommended.

Deputy Mayor Roberts inquired about when there is no operability. There are parts of North County where there is no coverage and the Sheriff's Department radios don't work. Is this part of interoperability?

Ms. Scanlon replied that the interoperability and operability are both being discussed. Due to the wildfires of 2007, a significant amount of money went to the North County area to expand the coverage. This resulted in a positive response during the last firestorm.

Supervisor Slater-Price stated that the County knew there were some areas with holes. Some were on the coast (near Encinitas), some in East, South, and North County Inland.

Undersheriff Gore stated that East County had a lot of busy signals so simulcast capabilities were installed. He believes that most operability issues have been addressed, but there still may be more pockets that they don't know about or can't reach.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Campbell and a second by Chief Ghio, the Public Safety Work Program and Budget was unanimously recommended to be accepted by the Board of Directors as part of the final FY 2009 Budget and Overall Work Program at its May 23, 2008, meeting.

6. CRIME IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION 1983 – 2007 (INFORMATION)

Dr. Burke gave a PowerPoint presentation on Crime in the San Diego Region 1983-2007. This report is compiled on a bi-annual basis to track changes and trends in crime rates and numbers. The report was released in the beginning of April 2008. Dr. Burke thanked all the agencies that worked with CJRD during the year to compile these numbers.

Supervisor Slater-Price asked if there was any particular region in the County of San Diego that increased crime by 19 percent.

Undersheriff Gore responded that the Sheriff's Department took a look at it (it was 21 percent) in the unincorporated areas. This is still below the national average. The Sheriff's Department attributed it to the change in demographics. The population is changing and there is more gang activity. The biggest increase was in the area of aggravated assaults, which are the types of crimes that are difficult to be more pro-active to prevent. The areas were Valley Center, Spring Valley, and a large increase with a gang series of robberies in North County that added to the crime number.

Councilmember Campbell asked if there is any data on cars with LoJack that are taken and the recovery rate.

Dr. Burke says the insurance companies may have some numbers and she would be happy to try to get that information. The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) put out a solicitation for a formal evaluation on vehicle recovery systems.

Council President Pro Tem Young inquired on how much more specific you can get regarding regions and areas. He would be interested in geographic data; for example, certain areas around schools and transportation areas.

Dr. Burke stated there is a lot more information and data that is presented in the Bulletin, but deeper dives can be taken. She will talk with Council President Pro Tem Young's staff.

Council President Pro Tem Young stated that other things are happening out there, perhaps a lack or presence of some type of gang prevention. Perhaps a complex is built in the area and once we have the numbers, we could make some policy decisions. The concern is there for all areas in the County.

Dr. Burke suggested a scan of seeing what is going on. Our law enforcement partners have crime analysts who are trying to provide timely information to investigators to try to bring together and generate discussion on efforts going on in the communities. For example with robbery, it's a targeted area for our law enforcement partners. They are using the data to guide their efforts. Gang issues are a major concern. The County is taking on task forces, and doing a deeper dive into the data would definitely be useful.

Council President Pro Tem Young stated National City deserves some kudos due to the 19 percent decrease in violent crime in National City. What did they do? Are they using redevelopment dollars to address the issue? Looking at the unincorporated areas, Spring Valley is a big issue. What is happening to increase crime in those areas? It would be helpful to see the data.

Undersheriff Gore stated the Sheriff's Department has the numbers broken down by all stations and substations. They are tracking and working on identifying the problems and how to address those problems.

Dr. Burke stated the regional perspective is important. CJRD did a study in Santee regarding auto theft. As they were targeting auto thieves in Santee, the rate in El Cajon went up. Efforts in one community can affect another.

Councilmember Campbell inquired if residential burglary counts toward the three strikes, but commercial does not. That's a baffling thing since we have an increase in copper and pipe theft. Fresno tried to put together a local ordinance to toughen up scrap dealer reimbursements to people so that they would need to wait before being reimbursed, but this was struck down by the courts. This might be a legislative opportunity. He would be interested in any suggestions and believes the League of California Cities would like to carry it forward.

Chair Lewis also shares Councilmember Campbell's concerns on copper and pipe theft. He realized many years ago that the way to handle that would be to make a requirement of the scrap dealers to identify suppliers with their name and address. Once the suppliers realize if they put down a fake address and name, that is where the check is going, it would help stop theft.

Councilmember Campbell stated he is shocked at the crime rate increase of 18 percent in Vista on violent crime. He talked to Captain Ed Prendergast, who is doing a great job of cutting down that number. He asked Undersheriff Gore if he had an answer.

Undersheriff Gore stated he was also taken back by some of the numbers. Some numbers are explained by the robbery series. The gang injunctions in Vista, San Marcos, Oceanside, and Escondido pushed the crimes to the unincorporated areas.

Chief William Lansdowne (San Diego Police Department) wanted to address Councilmember Campbell's question on LoJack and On-Star. LoJack says they find and locate about 90 percent of the cars. It is an expensive system. We know there are a lot of cars in Mexico. The California Highway Patrol works with the government in Mexico and we find those cars and eventually bring them back here. In regard to Council President Pro Tem Young's questions, there are some great studies available and believes Dr. Burke can help look them up. He read one recently while in Sacramento lobbying for school kids with Fight Crime: Invest in Kids. They have a report out that states if we could lower the drop-out rate in high school by 10 percent, it would reduce the number of homicides in the County of San Diego by 20 and about 1,700 aggravated assaults across the board in the City. There is a clear correlation with school children and violence in the City and County. We are working to displace the crime in Spring Valley. Our solution as County Chiefs is that we are one big County and we are working closely together. He credits Sheriff Bill Kolender with this cooperative effort and support.

Undersheriff Gore replied that there is new proposed legislation from the State which the State Sheriff is supporting on metal theft and he will be happy to share this with Councilmember Campbell if he would like to support this effort also.

Supervisor Slater-Price stated the Board of Supervisors would be happy to put a board letter together for adoption in supporting legislation on metal theft. She will have her staff member contact Undersheriff Gore's office for the details.

7. OVERVIEW OF TRIBAL NATIONS AND PUBLIC SAFETY (INFORMATION)

Carlene Chamberlain (Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association- SCTCA) introduced Chief Judge A. Brandenburg (Intertribal Courts of Southern California), Chair Bill Mesa (Jamul Indian Village, A Kumeyaay Nation), Fire Battalion Chief Robert Nelson (Sycuan Tribal Government), and Jane Clough-Riquelme (SANDAG Tribal Liaison).

Chief Judge Brandenburg gave an overview of the court aspects in Tribal Government. He explained Public Law 280, which provides a context for the legal situation for tribes in California. He provided two examples with intertribal courts and the Adam Walsh Act. Chair Mesa discussed issues related to the collection of crime data on reservations and the challenges for maintaining accurate data which would be helpful to all our jurisdictions. He stated the Tribal Government is responsible for the safety of Tribal lands, safety of its people, and the safety of people who are visiting Tribal lands. Chief Nelson shared reflections on the issues of emergency preparedness and the challenge of interoperability with tribes in the region.

Chair Lewis asked where Chief Judge Brandenburg holds court.

Chief Judge Brandenburg stated court is held at the tribe on the reservation with some minor exceptions. A distant tribe may use another tribe's facility. There will be a United States Flag, a Tribal Flag, and a Tribal Emblem behind the Judge.

Councilmember Teresa Barth (North County Inland) inquired if a non-Indian commits a crime on an Indian reservation, what court would that person go to.

Chief Judge Brandenburg stated they could go to both. If a state law has been violated, they would turn to the Sheriff and the Sheriff will enforce it. If they have violated a tribal ordinance in place, under the separate sovereign doctrine, you can be "punished" or "fined" twice, once by the State and once by the tribe.

Councilmember Barth asked about gangs seen on the reservation.

Chief Mesa stated that gangs have been seen on reservations. Over the last couple of years, on larger reservations, trailers or houses have been rented by gang members or drug dealers.

Chief Judge Brandenburg stated that in North County there are gang issues. The Sheriff works with the tribes and the tribal court and we are seeing a control on this issue. Everyone is working toward eradicating it.

Chief Ghio thanked the panel for the help they provide and stated that many people might forget what the tribes do in regard to the dollar value. In San Diego County, over \$20 million has been out there in services, equipment, training programs, and giving back to the community. In the last four years, between law enforcement and fire, \$13.7 million in equipment and training programs in San Diego County has been provided by tribal support. There is continuing cooperation in dialog and regional training to better the community.

Councilmember Campbell expressed his thanks for giving him a better understanding of the inter-relationships with law enforcement, fire, and courts of the Indian Tribes. The contributions made by the Indian Tribes to the region are immeasurable.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS (INFORMATION)

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Friday, May 16, 2008, at 1 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE

April 18, 2007

JURISDICTION	NAME	MEMBER/ALTERNATE	ATTEND YES/NO	COMMENTS (Attended)
East County	Hon. Mark Lewis	Member – Chair	Yes	
	Hon. Jillian Hanson-Cox	Alternate	No	
North County Coastal	Hon. David Roberts	Member	Yes	
	Hon. Teresa Barth	Alternate	Yes	
South County	Hon. Frank Parra	Member	No	
	Hon. Jim Janney	Alternate	No	
North County Inland	Hon. Bob Campbell	Member	Yes	
	Hon. Hal Martin	Alternate	No	
City of San Diego	Hon. Anthony Young	Member	Yes	
	Hon. Toni Atkins	1 st Alternate	No	
	Hon. Ben Hueso	2 nd Alternate	No	
County of San Diego	Supervisor Pam Slater-Price	Member	Yes	
	Supervisor Greg Cox	Alternate	No	
State Public Safety	Chief Skip Carter	Member	No	
	Assistant Chief Steve Lykins	Alternate	No	
County Chiefs'/Sheriff's Association	Chief Tom Zoll	Member-Vice Chair	No	
	Vacant	Member	No	
	Chief Richard Emerson	Alternate	No	
	Chief Adolfo Gonzales	Alternate	No	
San Diego Police Department	Chief William M. Lansdowne	Member	Yes	
	Executive Assistant Chief David Ramirez	Alternate	No	
County Sheriff	Sheriff Bill Kolender	Member	No	
	Undersheriff Bill Gore	Alternate	Yes	
Homeland Security	Jill Olen	Member	Yes	
	Ron Lane	Alternate	No	
Regional Fire/Emergency Medical Services	Chief David Ott	Member	No	
	Chief Augie Ghio	Alternate	Yes	
San Diego County District Attorney	Bonnie Dumanis	Member	No	
	Paula Robinson	Alternate	Yes	
Regional Transit Services	Bill Burke	Member	Yes	
	David Papworth	Alternate	No	
ADVISORY MEMBERS				
County Public Safety	Mack Jenkins	Member	Yes	
	John Hensley	Alternate	No	
Department of Defense	Captain Eric Patten	Member	No	
	Colonel James B. Seaton III	Alternate	No	
Federal Public Safety	Keith Slotter	Member	No	Stewart Roberts
	Vacant	Alternate	No	
	Karen Hewitt	Member	No	Linda Frakes
	Vacant	Alternate	No	
Southern CA Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA)	Carlene Chamberlain	Member	Yes	
	Stephanie Spencer	Alternate	No	