

**DRAFT**

**PIEDMONT PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Regular Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 24, 2020

A Regular Session of the Piedmont Public Safety Committee was held September 24, 2020, via teleconference, consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and the Alameda County Health Official's Order #20-04. In accordance with Government Code Section 54957(b), the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on September 21, 2020.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Lynne Wright called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Lynne Wright, Committee Members Lori Elefant, Jeffrey Horner, Garrett Keating, Amal Smith, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Fire Chief Bret Black

Absent: Committee Members Shanti Brien and Chris Houlder

Staff: Deputy City Clerk Lisa Argue

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no **Public Testimony**.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

The Public Safety Committee considered the following items of regular business:

**Minutes**

**Resolved**, that the Public Safety Committee approves the Public Safety Committee meeting minutes of July 30, 2020, as submitted.  
Moved by Horner, Seconded by Smith  
Ayes: Elefant, Horner, Keating, Smith, Wright, Bowers, Black  
Noes: None  
Absent: Brien, Houlder

**COVID-19 & Health  
Order Compliance  
Update**

Fire Chief Bret Black reported statistics for COVID-19 cases and deaths in Alameda County and Piedmont since the beginning of the pandemic, the fatality rate for seniors, and the positivity rate for people aged 18-49. He noted contact tracing indicates most cases result from participation in private meetings of small groups. He advised the public to check the County's website for locations of free testing sites. Chief Black related that the County anticipates releasing guidelines for Halloween activities in the next week.

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers indicated Alameda County has moved to the red designation, but data will be monitored before the guidelines for the red designation are implemented. He announced the Police Department is recommending the public not participate in traditional Halloween activities but plan virtual activities and yard decorating events. He noted the Recreation Department is planning a Halloween activity for younger children. Chief Bowers advised that police officers have shifted from education to reminders when they engage the public about face coverings. He indicated youth are less likely to wear masks.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

Committee Members urged the City to publish recommendations for Halloween activities soon and often.

**Crime Report**

Police Chief Bowers presented data regarding an increase in reportable offenses and a decrease in traffic collisions for the second quarter of 2020 compared to the second quarter of 2019. He announced the Police Department can accept text messages to 911 but prefers phone calls in order to obtain information. Chief Bowers reported the Police Department has engaged the community in updating its Strategic Plan and will begin drafting the document in November.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Public Safety  
Legislative Changes**

Police Chief Bowers reviewed the intent of 12 bills that affect public safety and that have been sent to the Governor for signature or veto.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**ALPR & Public Safety  
Cameras**

Police Chief Bowers presented data regarding the use of automated license plate readers (ALPR) in investigations and reported the technology is a useful tool for the Police Department. He noted ALPRs have been installed at four of the five approved locations, and the fifth will be installed soon. With respect to public safety cameras, Chief Bowers advised that he will present a report to the Council on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Fire Department  
Mutual Aid**

Fire Chief Black shared statistics for wildfires across the state and announced Engine 2841 and its crew have returned from the Creek Fire. He related that Fire personnel are pleased with the new fire engine's performance and features, which have surpassed expectations.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

The Committee appreciated Fire personnel's service to the City and the state.

**Disaster Preparedness  
& Resources**

Fire Chief Black reported he participated in a post-incident analysis of a disaster preparedness exercise held by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. He indicated that the exercise provided him with lessons learned and ideas for events in Piedmont and demonstrated new technology in which the Fire Department is interested. He advised that personnel have placed resources for disaster preparation, evacuation, and best practices on the Fire Department's website. Chief Black announced September is National Preparedness Month.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Influenza Vaccine  
Update**

Fire Chief Black presented Alameda County's point of dispensing (POD) program, and indicated the City will participate in the program when it is implemented in the next 60-90 days for the influenza vaccine.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

The Committee encouraged the public to obtain vaccinations.

**Great Shakeout &  
Resources**

Fire Chief Black announced there will not be a community exercise in 2020, but residents may register to receive curriculum for earthquake preparedness.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Fire Chief Black announced the City has hired two firefighter/paramedics and urged residents to use caution in their outdoor activities over the weekend as the weather will be conducive to wildfires.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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