

City of Phoenix



City of Phoenix

Thursday, January 16, 2025

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General Information Packet

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For Transmittal, Minutes of the Policy Session on October 22, 2024

Summary

This item transmits the Minutes of the Policy Session on October 22, 2024.

The Minutes are attached for review as **Attachment A**.

Responsible Department

This item is submitted by the City Manager's Office.



ATTACHMENT A
City of Phoenix
Minutes

Meeting Location:
City Council Chambers
200 W. Jefferson St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

City Council Policy Session

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

2:30 PM

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CALL TO ORDER

The Phoenix City Council convened in Policy Session on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 2:33 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: 7 - Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira, Councilwoman Betty Guardado, Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington, Councilwoman Ann O'Brien, Councilman Kevin Robinson, Vice Mayor Debra Stark and Mayor Kate Gallego

Absent: 2 - Councilwoman Laura Pastor and Councilman Jim Waring

Vice Mayor Stark and Councilwoman Guardado joined virtually.

COUNCIL INFORMATION AND FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS

Councilwoman Hodge Washington highlighted several events she attended. She thanked the Neighborhood Services and Aviation departments for organizing a successful neighborhood cleanup where 22 tons of debris were removed by volunteers. She acknowledged Phoenix Pride and the work of employees in the Pride Parade. She mentioned the upcoming Laveen quarterly meeting on October 24 at the Caesar Chavez Community Center and encouraged residents participation.

Councilwoman Pastor joined the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

Councilwoman Guardado reported a successful Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods (GAIN) Day and acknowledged the hard work of the Washington Park Neighborhood Association for organizing Fright Night. She also thanked Parks and Recreation for their support at Scaryville in Maryvale. She also announced several upcoming community events including the annual Maryvale Turkey Takeaway providing over a 1,000 turkeys at American Family Fields.

Councilwoman Pastor expressed gratitude to the Alhambra Neighborhood Association for hosting a successful GAIN event on October 12. She noted her participation in the Indigenous People's Day celebration. She highlighted her enjoyment of the Pride Parade, thanking everyone involved and City staff for organizing the float. She announced an upcoming coffee chat on Wednesday, November 6.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira expressed his gratitude to Arizona Task Force One for their service in responding to Hurricanes Helen and Milton. He shared his enjoyment of Phoenix Pride. He thanked all the neighborhood associations and block watches that participated in GAIN Day, sharing his experiences connecting with residents throughout District 7. He announced he and Councilwoman Hodge Washington would host the Laveen quarterly meeting at the Cesar Chavez Community Center. He discussed the upcoming Halloween Boo Bash set for October 25 at Desert Park.

Councilman Waring joined the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

CONSENT ACTION

This item is scheduled to allow the City Council to act on the Mayor's recommendations on the Consent Agenda. There is no Consent Agenda for this meeting.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

A vote may be held to call an Executive Session for a future date.

REPORTS AND BUDGET UPDATES BY THE CITY MANAGER

This item is scheduled to allow the City Manager to provide brief informational reports on topics of interest to the City Council. The City Council may discuss these reports but no action will be taken.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEM 1)

1 Phoenix Police Department Reserve Division Update

Discussion

This report provides an update to the City Council on the current status of the Phoenix Police Department's Reserve Division.

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION.

Phoenix Police Reserves Assistant Chief Joseph Klima highlighted the Department's current roster of 138 officers, detectives, and supervisors within the Police Reserves. He outlined two paths for joining the Reserve program: traditional officers, who balanced other careers while attending the academy, and career-transitioning officers who maintained their police roles part-time. He explained reserve officers come from diverse professional backgrounds, including nurses, business executives, and students. He introduced Scott Weight, the training officer for reserve recruits. Chief Klima reported the department's reserve officers collectively donated over 42,000 hours, valuing this volunteerism at over \$5 million. He also acknowledged Henry Cousin, as the most senior police officer in Arizona. Chief Klima noted the Reserve Foundation supported officers with equipment, technology, and funding for uniforms. He concluded by expressing appreciation for the support received from department leadership, executive staff, and City Management.

Mayor Gallego acknowledged the hard work of the Police Reserves program and the most recent graduation class.

Councilman Waring thanked Chief Klima for his service and for his leadership with the Police Reserves.

Councilman Robinson acknowledged the Police Reserve officers and the trainers within the program.

Vice Mayor Stark thanked Chief Klima and encouraged community donations to the Phoenix Police Reserve Foundation.

Councilwoman Guardado recognized the contributions of the Reserve Division.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington expressed gratitude to the volunteers of the Phoenix Police Department Reserve Division and acknowledged

the work being done to stay connected to the community.

Councilwoman O'Brien thanked the Phoenix Police Reserve Foundation for their volunteer support of the reserves and the Police Department.

Councilwoman Pastor expressed gratitude to the Reserve Division and acknowledged their diverse backgrounds.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira thanked the volunteers of the Reserve Division.

Mayor Gallego opened the floor to public comment.

Eric Nielsen discussed his personal experiences with homelessness and discusses his interest in law enforcement.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION (ITEM 2)

2 Automated Enforcement Safety Program

Discussion

This report provides information on a potential Automated Enforcement Safety Program.

THIS ITEM IS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION.

Vice Mayor Stark acknowledged the increase in pedestrian and red-light fatalities in Phoenix. She noted City Council's focus on roadway safety through engineering, education, and enforcement including exploring automated enforcement. She highlighted the significant reduction in staff and expressed support for automated enforcement to address speeding and red-light running.

Deputy City Manager Inger Erickson stated the Automated Enforcement Safety Program aims to enhance driver compliance with traffic laws, reduce speeding and red-light infractions, and improve street safety while complementing other Vision Zero strategies.

Interim Street Transportation Director Brandy Kelso provided an overview of the City's previous Automated Enforcement Safety Program and explained the program has expanded to include 12 intersections and 8

mobile speed vehicles.

Assistant Street Transportation Director Briana Velez explained how Automated Enforcement Programs commonly used high-resolution digital cameras to capture red-light and speeding infractions, with options including fixed intersection cameras, portable speed devices, and mid-block speed cameras. She outlined the site selection process and highlighted how automated enforcement is already used elsewhere, with a focus on reducing crash severity and encouraging safer driving behavior.

Ms. Kelso recommended a Request for Proposal (RFP) in Spring 2025 to launch an Automated Enforcement Safety Program for the City and discussed the components of the program.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington inquired about the criteria used to determine placement locations for the mobile vehicle units and towers within the City.

Ms. Kelso explained the criteria would guide the placement of mobile vehicle units and towers, including areas with a high number of speed-related crashes, corridors identified by the traffic bureau as high-speed zones, and designated school zones.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington asked about the variability of speed limits with the installation of new equipment.

Ms. Kelso discussed how the equipment can be moved around depending on the data.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington questioned if there has been any current data regarding red-light running.

Ms. Velez shared the High Injury Network has recently been updated through 2022.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington asked how success is being measured in the program.

Ms. Kelso explained the program would measure success by examining the reduction in crash severity.

Councilwoman Pastor inquired about the number of mobile units.

Ms. Kelso stated the program would include three vehicles and three towers.

Councilwoman Pastor asked how the City will get to eight in total.

Ms. Erickson replied the goal is to increase both mobile units and towers, and how the goal can change based on Council guidance.

Councilwoman Pastor asked if the devices utilize facial recognition and expressed the importance of using data correctly.

Ms. Kelso responded the program does not utilize facial recognition technology.

Police Sergeant Justin Wood explained the citations process in the previous program.

Councilwoman Pastor expressed the importance of police enforcement along with mobile towers and units.

Councilwoman O'Brien asked how the City's list is different from the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) list of dangerous intersections.

Ms. Velez explained how this list considers various data points, along with the similarities from both lists.

Councilwoman O'Brien expressed the importance of utilizing data to determine location and proposed the use of at least one mobile unit or tower in each district. She asked about expediting the process to have the Automated Enforcement Safety Program released sooner, as well as costs associated with the program and partnering with different

businesses.

City Attorney Julie Kriegh stated the costs associated depended on the partnerships and contracts.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira asked for a semi-annual report to be provided to the Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning Subcommittee and to the full Council.

Ms. Kelso confirmed data can be provided to the Council.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington suggested reviewing a radius around key intersections to capture data on nearby intersections to the north, south, east, and west. She emphasized analyzing whether behavioral changes are occurring long-term or are limited to the immediate area surrounding each intersection.

Vice Mayor Stark stated she would also like to see the project expedited and increasing the number to eight. She expressed moving the devices over time to curb red-light running.

Mayor Gallego opened the floor to public comment.

Anne Ender acknowledged the danger of distracted drivers and discussed her personal experiences.

Diana Bentley encouraged City Council to support the Automated Enforcement Program recommendations.

John MacMullin discussed alternatives to automated enforcement such as building more speed bumps and traffic circles.

Eric Nielsen discussed the importance of automated enforcement in school zones and red-light cameras in high traffic areas.

Nicole Rodriguez discussed her personal experiences with traffic violence. She expressed the importance of enforcement to help with public safety.

Shari Robinson discussed her personal experiences with traffic violence.

Mayor Gallego expressed gratitude for residents sharing their personal stories and stated the importance of continued improvement for public safety.

Vice Mayor Stark proposed a motion to issue a Request for Proposals by Spring 2025, with the goal of initiating it sooner if possible. She recommended data-driven intersection cameras for red-light enforcement, along with four mobile units and towers for speeding enforcement in midblock and school zones. She suggested a 30-day warning period for red-light and portable camera units, during which warnings would replace fines. She also emphasized the importance of public information and recommended a campaign using the website, press releases, media, and social media to notify the public. Lastly, she proposed a semi-annual report for City Council review and approval.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington requested for the Street Transportation Department to consider flashing speed limit signs.

Ms. Velez stated there is a program for speed feedback signs. She mentioned the budget is eight per year and are installed on streets near schools.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington discussed the need for a more considerate approach to traffic enforcement in areas with high crash rates, often in disadvantaged communities. She proposed offering a one-time waiver for first offenses that do not lead to a crash or involve minor speeding.

Ms. Kriegh advised the City will need to investigate rules and regulations from the Court regarding fines for red-light running.

City Manager Jeffrey Barton stated before the RFP is issued, staff would review preliminary findings and share them with the Council. He noted if a waiver program were implemented, it would likely increase costs, citing the first 30 days had already cost approximately \$10,000. He mentioned

an estimate would be necessary to predict the number of individuals eligible for waivers.

Councilwoman O'Brien asked for clarification regarding the \$10,000 and if notice was being provided to residents.

Ms. Kelso stated all residents will be notified prior to implementation and the \$10,000 is cost per camera, per 30-days.

Councilwoman O'Brien discussed the importance of enforcement for traffic violations and the need for continuous improvement to ensure public safety.

Mayor Gallego discussed Proposition 479 and how the possible implementation could affect public safety and transportation.

Councilwoman Pastor requested clarification on the project's timeline and asked for a plan to inform residents about the new program.

Ms. Kelso confirmed the six-month timeline for an RFP, with implementation in Fall 2025.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Stark, seconded by Councilwoman O'Brien, that this item be approved and issue a Request for Proposals no later than Spring 2025 or sooner in late Fall/early Winter 2024; program to be cost neutral with revenues to be invested in traffic safety programs; fix intersection cameras for right-light running which data-driven collection will be based; recommend four mobile vehicle units and four mobile towers to be used mid-block or school zone placement for speeding enforcement; include a 30-day warning period, warning would be in lieu for the first 30 days for red light cameras and portable camera units; recommend a campaign to notify the public including website, press releases, media coverage, social media; and that staff provide a semi-annual report for Council approval. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Councilman Galindo-Elvira, Councilwoman Guardado, Councilwoman Hodge Washington, Councilwoman O'Brien, Councilwoman Pastor, Councilman Robinson, Vice Mayor Stark and Mayor Gallego

No: 1 - Councilman Waring

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gallego declared the meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.