



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 26, 2016 Agenda Item 7

### **Work Session**

Follow Up on Police Community Relations

### **Recommended Council Action**

Receive information.

### **Context with Key Issues**

This work session continues the discussion last held by Council on September 7, 2016 regarding steps to improve police community relations and share information with the public. Police Chief Alan Goldberg will share information on activities since that date, including planning for facilitated youth-police dialogs. City Manager Suzanne Ludlow will also share information gained from the most recent International City County Management Association (ICMA) convention on improving community relations in times of racial and political division.

### **Council Priority**

Livable Community; Engaged Responsive and Service Oriented Government

### **Environmental Impact of Action**

N/A.

### **Fiscal Impact of Action**

Facilitation for the upcoming youth-police dialogs is being provided at no charge to the City; minor expenses for hosting the discussions will be incurred. There is \$40,000 in the FY 17 budget to pay for activities to enhance police-community relations, which may include undertaking surveys and focus groups, preparation of educational and training materials, and paying for consultant services.

### **Attachments and Links**

September 7, 2016 Work Session Item



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – September 7, 2016 Agenda Item 7

### Work Session

Police Community Relations Update

### Recommended Council Action

Hear information from the City Manager.

### Context with Key Issues

In late July, Mayor Stewart and Councilmembers Qureshi and Seamens met with the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Police Chief and several other senior members of the Takoma Park Police Department to discuss how to move forward on improving police-community relations in Takoma Park. Previously, two Requests for Proposals had been issued for consultant assistance on this topic, but the proposals received did not seem appropriate for Takoma Park.

In the discussion, the Police Department went through a number of initiatives and best practices that are already being done or are being implemented. It is important that the whole Council and the public be aware of these, so the information will be shared at the work session and will be put on the City website in an easily-accessible format.

- Data Sharing to Come
  - White House Police Data Initiative
    - Crime data
    - Offender data
    - Traffic stops
    - Internal affairs / Use of force
  - Web Page Links
    - RAIDS
    - Open Data Montgomery
    - RAIDS Online
    - General Orders
- Training
  - Entry Level (29 weeks)
  - In-Service
    - Mental health first aid (7 hour course)
    - Crisis intervention training (40 hours – goal is to help those with mental illness or autism and to keep them out of the justice system)
    - De-escalation / Tactical disengagement
    - Constitutional law
    - Peer support

- Department Branding / Outreach
  - Police car design
  - Business cards
  - National Night Out / Unity in the CommUNITY
  - Youth Outreach
    - Explorers
    - Summer job program / internships
    - Visits to Lunch & Learn and similar programs
    - Family services diversion program
    - School Lunch with a Cop
- Intelligence Led Policing / Predictive Policing
  - Crime analyst
  - ATAC RAIDS
  - RAIDS Online
  - Offender data tracking

In addition to the efforts we are making, it is helpful to have consultant assistance in surveying the community and in making recommendations of improvements. Having a separate entity doing the surveying and providing recommendations helps build trust in the process, which is necessary for it to be successful.

Areas where the Police Department feels consultant input would be important are:

- Community survey
- Internal Police Department survey
- Refining performance evaluation measures
  - Redefining performance
  - Quantifying non-traditional duties

### **Council Priority**

Livable Community for All; Engaged, Responsive, and Service Oriented Government

### **Environmental Impact of Action**

N/A

### **Fiscal Impact of Action**

\$40,000 in Police budget for consultant assistance

### **Attachments and Links**