

**Minutes of the  
Measure Y Oversight Committee  
Monday, August 20, 2012  
6:30pm  
Mark Dunakin Hearing Room (#1)  
Oakland City Hall**

*The following minutes were developed by watching the DVD of the meeting recorded by KTOP. Inaudible portions of the meeting are indicated.*

*These are "action minutes" and, as such, are intended to report official action taken by the Measure Y Oversight Committee (Committee) and provide a brief synopsis of the items heard. Please refer to the recording of the meeting for more detail. The recording of the meeting is available from the Measure Y Coordinator at 510 238-6372 or calbano@oaklandnet.com.*

**Item #1: Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm. The roll was called and a quorum was declared.

**Members present included:**

- Joanne Brown
- Peter Barnett
- Chairperson Dorado
- Ryan Hunter
- Nyeisha DeWitt (arrived 7:05pm)

- Vicente Cruz
- Qa'id Aqeel (left at 8:45pm)

**Member absent:**

- Melanie Shelby

**Item #2: Open Forum**

Vicente Cruz, Member of the Measure Oversight Committee, Occupy Oakland Education Committee, & Oakland Green Party.

- He apologized for being absent from the Retreat and the other two meetings. He is the legal contact for the Lakeview Sit-In Peoples School for Public Education. He opted to not attend the Retreat because at the action that day there were children was present, and as the legal contact he the wanted to ensure their safety.

**Item #3: Approval of the Minutes:**

- June 18, 2012 MYOC Meeting.

**MOTION: It was moved by Member Barnett and seconded by Member Brown to approve the minutes as written.** 5 ayes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion Passes.

- June 26, 2012 MYOC Retreat.

**MOTION: It was moved by Member Barnett and seconded by Member Hunter to approve the minutes as written.** 5 ayes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion Passes.

- July 16, 2012 MYOC Meeting.

**MOTION: It was moved by Member Brown and seconded by Member Aqeel to approve the minutes as written.** 5 ayes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion Passes.

#### **Item #4: Measure Y Budget – OPD Revenue and Expenditures**

Tabled until next month. Two months (June and July) will be reviewed at that time.

#### **Item #5 Measure Y Budget – Final Draft, Evaluation RFP**

- Dyanna Christie said she was asked to assist the City Administrator's Office in developing the Measure Y Evaluation RFP. The Committee has been through a few iterations of the RFP, and she has incorporated the feedback. She was present to see if there are other suggestions or if we can move forward and post the RFP.
- Members Brown and Hunter (members of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Measure Y RFP) said they appreciated input from the Ad Hoc Committee members, and the patience shown by Ms. Christie and Ms. Albano in working with the Committee to develop the RFP. They would have hoped to be timelier as a Committee, but believe the product was better for the time spent, and really advances our ability to assess how MY funds are being used.
- **MOTION: It was moved by Member Hunter and seconded by Member Brown to endorse and support the final draft of the Evaluation RFP.** 5 ayes, 1 opposed. Motion Passes.
- The timeline is to post the RFP by this Friday. Final details need to be worked out. There will be approximately four weeks to respond and we hope for the final announcement on October 5, 2012.

#### **Item #6 RDA Community Policing Report**

Pat Bennett and Brightstar Ohlson from RDA provided an overview of the final community policing evaluation report for 2011-2012. Their PowerPoint presentation discussed a variety of topics including the SARA process, and highlighted the following recommendations:

1. Offer a PSO School annually and ensure that PSOs across the Department have access to the training topics identified through the PSO survey.
2. Expand Measure Y Equipment and Training funds to upgrade laptops, particularly in Area 1 and identify opportunities for external training.
3. Ensure better alignment of effort across Areas 1 and 2, particularly in relation to meeting the training needs of PSOs and provide Department-wide training in community policing and problem-solving approaches.
4. Balance the need to provide PSO service to each NCPC beat with the need to respond to surges in violent crime through the deployment of Crime Reduction Teams.
5. Develop metrics for measuring CRT impact on public safety early on in the fiscal year, should the Department decide to re-deploy CRTs.
6. Align Measure Y's community policing investment with other public safety initiatives and funding sources.

A variety of opinions, questions and comments were expressed by Committee members and RDA. The following highlights the discussion:

- Committee members said this was the best report so far – well organized, professional, didn't avoid issues, and was clear and to the point.
- The discussion on the SARA Database was really useful.
- OPD management is at fault for the PSOs not having the resources, training and equipment they need to do their job.
- The role of the Committee is misconstrued (page 36) as the Committee did "approve" the PSOs moving to CRTs, as the Committee does not have that power as it can provide input and opinions only.
- There was doubt that the CRTs are as effective as they are purported to be, and their work needs to be evaluated for effectiveness. The works of the CRTs might be good law enforcement but there is no justification for moving PSOs to CRTs inasmuch as what they are described as doing appears to be normal law enforcement work. Doubt was expressed that CRTs expand the ability of the few PSOs as there is no data supporting this assertion.
- Ms. Ohlson said she heard consistently from PSOs that there are certain problems they cannot solve by themselves and value the help of the CRTs. Ms. Bennett said they heard overwhelming from the PSOs that they felt they needed the CRTs and there was a strong outpouring of feeling in this regard.

- The needs for an evaluation of the CRTs is important – if money goes into these teams then there needs to be a data-driven-way to measure how they add value. The issue remains – is there a link between PSO activities and an actual reduction in crime.
- RDA conclusions were validating of the things the Committee has been talking about for months – that there has been no change in – such as the need for a training plan for the PSOs. Similarly, regarding equipment expenses since more than half of the equipment budget has been left unspent.
- All OPD officers should be thinking of themselves as community policing officers.
- Member Cruz asked if there was an economic component to the evaluation. RDA responded “no”, however PSOs express the opinion that the best way to reduce crime is for people to have living wage jobs. However, they also knew it was not in their power to affect this. RDA said PSOs were empathetic to the situation that Oakland residents were facing, and that the root of the crime problem was poverty.
- RDA said that they see exceptional community relations skills on the part of the PSOs in working with the NCPCs as partners. RDA also said that the analysis component of SARA is one of the primary differences between traditional policing and community policing. OPD has moved a long way since the beginning of the evaluation in developing awareness of the analysis component. This represents a compelling change in the culture of OPD, even if it is modest.
- Very few PSOs said they work with the violence prevention grantee organizations. They work mostly with the street outreach teams. OPD needs to help the PSOs learn more about the resources available, and to facilitate their interaction with the violence prevention programs.
- Prostitution is an entrenched problem, like drug dealing, and RDA has spoken to the PSOs about it. Given their power, they would say it was a success for them if there was a reduction in calls for services at a particular corner or area. Real success would be the economic revitalization of the area, but PSOs are aware that this is beyond their scope of work. But they do what they can, given their job as a PSO.
- RDA was asked, going forward, what needs to be in place for the evaluation of the CRTs to happen. RDA said the SARA database has been helpful in analyzing the work of the PSOs. Something similar thing for CRTs, at a minimum, would be a good first step.
- Chairperson Dorado said he would like to see the NSCs take up the duties outlined on page 8 and would rather see the PSOs working on meatier issues. Additionally, residents have a role in the problem-solving process, too, via the NCPCs - particularly in the scan and analysis phases. Where there is an

effective PSO working in collaboration with the residents to gather information it can be very effective.

- It was pointed out that PSOs are also female and when referring to them, we should include “she” as well.

Deputy Chief Breshears said he had read the report and had met with Ms. Ohlson about it. It also introduced other OPD staff present including Captain Medeiros, and Lieutenants Coleman and Hamilton. The highlights of their comments include the following:

- Next year, OPD is looking at going from two BFOs to one with one captain responsible for all the PSOs in the city. PSO resources would then be coordinated consistently across the city. This will include the grant-funded school resource officers as well.
- There was training on July 24 and 25, 2012 for both Patrol Offices and PSOs. While one group was in training the other covered their beats. The two 2-8 hour trainings focused on the SARA process: how to do the analysis phase, developing response plans with measurable outcomes, etc. Lieutenants Joshi and Colman are responsible for developing the PSO School for next year.
- Regarding the expenditure of funds for PSO training and equipment: There was a concern that although Measure Y money was budgeted for these items, the funds would not actually be there because of the City’s deficit and the fact that the City has to kick in funds to cover the cost of the PSOs. It was only after it was determined that the funds were there that they began spending. For example, 32 computers have been ordered for the PSOs just recently.
- Regarding the NSA and diversion of resources: OPD does not feel that the NSA is an impediment to the staffing of the PSO.
- CRTs are not required by Measure Y to only support the PSOs. Their charge is to reduce violent crime. We expect them to support the PSOs, but a key guide to their success is not solely their support of the PSOs. Absent the CRTs there are no other resources or specialized units to do the violence prevention work in OPD. Every day at 8am Captain Medeiros and DC Breshears review the crime from the night before and then plan the work of the PSOs.
- We knew there would be a reduction in PSO projects when the CRTs were taken away.
- Member Cruz commented that a few months ago an officer here, at the MYOC meeting, did not know how many treatment centers or shelters there were in his beat. He asked if there was something OPD could do to insure PSOs have knowledge of and access to the resources in the community. Medeiros said he will get the information and work with Sarah Bedford to be sure this is accomplished.

### **Item #7 Breakdown of PSO Hours – OPD**

The enduring question is: What was the percentage of time PSOs spend in their beats relative to their total time on the job. A simple table from OPD showing the beat number, the name of the PSO, the percentage of time or hours on their beats (or in beat-related work) and their total time on the job is all that is requested.

- Lt Hamilton said he is no longer in charge of the PSOs in BFO I.
- Captain Medeiros said they he could do it monthly and they will do it manually.

Brightstar Ohlson from RDA also presented an example of the Sara database monthly report showing open and closed projects, the stages the projects, etc.

- Member Hunter expressed surprise that PSOs spend 10 to 20 times more time in the response phase than in any other phase. RRD commented that said that typically the scanning happens once, initially, and typically analysis is where many potential responses are explores. The response phase is the implementation phase, and depending on the problem can take up to a year to more to address. For example, open air drug markets or the robberies have a lot of response vs. other phases since they might take more than a year to implement.
- PSOs might toggle back and froth between response and assessment as they try things, and then have to do a midcourse correction and implement another response based on a new assessment.
- Breshears said he reviews the PSO projects on a quarterly basis and the sergeants have to be knowledgeable of those projects can follow-up on them.

### **Item #8: PSO Reassignment to CRT's – OPD**

Tabled until the next meeting.

### **Item #9: Public Safety Committee – MYOC standing item**

There will be a standing committee item at the PSC, quarterly for the MYOC. There needs to be a letter or memo that is submitted when the item is agenized. Member Hunter volunteered to draft the first letter. Committee members should send Member Hunter their items. Member Brown volunteered to draft a memo on the Community Policing Evaluation heard tonight so it can be included with the evaluation when it is agenized for the PSC.

### **Item #11 Agenda Building**

The following item are on the list for future meetings:

#### **Public Safety Committee:**

- Public Safety Committee written and verbal report on a quarterly basis.
  - RFP process

**OPD:**

- PSO Hours Breakdown: beat #, name, hours in beat doing PSO work, total hours
- PSOs being reassigned as CRTs
- Hear from a CRT member.
- Two months revenue and expenditure reports review for OPD.

**Mayor's Office:**

- Accounting for the line item in the Mayor's Measure Y Budget for the Mayor's Special Assistant for Public Safety.

**Fire Department:**

- Fire Department and the mentoring program in 3-6 months (January 2013)

**MYOC:**

- June Retreat
- What can we do to see that PSOs get the training and resources they need?  
How can we strengthen their resource network?
  - Bring together the grantees and the PSOs for an exchange of information and resources and to develop communication between the PSOs and the funded groups.

**DHS:**

- Ceasefire report: how it works, what's different than last time. What about the grant.

**Item #12: Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by C. Albano, Measure Y Coordinator