

Measure Y Oversight Committee
September 19, 2011
Minutes

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

Item #1: Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Assistant to the City Administrator Patrick Caceres introduced himself and said he was filling in for Measure Y Oversight Committee staff member Reygan Harman. The roll was called and the following Committee members were present: (inaudible). A quorum was established.

Item #2: Open Forum

Below is a summary of the speakers' comments:

Jim Dexter commented that the Committee's agendas are not relevant because the relevant items are not being brought to their attention. For example, there have been 2 reorganizations of OPD and neither one had been brought before the Measure Y Oversight Committee before the reorganizations were implemented. After the fact, the Committee was told it could comment if it wanted, but that defeats the purpose of the Committee. He said the Committee has a fiduciary responsibility, and felt the Committee was there to insure that there is oversight over Measure Y - how its organized and implemented, how the budget is spent, and how the PSOs are assigned and deployed. He appreciated that OPD was at the meeting, but the information they present is superficial. He asked the Committee to directly ask the City Auditor to review the OPD implementation of Measure Y in terms of finances and PSO assignments. This request has not yet been made. The agenda includes many informational items, not action items, and he asked, respectfully, what is the Committee is doing here, what is the Committee accomplishing, and is the Committee achieving the goals set forth for the Committee? He said the Committee was not providing the advice to OPD or the oversight of Measure Y that it should.

Jeff Baker commented that he was disappointed that KTOP no longer broadcasts the Committee meetings, and the Committee should contact the City Administrator for assistance in finding funding to rectify this. He feels it is important because there is another election on another parcel tax coming up and it is important for residents to see what is going on with Measure Y. He also said, in going through the minutes, he can't find the Committee's budget. So, he is not sure how much money there for the Committee to work with – for example what are the staff costs, how much interest is being earned on the Measure Y fund (since it is a segregated fund) – are there delinquent taxes that need to be collected from 2005 to the present. He requested that Chairperson Dorado contact the Finance Director, and ask if he would come before the Committee and provide an update on the fund. Lastly, in December 2010 there was an

issue raised regarding the parking surcharge on the commercial parking spaces in the City - where a portion of those funds come to the Measure Y fund. He reminded the Committee that the City was in a lawsuit with Alameda County over whether or not funds should come to Measure Y from the Coliseum. In a December 10, 2010 memo from Mark Morodomi he informed the Committee that the City had won a law suit and would be collecting the funds. But in going over that memo it omits to say if the City is collecting the back taxes from 2005 through 2010. He is concerned that the Committee is being "managed" and that the staff person working with the Committee must be from the City Administrator's Office. It can't be someone from the Mayor's Office because that way when the Committee asks questions the Committee is not getting an answer from the Mayor, but an objective answer from the Administrator.

Sanjiv Handa, East Bay News Service, commented that shortly there will no longer be an Oakland Tribune because on November 1, 2011 the Oakland Tribune, Fremont Argus, West County Times, Daily Review, Alameda Times Star and the Hayward Daily Review will publish their final editions under those names. On November 2, 2011 all those papers will be combined into a new paper called The East Bay Tribune. Also on November 2, 2011, all the papers on the other side of the Tunnel will disappear and the new paper in that area will be called The Times. Those will be the two big papers in the East Bay. So each city has to decide who their paper of general circulation where they will print legal notices because the City Charter says ads must appear in the paper with general circulation of more than 25,000 printed and published in the city of Oakland, of which there will be none. The Post and the Express have circulation of less than 25,000.

He also said that you might have read that San Francisco Acting Chief Jeffrey Godown was being hired by OPD as a Deputy Chief - but that didn't happen because there was no job description for the Deputy Chief. However, a job description for the OPD Deputy Chief has been approved by the Civil Services Commission and the job will be posted and Godown can apply like everyone else. This relates to the points made by Mr. Dexter in that Mr. Handa believes that City Hall supports the idea that administrative decisions are not under the purview of the City Council or other Boards and Commissions and that is why you do not see them before your Committee.

There are a number of staffing changes in City Hall. Fred Blackwell has been hired as the second Deputy City Administrator. He is coming over from San Francisco where he was the Director of the Redevelopment Agency. He is not coming over here simply to take over CEDA, but to an expanded role with responsibilities for Museum, Library, Park & Recreation, and some aspect of what the Measure Y Oversight Committee does. He said it would be important for representatives of the Committee to get on his calendar to discuss issues affecting this Committee such as the number of businesses being affected by the downturn and the direct effect it has on Measure Y finances.

Item 3: Approval of the minutes from the July 18, 2011 meeting.

Motion to approve with the correction that Melanie Shelby was not present at the July 18, 2011 meeting. Moved and seconded by (inaudible) motion passed.

Item #4: Panel Discussion

None of the police chiefs were present to address this item; they were in a meeting regarding alignment. Deputy Chief Jeff Israel clarified that realignment relates to the Governor's proposal to address the overcrowding in the prisons by releasing offenders back into their communities.

Speaker Sanjiv Handa commented that there have been at least six models of community policing in Oakland in the past. However, information on those efforts is lost. Twenty-two bankers' boxes, including 5 on early community policing efforts, are missing.

Item #5: Standing Item – Problem Solving Officer (PSO) Report

PSO Supervisor Roland Holmgren introduced himself, and PSO Chris Keating who is the PSO for 19x.

At this point Member Shelby asked if there was a prioritization process regarding which PSOs present to the Committee. Chairperson Dorado said there was no prioritization process but having one would be beneficial for the Committee.

Officer Chris Keating began his presentation, which is an example of what he gives at his NCPC meetings, and consists of the following elements:

- 1) **NCPC Crime Data:** PSO Keating reviewed the crime data for the last 30 days including a map highlighting vehicle robberies and aggravated assaults among other crimes. He commented that there has been an uptick in gold-chain robberies. He asked residents to tuck chains in, be aware of their surrounding, and not to be distracted by talking on their cell phone. He also reviewed year to date crime stats from the beat - comparing it to citywide data.
- 2) **NCPC Crime Hotspots:** PSO Keating reviewed a list of hotspots in beat 19x including prostitution, gang issues on East 15th, and a problem house on International. He commended that doing this PowerPoint presentation at NCPC meetings has been effective in making residents aware of the current precautions they should be taking – see above.
- 3) **Top Problem Property:** PSO Keating said he used the SARA method (an acronym referring to the 4-step process of Scan, Analysis, Response, and Assessment) to solve a problem property on International Blvd. This property had a high volume of criminal activity from prostitution to drug dealing. It is a foreclosed property owned by the Bank of America. Thirty

different people were living there with 20 on probation. His approach was daily enforcement with arrests for violations. He worked with Nuisance Abatement Officer Arturo Sanchez to have a letter sent to the owner with a 30 day notice to abate. Eventually he got cooperation from the Bank of America to evict the “tenants” and the property boarded up. It didn’t solve the problem, but the realtor he was working with put up a no trespassing sign which gives OPD the authority to arrest. That worked well, and in the course of the project, over 20 people were taken to jail. It took over a week and multiple dump runs to clean up the property. Now the property is cleaned and boarded up. In response to questions, PSO Keating and/or Lt Holmgren said it took approximately 9 months to complete this project. Also, that it was not the type of project that would naturally have benefited from increased community involvement since much of the work was research on drug arrests and compiling reports. Also, this project is flagged in the SARA database as a success so that other officers can use as an example. He also said it took 3 months to get the cooperation from the Bank of America.

Melanie Shelby requested a copy of the PSO presentation and was assured she would receive one. She also requested a list of the top 10 beats in Oakland with the greatest challenges for OPD. This would be a good way to prioritize what PSOs come before the Committee to make presentations. Staff member Patrick Caceres commented that it would be good ideal to combine the top 10 most challenged beats with a list of foreclosed properties as a way to prioritize PSO hot spot work. Lt. Holmgren said he could compile such a list for his area.

- 4) **Top 3 Calls-for-Services Locations:** PSO Keating said the top calls in the last 30 days include: 911 hang-up and alarm calls at the Peralta Community College main office (14), a hotel on Embarcadero (12), and at a charter school (10). There were a total of 36 calls for service which occur at all hours of the day and night.
- 5) **Current Top 3 NCPC priorities:** The NCPC priorities include the following issues: prostitution and robberies on International Boulevard, and gang issues on East 15th Street.
- 6) **PSO Report:** 1) The problem property on International project reviewed above. 2) Prostitution on International Boulevard was addressed with high visibility patrols with 47 arrests thus far. Sgt. Holmgren stated they are working on the issue holistically by focusing on prevention, intervention and enforcement. Advocacy groups are on site including BWAR, EBAYC, OCO and others. There is an effort to change the culture in Oakland as it relates to the sexual exploitation of minors. In response to a question from Member Lee, Sgt. Holmgren said he has not worked with MISSEY and Nola Brantley in approximately 6 months. There is an effort to enforce

against the pimps, but it presents a host of problems. They are working with the City Attorney's Office on it. There are issues related to the dialogue the pimp has with the undercover officer. BFO 1 and 2 try to work together to tackle the problem although the split between the two is at 23rd Avenue. 3) Bicycle Patrol Robbery Arrests - Officers were able to stop a robbery of a woman of her purse, and arrest the perpetrators (their photographs were shown). In response to questions Sgt Holmgren and PSO Keating said they made a decision to show the photographs of perpetrators, who are minors, but not give their names. Ms. Shelby said it was disconcerting to see their photos and perhaps in deference to the fact that they were minors, and to protect their identity, that both their names and photos not be shown. Chairperson Dorado concurred. Sgt. Holmgren also responded to a question saying that PSOs do attend meetings other than NCPCs in their beats and, for example, was recently at an EBACY meeting. They do try to encourage people to come to the NCPC meetings because it is more effective and efficient. Sgt Holmgren also commented that he felt the attendance at the combined Beats 17, 18, 19 NCPC meetings had been reduced due to the lack of funding for translators. He said he would support looking for additional funds for translation services and spoke to Councilmember Kernighan about restoring funds.

PSO Keating stated that the majority of his day is spent working on these projects. He reads email, meets with community members, goes to meetings, and works with other PSOs who may need assistance.

Public Comment: Sanjiv Handa made three points: 1) The Committee should ask OPD to provide the status of PSOs vis a vis the reorganization of OPD including the staffing challenges given the available resources. OPD has reorganized to have 35 beats which are both for problem solving and patrol. This is in contrast to the old system where there were 57 community policing beats. 2) There needs to be a philosophical discussion about whether or not 18 year old should remain the age where you are charged as an adult given the numbers of juveniles under the age of 18 who are committing serious crime. 3) The Committee should consider inviting the new County Probation Chief who has implemented many exciting models given he is joining Mayor Quan and the Chief at the upcoming Summit.

Item #7. Standing Item - Service Provider Report: City County Neighborhood Initiative (CCNI). Joe DeVries, CCNI Supervisor, provided an update on the City-County Neighborhood Initiative which is a Measure Y funded project. This project is a partnership between the Neighborhood Services Division and the Alameda County Health Department's CPAE Unit in two neighborhoods: Sobrante Park in East Oakland and Hoover in West Oakland to build resident capacity to advocate and to solve problems.

Joe stated this project is fortunate because the Health Department has spearheaded extensive survey research on the impact of this project - starting with a baseline survey in 2004 and follow-ups in 2007 and 2010. He reviewed key components of the projects in Sobrante Park and Hoover. He then described the neighborhood demographics and provided a PowerPoint presentation with highlights of the survey research which shows that CCNI is successful in many areas. He also answered questions about the structure of the survey and the findings. A few of the highlights from the May 2010 door-to-door survey, as compared to 2007 survey, include:

In Sobrante Park:

- 68% of the residents feel the neighborhood is a safe place to live.
- 51% of households attend sponsored events such as Resident Acton Council meetings, National Night Out, neighborhood clean ups, etc.
- Residents feel better prepared for disasters due to neighborhood trainings and participation in the city-wide disaster drills. Trainings have also been given in Spanish.
- Conditions of the parks and lack of activities for youth continue to be the biggest concerns of residents.

In West Oakland:

- Residents say they have better access to health resources such as childhood immunizations, fresh fruits and vegetables, and safe places to exercise.
- Crime has decreased including violence around liquor stores.
- Access to computers and the internet has increased slightly.
- Hot spot areas, including San Pablo Avenue at St Andrews Park, where there have been issues with the sexual exploitation of minors, have seen a radical reduction.
- Residents say they are more satisfied with City responses to blight calls.
- About a 4% increase in those that say problems get solved in West Oakland.

Mr. DeVries also responded to questions regarding whether the program has met its goals of reducing poverty, health problems and violence given the data they have collected. Mr. DeVries said the work being done in the community is successful and has played a role in reducing crime, poverty, suspension rates, etc. but could not claim a direct correlation since there are many inputs. Since CCNI is in the last year of its contract we would like to emphasize the institutionalization of the work through the existing neighborhood organizations that have been built up.

Public Comment: Mr. Handa said that by multiplying the funds needed for this project by 35 and then by 10 and you will see the amount of money needed to begin to address the city's problems. That is the level of investment required. Rather, he said, the Mayor and other politicians have other priorities, and, for example, hired two full time Public Information Officers instead. His comments continued, saying that billions of dollars have been spent in Oakland, on a variety

of things; however, overall there are more people in poverty than before. Also, there are more than two times the number of people employed by the City of Oakland than before Proposition 13 and he wondered what all these staff members were doing?

Item #7: Drafting of the Letter to the Department of Human Services

Chairperson Dorado said the purpose of this item was to develop points that could be included in a letter to DHS and Mayor Quan regarding the Measure Y RFP. Several concerns were raised including: 1) the need to have Sara Bedford from DHS at the Measure Y meeting to answer questions; 2) what DHS means by the term “stakeholder”, 3) what the process is, 5) how the evaluation is structured, and 4) was it meant to include Measure Y Oversight Committee members in the stakeholder interviews. Staff responded saying that DHS has reached out to a variety of providers and other stakeholders to get information that would provide input into the RFP. But, she is not aware of their intentions vis a vis the oversight committee. Possible points to include in the letter are:

- Rationale for changes in the funding.
- The data collection process needs to include data that is comparable between programs and needs to reflect the actual violence prevention accomplishments so efforts are measured the same across groups and can be compared to each other. This will help in prioritizing funding decisions.

It was said if they didn't write a letter they could express their concerns and opinions to DHS at the next meeting. They don't have to support the process and can go directly to the Public Safety Committee or to City Council with the Committee's opinion. It was also expressed that writing a letter is good because it expresses directly the opinion of the Committee. It was agreed that Chairperson Dorado would write a letter with help from Member Shelby on the above points and Chairperson Dorado will send the letter.

Staff member Reygan Harmon commented that the letter should come to the Mayor's Office as well since they are involved in the RFP process. She recommended that concerns in the letter be expressed as explicitly and specifically as possible.

Public Comment: Mr. Handa commented the Committee has been in a rut ever since its inception. He recommended the Committee have a work session to talk about what they need in terms of budgets, finances, etc. He suggested the Committee send a letter to the City Administrator saying they want to be involved in the RFP process, want to see the timeline, scope, final language of the RFP, etc, so the Committee can be truly involved. The Committee needs to be more proactive. There is \$22 million of tax payer money being spent in Measure Y so if you are frustrated you need to work to get what you want. Have special meetings and requests.

Item #8 Agenda Building

Member Shelby requested getting presentations in advance, if possible. She also suggested getting clarity around who will be presenting and reporting. She reiterated her point that the PSO item is good, but they should be prioritized by the top ten stressor beats, initially, as the Committee tries to get oriented to what is going on in the city.

Member Lee commented that the standing report of the finances needs to be back on the agenda as a standing item. Timing and spacing of items also needs to be considered so the meeting does not go over time and there is more time to discuss action items.

It was also suggested that the agenda be timed-out to keep the meetings on schedule.

Another item for the agenda is a retreat for the Committee, as well as the need for a timeline so the Committee could better judge when their input was needed for the RFP.

Member Shelby read her notes on the items that should be included in the letter. These include, but are not limited to: the process basis of understanding, how resources are spent, strategy for the funding cycle, RFP process, finances, service providers and timeline, how to address standing reports, how staff and other resources are spent, how to address the new funding cycle, how the committee can get more involved, and a retreat.

Public Comment: Mr. Handa made a number of recommendations including but not limited to: 1) the Committee should be meeting twice a month. He said you cannot limit speakers' time when there are so few members of the public here. He also said that speaker time is governed by State law. Time is limited on speakers (2 to 5 minutes depending on the complexity of the subject matter), presenters (5 minutes) and members (no more than 5 minutes each) as well. 2) Request a report from the City Attorney about how speakers' time is determined. 3) Develop a community outreach strategy it is nonexistent as it is. 4) Consider ADA compliance because no one turned on the door stop and there are accessibility problems with the entrances. He also suggested agenda items, including: What happens if there is a fall-off in funding and another round of cuts in the City budget.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:39pm

Submitted by: Claudia Albano, Measure Y Coordinator