



MEMORANDUM

City Manager's Office

DATE: July 22, 2021
TO: Public Safety Advisory Board
FROM: Melvin E. Gaines, Principal Management Analyst

SUBJECT: PSAB Fiscal Year 2021-22 Work Plan Development

PURPOSE

Review recommended and discuss potential new items for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB) Work Plan.

BACKGROUND

The PSAB is an advisory body created by the Mountain View City Council to hold public forums and provide input and recommendations to the City Council, City Manager and Police Chief on public safety matters that include the development of community policing concepts, increasing public awareness of public safety matters, furthering Mountain View Police Department (MVPD) engagement and transparency efforts, and identifying best practices. While the services and operations of the Mountain View Fire Department (MVFD) are also related to public safety, the PSAB was not formed to provide recommendations to the Fire Chief on matters related to MVFD.

City Council Advisory Bodies recommend the specific items they will undertake each year through a process defined in City Council Policy A-23, "Work Item Referral Process for Council Advisory Bodies and Councilmember Committees" (Attachment 1). This policy requires all Council Advisory Bodies to annually prepare work plans for City Council review and approval.

The PSAB Fiscal Year 2021-22 Proposed Advisory Body Work Plan will be developed through a two-step process. During the July 22 meeting, PSAB members will discuss one existing and two recommended potential work plan items, as well as propose any

potential additional items. Following the meeting, staff will assess how proposed items fit into the scope of the PSAB, the staff capacity needed and workload impacts of proposed items and the feasibility of the PSAB undertaking those items. Based on this assessment, for the PSAB's consideration, staff will recommend items for the PSAB to include on its proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Work Plan at the August 26 meeting. The PSAB will determine the limited number of items for which there is majority support to recommend in the proposed work plan. The City Council will review and approve the PSAB recommended work plan along with other Council Advisory body work plans for Fiscal Year 2021-22 in September.

DISCUSSION

Scope and Size of the PSAB Work Plan

Due to capacity constraints throughout the organization, the City's continued focus on COVID-19 recovery, and the Council's desire to limit the number of work plan items on advisory body work plans, advisory bodies are being asked to limit their proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Work Plan items. **The proposed PSAB Work Plan should include three to five items.** It is important to note that the PSAB may receive referrals for additional work plan items from the City Council, the Race, Equity, and Inclusion Ad Hoc Subcommittee, the City Manager's Office or the MVPD during Fiscal Year 2021-22.

All proposed work plan items should be related to the PSAB's purpose - to hold public forums and provide input and recommendations to the City Council, City Manager and Police Chief on public safety matters. Furthermore, the PSAB should propose work plan items that are not duplicative of existing City work plans and initiatives or under the purview of other [City Council Advisory Bodies](#).

Potential Work Plan Items Related to Existing Efforts

In June, the City Council referred to the PSAB, and the PSAB has begun work on, an item to review the Mountain View Police Department (MVPD) School Resource Officer (SRO) program, seek community input, and provide feedback to the City Council. This item is already included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 PSAB Work Plan. In addition, the City is currently engaged in two public safety efforts that would be enhanced by PSAB assistance and guidance. These efforts are: 1) assessing disparities in traffic stops and 2) exploring alternative responses to mental health crises.

MVPD Research Fellow, Alex Stephenson, provided an overview of his research related to traffic stops at the June 24 PSAB meeting. Staff anticipates that Mr. Stephenson will provide another presentation to the PSAB in August that shares his findings and

identifies next steps the City may consider. Depending on the research findings and potential next steps, the PSAB may desire to add a work plan item related to the research findings. Staff will have a better idea of potential work plan items related to the research findings and will present those at the August 26 PSAB meeting.

The City is exploring various approaches to service calls related to persons experiencing mental health crises that augment the MVRPD's response or provide a community-based alternative to police response. Staff will provide a presentation on these efforts at the August 26 PSAB meeting. Staff recommends that alternative mental health response be added as a PSAB work plan item. The scope would not be to develop new models as there is already an exciting County pilot program for which Mountain View has been selected as a participating city. Rather, staff believes the PSAB could add value to the development and launch of this pilot by providing input to the City and helping to engage community members.

Additional Potential Work Plan Items

Staff recommends an approach to identifying a limited number of potential work plan items, in addition to the three above already recommended by staff, that considers the scope of the PSAB, the types of issue areas that are of interest to PSAB members, and the types of roles and activities the PSAB can undertake related to an issue.

Examples of actions the PSAB may take related to an item include hosting discussions and receiving public input to raise awareness and encourage dialogue, researching best practices or identifying needs and making recommendations related to a public safety matter, and planning and executing an event that improves community-police relations.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that each Member put forward up to two new work plan items, not including the three items recommended by staff above.

A recommended process for Members to share their top two new work plan items is as follows:

1. During the meeting, each Member will share their top two work plan items. Staff will document each member's items.
2. Staff will assist with consolidating or combining similar work plan items as necessary.

3. The PSAB, as a body of the whole (consensus or majority), will affirm the final list of potential work plan items to be considered for prioritization at the next PSAB meeting.

NEXT STEPS

As noted above, staff will assess how proposed items fit into the scope of the PSAB, the workload impacts of proposed items and the feasibility of the PSAB undertaking those items during this fiscal year. Based on this assessment, on August 26, staff will recommend items for the PSAB's consideration. The PSAB will discuss the recommendations, prioritize as necessary and identify the limited number of items that have consensus or majority support to include on the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Work Plan. The City Council will review and approve the PSAB recommended work plan along with other Council Advisory body work plans for Fiscal Year 2021-22 in September.

- Attachment:
1. City Council Policy A-23: Work Item Referral Process for Council Advisory Bodies and Councilmember Committees