

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

3:00 PM

City Hall, Ground Floor, Room 16

Public Safety Committee

CALL TO ORDER**ROLL CALL****ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as submitted by a vote of 2-0 (Commissioner Bottcher was absent at the time of the vote).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES**130404. Approval of September 25, 2013 Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes (B)****RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Safety Committee approve the minutes of the September 25, 2013 meeting as submitted.

The minutes of the September 25, 2013 meeting were approved as written by a vote of 2-0 (Commissioner Bottcher was absent at the time of the vote).

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**120510. Speeding on NW 31st Drive (B)**

This item is to update the Public Safety Committee on the status of speeding on N.W. 31st Drive Avenue in the vicinity of Alfred Ray Massey Westside Park.

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Safety Committee: 1) received a presentation from staff, and 2) take action as appropriate.

Since this item was last discussed by the Committee, a community meeting was conducted with this neighborhood and options for assistance were discussed. Those options requested by the neighborhood will be added to the backup documentation for the item.

Data taken on two different occasions by GPD staff did not show speeding issues. The neighborhood considered the data was not collected properly.

The Committee voted 3-0 to refer this item back to the full City Commission with the recommendations of 1) considering the safety options of adding a sidewalk and curb, installing crosswalks, and rumble strips; and 2) consider funding options for these projects.

120349. Vehicles Speeding in Neighborhoods (B)

This item is an update to the Citywide Traffic Calming Program presentation given to the Public Safety Committee at their January, 2013 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Safety Committee: 1) receive a presentation from staff; and, 2) take action as appropriate.

The Committee was shown the previously viewed PowerPoint presentation by Assistant Public Works Director Phil Mann, highlighting the different types of traffic calming devices. There has been a moratorium in place within the City since 2008 on the installation of speed bumps due to the damage to large emergency vehicles and the slowdown on response time by emergency vehicles.

Currently there is no funding for the Traffic Calming Program. Discussion included involving the residents of neighborhoods in contributing to calming devices they want in their neighborhood, or making them responsible for maintenance on the traffic circle and other calming devices.

The Committee voted 3-0 to refer this item back to the full City Commission to recommend the modification of the current moratorium to allow the installation of traffic cushions, which have the least negative impact on emergency vehicles; and to consider funding for the Traff Calming Program.

121072.**Speeding on University Avenue Between 13th Street and Football Stadium (B)**

This item is to update the Public Safety Committee on the status of the referral regarding speeding on West University Avenue near campus, NW 13th Street in front of GHS and 800-1600 North Main Street.

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Safety Committee: 1) receive an update from staff; and, 2) take action as appropriate.

GPD received two grants in 2013 to pay for officer overtime to study traffic speeding and pedestrian traffic in these areas. Chief Jones recommended staff work with UF staff on an educational campaign on the enforcement of traffic laws. Statistics for 2013 show that the number of citations has reduced since the 2010 for these higher traffic areas, in part due to the efforts made possible by the grants.

The Committee voted 3-0 to keep this item in Committee for future updates.

MEMBER COMMENT

Commissioner Chase stated he would consider supporting funding for overtime in areas with problems speeders. It is important to be affective and to remind people of the laws.

Commissioner Hinson-Rawls would be interested in funding overtime for Downtown issues. Chief Jones informed the Committee that he is working with the Operations Bureau Commander to put more resources Downtown to help cut down on harassment of visitors and business owners Downtown.

CITIZEN COMMENT**NEXT MEETING DATE**

Chair Hinson-Rawls requested the starting time for this meeting be moved to 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.