**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

August 12, 2020

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Webex Meeting

**Commissioners present:** Alison Turner, Bill Southern, Carol Redfield, Chris Maykut, Emily Kim, Jasmine Aryana, Julie Pham, Karyn Kubo Fleming, Martha Lucas, Robert White, Sharif Mahfouz, Felix Chang, Thais Marbles

**Commissioners not present:** None

**City of Seattle Staff present**: Andres Mantilla (DON Director), Waing Waing (DON External Relations Director) Abesha Shiferaw (Civic Engagement and Leadership Development Team Lead), Laura Jenkins (DON Outreach & Engagement), Angela Rae (DON Outreach & Engagement), Angela Socci (Budget Director, Seattle Police Department), Adrienne Thompson (Mayor’s Office)

**Call to Order/Introductions**

Mr. Andres Mantilla, Director of Department of Neighborhoods (DON) opened the meeting and introductions followed.

**Seattle Police Department Budget Presentations**

Mr. Mantilla introduced the presenters and facilitated the question and answers from the Commissioners and the public.

Ms. Angela Socci, presented a brief overview of the SPD’s budget in response to calls to divest in SPD to increase investments in the City’s BIPOC communities. The presentation will provide and explore the different options for the plan. She noted that she does not have all the answers, but she is committed to bringing these questions to the appropriate staff for answers.

The presentation summarized the 2020-2021 budget and the COVID-19’s impact on City’s revenues, budget process specifically for SPD, an overview and breakdown of the budget, breakdown, and proposed reductions and proposals.

Mr. Mantilla commented that there is information in the presentation that must be digested, and he assured the Commission that they will address any questions they may have and provide follow-up information to many questions unanswered.

Ms. Socci and Ms. Adrienne Thompson (Policy Director, Mayor’s Office) took questions and answers from the Commissioners and the public ranging from SPD’s budget breakdown, collective bargaining agreements on overtime, impacts of budget reductions on gears and equipment, precincts and facilities, impacts of officer layoffs on public safety and service, transferring responsibilities, redirecting current resources and investments, hiring and training process, etc.

**Executive Session: Reimagining Public Safety Discussion**

Mr. Mantilla commented that the purpose of the presentation is to solicit feedback from this Commission and the public about SPD’s reimagining public safety.

A question was asked if the City has done any research from other cities about public safety best practices, and Ms. Thompson mentioned that the City did extensive research about other cities that have fewer crimes. She added that the City has a Public Safety Advisor that works and gathers different ideas on how to reimagine public safety. Several ideas include spending more money on the community, transferring functions to the County department, etc.

Martha Lucas commented that the best approach is to make sure to understand and have access to a trusted messenger that will get honest answers about their specific situation. She added that this can be done and accomplished by members of the community. She added that her concern is to ensure and understand how to approach these situations.

**Next Steps**

The next steps of this process are to continue to enhance this presentation with feedback from the boards and commissions before it gets presented to a broader and larger audience. There will be a variety of public meetings with different community organizations and groups in the future.

The goal of this presentation is to gather feedback from this Commission about the messaging to create an effective tool to present and communicate to a larger audience.

Mr. Mantilla added that this is an ongoing partnership between DON, Mayor’s Office, SPD, OCR, and all have been engaged along with King County Equity to ensure that these challenging conversations are happening.

He also added that further conversations about SPD’s budget should not focus only on reductions but also on investments to BIPOC communities and looking at partnering with this commission and the broader community to help structure, design, and implement this project.

The notes and presentations of this meeting will be available to the Commission and any questions that were not answered will be followed up.

**Public Comments**

***(Transcriber’s Note: The comments shown below are summaries of statements provided. They are not transcriptions and have been shortened and edited to include the major points raised. Full comments are retained in the files in voice recording and available upon request.***

Mr. Mantilla opened the discussion for public comments.

A comment was made the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) under SPD that works with the community around disaster preparedness and if there will be budget and staff reductions.

Ms. Socci responded that there will be no changes to the structure or the budget of OEM other than that they will be a separate office. She added that SPD is committed to supporting in their transition.

A comment was made about how much is spent to settle claims against SPD and its officers and where is the source of funding. A question was asked about what an entry-level police officer training looks like.

Ms. Socci responded that she does not have the current information available, but she will provide that information. The Office of the Inspector General issued their 2019 report and it contains a summary of the settlement and claims payout to SPD. Any settlements and claims are going to come out to the City’s Judgement Claims fund and it does not affect the SPD’s budget.

Regarding training, Ms. Socci noted that all police officers in the state go through the basic law enforcement academy for four months and a six weeks classroom setting that teaches all of SPD’s specific policies, procedures, systems, geography to perform their duties. They go through about five months of field training with a field training officer where the officers are being evaluated daily.

The officers go through a probationary status, academy training, field training and they must meet certain requirements to graduate from the program.

A comment was made about her appreciation about the efforts being made to have these conversations and it shows that there is so much work ahead. She added that there should be a better and consistent reporting about the status of the work. She was disappointed that SPD’s behavior especially around BIPOC communities was not discussed or addressed.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Shiferaw commented that the notes will be available for the Commission to review. She will do a follow up with the co-chairs regarding the regular business meeting that is scheduled for this Monday.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.