



City of Doral Police and Traffic Advisory Board Minutes

Monday, May 16, 2022

1:00p.m.

Doral Government Center
1st Floor Multipurpose Room
8401 N.W. 53rd Terrace
Doral, FL 33166

1. **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm

2. **Roll Call of Board Members**

David Yglesias, Chair	Present
Frank Vaio, Vice Chair	Present
Wes Roddy, Secretary	Present
Vicente Peña-Hamel, Board Member	Present

Also in Attendance:

Captain Nancy Fernandez, Police Department
Lieutenant Y. Martinez, Police Department
Ms. Rita Carbonell, Public Works Dept.
Ms. Edna Sibila, Transportation Manager

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Public Comments**

5. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the March 21, 2022, meeting minutes was made by Mr. Yglesias and seconded by Mr. Roddy.

6. **Discussion Items**

a. **Discussion: DPD programs to address substance abuse, mental illness and economic hardship and their potential impact to policing and our police officers**

Captain Fernandez said police suicide is a very critical factor and a real thing. The DPD Chief has established a police mental wellness program that is contracted with Blue Line Counseling (BLC). BLC is an Adult Mental Health Clinic that provides diagnostic, treatment, and prescriptive services. It is mandatory for every officer to sit with a counselor for 1-hour per year to talk or listen in confidence. In addition, the DPD schedules various agencies to

come to the training center to discuss Social Security services, Lending / Financial services, and Florida Retirement System (FRS) advice for officers and to help them plan their financial situation in the present and their futures. FRS also provides numerous webinars throughout the year that are beneficial.

Lieutenant Martinez and Captain Fernandez said the department has a homeless liaison who reaches out to those in need. Officer Jamie Locon is the primary point of contact for the homeless liaison program. On every shift there is also a homeless liaison available in the field. The police station has a designated area for clothing donations, and these are available to those in need. If an officer meets someone who needs clothing, they can come to this area and pickup items for those individuals. The department's Neighborhood Resource Unit (NRU) works with the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, which assists the homeless through a hotline, shelter referrals and access to information on other homeless services.

b. Discussion: Has there been an increase in violent crime and if so, how is DPD addressing it

Captain Fernandez stated that most of the violent crime is domestic related. If you were to look at the statistics for robberies, there have been 17 for the entire year and 9 of those were tied to domestic issues. She said their training has prepared officers for any level of police response necessary to meet the need. For example, the shooting that happened on Friday, October 22nd on NW 25th St. could have been much worse if they had not received appropriate and ongoing training. Three of those officers that responded on October 22nd were named "Officers of the Year" by the South Florida Police Benevolent Association. Training worked.

c. Discussion: DPD efforts to educate citizens on topics that could lead to an increase in crime if not addressed

Lieutenant Martinez said his guys in the NRU visit Homeowners Association (HOA) upon invitation and they constantly remind residents to do not keep valuables in their cars, lock the car, and don't leave your spare keys in the car. They have conducted two seminars and went door to door where they have been incidents of car break-ins to pass out flyers and educate those homeowners. Lieutenant Martinez said if you see or receive a call that is suspicious asking for personal financial information, call the police department and they will respond. If you only call the HOA security, it could delay the response from them.

d. Discussion: Update on NW 41st St. and NW 117th Ave. Pedestrian Bridge Project

Ms. Sibila stated the pedestrian project is pending an order to proceed from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). She said on July 7, 2022, there will have a public hearing on this topic. The pedestrian bridge will connect the north and south portions of the Turnpike Trail along NW 117th Ave. The bridge will allow pedestrians and cyclists to safely cross over Doral Blvd. (41st St). The contract is a design build, and the city won a \$1M grant from the State of Florida.

e. Discussion: Traffic Updates

Traffic in the city is back where it was before COVID. The school traffic on NW 41st near the Academir Charter School took some time to get better while parents adjusted to the arrival and dismissal periods, but that has since smoothed itself out with the help of the department. This is the case with most of the schools in the city.

f. Open Discussion

7. Future Meeting Date: Monday, August 22, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourns at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wes Roddy
Wes Roddy, Secretary

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022, Police and Traffic Advisory Board Meeting made by Board Member _____ and seconded by Board Member _____.

David Yglesias, Chair
Frank Vaio, Vice Chair
Wes Roddy, Secretary
Vincente Pena Hamel, Board Member

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Frank Vaio
Wes Roddy
Vincente Pena Hamel

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 22nd day of August 2022.

David Yglesias
David Yglesias, Chair