



## MINUTES

### Public Safety Committee Regular Meeting

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**3:00 PM - September 26, 2018**

City Hall Executive Briefing Room - Plaza 111, Sammamish, WA

**Committee Members Present:** Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama  
Councilmember Chris Ross

**Committee Members Absent:** Deputy Mayor Karen Moran

**Staff Present:** City Manager Larry Patterson  
Director of Community Development Jeff Thomas  
Director of Public Works Steve Leniszewski  
Police Chief Michelle Bennett  
Management Analyst Mike Sugg  
Administrative Assistant Tammy Mueller

#### CALL TO ORDER

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Chair Ramiro Valderrama called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

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No public comment was provided.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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June 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

**MOTION: Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Councilmember Chris Ross seconded. Motion carried unanimously 2-0 with Deputy Mayor Karen Moran absent.**

#### TOPICS

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##### **Police Services Study**

Management Analyst Mike Sugg introduced the topic, introduced BERK consultants Kristin Maitd and Brian Murphy, and provided a copy of the [Existing Conditions Report](#). Consultants Maitd and Murphy provided the Committee an update on the study and requested feedback and direction. A [PowerPoint was presented](#). Discussion followed.

- The Committee discussed the costs of the City running its own municipal police department

compared to continuing a contract for police services with the King County Sheriff's Office, finding that it is more cost-effective at present to continue to contract police services.

- The Committee discussed the study's finding of high turnover among Sammamish police officers and methods of attracting and retaining officers. Among them were specialized training opportunities unique to Sammamish and hiring additional officers to allow more opportunities for time off as well as better coverage when a peer takes leave. The Committee requested that BERK collect input from Sammamish Police in conjunction with research regarding the topic of strengthening police department culture & staff retention and determining what focus areas for training programs could be considered.
- The Committee reviewed the study's projection of increased calls and traffic issues as Sammamish continues to grow. They discussed the current police staffing model, the study's recommendation to increase officer capacity, and allocation of police resources including the pros and cons of hiring a City employee or contracting with King County to fill administrative positions. The Committee proposed reviewing the current contract with King County Sheriff's Office. This would inform further discussion regarding whether additional administrative services would be beneficial. Also under consideration is whether it is more beneficial and cost-effective to have administrative services provided by King County as part of the contract or provided by the City.
- The Committee provided feedback to the consultants regarding the 'Potential Guiding Principles and Law Enforcement Priorities' on slide 14, highlighting and discussing the 'Efficient use of public resources' value - 'Tiered policing model' potential implication.
- The Committee discussed whether a public safety impact fee, similar to development impact fees, or business improvement district could be created to supplement the additional police resources anticipated due to continued growth, specifically in the Town Center. The BERK consultants were directed to investigate these options and report back.
- Next Steps: BERK consultants to provide a report to City Council during the October 16, 2018 Regular Meeting.

#### **Discussion: Sammamish Landing Parking & Crosswalk Safety**

Chair Ramiro Valderrama explained that parking and pedestrian safety of Sammamish Landing has been brought to the City Council's attention by concerned residents. Staff updated the Committee of the status of improvements to the area.

- Crosswalk improvements are currently in progress. Flashing beacon lights at the crosswalk will be installed, pending action from King County. There are no current plans for a bicycle lane.
- The Committee discussed whether the Sammamish Police Department could place a patrol car nearby. Previously, King County had offered overtime for officers to patrol parks, resulting in an officer parking nearby which may have improved crosswalk safety. Staff stated that they do not currently have the manpower to commit a Sammamish officer to this area. The Committee questioned whether the patrol officer observing the East Lake Sammamish Trail work could relocate their car during rush hour to Sammamish Landing. Staff informed the Committee that such direction would need to come from King County Parks Department.
- Staff will investigate whether street lights can be installed on existing poles in the area.

#### **FUTURE MEETING TOPICS**

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Police Services Study

Fireworks Update

Police & Fire Incident Reports and Responses

**NEXT MEETING DATE(S)**

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TBD - Early November 2018

**ADJOURNMENT**

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**Councilmember Ramiro Valderrama moved to adjourn.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.