



MEETING MINUTES

Chief's Advisory Panel: Public Meeting
July 21, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.
Virtual & In-Person Options
San Marcos Activity Center, 530 E. Hopkins

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87954453589?pwd=SHR2ZkFDNTFZYVpiek9UbzFZKzEydz09>

Passcode: 789657

Or Telephone:

US: +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 879 5445 3589

1. OPENING REMARKS

Welcome by Chief Standridge, SMPD. Overview of agenda and introductions.

2. 2021 Q2 CITE & RELEASE OVERVIEW

In accordance with COSM ordinance that requires quarterly presentations to public on Cite & Release, Chief Standridge provided an overview of second quarter stats. It was noted that community-initiated calls are most often the reason for cite and release calls. Panel requested an overall summary of data after several quarters of C&R being in place to be provided at a future meeting. Panel asked for non-compliance stats by C&R recipients, which stand at 40-42% .

3. VCCR: CRIME/CRASHES

VCCR: San Marcos has seen a 19% increase in violent crimes in the span of one year. The Violent Crime Comprehensive Review (VCCR) committee is organic within the department and has been formed to help respond to a collectively owned issue. The VCCR is comprised of members of the City of San Marcos, Hays County, local nonprofits, faith-based organizations, Texas State University, Chief's Advisory Panel, downtown businesses, District Attorney's Office, the school district, and local apartment managers. The VCCR's crime reduction plan will be data and intelligence driven, while addressing the fundamental factors (vital behaviors) that contribute to crime.

Crashes: At any given time, SMPD has 6 officers on the street. There are approximately 82,000 calls for service, which means that officers are going from call to call. There are an estimated 3,200 reported crashes. SMPD is requesting that Council consider funding officers for a stand-alone traffic division, so that when officers are not responding to crashes they can work to avoid crashes.

In the meantime, selected officers will soon begin working in an overtime capacity several days a week to address known issues in specific hotspots identified through community requests. The goal is voluntary compliance, not enforcements, so citizens will know in advance where officers will be.

4. STAFFING: CRITICAL DISPATCH SHORTAGES & PATROL UPDATES

A review was made of a severe staffing shortage in SMPD Dispatch team and approaches being made to address the issue. An update was provided on field trainees and completion dates for academy cadets. An entrance exam is scheduled for September for certified officers.

5. QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Note: Brief questions will be received as time allows. Participants may use the Zoom chat, but this feature will be unmonitored during the meeting. To submit questions for answers, please email policeinfo@sanmarcostx.gov. Questions received via email will be responded to within 3 business days following the meeting.