

Pleasanton Police Department
Community Advisory Board
Tuesday July 25, 2023
Briefing Room

Department Attendees: Chief David Swing, Administrative Assistant Kim Monfort, Deputy City Manager Alexa Jeffress, Management Analyst ZeeLaura Page

CAB Members in Attendance: Gary Davila, Jennifer DeGroat-Penney, Eugene Litvinoff, Pinky Mukherjee, Puneet Pamma, Raffiq Rajabali, Melanie Sadek

Absent: Tonya Bass, Bill Foley, Erica Gallegos, Ediambolo Lokoto, Sylvia Tian

I. Chief's Welcome

Chief Swing welcomed CAB members and introduced two staff members from the City Manager's Office, Deputy City Manager Alexa Jeffress and Management Analyst ZeeLaura Page. Alexa joined the city 5 months ago, and ZeeLaura has been with the city for two years. They will speak about City of Pleasanton's Strategic Plan later in the meeting.

II. Police Department Update

a. BSCC Organized Retail Theft Prevention Grant

Chief Swing shared that the department has submitted a competitive grant proposal to the BSCC (Board of State and Community Corrections) for Organized Retail Theft Prevention. The grant would provide up to three millions dollars over three year which could be used for a new Computer Aided Dispatch System incorporating a Real Time Crime Information Center, similar to what Livermore PD has as well as additional LPR (License Plate Reader) cameras and various other improvements.

CAB raised questions about how the Real Time Crime Center would work and what the department is doing currently to combat retail and property thefts.

III. Old Business

No issues were raised.

IV. New Business

a. City of Pleasanton Strategic Plan – Presentation & Discussion

Deputy City Manager Alexa Jeffress shared the efforts she has been leading to develop a Five-Year Strategic Plan for the city, which would be a transition from the current Two-Year Work Plan. The Strategic Plan will identify high level goals and strategies to help balance community and council needs with resources available. While it is a five-year plan, it will be tied to the two-year budget cycle and revisited every year to see if adjustments need to be made. Mission, vision and value statements will drive multi-year goals and strategies.

Alexa shared that it was important this be a collaborative effort. Community outreach included pop-up events at the farmer's market, focus groups and an open house at the library. Other input came from City Council interviews, Pleasanton Executive team, mid-level managers, and an employee survey. Over 1000 people participated and gave input.

Predominant themes emerging from the community engagement activities were:

1. Affordable housing and housing
2. Water quality and supply
3. Public safety
4. Communication
5. Diversity and inclusion
6. Transportation, planning, sustainability
7. Arts and culture
8. City collaboration with non-profits
9. Economic Development
10. Facilities and parks

Strategic Planning Process Timeline

- Staff & Community Input Feb-June
- Executive Team Workshop June 8
- Council Workshop August 24
- Adoption of Strategic Plan Sept – Oct.
- Implementation Action Plan Workshop October

The Implementation Action Plan will identify individual projects and initiatives with a proposed timelines for delivery that considers budget and other resources. A discussion followed and CAB had questions related to funding and how items are being prioritized. CAB member Gallegos shared that she participated in one of the focus groups.

b. Evaluation of CAB

Chief Swing stated that as CAB's two-year term is coming to an end, recruitment efforts for new members is underway. Eighteen applications have been received to date. He requested members advance the names of two people they think might be great additions to the board that the department can reach out to. He stressed the importance that the board represent Pleasanton. National Night Out is coming up on August 1st. At the recommendation of CAB members, the department will create a brochure or pamphlet about CAB that can be handed out to the public highlighting the role, responsibilities, and benefits of sitting on the board.

i. Highlights

The group discussed highlights of what went well over the last two years. CAB member Rajabali shared that prior to joining the board, he really didn't have an appreciation of what happened in the community. He added that the videos of the officer involved shootings were very eye opening. CAB member Davila appreciated the communication and transparency of topics discussed. CAB member Mukherjee liked the inclusivity of everyone and being able to represent her community and share what the department is doing to protect their safety. CAB member Pamma added that he enjoyed hearing from different city staff such as detectives, traffic unit, and crime analyst. CAB member DeGroat-Penney shared that she enjoyed learning about some of the technology, such as robots and ALPR. She also appreciated the video highlights, the open ended questions during meetings, and staffs openness to hearing feedback. CAB Member Sadek also enjoyed the discussions on technology as well as mental health and decreased use of force. The presentation by Traffic Engineering was

very enlightening. CAB member Litvinoff was most impressed with how Chief Swing approached the process, choosing members to represent a cross section of the community, being able to speak openly and respectfully, and looking for feedback to do better for the community. He enjoyed getting to meet staff of all ranks on a more personal level.

ii. Areas to Strengthen

CAB provided feedback on areas where the process could be improved. One CAB member felt more time and space should be allotted for questions and time to jot down thoughts. Another felt that sometimes when ideas were presented, certain staff member shut down the idea too quickly. Some members would like to see more structure and felt every meeting was random. One CAB member liked the idea of creating a charter to identify priorities for the group and to make sure what the group is doing is aligning with the charter. Others would like to see a larger overview of City Council and city governance and to have an orientation for new members. Further ideas included opening meetings up to more officers, training on how to be unbiased with a culturally diverse group, putting the agenda out sooner, sending a calendar invitation to meetings and reducing the meeting time to one and a half hours.

iii. Ideas for Upcoming Two Years

CAB offered the following ideas/topics for the next term:

- AI and the impacts of future technology because it changes very fast.
- Learn more about collaboration between CHP, Fire and Police.
- Talk more about officer mental health to decrease the stigma around getting help and humanize officers.
- Have Community Ambassadors. Add some challenges, ie go out and talk to five people; then follow-up at the beginning of the next meeting.
- Learn more about PPD's approach to phone and internet scams.
- Have subgroups meet with youth in community to talk about consequences of getting into gangs or burglarizing a home, emphasizing the police are here to help. Important to talk about these points and have more meetings with the community.
- Get more involved with schools.
- Meet in the middle of the month as opposed to the end.
- Transparency and training as they relate to use of force.

V. Next Steps

Chief Swing thanked the group for their thoughts and candid feedback. He stated that the last two years have exceeded his expectations. The next and final CAB meeting for this term will be held Tuesday, September 26, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.