

Minutes

Lakewood City Council Adjourned Regular Meeting held June 13, 2006

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Van Nostran in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Larry Van Nostran

Vice Mayor Diane DuBois Council Member Steve Croft Council Member Joseph Esquivel

ABSENT: Council Member Todd Rogers (excused)

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PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED BALLOT TAX MEASURE FOR GANG SUPPRESSION, PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

Lieutenant Cheryl Newman, representing Sheriff Lee Baca, made a presentation regarding a proposed tax measure for the November ballot. Since a portion of crime in Los Angeles County could be directly attributed to gang activity, the proposed measure would impose a ½ cent sales tax within the County to generate funding to combat gang violence. The estimated \$325 million to be generated annually would fund: a mobile multi-agency, county-wide gang task force, expansion of prevention/intervention programs, and development of technology for implementation of the gang registration requirement statute. Funding would also be allocated for increased custody costs, District Attorney services and probation services. A portion of the funds generated would be distributed on the local level based on population. She noted that should the measure be placed on the November ballot and receive voter approval, the tax would go into effect in January, 2007, and would take a full year before full funding was available for all proposed programs.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor DuBois, Lt. Newman stated that while a county-wide effort might push some gang members into other counties, many would be placed in jail and with proposed intervention and prevention programs, gang recruitment would be impacted.

Council Member Croft inquired about the distribution model for the funding. Lt. Newman responded by stating that in addition to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, there were 47 law enforcement agencies in the County of Los Angeles and that the chiefs of those agencies had assisted in the development of the distribution model. She noted that the percentage of funds dedicated for suppression were an increase over that proposed by the unsuccessful ballot measure in 2004.

Assistant City Manager Michael Stover questioned the Lieutenant regarding language in the brochure. Lt. Newman clarified that the reference to "under the direction of the Police Chief or Sheriff responsible for general law enforcement services in the city . . ." was not intended to circumvent any governing body and that for funding coming to the City, the City Council would provide direction for expenditures.

PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED BALLOT TAX MEASURE FOR GANG SUPPRESSION, PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION - Continued

Lt. Newman responded to a question from Mr. Stover by stating that to date, no individual Supervisor of the County Board of Supervisors had taken a formal position on the proposed measure.

Deputy City Manager Sandi Ruyle noted that there was evidence that gang enforcement efforts in one part of the County directly impacted other areas of the County, supporting a county-wide approach and the need for suppression funds.

Lt. Newman concluded by requesting that should the City Council decide to support the proposed measure, a resolution of support be directed to the County Board of Supervisors.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Van Nostran adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC City Clerk