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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held via in-person and Zoom videoconferencing in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on January 27, 2022.

Members Present:

Legislator Steve Flotteron - Chairman
Legislator James Mazzarella - Vice-Chair
Legislator Sarah Anker
Legislator Stephanie Bontempi
Legislator Tom Donnelly
Legislator Manuel Esteban
Legislator Bridget Fleming
Legislator Leslie Kennedy
P.O. Kevin J. McCaffrey - Ex Officio

Also in Attendance:

Legislator Dominick Thorne - Legislative District No. 7
Legislator Robert Trotta - Legislative District No. 13
Chris DeLuca - Aide to Presiding Officer McCaffrey
William Duffy - Counsel to the Legislature
Frank Tassone - Clerk of the Legislature
Brett Robinson - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Tim Rothang - Aide to Legislator Mazzarella
Irene Donohue - Aide to Legislator Fleming
Guy Calla - Aide to Legislator McCaffrey
Timothy Freeman - Aide to Legislator Flotteron
Lance Reinheimer - Director/Legislative Budget Review Office
Bob Doering - Senior Analyst/Budget Review Office
Zachary Hardy-Intergovernmental Relations/County Executive's Office
Andrew Manfredonia - Lieutenant/Chief of Department's Office-SCPD
Joe Brown - Commissioner/Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Darnell Tyson - Chief Deputy Comm./SC Department of Public Works
Phil Berdolt - Deputy Commissioner/SC Department of Public Works
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

1 (*The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.*)

2
3 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

4 If everybody could please stand and if -- Legislator Kennedy,
5 please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

6
7 ***Pledge of Allegiance***

8
9 If you could please remain standing for a moment of silence for the
10 two New York City Police Officers that were killed on the line of
11 duty this week, Officer Jason Rivera and Officer Wilbert Mora. As
12 we mourn their tragic death, please keep their families and fellow
13 officers in your thoughts and prayers.

14
15 Please also keep in mind all First Responders and our troops that
16 continue to put their lives on the line every day for us.

17
18 ***Moment of Silence Observed***

19
20 Welcome, everyone, for our first official meeting of 2022.
21 I have to read this one portion, public portion.

22
23 *"Please note that the Governor recently signed S.7623A/A.8591,*
24 *which extends modifications to Open Meetings Law requirements*
25 *through the end of the new COVID-19 State disaster emergency.*
26 *Therefore, the Legislator will continue to operate under the rules*
27 *that were adopted via Procedural Motion in March of 2020."*

28
29 *"Consequently, we will be conducting our Legislative meetings in*
30 *hybrid fashion. We will allow in-person public attendance and in*
31 *public -- in-person public portion comments at the William H.*
32 *Rogers Legislative Building or remote testimony via Zoom; either*
33 *way, speakers will be limited to 3 minutes."*

34
35 *"In accordance with County and State COVID-19 safety protocols and*
36 *current CDC recommendations, members of the public will be required*
37 *to wear a mask at all times while inside the building. Those*
38 *interested in addressing the committee over Zoom may sign up at*
39 *www.scnylegislature.us/CommitteePublicPortion. Members of the*
40 *public may also send written testimony by email to*
41 *clerk.legislature@suffolkcountyny.gov or by regular mail to the*
42 *attention of the Clerk's Office at the Suffolk County Legislature,*
43 *P.O. Box 6100, Hauppauge, NY 11788. Audio testimony will be*
44 *accepted by voicemail at 631-853-3685; callers may leave a 3-minute*
45 *message. Submitted comments will be distributed to Legislators."*

46
47 Can the Clerk please take a roll call.

48
49 (*Roll Called by Brett Robinson - Chief Deputy Clerk*)

50
51 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

52 Here.

53
54 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

55 Here.

1 LEG. FLEMING:
2 Present.
3
4 LEG. ANKER:
5 Here.
6
7 LEG. KENNEDY:
8 Here.
9
09:35AM 10 LEG. ESTEBAN:
11 Here.
12
13 LEG. DONNELLY:
14 Present.
15
16 LEG. BONTEMPI:
17 Here.
18
19 P.O. McCAFFREY:
09:36AM 20 Here.
21
22 CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
23 Okay. Clerk, is there any correspondence?
24
25 CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:
26 No correspondence, Mr. Chairman.
27
28 CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
29 Thank you.
09:36AM 30
31 Is there any speakers for the Public Portion? I don't think so.
32 I think there's no speakers.
33
34 Any Appointments? There's none.
35
36 Presentations, there's none.
37
38 Tabled Resolutions, there's none.
39
09:36AM 40 So we're going to the Introductory Resolutions.
41
42 Resolution 1007(-21) - *Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection with*
43 *purchase of replacement Public Safety Vehicles (CP 3512) (County*
44 *Executive)*.
45
46 LEG. MAZZARELLA:
47 Motion.
48
49 CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
09:36AM 50 Motion by Legislator Mazzarella.
51
52 LEG. KENNEDY:
53 Second.
54
55 CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:
56 Second by Legislator Kennedy.

1 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

2 On the motion?

3

4 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

5 Yes. Legislator Donnelly.

6

7 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

8 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, I'm not sure if this is a question
9 going to go to the Lieutenant or to Commissioner Brown.

09:37AM 10

11 So, this PAYGO funding for the vehicles, are the Detective vehicles
12 included in some of this?

13

14 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BERDOLT:**

15 Legislator, yes, the Detective vehicles are included in that.

16

17 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

18 And -- so where are we at with that? Because I know that there was
19 a shortage for some time, Detective squads were very spread out in
20 terms of vehicle assignments. Have we been able to make some
21 progress on that? And are we still moving towards the smaller
22 vehicles as opposed to trying to outfit the Detectives with, you
23 know, a larger vehicle when they have to transport prisoners and
24 such. Can you give me a little rundown on that?

09:37AM 25

26 **COMMISSIONER BERDOLT:**

27 Sure. We just put 15 vehicles into service that will -- I'm
28 assuming they would go to Detectives undercover, but I guess the
29 Lieutenant can answer that question.

09:38AM 30

31 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

32 I don't have any hard numbers, I can get them for you. I do know
33 that we did replace some of the Detective fleet last year, and
34 obviously with this inter-fund transfer that we are going to be
35 able to put more towards the fleet. I believe, if the Commissioner
36 could correct me on this, we might have 22 for the Detective
37 division, plus we have 31 mid-size and 12 large SUVs.

38

39 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

40 Okay. You know, I'm not that well versed on the details, but I
41 know that there was some pretty strong concerns about the size of
42 the vehicles, the make, the type of the vehicles, particularly for
43 those officers who are conducting the high-risk operations and they
44 do have to transport prisoners. I just -- I think we should be
45 assured that those concerns are going to be met.

09:38AM 46

47 **COMMISSIONER BERDOLT:**

48 Yes, in the next purchase they will be. We're probably going to be
49 getting full-size Explorers, so I don't think there'll be any
50 issues moving forward.

09:39AM 51

52 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

53 Okay. Thank you very much for the explanation, much appreciated.

54

55 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

56 Okay. Anyone else?

1 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**
2 Mr. Chairman, I just --
3
4 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
5 Yes, Legislator Mazzarella.
6
7 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**
8 Yes. I don't know if this question is for the Lieutenant or
9 Commissioner Berdolt, but do we know exactly how many patrol
09:39AM 10 vehicles are in this order?
11
12 **COMMISSIONER BERDOLT:**
13 Yes, 96.
14
15 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**
16 Thank you.
17
18 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
19 Since no one else, roll call vote.
09:39AM 20
21 *(*Roll Called by Brett Robinson - Chief Deputy Clerk*)*
22
23 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**
24 Yes.
25
26 **LEG. KENNEDY:**
27 Yes.
28
29 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
09:40AM 30 Yes.
31
32 **LEG. FLEMING:**
33 Yes.
34
35 **LEG. ANKER:**
36 Yes.
37
38 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**
39 Yes.
09:40AM 40
41 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
42 Yes.
43
44 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
45 Yes.
46
47 **P.O. McCAFFREY:**
48 Yes.
49
09:40AM 50 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
51 *Nine.*
52
53 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
54 *Approved (VOTE: 9/0/0/0).*
55
56

1 Next resolution is Resolution *1009(-21) - Accepting and*
2 *appropriating funding in the amount of \$550,000 from the United*
3 *States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the*
4 *Suffolk County Connect and Protect 2021 with 71% support (County*
5 *Executive).*

6
7 **LEG. KENNEDY:**
8 Motion.

9
09:40AM 10 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
11 Motion, Legislator Kennedy.

12
13 **LEG. FLEMING:**
14 I'll second.

15
16 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
17 Second from Bridget Fleming.

18
19 **LEG. FLEMING:**
09:40AM 20 And on the motion?

21
22 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
23 Yes, please.

24
25 **LEG. FLEMING:**
26 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Lieutenant Manfredonia.
27 How are you? Good to see you as always.

28
29 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
09:41AM 30 Thank you, Legislator Fleming.

31
32 **LEG. FLEMING:**
33 Could you just explain for us, if you would, what Connect and
34 Protect is and if there's any sort of obligations on the part of
35 local law enforcement based on receiving the money from the Federal
36 government.

37
38 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
09:41AM 39 So, Connect and Protect is basically part of the ongoing
40 implementation of the reform plan for the Suffolk County Police
41 Department. In particular, this grant is for the mental health
42 portion of the reform plan and it has two goals. It's to increase,
43 number one, our 911 call diversion which includes diverting calls
44 to mental health professionals in addition to implementing a larger
45 co-response with patrol and with mental health professionals to --
46 certain calls that might need that.

47
48 The second goal is identifying what we call high utilizers of the
49 911 system, and these are people that constantly call 911, not
09:41AM 50 necessarily in a mental health emergency but kind of on the
51 borderline, and what we do is we identify those people and we do
52 outreach and refer also to mental health professionals. So what
53 this grant allows us to do is this allows us to train more officers
54 and more dispatchers to try to help with the implementation of
55 these particular programs.

1 **LEG. FLEMING:**

2 That's great. And can I just -- I'm a little unclear why the
3 funding comes from the Federal government. I know the
4 reinvention -- the reform and reinvention effort was triggered by
5 the State government, by the Governor. So how is it -- this is
6 great; it's a lot of funding and it's critically important. But
7 how is it that it comes from Federal government?
8

9 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

09:42AM 10 So, I know that with the Governor's -- with the reforms that the
11 Suffolk County Police Department had to do, we decided that we
12 wanted to create units to implement this particular part, the
13 mental health part. And in looking to fund certain aspects, we did
14 look to the Federal government to help us do that.
15

16 **LEG. FLEMING:**

17 So, this is a grant that we pursued sort of proactively --
18

19 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

20 Yes.
21

22 **LEG. FLEMING:**

23 -- in order to support the reinvention and reform initiative.
24

25 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

26 Yes.
27

28 **LEG. FLEMING:**

29 That's very good to hear; I'm glad I asked the question.
30 Thank you very much and it certainly has my full support.
31 Thank you.
32

33 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

34 Thank you, Legislator Fleming.
35

36 **LEG. FLEMING:**

37 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
38

39 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

09:43AM 40 Legislator Thorne?
41

42 **LEG. THORNE:**

43 I'm muting myself. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you hear me okay,
44 folks?
45

46 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

47 Yes.
48

49 **LEG. THORNE:**

09:43AM 50 Great. Lieutenant, you mentioned that they're IDing calls that are
51 frequently using -- utilizing the 911 system. Does that include
52 the approach that utilized aided calls, Fire Rescue calls, EMS
53 calls in the community? Will that be included in that? And maybe
54 do a demo referral on somebody?
55
56

1 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

2 Yes. I mean, it would really be for anybody that calls 911 for
3 some kind of mental health crisis, whether it be something that is
4 a borderline where it would -- where -- they -- these people
5 usually don't require any kind of hospitalization. So what we try
6 to do with identifying these high utilizers is try to get them in
7 touch with mental health professionals so the next time they can --
8 we'll get them the help before they actually call the 911 system so
9 we don't get -- the 911 system does not get overwhelmed. Then what
09:44AM 10 happens is those mental health professionals will do an outreach to
11 these people and try to get them the help they need. It's kind of
12 a proactive -- we try to get them the help before they call the 911
13 system so they don't wind up keep calling it over and over again.
14

15 **LEG. THORNE:**

16 So, I guess what I'm asking, Lieutenant -- and first off, I should
17 have said this at the beginning. We have an amazing Police
18 Department, I'm so proud of each and every of you and I'll be proud
19 to sit as a newbie on the board, on the Legislative board. You
09:45AM 20 guys do an amazing job and we're so thankful for all of you.
21

22 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

23 Thank you.
24

25 **LEG. THORNE:**

26 But I guess what I'm asking is the EMS call that very possibly
27 might be a lady that might need intervention or somebody that needs
28 maybe social work intervention; will that be something that will be
29 looked at or it's only psychiatric emergencies or what has been
09:45AM 30 informed in the past as EDPs, emotionally disturbed people?
31

32 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

33 Right. So, with the high utilizer program, this is outreach that
34 is done separate from the actual 911 call. When someone actually
35 calls 911, then it would -- we would look to see if we were going
36 to do a 911 diversion on that. If there's any indication that that
37 person needs an immediate police response, hospitalization or needs
38 to be taken to a mental health professional, we would obviously we
39 would have a police response to that and possibly even a
09:46AM 40 co-response if it met the parameters. But if the person did meet
41 any kind of emergency response, we would, of course, respond. So
42 that's -- it's like a two-pronged part of this grant and part of
43 our program is the outreach, and then if they wind up actually
44 calling 911 then we would send either the police or we would refer
45 it to the mental health professionals and they could respond or
46 there would be a co-response.
47

48 **LEG. THORNE:**

49 Outstanding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Lieutenant, thank you for
09:46AM 50 all your staff does. We have -- I'm in the 5th and they are
51 amazing.
52

53 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

54 Agreed.
55
56

1 **LEG. THORNE:**
2 And now I deal with the 6th; all great people out here. So, good
3 job. Thank you.

4
5 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
6 Thank you, Legislator Thorn.

7
8 **LEG. THORNE:**
9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10
11 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
12 Okay, thank you. Legislator Donnelly.

13
14 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
15 Lieutenant, is this -- just out of curiosity. Is this being
16 piloted in a specific precinct? It sounds like it's a pretty kind
17 of wide-ranging program. And obviously, you know, the mental
18 health component is concerning to everybody, you know, but
19 particularly as it relates to officer safety; clearly, the tragedy
09:47AM 20 in New York City we just witnessed. Can you kind of just give me a
21 little rundown on that? Is there a specific command that we're
22 kind of rolling this out in? And how -- and how is it going to be
23 rolled out to the officers in the field, you know, with an eye
24 towards police officer safety.

25
26 **LEG. THORNE:**
27 Certainly. We started the 911 Diversion Program I believe in the
28 3rd Precinct over the summer, so this is a program that has been
29 piloted already in individual precincts. It is now on-line with
09:47AM 30 all seven precincts and with Highway as well, so any kind of patrol
31 response, the 911 Diversion Program is going on.

32
33 So what we would like to do is we would actually like to expand it,
34 we would actually like to get more dispatchers trained so we could
35 recognize the calls even better and we would have, you know, a
36 little bit more of an understanding of what has to be diverted.

37
38 **LEG. DONNELLY:**
39 Okay, good enough. Thank you.

09:47AM 40
41 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
42 Legislator Trotta.

43
44 **LEG. TROTТА:**
45 Yeah, how you doing? This is sort of off-topic slightly, but I
46 just -- I just got -- you know, over the past few days I've been
47 getting a lot of calls from people that the Commissioner's Office
48 is being filled up with people who were let go from the District
49 Attorney's Office. Maybe you can just let me know what some of
09:48AM 50 these positions are? Like I've never heard of them before. There
51 was a James Watson, he was a Detective Investigator in the DA's
52 Office, now he's in the office of the Commissioner.

53
54 **LEG. FLEMING:**
55 Mr. Chair, could I just -- until we finish our questions on this
56 one resolution. I certainly understand --

1 **LEG. TROTТА:**
2 I didn't interrupt you, Bridget.

3
4 **LEG. FLEMING:**
5 No, no, but we didn't finish. I just have some follow-up questions
6 for Andy on the DASH program. We're in the middle of a resolution.

7
8 **LEG. TROTТА:**
9 Well, how would I know that, Bridget? Do I read minds?

10
11 **LEG. FLEMING:**
12 Well, we haven't taken the vote. We have a motion and a second on
13 a particular resolution and we haven't taken the vote yet.

14
15 **LEG. TROTТА:**
16 Okay, I'll wait.

17
18 **LEG. FLEMING:**
19 Sorry, Rob. But I don't have that much room in my brain to contain
20 all this information, so if we can just finish the resolution it
21 would be helpful to me.

09:49AM

22
23 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
24 Okay.

25
26 **LEG. FLEMING:**
27 Thank you.

28
29 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**
30 Rob, we'll get back to you after we finish the resolutions.
31 Legislator Bridget Fleming.

09:49AM

32
33 **LEG. FLEMING:**
34 Thank you. Lieutenant, I'm sorry, I did want to follow up. We
35 had -- I believe it was last year there was a -- there was a bit of
36 a crisis in the DASH system in that -- and I don't know whether it
37 was about an uptick in violent crimes, it was brief, or whether it
38 was because of the bail reform that folks who normally would be
39 kept in were being released and there were -- the DASH folks, as I
40 recall, and I could have the facts wrong, but they were reporting
41 an increase in intake of violent or threatening clients that were
42 coming from the Police Department. Are you aware of -- we had some
43 discussions, and I apologize that I don't have better facts on it,
44 but it was a very serious concern on the part of that staff, on the
45 part of police, you know, patrol, officers, you know, just trying
46 to ensure that everyone is safe because of violent folks who
47 probably were mentally ill, EDP. Is that -- is this something that
48 you're looking at with this program, the protect and -- Connect and
49 Protect? Is it possible that we're going to be able to support
50 some solutions there? Because it was somewhat alarming and I don't
51 know if we ever thoroughly addressed it.

09:49AM

09:50AM

52
53 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**
54 Well, this one is -- you know, this is the first time I'm hearing
55 that, Legislator Fleming. Obviously, if there is a -- someone that
56 is violent, they wouldn't meet the parameters for an admission to

1 DASH; DASH obviously has to be voluntary. If it's an involuntary
2 committal, then they would either go to Stony Brook or they would
3 go to one of the other secure psychiatric facilities throughout the
4 County. So this is kind of, like I said, the first time I'm
5 hearing about it. But they certainly wouldn't meet the parameters
6 of someone that we would be taking to DASH, and usually what
7 happens is we do screen with DASH before they're actually in-taked
8 there. If they become violent afterwards, then obviously we would
9 have to respond back and then assist the DASH personnel and remove
09:51AM 10 that person from their care. I'm not sure, does that -- I'm not
11 sure if that answers the question, but the --
12

13 **LEG. FLEMING:**

14 No, and I appreciate it. It's coming out of nowhere without a lot
15 of information.

16
17 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

18 *(Laughter)* That's fine.
19

20 **LEG. FLEMING:**

21 I do appreciate it, but it was an identified concern. And I just
22 was wondering about this Connect and Protect; does it have -- does
23 it have a structural kind of connection to the DASH program.
24

25 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

26 Yes. So, our behavioral health unit does have constant discussions
27 with DASH, with Family Service League and other mental health
28 facilities, so it's an ongoing to collaboration between the Police
29 Department and these other agencies. So, if there are any concerns
09:52AM 30 that they would have, then we would, of course, address it as an
31 ongoing relationship with them.
32

33 **LEG. FLEMING:**

34 I appreciate that. Thank you. Thank you, Steve, for indulging me.
35

36 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

37 No problem.
38

39 **LEG. FLEMING:**

09:52AM 40 And I would like to be listed as a cosponsor on this resolution.
41 Thank you.
42

43 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

44 Legislator Kennedy.
45

46 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

47 I just want to follow up on Bridget's question. Lieutenant, when a
48 police officer brings someone to DASH, do they have the ability to
49 find out if they have a past history of violence? You know, punch
09:52AM 50 something up in the computer and see?
51

52 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

53 There would be a -- there would be a limited access that the
54 officer would have in their vehicle to do a more extended search.
55 They would have to either call the precinct or they would have to
56 access to a more expanded database.

1 One of the other things, though, is our officers often work the
2 same areas and they're familiar with the histories of many of the
3 people that are brought there. So, that's, of course, an advantage
4 of the individual officer, knowing the mental health history or
5 another officer letting them know what the history of this person
6 is. But they do have some limited access to look up the histories
7 of locations and particular people in the cars before they're
8 considered for transport to DASH.

09:53AM

9
10 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

11 Okay. Thank you.

12
13 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

14 Okay. Any other questions relevant to resolution 1009?
15 No? If we could please take a roll call vote.

16
17 *(*Roll Called by Brett Robinson - Chief Deputy Clerk*)*

09:53AM

18
19 **LEG. KENNEDY:**

20 Yes.

21
22 **LEG. FLEMING:**

23 Yes.

24
25 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

26 Yes.

27
28 **LEG. MAZZARELLA:**

29 Yes.

09:54AM

30
31 **LEG. ANKER:**

32 Yes and cosponsor.

33
34 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

35 Yes.

36
37 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

38 Yes, cosponsor.

09:54AM

39
40 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

41 Yes.

42
43 **P.O. McCAFFREY:**

44 Yes.

45
46 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

47 *Nine. (Approved - VOTE: 9/0/0/0).*

48
49 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

09:54AM

50 Okay. So we are finished with the Introductory Resolutions.
51 There's no Procedural Motions, no Home Rule messages. Subject to
52 Call Resolutions there's none. I do know -- Legislator Trotta I
53 know wanted -- had a question; please.

1 **LEG. TROTТА:**

2 Okay. Thank you. I just -- you know, obviously I know a lot of
3 cops and they're telling me and they're sending me these things
4 about probably five or six transfers from the District Attorney's
5 Office into the Police Commissioner's office. Now, I'm assuming
6 the Police Commissioner doesn't know these people because, you
7 know, he was in the city and I would find it hard to believe he
8 knew six people. Can you tell me what transpired here and how
9 these people ended up and where it's budgeted from? And more
09:55AM 10 importantly, what are they doing and do they get cars?

11
12 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

13 Legislator Trotta, I don't know the discussions that anybody had
14 regarding the hiring of any particular people or transfers that
15 were made to the Police Department from another department. We do
16 have -- the Commissioner has brought some staff on, but I don't
17 know any of the discussions that went on to hiring particular
18 people. I could ask the Commissioner's Office and I could bet back
19 to you on it.

09:55AM 20
21 **LEG. TROTТА:**

22 Yeah, for the next meeting maybe you could have the answer. I
23 mean, you have access to the Teletype. I mean, I see a lot of them
24 coming from the DA's Office and checking with the DA's office, they
25 were let go from the DA's office. Now, I would hate to think these
26 are political people who are being moved over to the Police
27 Department and the Commissioner really doesn't want them but he's
28 forced to take them. I mean, I think the Police Department should
29 be really independent of the County Executive's office and they
09:56AM 30 shouldn't have people forced on them. I'm sort of getting the
31 feeling, based upon this, you know, it doesn't take Perry Mason to
32 figure out that the guy probably didn't know half these people.
33 So, at the next meeting maybe you can get those answers for me.
34 Thank you.

35
36 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

37 Okay. If there's nothing else, seeing no more business in front of
38 us, the meeting is adjourned.

09:56AM 39
40 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

41 No, no, Dominick Thorne.

42
43 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

44 Dominick? Oh, I didn't see a new hand up. Go ahead, Legislator
45 Thorne.

46
47 **LEG. THORNE:**

48 Sorry again to tie up your committee.

09:56AM 49
50 Lieutenant, I handle the 25 corridor which includes Gordon Heights,
51 Middle Island, Coram. I've been in contact with my fellow
52 Legislator Anker. As you know, there is a lot of challenges up
53 there including quite a bit of drug dealing, prostitution,
54 aggressive pan handling -- not pan handling, but aggressive pan
55 handling. Can we possibly add more patrols up in that area;
56 Especially around the bus stop on Mill and 25?

1 I, as you may not be aware, spent many years in City EMS and other
2 neighborhoods and I watched myself, two active prostitutes or
3 appeared to be prostitutes and appeared to be drug hand-offs;
4 within 45 minutes I think I witnessed almost 15, what looked to be
5 hand-offs. Can we put a concentrated effort on the corridor as
6 well as the shopping centers of that area to try to reduce some of
7 that? Those folks are living in a special kind of mess and myself
8 and I believe Legislator Anker are going to work together
9 bipartisanly to make sure we clean up that area together.

09:57AM

10
11 So, if you could, that would be great. It's an issue. We had a
12 pistol whipping on Middle Island Road last week, as I'm sure you're
13 aware, and we really need to start focusing in on the issues up
14 there. And I know that you are limited with bail reform laws and
15 everything, but I really would appreciate the extra attention in
16 that area.

17
18 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

19 Certainly. So, that's obviously covered by the 6th Precinct, so
20 what I can do is I can reach out to the Command Staff of the 6th
21 precinct and ask them specifically if they can put some extra
22 patrols in that area. Also, if you want to let your constituents
23 know, if they do have any quality of life issues in particular,
24 they could always e-mail SCPD info, and in particular I could
25 forward those to their COPE units and we could try to address it
26 in that manner as well.

09:58AM

27
28 **LEG. THORNE:**

29 Thank you, sir. I look forward to working with you.

09:58AM

30
31 **LIEUTENANT MANFREDONIA:**

32 Certainly. Thank you, Legislator Thorne.

33
34 **CHAIRMAN FLOTTERON:**

35 Okay. Seeing no more business in front of us, this meeting is
36 adjourned.

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38 *(*The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m. *)*
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