

NOTES

Welcome and Introductions – Over thirty community leaders participated in the first Mayor's Task Force on Youth Safety Policy Advisory meeting at Shepard Hall on April 24, 2017. Elementary and High School Officials, local youth serving non-profits, law enforcement, City and County staff including Fifth District Supervisor Steve Lavagnino, and Bob Nelson representing Fourth District Supervisor Peter Adam, participated in this first meeting to address youth violence within the Santa Maria Valley. Mayor Patino welcomed the group, introduced consulting staff from the California Cities Violence Prevention Network, and attendees introduced themselves and explained what they hope to see as a result of the efforts of the Task Force.

The Role of the Policy Advisory Committee – The Policy Advisory Committee will identify a coordination team to oversee the planning phase of a comprehensive violence prevention plan. Ernesto Olivares, Executive Director from California Cities Violence Prevention Network and Tracy Colunga, City of Long Beach Innovation Team Director have worked on several Youth Safety Plans that have been successful in addressing youth safety and discussed their past success with the group. The Policy Advisory Committee will develop a mission statement and provide goals and objectives that will lead the way to a comprehensive violence prevention plan. In addition, the City Manager and Mayor, over several months, will work with our team of experts to host meetings with community partners. A catalogue of existing City and community violence prevention efforts will also be developed. Data will be analyzed as an analysis of crime drivers.

The Role of the Technical Committee – The role of a technical advisory committee was discussed. A Technical Committee, consisting of youth services providers will work together in implementing the goals and objectives created by the Policy Advisory Committee.

The Process – Mr. Olivares and Ms. Colunga described successful processes used in other California cities to address youth violence. The attendees described the services their organizations can provide, the coordination that this Task Force facilitates, and began discussing data that could be shared.

Data Collection – The attendees received a presentation of data collection examples that assist in demonstrating the multiple factors that can be indicators or predictors of youth violence. The attendees listed types of data that would be helpful to share. The Task Force agreed that data from the Santa Maria Valley will be collected to develop baselines, and community outreach efforts will be scheduled for input in the process.

Vision/Mission Statement – the group deliberated on a Vision/Mission Statement to capture the essence of this effort. The assembled participants considered several options for the Vision/Mission Statement and will review it at the next meeting.

Frequency of Meetings – There was a discussion regarding the frequency of meetings. Meetings will occur monthly for about five to six months, with each meeting starting at 8:30 a.m. and lasting no more than two hours.

Schedule next meeting – The date for the next meeting is Monday, May 15th, 2017. The start time is 8:30 a.m. and the location is Shepard Hall at the Santa Maria Public Library.

The Task Force adjourned at 11:35 a.m.