

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
MINUTES FOR COMMISSION ON GANG PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION  
MEETING  
OF  
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2010  
AT 5:30 P.M.  
CITY HALL  
202 C STREET, 12<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pastor Harry Cooper at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Pastor Harry Cooper at 7:13 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chair Cooper called the roll:

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING:

- |                            |                                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (1) Commissioner Silverman | (9) Commissioner Cervantes       |
| (2) Commissioner Eldred    | (10) Commissioner Yanov          |
| (3) Commissioner Benavidez | (11) Commissioner Kowba          |
| (4) Commissioner Henderson | (12) Commissioner Gallegos       |
| (5) Commissioner Jenkins   | (13) Chair- Pastor Cooper        |
| (6) Commissioner Ward      | Executive Director- Lynn Sharpe- |
| (7) Commissioner Lozada    | Underwood                        |
| (8) Commissioner Sotelo    |                                  |

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Pastor Cooper asked for the approval of Minutes from October 2009 CGPI meeting. The motion was to approve the Minutes;

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WARD TO ADOPT. Seconded by Commissioner Benavidez. Passed unanimously.

CURRENT INFORMATION SCAN (CIS):

Lieutenant Jorge Duran from the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) Gang Unit presented a report on current statistics from February 2010 that involved the City of San Diego. There were no fatalities in February but there was an increase in gang related shootings. There were seven aggravated assaults with firearms in month of February which was the result of Southeastern conflict but several arrests were made. March has been low in activities with no gang related homicides in February which brings the total of 1 for the year which is the same as last year.

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There were 19 aggravated assaults (7 with firearms, 10 stabbing, and the rest were beatings with other types of weapons), which brings the number to 34 year-to-date which is the same compared to last year. On the suppression side, 95 arrests were made for gang related activity; 72 were adults, 6 were for probation violation, 12 were for parole violation and 4 firearms were seized.

Chair Pastor Cooper asked how many documented gang members are there now.

Lieutenant Duran commented that there are 3973 documented gang members within the City of San Diego.

Parole Update was given by Lendon Lewis, Unit Supervisor and Coordinator in SD Gang Efforts in Parole. Mr. Lewis reported that the Gang GPS supervision is now fully implemented and 60 are being used at this time. Significant success and compliance has been going well. Media attention gave those being supervised ease to stay away from activity and remain to have low profile in the community. GPS data was used in assistance for property related crimes and in Riverside activity to find relevant witnesses for incident.

Commissioner Jenkins asked for the criteria that determined if a parolee was subject to GPS monitoring.

Mr. Lewis stated that collaboration with law enforcement agencies, City, County, and State agencies, as well as special task forces' and own Parole files for identification of individuals to be placed under supervision. With those collaborative efforts, commonly known gang members as well as outlaw motorcycle gangs were included in first group of program. Trainings are being done with law enforcement to learn software and learn inquiry information.

Commissioner Jenkins asked about CDCR going through a process with non revocable parole releases.

Commissioner Benavidez stated that full effort hasn't been done in San Diego but given a few more months they are trying to implement it here in San Diego. He stated that individuals that come into contact with the law get immediate assessment. It has been initiated in other cities in California not yet San Diego.

Commissioner Jenkins asked if those non revocable parole releases would be subject to GPS supervision.

Commissioner Benavidez stated that there has not been a set criteria since they remain fluid with that population to get its best use but efforts can be transferred if hot spots occur. He stated that serious gang members are being put on the program and stated that technology is still being worked with and used for vital agencies.

Commissioner Henderson asked what the process of selection was.

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Mr. Lewis stated that they identify 16 gang injunctions as considering factors in process of selection, special conditions of parole as certain restrictions because of behaviors, and additional tool is used to investigate potential violations based on decision based discovery.

**ACTION ITEM A:**

Presentation by Commissioner Chief Jenkins on new supervisory process for youth under probation.

Commissioner Jenkins asked Michael Atkins, Director of Juvenile Supervision Division, to do the presentation. Chief Jenkins described that for last 2 years, the department has been trying to implement Evidence Based Practices for Community Supervision. These practices are focused on making sure practices and principles that are supported from research that has evidence to reduce recidivism on the juvenile side of probation. As a Community protection agency, they are mandated to further community safety. There are 3 things they focus their Supervision efforts in; use supervision to monitor to not further offend the community, hold the youth accountable to terms based by court, and lastly help kids change their lives.

Mr. Atkins discussed the Mission, Vision, and Goals of supervision of Juvenile Offenders. Mr. Atkins described the rationale for change in supervision to be concerns and criticisms, enhancing effectiveness of services, unmanageable caseloads, and employee morale. Mr. Atkins presented how they have used the Supervision practices by realigning caseloads and described the results through tables he shared in his handout. He shared the program they use called Breaking Cycles and described Evidence based practices as a necessity to change supervision practices and risk based supervision. There are 3 levels of supervision; Regular caseload, Medium Caseload, and Low Caseload. Caseloads decreased with different level of severity. Mr. Atkins stated that 37% of youth supervised are documented with gang conditions, JSU supervises 305, 340 youth are in the breaking cycle's program and of 1800 gang involved youth, 578 are under supervision and specialized supervision.

Commissioner Henderson commended the Probation department. Then he asked on behalf of the community, what can the family do about financial punishment implemented on the youth when offending child keeps reoffending,

Commissioner Jenkins stated that since a youth is still a minor, that it is the responsibility of parents. Depending on the offense, the youth can work off restitution but most instances the parent is still responsible and a change in that would be difficult. Chief Jenkins stated how 44% of restitution orders are being paid in full but told everyone that the financial focus on the parent doesn't seem to be something that will be going away.

Commissioner Henderson stated the issue needs to be discussed at a further point.

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Commissioner Lozada commended the work Probation is doing since it has a lot to do with what the commission is about and asked about the family component and if the focus was on supporting the whole family system and family members for understanding the youth's progress.

Mr. Atkins stated they encourage parent participation in rehabilitation process and contact parents on the status of the child and that parents are many times court ordered to attend parenting classes and counseling. He stressed that parents play a vital role in the rehabilitation process so they are continuing to encourage community based organizations to get involved in the family component.

Commissioner Jenkins added that the San Diego Risk Needs and Resiliency Check up assessment gives probation officers the family background which helps officer prepare a case plan for that child that addresses family issues. Intervention is always focused on the entire family. Probation wants to pursue wraparound programs that wrap around the entire family's needs and mentioned how the Prop 63 money has helped with this effort.

Commissioner Eldred thanked Commissioner Jenkins for the presentation and commended the Department on progress and appreciates efforts. He stated that due to a lack of funds what gaps are being seen in this program so the Commission can advocate for resources towards those supports.

Mr. Atkins stated that the lack of Mental Health services is a significant gap in the department. The department is addressing this with collaborative partners to embark on Mental Health Coordination. Job readiness is also needed but due to the economic environment, this has been difficult to address.

Commissioner Silverman mentioned his collaboration with probation and pointed out the transformation of programs and staff. He commended probation for the great work and outstanding leadership and commitment.

Commissioner Henderson asked if the mental health piece is mandated or requested for entering youth.

Mr. Atkins stated how there are assessments done to those who enter the department and with that they will work with those youth who are in and out of custody.

Commissioner Yanov asked if changing the name to Building Cycles rather than Breaking Cycles might be considered.

Mr. Atkins stated always willing to change but stated how name came into play since they wished to break the cycle for those who come into the system.

Commissioner Ward thanked the Probation department for their work and collaborative efforts on having the high numbers of youth succeeding and stated how budget reflected reason for

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changes and stated how larger caseloads with same number of officers and more contacts is this the reason for the change in supervision. He stated concern about budget cuts affecting this departments program to only do mandated duties.

Commissioner Jenkins stated how the budget decrease --a \$20 million budget cut--and loss of 165 positions was moving the department to utilize evidence based practices for risk based supervision since officers are averaging 33 caseloads, efficiency has to be increased.

Chair Cooper asked that the Commissioners recommend that the Commission support the new supervising procedures and recommend to the mayor to send a letter of support to the County.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WARD. Seconded by Commissioner Henderson.

ACTION ITEM 2:

Briefing by the Executive Director Sharpe-Underwood on joint meetings or presentation at other City Commissions.

Executive Director Sharpe-Underwood asked for direction from Commission to set up and invite to meetings with these committees and commissions.

Chair Cooper asked that the Commissioners recommend that the Executive Director work with the staff of the Human Relations Committee, the Citizens Equal Opportunity Commission and other City boards and commissions on joint meetings and presentations.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER JENKINS. Seconded by Commissioner Henderson.

Commissioner Eldred commented it would be helpful for the Commission learn more about what the Citizens Revenue Review and Economic Competiveness Commission and if we can provide input.

Commissioner Lozada stated that the reason for this is for enhancing resources and working collaboratively.

Commissioner Gallegos asked that the Director to provide a schedule and present to the Commission.

DISCUSSION ITEM 1:

San Diego Workforce Partnership Youth Employment Program Manager Jared Aaker updated on Hire- a-Youth for 2010 summer. Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act where were 3,212 youth who participated in the program this past summer from May 01- September 30, 2009. There were 418 employers who participated in the program, over 600 job sites, there were 249 youth offered permanent positions ranging from the ages 14-24. SDWP has 1.2 million leftover from last year and carry in money from WIA funds and hope to place 800-

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1000 youth in jobs. There are six CBO's working to place these youth in jobs and help subsidize employment.

Commissioner Jenkins asked that SDWP push for the effort that there be "felon friendly" employers.

Mr. Aaker stated how the South bay provider, Juvenile Court and Community Schools, is working with that population to gain access for these youth.

Commissioner Ward asked what the action is now for that population to gain more access to employment.

Mr. Aaker responded with looking more into it aspect and stated how SDWP funds these programs and finds the extreme value in instilling that value in the youth to work to reduce crime rates.

Commissioner Henderson expressed how initial reason for program was for that at-risk population and hopes that it continues to focus on those youth.

Mr. Aaker stated how WIA eligibility requirements include targeted youth with barriers to employment.

Commissioner Cervantes asked how the six providers are contracted and was concerned about disabled youth.

Mr. Aaker stated how last year there were 12 providers and this year there are only 6 so SDWP recommended to carry in WIA money into the funds for this year thus money had to go to WIA funded programs. The six that were selected had to be summer providers, year- long WIA youth component already in existence, and already procured ARRA or summer youth employment from last year. He will follow up with San Diego City Schools to make sure they are reaching out to those youth.

**DISCUSSION ITEM 2:**

Update on Curfew Ordinances was presented by Chief Zimmerman who stated that February 4, 2010, the 4<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals ruled that City of San Diego Curfew Ordinance Section 58.01.01, which establishes curfew for juveniles at 10pm, was overbroad and unconstitutional. The 1997 Curfew Ordinance revision allowed exceptions for minors 17 and under, not accompanied by an adult, to be out beyond 10pm along with several conditions. The reason the City of San Diego's ordinance was ruled unconstitutional was due to the lack of language allowing juvenile to travel between excepted events or to home. On February 22, 2010, SDPD sought and got approval for an emergency ordinance from the City Council that included this language. Chief Zimmerman shared statistics from 2008 and 2009 which showed that there was a 24 % reduction in violent crimes against juveniles between the hours of 10pm and 6am. In 2008,

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there were 6835 curfew contacts, where in 2009, there were 2204 curfew contacts. This reduction also had to do with the city organized program where families and youth were exposed to additional resources and wrap around services. March 5, 2010, 21 juveniles were contacted and 12 were diverted during enforcement detail.

Chair Cooper asked if there was a universal time for city and county policies could be consistent.

Chief Zimmerman replied by stating that there are discussions on that topic but there are no decisions being made.

Chair Cooper asked if there were statistics for crimes by youth.  
Chief Zimmerman did not have these statistics.

**DISCUSSION ITEM 2:**

Dante Duaz made a presentation to update the Commission on Proposition 63 funding of community violence program supported by the Commission. He stated that his work with Alliance for Community Empowerment (ACE) is a partnership of agencies including UPAC, Power Mentor, Overcoming Gangs and Beyond, and Jackie Robinson YMCA and receives Prop 63 funding. ACE is based on two components: response teams and services.

Commissioner Henderson asked for the overview of training to be shared.

Mr. Duaz shared that the evidence based program training was for 3 days and was for the response team individuals who deal with families and youth directly. Resources were given to be applied for these families who don't know how to deal with growing family issues.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

Lynn Sharpe-Underwood spoke about the 13 California Cities on Gang Prevention review of the Commissions work plan and evaluation. Lynn Sharpe-Underwood stated briefly that Ad Hoc Committee on California Wellness is in process and there are 2 grant opportunities. She shared the schedule for the upcoming listening tour locations and dates and the upcoming summits: June 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be youth summit and September 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a gang summit at USD.

**ANNOUCEMENTS**

Chair Cooper thanked each Commissioner for their hard work.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Pastor Cooper made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 P.M., seconded unanimously and was approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

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**Next regular meeting:** Thursday, May 20, 2010 @ 5:00pm  
East African Community Center  
4061 Fairmount Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92105