

**REDMOND CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING/ SPECIAL MEETING**

Council Chambers  
15670 NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street  
Redmond, Washington

Tuesday, March 22, 2010  
4:30 p.m.

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**Council**

David Carson  
Richard Cole (*attending Councilmember*)  
Pat Vache (*attending Councilmember*)  
Hank Myers, Chair  
John Stilin  
Pat Vache (*attending Councilmember*)

**Staff**

Ron Gibson, Police Chief  
Jane Christenson, Deputy City Administrator/  
Interim Fire Chief  
Russ Albertson, Deputy Fire Chief  
Shari Shovlin, Police Commander  
Kristi Wilson, Police Commander  
Bruce Newman, Traffic Operations Engineer, PW

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**Meeting Summary**

Convened: 4:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 5:40 p.m.

Chair Hank Myers called the meeting to order and overviewed the agenda; moving item "I. Traffic Safety Cameras Presentation" to the second item to be addressed.

**Fire Department Statistical Overview**

Ms. Jane Christenson, Deputy City Administrator/Interim Fire Chief, provided a Fire Department Statistical Overview:

- review of call volume trends from 2008 through 2011;
- review of response time trends from 2008 through 2011;
- call volumes:
  - 2010 District calls:
    - 27.2% Fire;
    - 65.6% EMS (Medical);
    - 7.2% Cancelled;
  - 2010 City calls:
    - 24.5% Fire;
    - 70.0% EMA (Medical);
    - 5.5% Cancelled;
- Call volumes constant (2008 through 2010);
- City response times have decreased (improved);
- District response times have increased (worsened);

- upcoming meeting with Fire District No. 34; will discuss response times; and
- kudos to the Deputy Fire Chiefs (Duren, Albertson, Oliver) and staff (DeLoach) for the preparation of the statistics.

General discussion ensued regarding cancelled calls, using this information for performance measurements, categories of fire alarms, and categories of medical calls. Ms. Christenson stated the full Council will be meeting with the Fire District No. 34 Commissioners on Tuesday, April 26, 2011.

### **Traffic Safety Cameras Presentation**

Chairman Myers introduced the item and added that public testimony on this item will be accepted at the Tuesday, April 5, 2011, regular meeting, and can be made directly to the Council Ombudsman.

Mr. Bruce Newman, Public Works Traffic Operations Engineer, presented information on traffic signals:

- monitor day-to-day operations of traffic signal controls and adjustments;
- during peak periods of traffic signals are in a 'coordinated mode', to allow for a consistent traffic flow;
- during other periods signals are in 'free mode' and respond to the detection of individual vehicles and pedestrians;
- green light information:
  - minimum green: minimum amount of time a light is green; typically 5 seconds;
  - on a higher speed road; ranges from 9 to 15 seconds;
- yellow light information:
  - minimum yellow: minimum amount of time a light is yellow; minimum allowed: 3 seconds; recommended minimum: 3.6 seconds; Redmond minimum: 4 seconds, and maximum: 4.7 seconds;
  - calculation based on Institute of Transportation Engineers formula; considers speed of traffic and grade of approaching road; comfortable acceleration rate, and factors related to drivers (time to perceive light has changed to yellow, and decide whether to stop or not);
  - Redmond minimum is consistent with local adjacent jurisdictions (Bellevue, Kirkland, King County, and Washington State Department of Transportation);
  - all red light camera enforced locations have a minimum yellow of 4 seconds;
- red light information:
  - all red interval: time where all lights are red; typically 1 to 1.5 seconds; larger intersections: up to 3 seconds all red interval; safety margin;
- traffic operations makes daily adjustments to maximum green intervals, and coordination between intersections; does not normally adjust yellow and red light intervals; and
- all red light camera enforced locations are programmed consistently with other Redmond signal programming.

General discussion ensued regarding signal sensors (98 signalized intersections in Redmond), and intersections where traffic monitoring cameras are located (43 cameras in the field).

Police Chief Ron Gibson and Police Commander Shari Shovlin presented information on the red light camera pilot program, to-date:

- currently 7 weeks into a 12-month pilot program;
- Council will be updated regularly on the program throughout the pilot period;
- criteria for intersection selection:
  - high-traffic volume;
  - main arterial within City limits;
  - pedestrian safety;
  - highest reported collision intersections;
  - consistent speed complaints;
- goals of pilot program:
  - to prevent accidents;
  - to ensure people are following the laws of the road;
  - to modify dangerous driving behavior;
  - to reduce preventable collisions;
  - to prevent automobile/pedestrian collisions;
  - to minimize the threat to motorists from running red lights at intersections;
- in the warning period (February 1 to March 2, 2011): issued 2562 warnings; intersections with highest number of warnings: Redmond Way and 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE; most prevalent violation: right turn on red, without a complete stop;
- in the first phase of the live pilot program (March 3 through 16, 2011): issued 1586 notices of infractions;
- criteria for issuing a summons with notice of infraction from red light cameras is the same as if the violation were witnessed in-person by an officer; each video is reviewed by Traffic Officers, Lieutenants, and Commander Shovlin, for confirmation that a violation occurred before issuance; and
- no rear-end collisions have been reported at any of the monitored intersections as a result of the red light cameras.

Commander Shovlin narrated and presented seven photo and video examples of violations captured on camera and reviewed by Police staff; indicating when infractions were issued and when not; and the criteria used in making these determinations.

General discussion ensued regarding effectiveness of putting officers on the street to monitor these violations; officer discretion in regards to issuing a violation; classification of violation, and adjustments made to the cameras/flashes.

### **Marymoor Park Noise and Traffic Preview**

Chief Gibson stated that the Redmond Police and King County have already been in discussion regarding the upcoming season: reviewed noise violations and procedures for complaints; suggestions; additional signage for traffic flow for mid-week concerts/events; and plan to have a follow-up meeting in April/May. Ms. Norah Gaynor, King County Program Manager, added that the 2011 concert schedule has not been released (the schedule should be available between April 15<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>) and past practices and improvements have been discussed.

General discussion ensued regarding past complaints, procedure for responding to complaints and the processing of violations, traffic flow concerns, and holding future meetings on these subjects once the 2011 schedule has been set.

### **Crime Mapping**

Chief Gibson presented information on Crime Mapping:

- webpage is in development with regards to crime mapping; GIS-based;
- opportunity for citizens to be aware of what's going on in their community/neighborhood;
- many arrests are made off of community tips;
- system will allow citizens to stay up-to-date on crimes in their neighborhood;
- not every call for service will be represented (some exempt for victim protection);
- can view crimes by day or week; and
- includes date/time/description/general address of crime; case number included for reference, and to request further information.

General discussion ensued regarding examples mapped, website search options, and the possibility of signing up for automatic notifications. Chief Gibson thanked the Redmond GIS Division for their assistance in creation of this tool.

### **Miscellaneous**

Police Commander Kristi Wilson updated the Committee on grant funding items to go before Council for consideration in April 2011; finance of the Greater Puget Sound Identity Theft and Financial Fraud Crime Analyst position (0.8 Crime Analyst – 32 hours/week; fully funded position).