



# Meeting Minutes - Draft

## Ad Hoc Public Safety Committee

City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E  
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8244

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Thursday, August 12, 2021

5:30 PM

Online and via phone

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Attend: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81370658337?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81370658337?pwd=TVQxRklmL0NGd21zQXZKR2MxMmNrZz09)  
[pwd=TVQxRklmL0NGd21zQXZKR2MxMmNrZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81370658337?pwd=TVQxRklmL0NGd21zQXZKR2MxMmNrZz09)

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chari Parshley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### 2. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 3 - Chair Lisa Parshley, Committee member Clark Gilman and Committee member Cheryl Selby

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 4.A [21-0793](#) Approval of July 22, 2021 Ad Hoc Committee on Public Safety Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

### 5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 5.A [21-0791](#) Overview of Fire Department Cares and Response Model Changes for the City of Olympia Fire Department

Olympia Fire Department (OFD) Chief Mark John and Assistant Fire Chief Kevin Bossard gave an overview of an Emergency Life Support Basic Life Support Transport (BLS) proposal to address decreasing availability, increasing on-scene times and increased demand on emergency response units. The benefit would be better service to the community; improved response times, consistent service, OFD Community Assistance Referral Services (CARES); more units to handle increasing demand; more emergency responders; and improve Washington State Insurance Rating Bureau Classification. The initial capital needed would be \$3,006, 250. Staff and equipment needs include three ambulances; outfitting three ambulances; 18 full time equivalent positions and one OFD CARES vehicle.

Firefighter Paramedic Erin Johnson gave an overview of the OFD Cares program, which is essentially a hospital diversion program for low acuity patients; which are in several

categories psychiatric related; falls; activity of daily living limitations and social support needs. The program is supported by RCW 35.21.930 which allows Fire Departments to develop the CARES program and bill Medicaid for services, which is also supported by House Bill 1358. The CARES projected revenue would be \$261,009.75. The pilot staffing model would include 1 program director, a licensed social worker and a behavioral health specialist. A two year staff model would include two teams of a licensed social worker and behavioral specialist along with interns from St. Martins University.

Committee members asked clarifying questions throughout the presentation.

**The report was received.**

## **6. REPORTS AND UPDATES**

Assistant City Manager Debbie Sullivan reviewed the Committee's work plan. She noted on September 9 the Committee will discuss budget considerations related to the Crisis Response Unit, body cameras, the Police Auditor goals and outcomes, along with a discussion on how to tell the City's story of how we are addressing public safety issues. On October 14 Police Chief Aaron Jelcick will give an update on the implementation of the police reform bills that passed last legislative session. In November the Committee will receive an update on the reimagining public safety process.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.