

From: Harris, Ed [Ed.Harris@austintexas.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 1:18 PM
To: Warren, John
Cc: Mannix, Sean; Daniels, John
Subject: RE: One Additional Question for APD from City Facilities Committee

From: Warren, John [mailto:John.Warren@austintexas.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 12:49 PM
To: Harris, Ed
Cc: Daniels, John
Subject: One Additional Question for APD from City Facilities Committee
Importance: High

Mr. Harris -

After sending APD's response to several questions from the City Facilities Committee, I received the following additional question from a couple of committee members. The question is related to the question regarding some type of police facility that might be located in the Shoreline Apartments redevelopment. APD's answer was that there was no such facility planned, that APD no longer operates storefront facilities, that APD had not been involved in any discussions regarding a possible police facility in Shoreline or anywhere else, and that APD would have to be involved if such a project were planned.

The additional question from the committee members is this:

"Does APD have a community policing strategy and if so, then what does it look like; or if not, then what happened to it?

A number of us are under the impression that APD's operations include some aspect of community policing, at least in some sectors, so if this is not (or is no longer) the case, then that would be helpful to know."

Yes, APD initiated it's "Community Oriented Policing" strategy in the mid 90's with it's decentralization of police operations and the construction of it's first police substation in north Austin. The prevention of crime is a major objective of the Department that requires a strong partnership between the police and the public. It has been long recognized that the police, without strong support and involvement from community elements, can do little to control crime, thus there is an increasing emphasis today on the development of programs to bring the police operations closer to the mainstream of community affairs. Team policing, community relations and community crime prevention programs, and similar methods have been implemented for this purpose. Location of police substations depends upon several variables. First is availability to the community and the relationship of the site to the community's basic pattern of growth or to planned development consistent with the community's need. Our current request for police facilities in the northwest, southwest and central west corridors is based upon the community oriented policing concept and the Department's goal of optimum patrol effectiveness and efficiency.

Can you provide me with any information on this that I could share with the committee?

And thank you for all of the information and assistance you and the department have provided during this process!

Regards,

John Warren
Capital Planning Office

(512) 974-6020
john.warren@austintexas.gov