

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2017
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**

**Regarding: Forum on South Pasadena's Commitment to Diversity, Safeguarding Civil Rights
and Immigration**

**Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr. Council Chamber
1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030**

CALL TO ORDER – PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

A Special Meeting of the South Pasadena Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chairperson Daigle on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Daigle, Vice-Chair Reinoso, Councilmembers Daley, Ding, Ettinger, Hall and Kung arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Officials

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Schneider, and Councilmember Mahmud

City Staff

Present: Interim City Manager Aguilar, City Attorney Highsmith, Police Chief Miller, Fire Chief Riddle, and Police Captain Neff

**PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEM #3, SOUTH PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT,
POLICY 415**

David Beadle, Gary Rowe and Anne Schermerhorn provided comments regarding immigration and Policy 415. Mr. Beadle requested to speak beyond three minutes and Chair Daigle agreed. Mr. Rowe provided a handout outlining requested modifications to Policy 415. The citizens advocated for the South Pasadena Police Department (SPPD) to NOT ask, consider or data gather immigration status when a person has an encounter with law enforcement. A request was made to redraft specific verbiage to Policy 415.2, 415.4, 415.6 and 415.7.

COMMISSION CONSIDERATION OF SOUTH PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY 415

Chair Daigle requested input from Chief Miller. Chief Miller advised that his philosophy, direction and expectation of SPPD is that there is no interest or need to ask a person's immigration status. The Department's sole concern is if a person is a victim, witness or suspect. When a suspect is arrested they are booked at Alhambra or Pasadena jail. That agency during the booking process determines if there is an ICE or Immigration hold. SPPD will continue to respect a person's dignity as they live, do business and travel throughout the City. He indicated no decision will be made on Policy 415 tonight. Chief Miller acknowledged the compelling public comments and advised he will consider all comments and input from public comment speakers and commissioners.

Interim City Manager Aguilar gave direction to the PSC to provide input and recommend changes tonight on Policy 415. Following then, Chief Miller, City Attorney, Interim City Manager and the Sub-Committee will further develop and present an ordinance to City Council at a future date.

City Attorney Highsmith advised that revised Policy 415 is a Lexipol policy drafted for police departments statewide. Policy 415 is consistent and compliant with State law, both the Truth and Trust Act, and Federal law. Suggestions for improvement through wordsmithing are appreciated and as the City moves forward with possible changes it is important to remain in compliance with State and Federal law.

Commissioners reviewed and discussed Policy 415. Discussion included verbiage and possible word-crafting revisions, how the policy impacts relations with federal agencies, Alhambra and Pasadena jail responsibilities and consular notifications. Commissioner Daley moved that the PSC recommend moving forward with revision to Policy 415 currently titled Immigration Policy. Vice-Chair Reinoso seconded the motion and the vote was 7-0 in favor of passing the motion.

ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Chair Daigle adjourned the PSC portion of the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

CONVENE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND STAFF LIAISONS

Mayor Pro Tem Schneider convened and called to order the portion of the special meeting of the South Pasadena City Council Sub-Committee and Staff Liaisons at 7:55 p.m.

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Schneider, Councilmember Mahmud, Interim City Manager Aguilar, City Attorney Highsmith and Police Chief Miller.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT ORDINANCE REGARDING CITY PROCEDURES CONCERNING SENSITIVE INFORMATION AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAW

Mayor Pro Tem Schneider indicated the purpose of the forum is for the public to advise what they want to see in the ordinance and police policy. He indicated the PSC motion recommendation will be taken into consideration as well as public comments as the council committee and staff liaisons move forward in drafting the ordinance. Interim City Manager Aguilar advised that City Council passed Resolution No. 7491 affirming the City's commitment to diversity and safeguarding the civil rights and safety of all residents in December, 2016. The Council appointed sub-committee recognized that something stronger was needed to be in place that pertained to all city departments as well as the police department. An ordinance is codified into the city's municipal code. Tonight's input will be received and an ordinance will be presented at a future City Council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEM #6, DRAFT ORDINANCE

Tanya Parker, Gary Rowe, Cynthia Liu and Linda Krausen offered comments regarding the draft ordinance. David Beadle declined. The group thanked and commended Council and City Staff for the serious thought and consideration given to South Pasadena's immigration policy. Discussion included encouragement and suggestions that draft ordinance language foster a welcoming environment for all immigrant/non-citizen neighbors, students, guest workers and those travelling through the City. Alhambra and Pasadena jails and South Pasadena's holding cell were discussed to determine which one best meets with the City's future ordinance. Chief Miller advised that ICE is contacted by Alhambra and County jail if there is a federal warrant. Mr. Rowe suggested Council endorse a non-citizens right to counsel if facing deportation and possible contributions to fund immigrant representation. Ms. Liu discussed the school resource officer role (SRO) and that each child has the right to an education without fear. Additionally considered was that ICE not have access to reach K-12 students through the SRO to obtain personal information or familial associations.

Councilmember Mahmud indicated that more than an expanded resolution was needed and it was agreed that a city policy in municipal format in ordinance form would be presented. She advised that South Pasadena has significant limits on financial resources and Chief Miller must have flexibility to choose jail services that provide adequate resources and efficiency. Additionally Councilmember Mahmud noted it was critical to the City's identity and wellbeing to continue to provide FD and PD services even in light of future anticipated constrained resources. She agreed a person should have a right to counsel, however it may not be germane to include in an ordinance. Additionally, South Pasadena does not have \$15,000 to contribute funds to immigrant registration.

Mayor Pro Tem advised that all points brought up in tonight's forum will be considered carefully. The ordinance will be on a City Council agenda in the near future and the public will have another opportunity for public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Schneider adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. Daigle", written over a horizontal line.

Ellen Daigle

Chairperson

Respectfully submitted:

Idessa Gonzales

Police Clerk