

- e) The Committee shall report to City Council no less than monthly and to the other participating organizations as those organizations deem appropriate. The Committee will sunset in six months unless extended by City Council action;
 - f) The first meeting of the Committee shall be held the first week of October.
- 2) Direct the selected City Members of the Committee to send a letter to Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) and Pasadena City College (PCC), Supervisor Antonovich's office, the Altadena Town Council, Senator Jack Scott and Assembly Member Anthony Portantino offices requesting their participation. They should also be asked that appointments be made as quickly as possible; that inventories of their current services/programs be compiled; and that they identify dates to meet the first week of October.

BACKGROUND

On September 10, 2007, City Council heard from the community and staff regarding efforts to respond to a recent increase in youth violence in Pasadena. Following discussion the Council adopted in concept a framework developed by Council Member Robinson laying out eight strategic actions areas that impact youth violence through prevention, intervention and enforcement:

PASADENA ALTADENA VISION 2020 STRATEGIC ACTION FRAMEWORK

1. **Public Safety:** School Safe Passages, Grassroots Participation in Neighborhood Safety, Community-Police Liaison, and other Violence Prevention strategies.
2. **Community Intervention for Gang Violence Prevention:** Gang prevention professionals and trained Neighborhood Ambassadors do outreach and mediation.
3. **Youth and Young Adult Development:** Life-Skills, Leadership Development, Employment Preparation, Public and Mental Health Services, and Mentoring
4. **Community-Wide Job Creation:** Year-Round Employment for High Risk Youth and Young Adults (16-30), Vocational Skills Training, Public-Private Job Creation Partnerships
5. **Youth Centers:** Safe Facilities, Programs, and Social Activities for Older Teens and Young Adults
6. **Schools and Parks:** Open our schools and parks after hours for community youth and adult services, programs and activities.
7. **Inter-Group and Human Relations:** Cultural and cross-cultural awareness, information, education, training and special projects to unite Latino, African American, and all communities across ethnic lines.
8. **Long-Term Sustainability:** Resource development and policy formation that ensures a multi-year continuation of public-private-community investment in youth, young adults, families and neighborhood development

Staff was directed to return with recommendations to form an ad hoc committee of City Council and other elected officials including the Pasadena Unified School District,

Pasadena City College, Supervisor Antonovich's office and the Altadena Town Council. The Committee would work to provide advisory recommendations to the Council and other respective groups involved regarding actions that could strengthen the community response to youth violence.

Staff recommends forming a nine-member body to include three representatives from the City Council, two each from the Pasadena Unified School District and Pasadena City College, and one each from the office of Supervisor Antonovich and the Altadena Town Council. The City Council may further wish to add representatives from Senator Jack Scott and Assembly Member Anthony Portantino's office. The City Council may also want to consider making appointments from the City's Public Safety Committee to serve as the City's representatives to this Committee.

The purpose of the Committee shall be to reduce violence in the short and long term through prevention, intervention and enforcement efforts. The specific objectives of the Committee should include:

1. Identify and address the issues and causes behind the recent violence;
2. Coordinate an inventory of the full range of services available within the community through public, private and non-profit agencies and identification of gaps in service;
3. Recommend ways to improve coordination of services to ensure all service needs are being met and that service efforts are non-duplicative and efficiently allocated;
4. Schedule "town hall" type meetings to solicit community input and to inform the community of the various activities of the member organizations and gather input on areas where there might be a lack of services.
5. Develop systems for youth to have a direct role in the identification of service/programs and how best to fill these gaps.

In support of efforts to better understand the issues and causes behind the violence, staff suggests that at the initial meeting of the Committee time be dedicated to hearing testimony from individuals directly impacted by acts of violence. Staff would work with the community to identify appropriate speakers for that meeting. In addition, the role of City Commissions who are expressing an interest in assisting should be discussed. Future meetings should also include experts in the field of the causes of youth violence including those studying and addressing youth violence as a public health issue, inter-group relations, and violence prevention. Community town halls could be utilized for broad community participation.

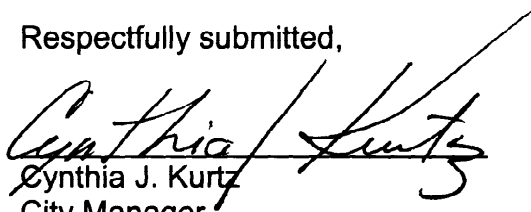
The Committee would meet as needed, but should report to City Council monthly, provide recommendations in a timely manner and plan to complete the assignment in no more than six months. The City will provide staff to the Committee including a representative from the Police Department, the Human Service & Recreation Department, the Public Health Department, the City Attorney's Office and the City Clerk's Office. Staff from Information Services (Library), Code Enforcement and other areas will be available as needed. The Council may want to request that staff also be provided by Pasadena Unified School District and Pasadena City College.

The Committee may request further support from professionals with expertise in the field of community organization and violence prevention. No plans or budget for televising the meetings have been prepared. Both of these decisions would require budget amendments.

FISCAL IMPACT

No additional funds are required at this time. If the City Council or Committee decides to televise some or all of the meetings and town halls or hire outside expertise, estimates of the costs would be developed at that time. Any costs associated with recommendations from the Committee would be brought forward in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager