

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
SUBJECT: UPDATE FOR THE MAYOR'S GANG PREVENTION TASK FORCE
STAFF PRESENTER: JENNIFER PHILLIPS, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
TOM SCHWEDHELM, CHIEF OF POLICE
KHAALID MUTTAQI, PROGRAM MANAGER-MGPTF
AGENDA ACTION: NO ACTION REQUESTED

ISSUE(S)

Staff will provide an update for City Council about the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force.



COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIES

This Resolution relates to City Council Goal #5: Improve the Partnerships between Neighborhoods, Community Organizations and the City to Support and Promote Thriving Diverse Neighborhoods. It meets the interests of this goal by defining and identifying potential opportunities to expand and enhance the partnerships of the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force through the implementation of the 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan, including other City Departments, County of Sonoma, Community-Based Organizations, and members of the community.

BACKGROUND

The Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) is a collaborative effort involving private citizens; city, county, and state government; local community-based organizations; schools, parents, faith community, and local law enforcement. The focus of this work is to intervene in the lives of youth to provide positive socialization opportunities as alternatives to criminal involvement and to deter them from other maladaptive behaviors.

From August 2011 – July 2012, City staff and consultants from Community Crime Prevention Associates conducted a strategic planning process by engaging in focus groups with the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy and Operational Teams, youth, parents, service providers from community-based and faith-based organizations, and Burbank Housing property managers. In addition to the data generated from the focus groups, statistics from the 2009 and 2011 administrations of the California Healthy Kids Survey, Santa Rosa Police Department crime statistics, and relevant

evidence-based literature and best practices were used to develop the 2012 – 2016 MGPTF Strategic Plan.

Adopted by the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy Team in August 2012, the 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan provides a framework for the community combining the latest research on successful approaches to healthy youth development with a strategy to provide more prevention and intervention services to gang-involved and disconnected youth. By committing to supporting Santa Rosa's youth, the community has sent a clear message of support for youth to stay in school, reconnect with their families and communities, enjoy a supportive and healthy environment to learn and grow, and engage in pro-social behaviors. The MGPTF has been an integral part of the City of Santa Rosa structure since 2003. The City of Santa Rosa and the City Council have supported the efforts of the MGPTF with its inclusion as a City Council Goal for 2013 – 2015 and adoption of the 2012 – 2016 MGPTF Strategic Plan in December 2012. To access the complete MGPTF 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan, please visit www.gangprevention.srcity.org.

The vision of the 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan Update is to “reclaim our youth for their families, schools, communities, and futures.” With a continued focus on the original five goals, the MGPTF included two additional goals: Re-Entry and Regionalization. The strategic goals are outlined below and serve as the overarching guidelines for all action items.

1. Awareness: Create an education and awareness campaign regarding the risk factors affecting youth and the resources available to them.
2. Prevention: Increase the number of prevention programs with the priority target being high-risk neighborhoods.
3. Intervention: Increase intervention services and create positive opportunities for high-risk and gang-involved youth and their families.
4. Enforcement: Increase enforcement efforts of serious and violent crime and enhance the sense of safety reported by the public.
5. Re-Entry: Insure the successful re-entry of youth and adults re-entering our community after incarceration.
6. Regionalization: Assist other communities in our region to work together to address the mobile nature of youth violence and gangs.
7. Measurements/Metrics: Create a delivery system and measures to track effort, effect, and results of ongoing programs.

The California Violence Prevention Network (CVPN) is a collection of 14 cities across the State of California focused on influencing state-wide policy for gang prevention, intervention, and re-entry services, while also providing technical assistance and

training for cities across the state to enhance evidence-based and best practices for coordinating and implementing comprehensive community efforts, programs and services. Santa Rosa has played a lead role with the CVPN since 2006 and has hosted two state-wide conferences for all participating members. Santa Rosa has been selected to represent the CVPN in meetings at the State Capitol with several members of Congress and the Assembly. Members of the Santa Rosa team have joined other members of the CVPN in providing technical assistance and training to other cities across the State and Country.

ANALYSIS

1. The MGPTF is comprised of two Teams. A list of each Team is provided in Attachment A.
 - The Policy Team provides leadership and direction by setting policies and monitoring the effectiveness of the effort. Leadership for the team's planning, implementation, and facilitation includes the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the Assistant City Manager, and the Program Manager-MGPTF.
 - The Operational Team is a multi-disciplinary team subject to Welfare & Institutions Code 830.1, requiring a Memorandum of Understanding for all members. It fills a critical role in representing the interests of community stakeholders and mapping out the needs, strategies, and impact of the work conducted by the MGPTF. Leadership for the team's planning, implementation, and facilitation includes the Program Manager-MGPTF and the Sergeant of the Santa Rosa Police Department's Gang Unit.
2. In August 2012, City of Santa Rosa Staff assessed the evolvement of the MGPTF and gang prevention programs offered through the Santa Rosa Recreation & Parks Department and determined the need to move the administration of the MGPTF, outreach efforts, and the CHOICE grant program to the City Manager's Office under the direction of the Assistant City Manager.

To identify and prioritize specific action items for implementation, staff began a series of focus groups with the MGPTF Operational Team in September 2012. These items have been formulated into a detailed implementation plan. The objective is to leverage existing partnerships and resources towards accomplishing the goals of the MGPTF Strategic Plan 2012-2016. Additionally, the MGPTF refined the original framework to incorporate this more focused approach (Attachment B).

3. Law enforcement plays a critical role in the comprehensive framework of the MGPTF. As part of the evaluation component of the MGPTF, the Santa Rosa Police Department created a quarterly summary of local crime statistics, which was shared with City Council in December 2012. This report is shared with the

MGPTF Policy Team during the bimonthly public meetings. The current report is provided as Attachment C.

RECOMMENDATION

This report is provided as information only. No action by City Council is requested.

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Attachments:

- Attachment A: List of MGPTF Policy and Operational Teams
- Attachment B: Santa Rosa MGPTF Strategic Plan Elements
- Attachment C: Current crime statistics report