

RESOLUTION NO. 050280

Endorsing the Community Policing Task Force Report and directing the City Manager to work with the Kansas City Police Department and other City departments to prepare a plan of implementation for those recommendations applicable to the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

WHEREAS, the national trend toward community-oriented policing took hold in Kansas City a decade ago, and has made steady progress toward solving the underlying problems of disorder under the unified vision of the Community Policing Steering Committee, the Kansas City Police Department (KCPD), and countless community volunteers; and

WHEREAS, representatives from KCPD, City staff, and the community worked diligently from August to November 2004 to review the history and current state of the community policing in Kansas City, drawing on the collective knowledge and wisdom of police, city government and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, the task force concluded its work by issuing six key recommendations pertaining to: the role of Community Action Network (CAN) Centers and other specialized police units, deployment of law enforcement resources, critical budget issues facing public safety in Kansas City, communication between KCPD and the community, restructuring of the Community Policing Steering Committee, and reaffirming the commitment to the philosophy and practice of community policing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kansas City must regard public safety as indivisible from its core mission as a municipality, and thus must make every effort to allocate sufficient resources of money, time and talent to this indispensable public service; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has recently espoused the principle that a central agency, whether it be the central housing agency or the police department, is only one part of the municipality's responsibility for the overarching goals of neighborhood revitalization or public safety; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby directs the City Manager to convene a representative, inclusive group of professionals and community leaders from the public safety field to review the community policing task force recommendations and craft a multi-year strategy to reaffirm, strengthen and fund an integrated approach to community and problem-oriented policing in Kansas City.

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