



Legislation Text

File #: ID#20-405, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION:

Receive a staff presentation and hold discussion regarding the San Marcos Police Department Use of Force policy specifically with regard to the topics highlighted by the "8 Can't Wait" campaign.

Meeting date: July 7, 2020

Department: Police - Chief Bob Klett

Amount & Source of Funding

Funds Required: N/A

Account Number: N/A

Funds Available: N/A

Account Name: N/A

Fiscal Note:

Prior Council Action: N/A

City Council Strategic Initiative: [Please select from the dropdown menu below]

N/A

Choose an item.

Choose an item.

Comprehensive Plan Element (s): [Please select the Plan element(s) and Goal # from dropdown menu below]

- ☐ Economic Development - Choose an item.
- ☐ Environment & Resource Protection - Choose an item.
- ☐ Land Use - Choose an item.
- ☐ Neighborhoods & Housing - Choose an item.
- ☐ Parks, Public Spaces & Facilities - Choose an item.
- ☐ Transportation - Choose an item.
- ☒ Core Services
- ☐ Not Applicable

Master Plan: *[Please select the corresponding Master Plan from the dropdown menu below (if applicable)]*

Choose an item.

Background Information:

On May 25, 2020 Mr. George Floyd died in the custody of the Minneapolis police department after a physical struggle with officers wherein one of the officers placed his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck for an extended period of time while Mr. Floyd was in handcuffs. Mr. Floyd's senseless death while in police custody has led to many questions about police policy and procedure specifically in the area of the use of force. One of the most visible campaigns that has emerged after this incident is the "8 Can't Wait" campaign. This campaign asks City governing bodies to examine the use of force policies of their police departments with regard to 8 specific topics. Those are 1. Ban chokeholds 2. Require de-escalation 3. Require warning before shooting 4. Require officers to exhaust all other alternatives before shooting 5. Require officers to intervene in instances of other officers using excessive force 6. Ban shooting at moving vehicles 7. Require a use of force continuum and 8. Require comprehensive use of force reporting. This tragic incident has also prompted police leaders across the country to take a critical look at their policies and in some instances make some needed changes. The purpose of this work session presentation and discussion is to provide Council with detailed information about several aspects of the SMPD's use of force policy including some recent changes prompted by this event and hold related discussion.

Council Committee, Board/Commission Action:

N/A

Alternatives:

N/A

Recommendation:

N/A