

MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

Cc:

Jacob Frey, Mayor
Margaret Anderson Kelliher, COO
Kristyn Anderson, City Attorney
Casey Carl, City Clerk

From: Todd Barnette, Community Safety Commissioner

Date:

Subject: Legislative Directive Response Memo for 2024-00130 re “Management of Office of Community Safety”

The below legislative directive was walked onto the Administration & Enterprise Oversight Committee agenda at its regular February 12, 2024 meeting.

Legislative Directive By Wonsley

Pursuant to City Charter Section 7.1(h)(2), the Minneapolis City Council, in support of its official legislative, policymaking, and oversight functions, does request from the Mayor the following:

- 1. Data and other relevant contextual information behind the 2024 Budget Amendment Impacts Memo (see Legislative File No. 2023-00739) claims under “NSD Deputy Director of Finance and Administration (Amendment #6) and Senior Project Manager (Amendment #4)”.**
- 2. Overview of any current staffing or capacity challenges within the Neighborhood Safety Department, including lines of work that may be currently supported by other departments or contractors that are related to executing administrative tasks.**
- 3. A summary of any recommendations that were given to the Office of Community Safety as a product of the Ryan Companies gift of loaned executive services for organizational development related to the Minneapolis Safe and Thriving Communities report.**
- 4. Fiscal analysis of any budget needs, including additional full-time employees (FTEs), required the Neighborhood Safety Department to successfully execute current responsibilities as well as repair infrastructural or capacity challenges.**
- 5. A summary of the Mayor’s expectations as it relates to transparency from his executive**

team, their duties as public servants, and the recourse for City Council if executive officers hinder Council's ability to provide effective oversight.

Present the requested information, including any proposed changes or policy implementations, along with a fiscal analysis of any recommendations to the Minneapolis City Council's Administrative and Enterprise Oversight committee no later than March 11, 2024.

Mayor Frey's administration will respond to the listed questions collectively.

During the 2024 Budget process, City Councilmembers proposed amending the Mayor's proposed budget to take funding from CPED and the Mayor's Office in order to fund two Neighborhood Safety Department (NSD) FTEs: a Deputy Director of Finance and Administration and a Senior Project Manager.

In response to that proposed amendment, the administration stated in its [response memorandum to Council](#) the following:

"This would be adding positions into NSD that are not being asked for, at this time, from the Community Safety Commissioner and Director of NSD. We need to listen to these staff experts and allow them time to assess what the needs are for the NSD, then we can consider adding additional staff at their recommendation. ...

OCS and OPS advise that these proposed amendments not proceed at this time.

During the 2025-2026 Budget Process, the administration – specifically, OCS and NSD – will bring forward a comprehensive budget request that details NSD's evolving staff needs considering the department's then-current structure and the Community Safety Design and Implementation process. For this reason, it is not recommended that this reallocation proceed at this time."

Office of Community Safety (OCS) Commissioner Todd Barnette acknowledged throughout the budget proceedings that NSD had staffing needs, but that both OCS and NSD were not yet positioned to determine what specific funding and resources were needed. For that reason, as stated above, OCS and NSD will be coming forward in the next month with a full staffing plan for NSD – including requests for 2024 one-time funding and ongoing funding starting in 2025.

Throughout the end of 2023 and beginning of 2024, OCS and NSD have been able to strategically evaluate and project needed staffing for NSD that addresses its new status as a department and the rapid evolution of its portfolio in recent years. This included working with the Ryan Companies loaned executive referenced above and City staff from OCS, HR, and other departments to identify and prioritize those needs.

Mayor Frey expects Cabinet Members and executive leaders to act with transparency with Council Members.