



# Agenda

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, September 16, 2008 4:00 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of July 15, 2008 minutes
4. Old business:
  - A. NONE
5. New business:
  - A. Proposed ordinance amending Exhibit B, Chapter 24 SFCC 1987 regarding the penalty assessment for violation of the City's prohibition of hand-held cellular phone usage while a vehicle is in motion. (Councilor Rebecca Wurzburger, Police Chief Eric Johnson)
  - B. Proposed ordinance repealing Article 20-25 SFCC 1987 maintenance and installation of alarm devices and systems and creating a new Article 20-5 SFCC regarding alarm systems and making such other changes as are necessary. (Councilor Chris Calvert, Police Captain Gilbert C de Baca, Police Records Administrative Manager Lydia Lioce)
  - C. Proposed resolution adopting the Santa Fe County Hazard Mitigation Plan (Mayor David Coss, Emergency Manager Joyce Purley)
  - D. Creation of an Emergency Management Coordinator position to be housed in the City Managers Office and will be funded 50% by a state grant and 50% by the City. This position will answer directly to the City Manager or his/her designee and be responsible for coordinating Emergency Management training and activities for all city departments. (Fire Chief Chris Rivera)
    - Acceptance of 50% matching fund grant from the Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management for the Emergency Management Coordinator Position.
6. Matters from Municipal Court
  - A. Informational- Municipal Court July Report
7. Matters from Police Chief Eric Johnson
  - A. 2008 Post Fiesta Report- Captain Gilbert C de Baca

8. Matters from Fire Chief Chris Rivera
9. Matters from Committee Members
10. Communications from the Floor
11. Adjournment

**For information regarding the agenda, you can call Shannon Cantu at 955-5010. Interpreter for the hearing impaired is available through the City Clerk's Office upon five days notice. Please call 955-6521.**

**Index Summary of Minutes  
Public Safety Committee  
September 16, 2008**

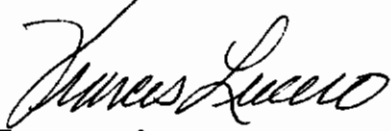
<b>INDEX</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE(S)</b>
Call to Order	Call to Order by Chair, Councilor Ronald Trujillo	1
Roll Call	A quorum was declared.	1
Review and Approval of the Minutes	Motion and 2 <sup>nd</sup> to approve minutes from July 15, 2008 with no corrections, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	1
Approval of the Agenda	Motion and 2 <sup>nd</sup> to approve agenda as presented, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	1
<b>Old Business:</b>	None	
<b>New Business</b>		
Proposed ordinance amending Exhibit B, Chapter 24 SFCC 1987 regarding the penalty assessment for violation of the City's prohibition of hand-held cellular phone usage while a vehicle is in motion. (Councilor Rebecca Wurzbarger, Police Chief Eric Johnson).	Mr. Henry Valdez moved to take any decisions on this ordinance, second by Mr. Mike Bowen, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	<b>2-3</b>
Proposed ordinance repealing Article 20-25 SFCC 1987 maintenance and installation of alarm devices and systems and creating a new Article 20-5 SFCC regarding alarm systems and making such other changes as are necessary. (Councilor Chris Calvert, Police Captain Gilbert CdeBaca, Police Records Administrative Manager, Lydia Lioce)  <b>Note: Public Participation</b>	Mr. Herbert Harris made the motion that this committee recommend that a task force be created to include alarm companies and the police department, driven by statistics and alarm owners regarding the proposed ordinance by Councilor Calvert, motion second by Mr. Henry Valdez, motion carries by unanimous voice vote.	3-4-5-6-7
Proposed resolution adopting the Santa Fe County Hazard Mitigation Plan (Mayor David Coss, Emergency Manager Joyce Purley)	Mr. Henry Valdez moved for approval of the resolution adopting the Santa Fe County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Mr. Michael Bowen second the motion, motion carried by unanimous vote.	7-8
<b>Page 2 – Public Safety Committee</b>	<b>Index</b>	
Creation of an Emergency Management Coordinator position to be housed in the City Managers Office and will be funded 50% by a state grant and 50% by the City. This position will answer directly to the City Manager or	Mr. Michael Bowen made the motion to approve the creation of an Emergency Management Coordinator position and to proceed through the proper process,	8-9

his/her designee and be responsible for coordinating Emergency Management training and activities for all city departments.(Fire Chief Chris Rivera	second by Mr. Mizrahi, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	
Adjournment	<b>There being no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee, Mr. Valdez made the motion adjourn at 6:05 pm, second by Mr. Mike Bowen, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</b>	10
Signature Page		11

City of Santa Fe  
Public Safety Committee  
Minutes of September 16, 2008

Draft until Approved

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frances Lucero". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "F".

Frances Lucero  
Stenographer

**Meeting called to order on September 16, 2008 at 4:00 pm in the City Council Chambers,  
200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.**

**1. Roll Call**

In Attendance:

Councilor Ronald Trujillo, Chair  
Mr. Herb Harris, Vice Chair  
Mr. Henry Valdez  
Mr. Michael Bowen  
Mr. Peter Mizrahi  
Dr. Nancy Owen-Lewis

Absent:

Mr. Frank Stuto  
Mr. Mike Mier

Presenters:

Councilor Rebecca Wurzbarger  
Councilor Chris Calvert  
Mr. Paul Glenn, President of New Mexico Burglar and Fire Alarm System  
Mr. Ron Walters, Fire Alarm Industry  
Patrick Cruz, Safeguard in Santa Fe  
Michael Dukemeneir, Freedom Security Systems

Staff Present

Chief Eric Johnson, Santa Fe Police Department  
Deputy Chief Ben Montano, Santa Fe Police Department  
Captain Gilbert CdeBaca, Santa Fe Police Department  
Lydia Lioce, Santa Fe Police Department  
Joyce Purley, Emergency Manager,  
Chief Chris Rivera, Santa Fe Fire Chief  
Shannon Cantu, Santa Fe Police Department

Others Present:

Fran Lucero, Stenographer

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Herb Harris moved to accept the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Pete Mizrahi, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**3. Approval of July 15, 2008 minutes:**

Dr. Nancy Owen-Lewis made the motion to accept the minutes of July 15, 2008 with no changes, second by Mr. Harris, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**4. Old Business: None**

**5. New Business:**

- A. Proposed ordinance amending Exhibit B, Chapter 24 SFCC 1987 regarding the penalty assessment for violation of the City's prohibition of hand-held cellular phone usage while a vehicle is in motion. (Councilor Rebecca Wurzburger, Police Chief Eric Johnson).

Chief Johnson stated that the public did not want to see this ordinance go away yet it has been tough to enforce. Councilor Wurzburger has made some recommendations to increase the fines; previous fine was \$60 with court fee's adding up to \$101. New proposed fines would increase up to \$500 especially in the school zones. The Chief reinforced their continued monitoring of cell phone use yet citizens continue to use their cell phones. An example of the problem is not that they are talking on the phone; it is that they throw the phone on the floor and then they stop to pick it up and create an unsafe situation.

Councilor Wurzburger reconfirmed that it is clear that most people recognize that this is a problem. It is her hope that increasing the fines would have a deterrent affect.

Councilor Trujillo asked if this cost would be the highest in the state. The Chief responded that Albuquerque and Santa Fe would be the only two in the state and Santa Fe would be the highest.

The Chief commented that he would like to lower cell phone use when reports reflect that many accidents are caused by using cell phones. In 2005, 2,115 citations were issued. 2006, 10,385 and 2007, 335. He reported that the officers are starting to pick up the enforcement again and to date there are 13,800 citations issued. There will be more unmarked car vigilance and violations will be instated.

Councilor Wurzburger has spoken to the Judge and felt that it could have an adverse affect; funds are very limited to do special outreach and would like to see press releases on an on-going basis to educate the public on the importance of this violation. Councilor Wurzburger reiterated that fines in the city are ridiculous. She believes that the deterrent effect of the law has to be sufficient. She requested that the committee start with this and have the committee review further the fines.

Councilor Calvert commented on the seriousness of cell phone use when driving, more so those who are texting, taking their mind, eyes and hands of the wheel compound the whole problem. Councilor Calvert proceeded to advise that they had singled out the cell phone because of its use and that young people are the heaviest users. He quotes, "I am in support of the ordinance".

Chief Johnson informed the committee that there is signage on cell phone use when you drive into the city limits. Councilor Wurzburger asked if more signs could be placed in the internal part of the city. This is a staff request that would have to be sent to Public Works.

Mr. Bowen commented that it is important to research further and find out what would be a correct fine.

Mr. Mizrahi stated that fines are key to enforcing the law and complimented the Police Department for all enforcement procedures not just cell phone use.

Mr. Valdez informed the committee that this ordinance had been reviewed several years ago and addressed from the perspective of inattentive driving. He feels that we have sufficient ordinances, to single this out for more severe punishment is an odd approach to resolution. Studies show that it isn't so much the cell phone usage vs. the conversation that is being held. He stated that he has a hard time supporting this fee for cell phone use. Example used; you could be eating a burger, putting on makeup, drinking coffee and pay a \$10 fine for inattentive driving. His opinion is that an increase in fine may not make enforcement better or not, he feels that many officers don't hold this as a high priority.

Councilor Wurzbarger asked the Chief if once this becomes law if he would he make it very clear to the officers that enforcement is important. The Councilor stated, "I would like an acclamation from you to get the officers to do what they need to do". Chief Johnson responded, "As stated before, what has made this one of the hardest violations to enforce is that when you stop somebody an officer can be writing the ticket, and the person receiving the ticket points out every one passing by talking on the phone. This is one of the ordinances that people continue to ignore. A stiffer penalty will help us enforce it better".

Dr. Nancy Owen-Lewis asked Councilor Wurzbarger where she had come up with the fine amounts. Councilor Wurzbarger responded by talking to her constituents. She added that it should be outlawed to use cell phones in school zones.

**Mr. Henry Valdez moved to table any decisions on this ordinance, second by Mr. Mike Bowen, motion carried by unanimous vote. Mr. Herbert Harris voted against this action.**

- B. Proposed ordinance repealing Article 20-25 SFCC 1987 maintenance and installation of alarm devices and systems and creating a new Article 20-5 SFCC regarding alarm systems and making such other changes as are necessary. (Councilor Chris Calvert, Police Captain Gilbert CdeBaca, Police Records Administrative Manager, Lydia Lioce)

The chair respectfully requested that those in the audience identify themselves when they reach the podium:

Councilor Chris Calvert referred to the documentation in the packet. He proceeded to explain that alarm calls are not safer and present a false sense of security that police officers are coming. Councilor Calvert pointed out in the ordinance, reference Page 4 at the top talks about the purpose and reason why he feels this change is necessary. He stated that the ordinance speaks for itself; basically entails that police will still respond to these calls. It was suggested that the alarm company's should be assessed a fee for false alarms, more so if their systems are not sophisticated enough to know that it isn't an emergency. Owner education is needed for operation of alarm systems in order to lessen the amount of calls. It was stated that if you put the fine on the owner it puts more administrative burden on the city. Councilor



Calvert has checked with other communities on how they comply and he learned that in some communities they revoke the license of the alarm owner to get them to comply and/or add penalties if they don't comply. He reiterated that this ordinance is not recommended for revenue he is concerned about the safety of our citizens.

The Chief informed the group that a response to an alarm requires 2 officers and can take up to 1 hour for complete investigation, i.e., checking unlocked window and doors and in most cases they are false alarms and the alarm company cannot contact the homeowners. He confirmed that most of the times the officers do not catch the perpetrators.

Mr. Paul Glenn, President of the New Mexico Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, I have been in this industry for about 40 years, I have been asked by many of the professional security company's in Santa Fe to introduce Mr. Ron Walters who is with the Security Alarm Coalition. Mr. Glenn provided a summary on the similar situation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Utilization of man power has been a problem in Albuquerque; he has worked with the city council extensively on three revisions to the present ordinance. The registration and permits is up three-fold from where they started, false alarms are down by 40% and the city now has revenue averaging \$1 million a year. They will also be rewriting the present ordinance and again going to move forward to reduce the problem even further.

Mr. Ron Walters: (Recognized the local alarm companies in Santa Fe.) There are 18,000 law enforcement companies in this country, if you pass this ordinance you will be the fifth in the nation, there are a total of 26 agencies that have some form of alarm response. The goal of this ordinance is good, it is sound, it is just, he stated, and the police department does not need to be inundated with calls. This ordinance will have private citizens and business owners responding to their alarms. In Dallas, in one year a business owner has been killed the alarm company owner. I have looked at over 2,000 ordinances; every single ordinance has failed for lack of enforcement, users are willing to pay for service, alarm systems are effective in reducing burglaries. The ordinances that are successfully enforced can prevent as high as 80% reductions in the number of dispatches and generated revenue. Fifteen cities that have considered something similar, created task forces, everyone has adopted a traditional ordinance, not a one has gone to a verified response process. I suggest that you get a group of people of in Santa Fe and find out what is best for the citizens of Santa Fe.

We are asking the police department to do something that doesn't fall within their scope of work; enforce an ordinance and collect fines. There are other solutions to make these ordinances work. Do not place alarm owners in harms way. We also recommend that the collected fees go back to Law Enforcement. Don't believe us, look at all sides, not just one side.

***(Close public hearing)***

The Chief posed the question to the Alarm Company owners in the audience, do you do only installation or do you monitor your alarms. (3)

Mr. Valdez asked Mr. Walters how long the 5 cities that have ordinances have been in effect. He answered, Washington (3 Years) – Salt Lake City (since 2000), no one has been older than Salt Lake City? What has happened to the Industry is it still viable in Salt Lake City? Guard companies have gone out of business. In Milwaukee the 1st 3 months, the victimization rate increased by over 300% of alarm users. I hesitate to give numbers on the burglary rate; they are on the FBI web list.

Chief Johnson stated that he feels that the advertisement from the alarm companies to the owners give a false sense of security. They sell a product that says when the alarm system goes off you will get an instant police response. In most cases a signal goes to the monitoring company, several minutes before it goes to dispatch, by the time the police arrive the perpetrator is already gone. Very rarely do we catch the burglar due to the time delay.

Councilor Calvert reiterated that we are doing this for public safety not for revenue. Secondly in terms of deterrent the biggest deterrent is the sign outside, alarm doesn't make them safe. We need to not lose sight of the ordinance for our city; Salt Lake City is a response ordinance. Our ordinance is not saying that our police will not respond, we are saying that a fine will be incurred if it is a false alarm and the police will not be responsible for collecting those fines. Albuquerque assesses the homeowner, we do not want to have a burden on the city we want public safety.

Nancy Owen-Lewis thanked Councilor Calvert for the statistics. She asked if the alarm companies can improve the technology. Mr. Walters responded that again it is not the alarm company or the product, it is the owner and more education is needed.

In Santa Fe 7,624 of the alarm calls, 3,182 were residential. Chief Johnsons stated that sometimes 2 to 3 x's a day the officers are going to a residence call and in some cases the same residence.

Councilor Trujillo asked for city staff to present themselves and address the item on how we register the alarms and to provide how many commercial registrations we have. Lydia Lioce, Manager for Police Records, monitors the alarm permits and billing for false alarms. She stated that the City of Santa Fe has 1,500 active permits in the city of Santa Fe and approximately ½ are commercial. By no means is that the number of alarms in the city. She stated that they had a data base that started at about 5,000 permits and it dwindled down to 1,500. On an annual basis we send annual permit renewals billing at \$25 each. We also monitor the false alarm, if they are not in the data base we send them a letter and inform them that they need a permit and to register the alarm with the City of Santa Fe. There are alarm companies that staff has worked with hand in hand to get the names of their customers; we send them packets to register their owners and alarms. There are alarm companies that require this of their customers and inform them of the ordinance.

Mr. Valdez stated that he see's the false alarms as an issue and is concerned with the unattended consequences of this ordinance. As a homeowner it brings a sense of self assurance and a level of comfort to many individuals who have an alarm. I see putting the cost on to the user as a cascading effect, if we put the cost on industry they will take it on to their rates. I am concerned that we will drive people

out of the market and that word could go out that Santa Fe doesn't have support or a high number of alarm systems and it alerts the burglars. If our statistics are released, I confirm that a lot of the burglars aren't even from our town and we now provide them with statistics. I would ask the membership to consider having a task force as Mr. Walters recommended to figure out what is best for our community. I am not comfortable being able to make a decision to recommend this ordinance.

Councilor Calvert clarified that he did not expect this committee to respond. The purpose of this proposal is to get the discussion going. Our present ordinance allows five false alarms; you don't get fined for false alarm until the 6<sup>th</sup>. In Albuquerque you get two false alarms, you get fined on the third alarm. The Councilor would like to see alarm companies do better training with the home owners, Industry needs to take more responsibility.

Mr. Patrick Cruz from Safeguard Security, own a central station. He stated that false alarms are a problem and we need to make an effort to find a different solution. This ordinance is not going to raise money, it is not going to reduce alarms, and we are saying it is the wrong ordinance. We would like to be part of a committee to talk with people and look at other solutions.

Mr. Mizrahi asked Mr. Cruz when his company does an installation does he inform the customer of the permit process. Mr. Cruz responded he has a printed piece of paper that gives the numbers for the city or county, he tells them about the permit process. He also stated that to his knowledge he had been told the ordinance was inactive and many people were not registering. He also informed membership that he does not require the customer to provide a copy of registration. I am in the loss prevention business; my job is done when we can prevent burglaries in the first place.

Mr. Bowen stated that a lot of the burden does fall on the homeowner and the companies. I didn't hear any other solutions being mentioned. I would like to see the City and Councilor Calvert establish a task force. The audience would like to be part of the solution.

Mr. Michael Dukemeneir owner of a local Santa Fe Alarm Company personally offered his services to the Chief of Police, Councilor Ortiz and the Mayor on more than one occasion and no one has taken him up on that offer. His question to the signer and co-signer of this ordinance is if they have not contacted anyone in the industry it is a sign of being irresponsible as exists over 200 years of alarm expertise in this room alone and yet not one of them have been contacted. Everyone has said they will be willing to participate in the task force.

Councilor Trujillo stated to Councilor Calvert, the public have now expressed their concerns and they would like to have a task force be created. Councilor Calvert expressed his thanks and said he does not have a problem sitting with interested community citizens in the best interest of public safety. I have no problem sitting down with a Task Force and looking at different solutions.

**Mr. Herbert Harris made the motion that this committee recommend that a task force be created to include alarm companies and the police department, driven by statistics and alarm owners regarding the proposed ordinance by Councilor Calvert, motion second by Mr. Henry Valdez, motion carries by unanimous voice vote.**

**Councilor Trujillo did direct staff to continue to work together with the alarm companies to get the owners registered.**

**C. Proposed resolution adopting the Santa Fe County Hazard Mitigation Plan (Mayor David Coss, Emergency Manager Joyce Purley)**

Mitigation is vital to disaster preparedness and extremely cost effective. Talking about the Santa Fe County Plan it does include the City. Ms. Purley asked the members turn to page 7 and 58 to look at the specific mitigation action recommended today. This plan started in 2007, mitigation starts before it happens and immediately after to minimize the loss of other disasters. Adopting this plan is also the gateway to access federal mitigation funds. As it is the February 2006 Mitigation Plan for the city has not been adopted so the city is currently not eligible for this funding. However FEMA has given pending approval adoption of this plan once it is adopted locally FEMA will also approve it.

- a. If you approve this plan we are automatically eligible for two main Grants, one before disaster and afterwards. By this time next year we could receive funding from these grants. Before disaster grant is an annual pre-disaster mitigation funds and we can apply for this year in December, \$500,000 – to re-write and update plan would cost \$45,000 directly related to the city. It is a 75-25 federal local match and the 25% in-kind, update would cost \$45,000, 25% of that is \$11,250 which could be absorbed in staff hours writing the grant and it would cost the city zero.
- b. The other grant is the after disaster which is the post disaster plan. As long as this plan is adopted by next July, we could apply for the mitigation project immediately. We would have an updated plan specific to the city and mitigation funding.
- c. If we write a city specific plan to the city, there are new stricter guidelines, and the \$45,000 would not be reimbursable by the state.

Who would you pay \$45,000 to for writing? RFP would be issued and the contractor would work with the City.

Mr. Valdez asked Joyce that if we invest this \$45,000 would that allow us to access the federal monies and what will be done to implement the plan. The \$500,000 could come from the state project money, mitigation projects are working with strengthening the warning systems and public information.

Ms. Lewis asked Joyce that her statements shared certainty that we would get this grant money if the play was approved, could she explain her statement of assurance. Joyce believes that only a few counties have applied and we have little to no chance of denial.

Mr. Bowen did add clarity to the committee that during the legislature it was discussed that had Ruidoso applied for this money through the federal grant system, the state would not have had to appropriate this money for the emergency.

**Mr. Henry Valdez moved for approval of the resolution adopting the Santa Fe County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Mr. Michael Bowen second the motion, motion carried by unanimous vote.**

**D. Creation of an Emergency Management Coordinator position to be housed in the City Managers Office and will be funded 50% by a state grant and 50% by the City. This position will answer directly to the City Manager or his/her designee and be responsible for coordinating Emergency Management training and activities for all city departments.(Fire Chief Chris Rivera**

(Memo prepared to the committee.) History: In 1994 the City, County and State entered into a partnership with regard to the emergency management program where the position was funded 50% by the state, 25% by the city and 25% by the county. Initially this person was part of the city fire department; the city was the fiscal agent. Under this arrangement there were several problems, emergency manager answered directly to the fire department. That made us happy because we had direct access to applying for federal grants; we had direct access to the emergency management program. Other departments, he City Police Department and County Sheriff felt neglected. In 2002 the fire chief at that time sent a resolution to council to transfer fiscal responsibility to the county and by doing that transferred over the full program and the position. Since 2002 we have had several problems with the program, at the county the emergency management program is under the fire department so again they paid a lot of attention to county fires. Again the City Police Department and City Fire Department felt neglected, although we always paid

our 25%. Several months ago we received an e-mail that the county no longer wanted to participate in this program. Joyce is with us tonight and she represents ½ of the position, a loaner from the county. We have seen more from Joyce than we have ever seen from the county fire department on this program. She has an office at the fire department and takes care of the city needs. The county is not going to participate or reapply which affects the 50-25-25. We have spoken with Joyce and the City Manager and feel that this is a good program for emergency management. Even though the state deadline has past and we currently have the funding for 25%, state will match 50%, it will not cost the city additional money. The additional 25% will come from the 50-50 split for 2 full people. We asked for this position to be

housed in the city manager's office, we feel that the mistake was to put it under the fire department and we do not want to make that mistake again.

Fire Chief Rivera did inform the committee that this item had been heard by the Finance Committee the night prior and was passed.

**Mr. Michael Bowen made the motion to approve the creation of an Emergency Management Coordinator position and to proceed through the proper process, second by Mr. Mizrahi, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**6. Matters from Municipal Court – informational  
(report in file)**

**7. Matters from Police Chief Eric Johnson**

Captain Gilbert Cde Baca reported on the Santa Fe Fiesta. He informed the committee that this year that had initiated a unified command as a first time process. We met with all the agencies and organizations early on and set up a plan to deploy people in a manner that would suit public safety needs and help the economics of the department. Joyce took the lead and I was the commander in charge in working with all agencies and committees involved. We tried to reduce the overtime monies and deploy people in a responsible manner. We had no major incidents in either Zozobra or fiesta events. There were 24 arrests between Zozobra and the fiesta events on the plaza; minor alcohol related and one domestic. While Fiesta was going on other units were mobilized, mainly investigations. We watched those who could start problems, along wit gang unit, terrorism task force and were successful in issuing warrant to those on warrant list. We arrested 28 warrants served, a number of them that were outstanding in district court, and major gang members that were picked up, 3 on the top 10 list who had been out for a couple of years, and we had safe Fiesta results. The SWAT team helped out with Michelle Obama's visit and the bike unit was very helpful and effective.

The Public Safety Committee members as that sincere appreciation and gratitude be communicated to the Officers. The bike unit was visible and received positive comments, again they commended them. Overall the community liked seeing the police presence.

Chief Johnson reported that the State police called us to see if we wanted to test the T3 Units for an evaluation. Mobility was great, they were able to get around downtown, one advantage was they had height advantage and could see any problems. They also used the test units at the railyard park. They were crowd friendly and can be programmed to go 5 to 17 miles an hour. Presence was different, a lot of officers in the outer perimeter.

Captain CdeBaca worked with other agencies to create the safety. He stated that in years past there have problems with Zozobra, this year we had cooperation, we used the bekin lights to identify the zones. Most of the incidents were minor alcohol incidents. We had 20 more officers available this year and relieve pressure on the county and the state due to our recruiting. The entire department went through the incident command training and everything went off without a hitch. The Crime Prevention Unit won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the hysterical parade. The Public Safety committee commended the fire department for the time and work on both events.

**8. Matters from Fire Chief Chris Rivera:**

The Fire Department provide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire Suppression during the annual burning of Zozobra. This year's Zozobra has little impact on the daily call volume. Only five medical calls (alcohol related) within Zozobra's event where there were 24,000-26,000 attendees.

As with every other year, Fire Inspectors conducted inspections on all food booths within the event to ensure compliance with the City's Fire Code.

The bekin lights were a great help as to how the park was set up, numbered gates and bridges and it made communication 100% better.

#### **9. Matters from the Committee Members**

Mr. Valdez stated that he has observed aggressive driving and would like to see statistics on the roundabouts, i.e., accidents, etc. He has observed that the public is not sure what they should be doing. He wants to know what steps we have taken to educate the citizens about these roundabouts. He also would like to know how emergency vehicles are getting around the roundabouts.

Chief Johnson confirmed that there is aggressive diving and failure to yield and in some cases the stops and yields are not identified.

Concern on Zia: There are two white lines where drivers have to stop; stop lights and lines are not correct. Track. Robert Romero will discuss with DOT.

Mr. Bowen would also like to know what the purpose of the rusted metal pieces in the roundabouts are and who made the decision to place them.

#### **10. Communications from the floor:**

There being no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee, Mr. Valdez made the motion adjourn at 6:05 pm, second by Mr. Mike Bowen, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes submitted for approval by: Frances Lucero, Stenographer  
on September 29, 2008

**Signature Page:**

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**Councilor Ronald Trujillo, Chair**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fran Lucero", written over a horizontal line.

**Fran Lucero, Stenographer**