

May 25, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: John P. Curp, Interim City Manager **202201223**

Subject: Cincinnati Police District 5 Update and Public Safety Facilities Master Plan Proposal

Reference Document #202200504

On February 22, 2022, City Council referred the following item for report:

MOTION, submitted by Councilmembers Jeffrey, Johnson and Vice Mayor Kearney, WE MOVE that, the Administration provide an update to Council within 30 days on motion number 202102195 requesting a report from the Administration and the Cincinnati Police Department's detailing a plan for establishing a new District 5 headquarters, which was requested to be completed by September 15, 2021.

The following report summarizes the Administration's recommendation to conduct a public safety facilities master plan before selecting a new location for the new Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) District 5 police station (PD-5). Further, this report provides the information requested regarding CPD average response times by neighborhood for the three years before moving to the current site and the three years following the move to the current site. This data demonstrates that district location does not materially impact average response times.

RESPONSE TIMES AND CALLS FOR SERVICE

The motion from City Council, referred on February 22, 2022, requested a report with certain information on average PD-5 response times, both before the move to the current PD-5 site and after the move to the current site. Detailed information on response times is attached to this memorandum as **Attachment A**. The data demonstrates that average response times to calls for service have not significantly changed for any PD-5 neighborhood since the move to the current site in 2017. This lack of variation arises from the decentralized nature of police patrol beats, as officers generally do not respond from the police station to each call for service; instead, they respond from the same or nearby neighborhoods based on location and availability of the officers.

In addition to response times, attached as **Attachment B** contains a heat map showing the volume of calls for service by geography, both before and after the move of PD-5. As demonstrated in the maps, the relocation of PD-5 did not impact the location of hot spots, consistent with the academic literature on the enduring nature of hot spots.

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

Over the last several years, the City Administration has conducted various engagement and diligence activities to identify a suitable site for a new PD-5. All viable sites identified and considered require considerable cost and time to develop—with the cost of construction estimated between \$20 million and \$30 million with additional costs possible for temporary or permanent relocation of both PD-5 functions and relocation of any other city services located on existing City-owned sites. Development of the current site for PD-5 would likely add millions of dollars to the development cost due to site acquisition costs and tenant relocation.

Further, the needed investment in PD-5 is not an isolated issue. Many of the City's other public safety facilities, including other police districts and some City fire houses, will require sizeable public investment in the coming years for replacement or extensive rehabilitation.

Therefore, before moving forward with constructing a new PD-5, the Administration is recommending development of a public safety master facilities plan to identify and coordinate strategic capital investment across both police and fire facilities. This process will include analyzing whether the current arrangement of both police and fire facilities is necessitated and conducive to modern public safety practices—including if five neighborhood police districts is the appropriate structure for CPD. The master plan is not a review of staffing levels or an alteration of the Police Department or Fire Department complement.

NEXT STEPS

In the FY23 Recommended Budget Update, the Administration will be requesting resources for engaging a consultant to assist in undertaking this strategic planning exercise and produce a public safety facilities master plan. That plan, once produced, will serve as the guiding document for capital investment in the City's public safety facilities, including PD-5.

Attachments

cc: Teresa Theetge, Interim Chief of Police, Cincinnati Police Department