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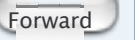
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From: "Mark Sieber" <mark@...>
Date: Mon Mar 28, 2005 9:52 am
Subject: FW: Council gives citizens only one week to review & discuss proposed City Council PJTTF Pullout!!!

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From: MARTIN SLAPIKAS [mailto:SlapikasM@msn.com]

Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2005 6:24 PM

To: John Canda, Exec Dir, NECN; Celeste Carey, Crime Prevention, NECN; Tom Peavey, Crime Prevention, NECN; Tom Griffin-Valade, Exec Dir, NPNS; Walter Garcia, Crime Prevention, NPNS; Paula Manly, Exec Dir, SEUL; Rosanne Lee, Crime Prevention, SEUL; Alison Stoll, Exec Dir, CNN; Preston Wong, Crime Prevention, CNN; Mark Sieber, Exec Dir, W/NW; William Warren, Crime Prevention, W/NW; Sylvia Bogert, Exec Dir, SWNI; Stephanie Reynolds, Crime Prevention, SWNI; Richard Bixby, Director, EPNO; Teri Poppino, Crime Prevention, EPNO; Katherine Anderson, Crime Prevention, EPNO; Samantha Kennedy, Crime Prevention, Dwntn

Cc: Jim Jeddelloh, Chairman, Citizen Crime Commis; Thea Riggs, Chrmn, Crime Prvntn, CTLH NA; Senator Gordon Smith; Senator Ron Wyden

Subject: Council gives citizens only one week to review & discuss proposed City Council PJTTF Pullout!!!

To All Affiliated and Unaffiliated Coalition Chairs and Crime Prevention Specialists,

Since 1998, I have served in various jobs in the Corbett-Terwilliger-Lair Hill N/A (CTLH NA) - President, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, Member of: Land Use Committee, CTLH Community Plan Committee, PATI CAC, etc. I

continue to attend association meetings, neighborhood summits when they are offered, and represent my NA when needed. Never, since I've participated in community activities, have I experienced a crime prevention issue the magnitude of what is currently proposed by City Council. It affects the physical safety and economic well being of the citizens of our city. It involves terrorism, an act of violence against unarmed, noncombatant civilians.

Last Wednesday, Mayor Potter and Commissioner Leonard introduced a binding city resolution, promising to pull out of the Portland Joint Terrorism Task Force (PJTTF) unless certain conditions were met by the FBI. Yet they do not provide a definition of terrorism upon which their decision is to be based. Listening to Commissioner Leonard on his co-hosted Sunday radio show I believe I now understand the disconnect between him and his call-in listeners. Commissioner Leonard looks upon his resolution as a civil rights issue. His listeners look upon the resolution as an act of preventing anti-terrorism protection to the citizens of Portland.

After delaying the PJTTF hearing since September, 2004, the first public exposure to their resolution was that Wednesday, March 23rd. The first public testimony on this important issue is planned for this coming Wednesday, March 30th at 6 PM. If nothing intercedes, conventional wisdom predicts passage. If it does pass, Council will have approved a resolution without explaining what their perception of terrorism is.

I believe this is a crime prevention issue. Neighborhood Associations need to be heard on this issue. However, one week is not enough time for neighborhood associations to engage in thoughtful deliberation on this issue. Since reading it, I believe this is the first time I can recall City Council putting the lives of our families, friends, associates and the community at risk.

Each Neighborhood Association coalition has a crime prevention committee. Issues such as graffiti, car prowls, house break-ins, effect of homelessness, etc., in each neighborhood are regularly discussed. Yet, the local and private component of terrorist crime prevention, in the magnitude of the mass murders recently experienced on 9/11 or in Oklahoma, has, to my knowledge, never been addressed by neighborhood associations or their crime committees. Nor do I know of any neighborhood association that was asked to participate in the drafting the Potter/Leonard resolution involving terrorism prevention. I know of only one NA that has addressed the issue- CTLH NA. Several months ago, they passed a resolution asking City Council to not pull out of the PJTTF and to continue in a shared goal of enhanced national security with the rest of the nation.

I ask that you do the following:

1. Pass this on to your Neighborhood Associations and Crime Committees in your respective district areas;

2. Recommend to everyone they formally request City Council to postpone the Wednesday, March 30th consideration of the PJTTF pullout for at least a month and a half. It has, after all, already been postponed 5 months. This should give our city neighborhood association leaders the time for considered discussion on this major crime prevention issue and the recently proposed Council resolution.

3. Definitely Ask City Council to define "Terrorism." I suggest the following: Terrorism is:

"The use of violence against civilians to promote a cause so unpopular that it cannot succeed without an element of intimidation."

If someone has a better one, please let me know. However, the community should know what the city is going to assume responsibility for and protect us from.

4. Address the resolution as a Crime Prevention issue. There is a suggested draft resolution in the attachment.

City Council is making a binding City policy on this issue. It impacts our safety and will have major reverberations to our city economy and around the nation. If there ever was a time for the silent majority to speak out, this is it. If this isn't a crime prevention issue, I don't know what is.

Sincerely

Martin G. Slapikas

Attachment(not stored)
2005-03-24 PJTTF Proposed Resolution.doc

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