



# GARLAND

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## Public Safety Committee Meeting of October 15, 2012

### Minutes

Members present: Preston Edwards, Council Member – District 3, Committee Chairman  
B. J. Williams, Council Member – District 4  
Jim Cahill, Council Member – District 8

Other Council: Anita Goebel, Council Member – District 2

Staff present: Mitch Bates, Chief of Police, Staff Liaison to PSC  
Brad Neighbor, City Attorney  
Mike Betz, Deputy City Attorney/Police Legal Advisor  
Cindy Hale, Senior Administrative Assistant - Police Administration

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Chairman Preston Edwards called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

#### **Item #1: Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the previous meeting held on September 10, 2012, were approved unanimously.

#### **Item #2: Discuss and consider the enforcement of the state law regarding the use of handheld communication devices**

The Public Safety Committee (PSC) discussed the state law regarding the prohibited use of cell phones in school zones within certain provisions. As requested by the committee at the previous PSC meeting, Brad Neighbor (City Attorney) presented a draft ordinance in regard to “distracted driving” - specific incidents that could divert a driver’s full attention from operating a vehicle. After additional discussion, no further action was taken on the draft ordinance for distracted driving.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Transportation Department (for the City of Garland) post the signage required by state law that is necessary for the City to enforce the existing state statute regarding the use of handheld communication devices within a school zone.

This item will be scheduled for the agenda of a Council Work Session in the near future.

**Future Items**

1. Approval of minutes
2. The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Mitch Bates, Staff Liaison to PSC  
Chief of Police

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Preston Edwards, Chairman  
Council Member – District 3