



MEETING MINUTES

Chief's Advisory Committee Thursday, June 11, 2025

The Thursday, June 11, 2025 Chief's Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was called to order by Chair Maynard at 5:41 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 5555 Perimeter Drive. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Dwayne Maynard (Chair), Kimberly Hollie (Vice Chair), Emmet Apolinario, Zhen Xing, Ron Barnes, Luke Powell

Committee Members Absent: Lisa Baer, Alex O'Ryan, Guarev Goel, Chitra Goyal

Staff Present: Chief Páez, Deputy Chief (DC) Tabernik, Deputy Chief (DC) Lattanzi, Rebecca Myers, Mitch Ament, Mara Hunter

Welcome to New Member

Chair Maynard invited new CAC member, Luke Powell, to share a little about himself. CP Powell stated that he has been a City of Dublin resident for 11 years and lives within the Kendall Ridge/Ballantrae area. He has a wife and two daughters and works at Dublin Methodist Hospital.

Chair Maynard inquired what interested him in applying for the CAC position. CP Powell stated that he attended the Dublin Chamber's Leadership Dublin class and realized that he wanted to become more involved in City service. He was happy to serve in any position, and City Council appointed him to this committee.

Per Chair Maynard's invitation, other committee members introduced and shared a little information about themselves.

Chair Maynard indicated that a new Chair and Vice Chair for the committee, which now has a couple of new members, would be selected at the August CAC meeting.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Chair Maynard asked for additions or corrections to the May 8, 2025 minutes of the Chief's Advisory Committee meeting.

Chair Maynard requested correction of his title on page 6; on page 7, change "make" to "make or model;" and in the second paragraph on page 7, change "partners" to "public safety partners."

CP Barnes moved, Vice Chair Hollie seconded approval of the minutes as corrected.

Vote: CP Apolinario, yes; CP Barnes, yes; CP Powell, yes; CP Xing, yes; Vice Chair Hollie, yes; CP Chair Maynard, yes.
[Motion carried 6-0.]

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Paez welcomed new member, CP Powell, and noted that an additional new member, Chitra Goyal, would be present at the July CAC meeting. He thanked Mr. Ament for organizing an introductory meeting with the new CAC members, where they reviewed the origins of the committee, the strategic topics that the committee pursues in its discussions, and the importance of the committee's discussions as they relate to public safety in Dublin. In response to Chair Maynard's question, Chief Paez stated that the description of Priority Area 4 from the Strategic Task Force Report was shared with the new members.

Chair Maynard stated that the committee's work occurs with intentionality; they attempt to stay true to the aspirational goals and indicators of success that were outlined by the initial task force. It is important that the advisory committee stay on task and be able to show that the work of this committee leads to positive results for the community.

- **Event Safety**

DC Tabernik, Operations Bureau Chief, welcomed CP Powell to the committee. He stated that there is a City policy related to event safety, but rather than a policy overview, he would provide a general overview of event safety. The three largest special events are the Memorial Tournament, the Fourth of July and the Dublin Irish Festival (DIF). While these special events are priorities for the Police Department, special events include much more than those three marquee events, including the St. Patrick's Day celebration and several different races. If the event requires four or more officers, the Police Department (PD) classifies them as special events; however, in this community, there are events occurring regularly. The PD's goal is to make sure those events are safe, secure and enjoyable. Another type of event is VIP visits. Recent VIP visits in Dublin were from Vice President JD Vance and Lara Trump. At a basic level, he and DC Lattanzi organize the public safety of the event, but they engage with other City departments including City Events, Communications and Marketing, Parks and Streets. Internally, the PD relies upon its supervisors, sergeants and lieutenants, to help with the public safety portion of those events. As an example, at the Memorial Tournament, there were a minimum of five supervisors working at any given time. Those supervisors oversee all the officers that are performing different functions. Their public safety partners in Washington Township are a significant part of Dublin PD's planning and execution of plans for the event. All events start with an events permitting process. That process involves representatives from the many different departments that will be involved in the event, who collaboratively determine the needs of the event. Dublin is regionally well situated to be able to meet any public safety and security needs for events.

Chair Maynard inquired if, for an event like the Memorial Tournament, Dublin PD calls upon the statewide terrorism analysis and crime center.

DC Tabernik responded affirmatively. That center is run through the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Homeland Security. We have a standing request with them to conduct a threat assessment and to keep us apprised of anything that could impact one of our events.

Chair Maynard inquired if they also collaborate with the City of Columbus Police Department's counter terrorism unit.

DC Tabernik responded that this year, we leveraged the Columbus PD drone identification software. They were able to tell us if there were drones in the air, who they belonged to and could identify the location of the drone operator, should Dublin PD need to speak with them. In regard to regional resources, the vast majority of needs are handled in a mutual aid capacity, so a monetary component is not really a factor. The City's large special events need a significant level of safety resources, and we are very fortunate that our public safety partners provide those resources to us without additional costs. To date, any event evacuations have been weather-related. Evacuation processes are outlined in our event action plan, so all public safety partners are "on the same page."

Chair Maynard inquired if all the mutual aid partners agree that Dublin PD will "run the show."

DC Tabernik responded that for all the events in our city, we are the event commanders. However, Franklin County also has a supervisor assigned to the events who reports to him.

Chief Paez stated that with any state or federal dignitary visit to our city, there are federal and state public safety resources who travel with those dignitaries. However, they expect that there is a well-seasoned police department administrator in the local municipality who can help pull the resources together. Their travel resources can sometimes be too limited in capacity for the scope of the event. He complimented the Deputy Chiefs on their ability to be flexible and adaptable and their experience in running large-scale events. They ensure that Dublin is prepared to make sure the events stay safe.

DC Tabernik stated that after the event, a post-event evaluation is conducted to identify any improvements that could be made for next year's event. This is the 50th year of the Memorial Tournament and the 35th year for the DIF, so the process for those events is well-oiled. However, there are always opportunities to make the events better and safer.

CP Barnes requested an example of a post-event evaluation that reflected an improvement. He also inquired about the drones that were flying over Hole 18 at the 2025 Memorial Tournament.

DC Tabernik stated that for the final event at 18, the PGA and CBS both had drones flying over the event. Dublin PD had drones present, as well. Their drone detection software enables detectives to identify the drones. As an example of an improvement that has been made as a result of the post-event review -- fences have been added at the DIF event to help with ingress/egress and prevent entries that should not be occurring. In addition, large cement barriers now have been added on Emerald Parkway and Perimeter Drive. The purpose is to prevent potential use of vehicles to harm people at special events.

CP Barnes stated that from a hospitality aspect, technology has streamlined the guest interaction process. Has the PD noticed any changes from a security standpoint?

DC Tabernik stated that technology has streamlined the process for the patrons and has caused no security issues. The drone technology has improved the security aspect, providing a great view of the crowd and improved their ability to refine their security and traffic plans.

Chief Paez stated that for the DIF event, previously the City used tokens for alcohol sales. That process needed to be closely managed and counted. Moving to a primarily cashless exchange has improved their safety situation.

Mr. Ament stated that in 2023, the City moved to a cashless and tokenless DIF event. He believes last year was completely cashless.

DC Lattanzi welcomed CP Powell to the committee and stated that he is hopeful that CP Powell will both gain and provide insight during his service on the committee. He provided an overview of the Fore!Fest event safety efforts. Fore!Fest is a street festival that is conducted on Friday and Saturday evenings during the Memorial Tournament. Approximately 5,000 people attend per evening. Last year was the first year that the event included a drone show on Friday night. The event involves PD planning and coordination with Crawford Hoying and the Memorial Tournament. The City's event planning process includes a review of a party's application to host the event. Joint partner meetings with the stakeholders of the event discuss and coordinate a security and cross-jurisdictional traffic plan to ensure we are providing the safest event from a PD security perspective and private security perspective as well as vehicle and pedestrian traffic safety. The Friday event is more of a family event, as children attend to enjoy the drone show. The footprint of the event changes completely from Friday to Saturday night, however. The festival involves road blockage of Longshore Street and Bridge Park Avenue. The drone show launches from Sells Middle School, and the viewing area is along east Riverside Drive and Riverside Crossing Park. The additional footprint on Friday night has resulted in a need for additional security personnel and traffic management. DC Lattanzi reviewed the personnel needs and placement. They were able to place a couple of officers on building rooftops and utilize the officers in the Business District Unit (BTU) to coordinate their security presence. Barriers were placed to prevent vehicle ability to access any sidewalks. Dublin PD coordinated its security coverage with the BTU, the Franklin County bomb squad canine unit, EMA and Washington Township Fire Department, who staged medical personnel close by. Crawford Hoying also had 10 additional private security personnel to help manage the crowd. It was a very safe event.

Committee Questions

Chair Maynard inquired if the 10 additional private security personnel reported to Dublin PD.

DC Lattanzi stated that Dublin PD has liaisons with the private security companies. In all the events, there are daily or multiple briefings in which private security personnel are included. The event supervisors have direct contact with the private security supervisors for the events, so that expectations and efforts can be coordinated. Private security can deal with unruly individuals but, when needed, can call on law enforcement to intervene.

CP Xing inquired how the private security personnel could be identified. Do they also wear uniforms? DC Lattanzi stated that the private security companies provide their own uniforms, which are typically polo shirts with their logo.

CP Apolinario inquired if Washington Township was involved with EMS or first-aid stations.

DC Lattanzi stated that they are involved in the pre-event planning process. For this event, they staged a medic right outside the event. He noted that Crawford Hoying also staffs someone for the entire event for the potential need of operating a forklift to move the concrete road barriers.

Chief Maynard inquired about the costs for these growing events.

DC Lattanzi stated that some events are not technically City events, so those costs are borne by the event organizer. Fore!Fest is a special duty event. An outside entity hosts the event, so they pay for the police resources for the event. The Memorial Tournament is similar. The 4th of July and DIF are both City events, so those costs are programmed in the City's budget.

DC Tabernik noted that the police staffing for these events is in addition to regular police patrols. They do not take away from the patrol resources that are protecting the rest of the City; rather, we enhance our on-duty numbers for large events.

CP Xing inquired if the City is projecting that the Fore!Fest event will continue to grow in size. If so, how will that be accommodated?

DC Lattanzi stated that Dublin PD works with Crawford Hoying on estimates for the event. That helps us establish our security plan and appropriate number of officers needed for the event. For the Fore!Fest event, we estimated 5,000 attendees for either one of the two nights. With the popularity of Bridge Park and the Riverside Crossing Park, he anticipates the event will continue to grow in size. They work with Crawford Hoying concerning their entertainment schedule, because the type of entertainment can change the outlook of the crowd from a number standpoint and age demographic. For example, the drone show on Friday night draws a family crowd; that is not the same crowd that shows up on the Saturday night of Fore!Fest.

Mr. Ament noted that we already know that the Memorial Tournament is planning a significant 50th anniversary set of activities next year.

CP Barnes inquired if the PD is assessing traffic speeds in that area and considering technology in that assessment. He finds it interesting that during events, the speed on Riverside Drive is the same as it is at noon. Are we considering the use of technology to pace the speed in those areas? A consistent 25 mph speed limit does not make sense.

DC Lattanzi stated that Dublin is not authorized to dictate the speed on Riverside Drive. During events, we utilize police officers to manage the traffic lights. In the intersections, we place a marked cruiser with its lights on in hopes of reducing the speed on the roadway. Because of the influx of traffic during events, speeds are reduced by the increased traffic funneling into those parking garages. The routes to the garages are limited due to the road closures.

CP Barnes stated that his request was related to future needs, as that area continues to develop to the north. In their traffic discussions, City staff need to think about the traffic flow in that busy area.

DC Lattanzi stated that members of the PD traffic unit meet regularly with members of the Transportation and Mobility staff on a traffic safety committee.

Mr. Ament stated that Jeannie Willis, Director of Transportation and Mobility, would want him to share that speed limits in the State of Ohio are determined and regulated by the State for the purpose of ensuring that speed limits on specific types of roadways are consistent throughout the state. Two years ago, Bridge Park was designated as a Business District to enable the City to lower

the speed limit and enhance the pedestrian experience in that particular area. Other than in that area, the City is not able to adjust speed limits based on the amount of activity within an area.

Chief Paez inquired if in his work or travels he became aware of other locations where there were adjustable speed limits.

CP Barnes stated that when he lived in Mesa, he was chair of the Mesa Transportation Committee, which controlled traffic speeds within the City of Mesa. They conducted transportation studies to determine where speed controls should be.

Chief Paez stated that in our transportation committee discussions, we will consider any creative methods possible in the interest of furthering public safety. He credits the City Manager for her suggestion, based on other places she had worked, that by designating the stretch of roadway on Riverside Drive as a business district, the City would have the ability to set that speed limit as opposed to going through the State. The reason it is now 25 mph there is due to the projected continued development, growth and pedestrian traffic that will be part of that environment in the future. The City is working to change the feel of entering that stretch of roadway on Riverside Drive, so that when it develops in the future, there is already an expectation of a slower, traversable path, whether or not there is an event occurring.

CP Barnes stated that Dublin does a great job providing safety for these events, but these events are going to outgrow the PD's ability to handle them all. It is essential to determine how to manage that future condition. Bridge Park is a very popular entertainment area.

Chief Paez gave credit to the deputy chiefs' work ensuring these events are safe. He gave credit to all the other PD officers who are working their regular assignments and often extending their hours during these special events to provide all the needed resources. He also complimented the NRAC communications team, who handles an additional volume of calls during special events. Staff in other City departments are extending their efforts to address a similar increased need.

CP Barnes stated that at the previous CAC meeting, we discussed the health and wellness of our officers. The additional overtime they work takes away from their health and wellness. We need to plan for the future regarding how to protect them from "burn out" while continuing to keep the community safe.

- **Crisis Communications**

Rebecca Myers, Public Information Officer, presented an overview of her work with crisis communications. She noted that the communications team is comprised of 10 members and two rotating seasonal interns. The City's communications director leads the team through marketing and crisis communications. The team members all are assigned different divisions; one of hers is the Police Department. Dublin's communications team is one of largest of all central Ohio municipalities. The scope of crisis communications covers active threats that would affect the public, road closures and weather messaging. Internal communications involve not just the Police but all City staff. The City has approximately 400 employees at its peak season times. Preparation for events is a team effort, including our events director, Alison LeRoy and the deputy chiefs. We work with multiple groups to get the right information at the right time to release it to the public. We try to do that proactively with our media partners and through public messages. We provide event-specific

messaging so residents know what is closed and where they can park. We also provide communications for some permitted events that are not hosted by the City.

Ms. Myers provided copies of the City's crisis communications plan to the CAC members and provided a general overview. The plan, which was adopted after 2020, is a point plan with recommended workflow. Some sections of the plan are specific to officer-involved critical incidents. The plan is DEI sensitive, ensuring that information is equitable and does not refer to ethnic differences if unnecessary. Much of the considerations in this plan originated with the CAC group. Dublin Communications acts as its own media source, using its own videography work to share key messages. They also work with other media sources on different stories. The last couple of years, NBC4 has spoken with DC Tabernik about ways in which the Police department prepares for the Memorial Tournament. She reviewed types of public communication provided to the City's various events. InformaCast is an emergency internal communications method Dublin uses. GoDublin is a text messaging app used for public communications. She will forward a link to CAC members; they can sign up for police-specific information, if desired. She reviewed the 11 points of the Crisis Communication Plan.

Committee Questions

Vice Chair Hollie inquired about legal liability should the public information shared be incorrect. Chief Paez stated that if we determine later that information is not exactly as we initially found, we will go back and correct it. The City's intention is to be accountable, transparent and honest. We want to provide information in a timely manner, but it is also paramount that it be accurate. Their practice is to take time to consider the information through the lens of where the information will go, how it might be received and the subsequent questions. We often provide a holding message until we are able to provide more complete information.

Ms. Myers stated that when there is a need for next-of-kin notification, the victim information is not provided in the media until that notification has occurred.

Chair Maynard inquired about the communications aspect of a previous kidnapping threat of the governor.

Ms. Myers responded that the incident was Columbus-related. She did receive some calls from the national media, but she directed them to the correct jurisdiction.

Chief Paez stated that we were able to reach out to an FBI member to get clarity and understanding, so we could be prepared with the appropriate messaging. We want to be responsive, but it is not our place to comment on an investigation within a connected area, but not technically in Dublin. He stated that the Police Department is very thankful to have Ms. Myers as part of the communications team to ensure there is public confidence and safety in Dublin.

STAFF COMMENTS/UPDATES

- **Crime Trends and Police Activity**

Chief Paez reported that crime incidents are trending in a positive direction. Overall, there has been less theft from vehicles, but the PD continues to emphasize the importance of removing keys from vehicles. They are still seeing an upward trend, however, in motor vehicle theft. There has been a reduction in breaking and entering offenses, but burglary incidents have increased slightly from last year.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Ms. Myers stated that the coming week is Juneteenth. On Thursday, June 19, there will be an hour-long open house with the City's heritage interpreters, who will be speaking about the history of the Brown-Harris cemetery, a historically black cemetery. The public is invited to attend.

Chair Maynard stated that as we consider future meeting agendas, it would be good to have Syntero or former CP member Ortega present to the committee, perhaps in May and then again later in the year, for the purpose of highlighting mental health issues.

Mr. Ament responded that currently on the schedule for Thursday, September 11 is mental health and suicide prevention.

Chief Paez stated that the election of the new Chair and Vice Chair will be scheduled for either the July or August meetings. Hopefully, all members can be present.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.


Chair, Chief's Advisory Committee


Assistant Clerk of Council

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