

Members ___ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. ___

THE DAUNTE WRIGHT AND KOBE DIMOCK-HEISLER
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Brooklyn Center can create a safer, healthier, more just, and more thriving community by promoting a diversity of responses to our community's safety needs that do not rely solely on our armed law enforcement officers;

WHEREAS, many approaches proven to be safe and effective for responding to non-moving traffic offenses, low-level violations, to people with mental health needs or disabilities, and to other similar situations, do not involve armed law enforcement officers;

WHEREAS, creating alternative responses in these situations will allow our law enforcement officers to focus their time, training and expertise on serious threats to the immediate safety of our residents;

WHEREAS, relying on our armed law enforcement officers as first responders in these situations has in some circumstances resulted in escalation, harm, and the tragic and potentially avoidable loss of life for our residents, including Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler;

WHEREAS a diversity of approaches will improve overall public safety, better address the root causes of many issues, promote racial justice, better protect vulnerable members of our community, and more efficiently allocate public resources;

WHEREAS, the residents of Brooklyn Center have demanded change in our City and will help co-create new approaches to health and safety and in our community, and this Resolution affirms our commitment to an intentional, inclusive and collaborative process that involves City leadership and the community working together to fully implement the intent this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, passes the Daunte Wright and Kobe Dimock-Heisler Community Safety and Violence Prevention Resolution, as follows:

1. RESOLVED that the City of Brooklyn Center will ensure an unarmed Community Response Department responds to all incidents where a city resident is primarily experiencing a medical, mental health, disability-related, or other behavioral or social need, including by the creation of a Community Response Department consisting of trained medical and mental health professionals, social workers, or other staff and volunteers, and by a dispatch system routing appropriate calls to the Community Response Department and not to the Police Department; and by any other appropriate changes in ordinance, practices or policies;

2. RESOLVED that the City of Brooklyn Center will ensure an unarmed civilian Traffic Enforcement Department has the responsibility for enforcing all non-moving traffic violations in the City, including by creating the civilian Traffic Enforcement Department and by any other appropriate changes in ordinance, practices or policies, including restricting or eliminating the types of traffic infractions enforced by the City's armed law enforcement patrol officers;

3. RESOLVED that the City of Brooklyn Center shall create a new Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention (the "Department") that shall be responsible for overseeing all city agencies and city efforts regarding community health and public safety, and ensuring a well-coordinated, public health-oriented approach throughout our city that relies upon a diversity of evidence-based approaches to public safety, and with a Director who has appropriate credentials and experience including public health expertise, and that at minimum the following existing and to-be-created City agencies will all report directly to the Department and be subject to the authority of its Director: the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Traffic Enforcement Department, and the Community Response Department;

4. RESOLVED that the City of Brooklyn Center will create a permanent Community Safety and Violence Prevention Committee, to be appointed and chaired by the Director of the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention or a designee until hiring, the majority of whose members must be City residents with direct experience being arrested, detained, or having other similar contact with Brooklyn Center Police, and that committee will review and make recommendations regarding the policing response to recent protests, review any draft collective bargaining agreement between the Police Department and provide comments to the City Manager and City Council before and during contract negotiations, create a separate and permanent civilian oversight committee for the new Department, review Chapter 19 of the City Code and make recommendations with regard to repealing or amending provisions or penalties therein, including fines and fees, and periodically make any other recommendations to the City Council related to initiating programs or policies to improve community health in Brooklyn Center;

5. RESOLVED that the City of Brooklyn Center will more appropriately regulate the use of force by its armed law enforcement officers including by appropriate changes in ordinance, practices or policies requiring de-escalation, exhaustion of reasonable alternatives before using deadly force, prohibitions on using deadly force in certain situations including firing upon moving vehicles, prohibiting certain uses of force or other policing tactics during First Amendment protests and assemblies, and similar policies;

6. RESOLVED that to immediately prevent any further harm and to ensure the peace and safety of all City residents while this Resolution is being fully implemented, the City of Brooklyn Center thru the Mayor or his designee will implement forthwith a citywide “citation and summons” policy requiring officers to issue citations only, and prohibiting custodial arrests or consent searches of persons or vehicles, for any non-moving traffic infraction, non-felony offense, or non-felony warrant, and the Implementation Committee will make recommendations regarding making these policy changes permanent and/or modifying them as needed, including by appropriate changes in ordinance, practices or policies;

7. RESOLVED that the City of Brooklyn Center will create a Community Safety and Violence Prevention Implementation Committee (“Implementation Committee”), including residents from Brooklyn Center and other local, state and national experts in public health-oriented approaches to community safety, as appointed by the Mayor, that will draft any and all amendments, ordinances, resolutions, policies, guidelines or other recommendations for the review, adoption and/or implementation by City Council or City staff, as appropriate, that would fully implement the will and intent of City Council as expressed in this Resolution;

8. RESOLVED that the Implementation Committee will ensure the community has the opportunity to review and comment upon the all implementation plans, including by making periodic progress reports in open City Council meetings monthly, or more frequently upon Council’s request; that the Implementation Committee is empowered to explore external sources of funding to implement the resolution and that the City may retain additional counsel or other temporary staff as reasonable and necessary to enable the Implementation Committee to complete its work; and the Implementation Committee will present recommendations to City Council for initial consideration no later than 180 days from the date of this Resolution;

9. RESOLVED that the City Attorney, City Manager and Chief of Police and other City personnel will provide all necessary assistance and support to all committees created pursuant to this Resolution, including by supplying the committees with any and all needed data, including confidential or private data as requested with appropriate protections, and budgetary, staffing or other information, and assisting with the crafting of amendments, ordinances or policies as requested by the Implementation Committee.