



July 27, 2012

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Denise Turner Roth, City Manager
SUBJECT: Items for Your Information

IFYI HIGHLIGHTS

- Termination and Disbursement of City/County Water and Sewer Trust Fund
- GPD's Family Victim's Unit

Termination and Disbursement of City/County Water and Sewer Trust Fund

- Attached is a memorandum from Associate General Council Tom Carruthers, dated July 26, 2012, regarding actions taken by Guilford County Commissioners at its July 19, 2012 meeting regarding the City/County Water and Sewer Trust Fund.

Greensboro Police Department Creates Family Victim's Unit

- Attached is a memorandum and press release from Chief of Police Ken Miller, dated July 26, 2012, announcing the GPD's Family Victim's Unit.

Contact Center Feedback

- Attached is the weekly report generated by our Contact Center for the week of July 16, 2012 through July 22, 2012.

Small Group Meetings

For the week of July 20, 2012 through July 26, 2012, there were no small group meetings between City Staff and [more than two but less than five] Councilmembers.

DTR
Attachments

cc: Office of the City Manager
Global Media



Office of the City Attorney
City of Greensboro

July 27, 2012

TO: Denise Turner Roth, City Manager
FROM: Tom Carruthers, Associate General Counsel

SUBJECT: Update on Termination of Water and Sewer Trust Fund

During their July 19, 2012 meeting, the Guilford County Commissioners adopted the agreement to terminate and disburse the Water and Sewer Trust Fund ("City/County Trust Fund). The County Commissioners took the following actions:

1. Approved funding of the Eastern Area Sewer Plan in the amount of \$9,235,385.00, which represents the net balance of the County's share of remaining City/County Trust Fund, and approved the necessary budget amendment to appropriate this money;
2. Approved the Termination Agreement For Revised City and County Water and Sewer Agreement. (A copy of the Agreement was part of the July 12, 2012 IFYI); and
3. Approved disbursements to the City of Greensboro as follows:
 - a. Net balance of City's share of the City/County Trust Fund in the amount of \$9,350,059.00.
 - b. Net balance of County's share of the City/County Trust Fund in the amount of \$9,235,385.00.
 - c. Net balance of City/County Trust Funds to be used for projects listed in Exhibit A of the Termination Agreement in the amount of \$7,674,169.00, which will be broken down as follows: Koury (Grandover), \$349,648; GTCC, \$2,517,859; Forest Oaks Estates, \$2,043,084; and Lynwood Lakes (Phase I), \$2,763,578. These balances may decline as the County pays bills due on these projects.

The City Council will be asked to consider approving the Termination Agreement for Revised City and County Water and Sewer Agreement on August 6th, 2012.

TDC

cc: S. Mujeeb Shah-Khan, City Attorney
Steve Drew, Director of Water Resources



July 26, 2012

TO: Denise Turner Roth, City Manager

FROM: Ken Miller, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: GPD Creates Family Victims' Unit to Better Serve Community

Over the past year, Greensboro Police Department detectives have been researching the most effective ways to reduce the instances and impact of family violence in order help our residents enjoy better lives. We've learned more about the complex dynamics between domestic violence, child abuse, and juvenile crime and victimization and how they are all interconnected.

Recognizing the overlap among these issues, the Greensboro Police Department has created a Family Victims' Unit to improve services to family members, and to enhance criminal investigations into these offenses. The FVU, which consists of a merger between the Juvenile Services Unit and the Special Victims Unit, will investigate all cases of domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual assault, and crimes against juveniles to include child abuse, neglect, sexual molestations, abductions, and deaths. By aligning the expertise of these detectives into one unit, we can better coordinate cases and external resources to break the cycle of family violence.

The creation of a Family Victims Unit is more than reorganization: it's an approach to combating violence that spans the entire community. It revamps how the GPD responds to the needs of those impacted by family violence, from the first contact with the police, through prosecution and conviction of the offender. Many of the revised processes and enhanced services are a result of close coordination and continuing partnerships with key stakeholder organizations such as: Family Service of the Piedmont, the District Attorney's Office, Department of Social Services, and NC A&T Center for Behavioral Health and Wellness.

Officers and detectives will be using evidence-based prosecution which refers to a number of techniques used by police and prosecutors in domestic violence cases to convict abusers without the cooperation of an alleged victim. Prior to adopting this method, cases of domestic violence frequently never made it to trial because the victim chose to drop charges.

The law already protects victims by giving police the authority to arrest alleged offenders if signs of abuse are present.

In order for evidence-based prosecution to be effective, police, family service agencies, and our judicial officials must work closely together in a collaborative effort. And because this effort starts with the actions of the responding patrol officer, we are increasing our training about domestic violence and how to collect evidence at a family violence scene.

In addition to learning more about the intricate dynamics of family violence, our officers are continually receiving in-depth training on gathering statements from victims, witnesses and offenders, photographing evidence, and writing detailed case reports. All of these techniques can contribute to successfully prosecuting an offender in the absence of a victim's testimony.

The creation of a Family Victims Unit and our department-wide adoption of evidence-based prosecution techniques will go a long way in making our community safer. And yet there is still more we can do to break the cycle of family violence. We will continue to pursue every opportunity and every partnership to create healthy families and give our young people every chance to reach their potential.

Kenneth C. Miller
Chief of Police

KCM/scd

cc: Michael Speedling, Assistant City Manager



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Susan Danielsen
Phone: 336-574-4002

Police Form Family Victims Unit to Better Serve Community

GREENSBORO, NC (July 27, 2012) – Domestic violence. Child abuse. At-risk youth. Recognizing the overlap among these issues, the Greensboro Police Department has created a Family Victims' Unit to improve services to family members, and to enhance criminal investigations into these offenses.

"Law enforcement officials, child advocates, and social workers are now understanding the complex dynamics in these areas, and how they are all inter-connected," explained Lt. Karen Walters.

Walters, who heads the Criminal Investigations Division's Crimes Against Persons section, has been researching the most effective ways to reduce the instances and impact of family violence in order help Greensboro residents enjoy better lives. Collaboration, communication, and partnership among the many agencies involved in family violence seem to be part of the answer.

To address those needs inside GPD, the Juvenile Services Unit has merged with the Special Victims Unit to form the Family Victims Unit. This unit will investigate all cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, and crimes against juveniles to include child abuse, neglect, sexual molestations, abductions, and deaths. By aligning the expertise of these detectives into one unit, police can better coordinate cases and external resources to break the cycle of family violence.

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"Child abuse and domestic violence often occur in the same family and are linked in a number of ways that have serious consequences for the safety of all family members," explained Walters. "Where one form of family violence exists, there is a strong likelihood that another one does also."

Even if a child is not the victim of abuse, witnessing violence in the home can take a devastating toll. "The impact on children witnessing parental domestic violence is strikingly similar to the consequences of being directly abused by a parent-- and both experiences are significant contributors to youth violence," said Walters.

The effects of family violence can be even more far-reaching. "Early childhood victimization - either through direct abuse, neglect, or witnessing parental domestic violence - has been shown to have long-term consequences for youth violence, adult violent behaviors, and other forms of criminality," explained Walters.

The creation of a Family Victims Unit is more than reorganization: it's an approach to combating violence that spans the entire community. It revamps how the GPD responds to the needs of those impacted by family violence, from the first contact with the police, through prosecution and conviction of the offender.

Officers and detectives will be using evidence-based prosecution which refers to a number of techniques used by police and prosecutors in domestic violence cases to convict abusers without the cooperation of an alleged victim. Prior to adopting this method, cases of domestic violence frequently never made it to trial because the victim chose to drop charges.

"Research shows that a victim will attempt to leave the abuser eight times before finally reaching a safe haven," said Walters. "So, it's up to police and other family service advocates to look out for them."

The law already protects victims by giving police the authority to arrest alleged offenders if signs of abuse are present.

"In order for evidence-based prosecution to be effective, police, family service agencies, and our judicial officials must work closely together in a collaborative effort," said Chief of Police Ken Miller. "And because this effort starts with the actions of the responding patrol officer, we are increasing our training about domestic violence and how to collect evidence at a family violence scene."

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In addition to learning more about the intricate dynamics of family violence, officers are continually receiving in-depth training on gathering statements from victims, witnesses and offenders, photographing evidence, and writing detailed case reports. "All of these techniques can contribute to successfully prosecuting an offender in the absence of a victim's testimony," said Walters.

But there is still much to be done in between responding to the scene and the court date. The family has experienced trauma and is in need of support. "We are fortunate to have a network of family service agencies in this area that can provide both immediate assistance and long-term aid to people of all ages who are affected by domestic violence," said Walters.

"The creation of a Family Victims Unit, and our department-wide adoption of evidence-based prosecution techniques will go a long way in making our community safer," said Miller. "And yet there is still more we can do to break the cycle of family violence. We will continue to pursue every opportunity and every partnership to create healthy families and give our young people every chance to reach their potential."

To learn more about family violence, how to break the cycle of abuse, and ways to get help, go to www.gsopd.org. Click on the "Domestic Violence" link.

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The City works with the community to improve the quality of life for residents through inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a professional staff of 2,800 employees who maintain the values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov or call 336-373-CITY (2489).

**Public Affairs
Contact Center Weekly Report
Week of 7/16 - 7/22/12**

Contact Center

4716 calls answered this week

Top 5 calls by area

Water Resources

Balance Inquiry – 859
New Sign up – 178
General Info – 172
Cutoff Requests – 115
Sign up/Owners – 93

Field Operations

Bulk Guidelines – 110
HHW/Transfer – 91
No Service/Garbage – 63
E-Waste Collection – 61
Repair Can/Garbage – 60

All others

Police/Watch Operations – 249
Police Records – 96
Courts/Sheriff – 84
Privilege License – 68
Overgrown Lots – 52

Comments

We received a total of **2** comments this week:

Field Operations – 1 comment:

- Customer wanted to thank us for flushing the street so quickly when he requested it this morning.

Library – 1 comment:

- Just want to thank you for all the wonderful people at the library. The COG libraries help people and make their lives easier. It has been a wonderful experience to visit the library.

Overall

Calls about overgrown lots continued to increase last week. Otherwise, we received the normal mix of calls. Call volume remained busy through the end of the week.