PUBLIC SAFETY

13-0154

MOTION

Technology often provides ways for the City to deliver services in a more effective and efficient manner. As a result, the City can deliver better customer service to the taxpayers and City departments can gain productivity through streamlining certain activities.

For the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), one of the largest administrative processes for both the Department and the public is the filing of police reports in the event a crime has occurred. Although the Department's website (LAPDonline.org) provides information on how to provide a crime tip, the process of filing an official police report is not currently facilitated on the website.

At least one local police agency, at California State University Northridge (CSUN), has developed an online system to file police reports online. Police reports are submitted immediately and a copy can be printed free of charge. Police reports can then be filed with an insurance company if necessary. The system enables lower level crimes to be filed online, but not for more serious incidents. Violent crimes, hate crimes, sexual assaults, and missing persons must be filed over the phone or in person. The system also makes it clear to the user that filing a false police report is a crime.

The LAPD's website already offers helpful tools such as crime mapping and submitting an anonymous crime tip. Adding the ability to file a police report online would further enhance the Department's ability to serve the public and also provide an opportunity to automate portions of the Department's administrative process. The Council should explore this concept further to determine the feasibility of implementing such a system in the LAPD.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department be instructed to report on the feasibility of creating a function on LAPDonline.org that would facilitate online police reporting.

PRESENTED BY

MITCHELL ENGLANDER

Councilmember, 12th District