

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the status of the Mental Evaluation Unit (MEU), Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART), and Systemwide Mental Assessment Response Team (SMART) Programs.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the May 14, 2024 City Administrative Office (CAO) report relative to the status of the MEU, DART, and SMART Programs, inasmuch as this report is for information only and no Council action is required.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:

North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On June 11, 2024, your Committee considered May 18, 2024 CLA and June 5, 2024 CAO reports relative to the status of the MEU, DART, and SMART Programs. According to the CAO, it has reviewed a March 21, 2023 Board of Police Commissioners (Board) report entitled Update on the Department's Systemwide Mental Assessment Response Team and Domestic Abuse Response Team Programs (BPC# 23-055; Attachment 1 of the CAO report). The Board Report has significantly responsive information relating to the history and context of the DART and SMART programs, as well as on response times, staffing models, staffing capacities and costs, and discussion which provides useful context. The Board Report covered current SMART and DART response times, and found that the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) currently does not have a method for tracking response times for their units, given that these programs were never intended to replace patrol assets, but rather to supplement and support them.

As it relates to the SMART program, the LAPD Office of the Inspector General was advised that its response times could range anywhere from 15 to 90 minutes, based on the availability of SMART Units as well as traffic congestion. There was further discussion on how this information may be tracked in the future, and response times to Citywide Mental Health and Domestic Violence 9-1-1 calls were provided. More details can be found in Attachment 1. The report contains data accounting for the number of calls that such teams are currently receiving, and acknowledges that, at times, SMART Units were unable to respond to all qualifying incidents, as the units were already handling other incidents when those additional calls were generated. Further detail can be found in Attachment 1, a document generated by LAPD and provided in response to inquiry by this office. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment,

the Committee moved to note and file the CAO report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
PRICE:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	YES

ARL
6/11/24

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-