



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Peter Ortiz
Councilmember Omar
Torres
Councilmember Sergio
Jimenez

SUBJECT: 911 EVENT DATA
ANALYSIS REPORT

DATE: February 27, 2024.

Approved:  **Date:** February 23, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the staff report with the additional direction:

- Direct staff to create a work plan to implement recommendations from the report regarding enhanced coordination with the county to expand opportunities to increase capacity for co-response and alternative response programs.
 - Direct staff to include exploration of potential models for alternative response and co-response for incidents involving individuals with a disability on the work plan.
 - Direct staff to include exploration of alternative response models for welfare check, disturbance, suspicious circumstances, and trespassing calls involving mental health issues or unhoused individuals.
 - Direct staff to include an exploration of potential models that include partner organizations as a co-response with police to domestic violence calls.

DISCUSSION

We appreciate staff’s detailed and considerate report on 911 calls and findings for opportunities to expand alternative and co-response methods to enhance community safety. As the City faces challenges including an understaffed Police Department, it’s important to find civilian-based solutions for some of the most common public safety concerns our residents face.

The obvious conclusion from the report is that closer coordination with the County is needed to find the most sensible ways to expand resident access to existing alternative and co-response programs. We believe the creation of a work plan to enhance that coordination is the most sensible first step.

A model where partner organizations correspond to domestic violence calls with police would bring immediate services to the victims experiencing domestic violence. Providing victims with information about their rights, facilitating referrals to safe shelters, and offering specialized support for LGBTQ+ individuals. This approach is vital as many domestic violence calls originate from concerned neighbors or bystanders rather than the victims directly, and victims may not have sought assistance previously.

In addition, the report points to an important opportunity to enhance emergency response to incidents involving individuals with disabilities with co-response and/or alternative response models. We believe this is an unfilled need to better enhance the safety of both our community and this vulnerable population.