

Memorandum



DATE: February 10, 2017

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee:
Adam Medrano (Chair), B. Adam McGough (Vice Chair), Sandy Greyson, Tiffinni A. Young,
Jennifer S. Gates, Philip T. Kingston

SUBJECT: **Exchange Zones**

On Monday, February 13, 2017, you will be briefed on Exchange Zones by Assistant Chief Paul Stokes and Major Paulette Richardson, Dallas Police Department. The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.



Eric D. Campbell
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Mark McDaniel, Acting First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council
Directors and Assistant Directors



Exchange Zones

Public Safety Committee
February 13, 2017



Purpose

- To provide the Public Safety Committee information regarding Exchange Zones and seek feedback pertaining to its implementation.

What are Exchange Zones?

- It has become common place for citizens to buy and sell items via the internet.
- Exchange Zones are designed to provide citizens a location to purchase/sell items from Craigslist, LetGo, OfferUp or other peer to peer applications.
- In situations where the buyer and seller are unfamiliar with each other, the use of an Exchange Zone location at a City of Dallas facility should be considered.
- As of date, the City of Dallas has no official designated Exchange Zone locations.

Online Services Related to an Exchange of Property

Online social media sites related to an exchange of property where there has been a robbery or theft of person within the City of Dallas

- 5 Mile
- Craigslist
- Facebook
- Let It Go
- Meet Me
- Offer Up
- Plenty of Fish
- Tinder

Offenses Associated with Social Media Purchases

Crime Type	2016	2017 YTD
Total Robberies	152	42
Total Murders	2	1

Texas Cities with Exchange Zones

- Arlington
- Bedford
- Duncanville
- Euless
- Farmers Branch
- Fort Worth
- Flower Mound
- Pflugerville
- San Antonio

Common Practices from Other Texas Cities with Exchanges Zones

- A citizen can either check-in with police personnel when they arrive to inform them of the exchange or conduct the exchange without notification.
- Transactions involving weapons, stolen property or illegal items are not permitted.
- Performing property checks varied from city to city.
- Police personnel will not suggest, recommend, advise, or otherwise counsel either party during the exchange.
- No guarantees, assurances, or promises as to the safety or security of any in-person transactions that may take place on the property.

Items for Consideration: Implementation of Exchange Zones

1. Identify highly visible locations.
2. Install video surveillance cameras.
3. Install signs at designated locations.
4. Distribute informational roll call training bulletin for police personnel.
5. Create social media campaign/press release.

Items for Consideration: Location for Exchange Zones

1. **Patrol Division Parking Lots** – 2 designated parking spaces with signage, lighting and video surveillance cameras.
2. **Patrol Division Lobbies** – video surveillance cameras or police personnel to observe.
3. **Other City Facilities** – libraries, fire stations or recreation centers.



Summary

- Provided the Public Safety Committee the purpose for exchange zone locations, offenses associated with the use of peer to peer applications, as well as common practices of other cities and items to consider for implementation.
- Exchange Zones offer the opportunity to reduce offenses and provide a positive community interaction.
- Seeking committee recommendations to pursue the implementation of the Exchange Zone initiative.

Questions?