



500 West Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084  
troymi.gov

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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June 1, 2020

To: Mayor and City Council Members

From: Mark F. Miller, City Manager  
Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager  
Drew Benson, Assistant to the City Manager

Subject: City Council Agenda Questions & Answers – 6.1.2020

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***The following are communications that City Administration would like Council to be made aware of. In order to ensure that all questions are received and answered, all City Council Questions should be sent to the CITY MANAGER DISTRIBUTION GROUP e-mail address.***

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From: Lori <[lori4mmm@yahoo.com](mailto:lori4mmm@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 2:15 PM  
To: Ann Erickson Gault; David Hamilton; Theresa Brooks; Ellen C Hodorek; Ann Erickson Gault; Ethan Baker  
Subject: Troy Police force

Dear Council:

I'm writing about our police force. I support the police and I support law and order. I also believe in accountability of those in public trust positions.

I'm interested to learn if our Troy Police wear body cams 100% of the time while on parole. Also, what training do they receive in de-escalation techniques. I am appalled and just absolutely frustrated by what happened in Minneapolis and just about everywhere in the US. We need to do everything in our power to end this. If the answers to my questions are not yes, what can be done to put these solutions in place?

Sincerely,  
Lori and Brian Spillane

From: Ellen C Hodorek  
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 2:30 PM  
To: Drew A Benson <[Drew.Benson@troymi.gov](mailto:Drew.Benson@troymi.gov)>  
Cc: City Manager Distribution Group <[CityManager@troymi.gov](mailto:CityManager@troymi.gov)>  
Subject: Re: Troy Police force

Drew:

I was just drafting a request to you all for the following background info regarding our PD:

- Our hiring practices, specifically the background check process
- Ongoing training practices

- Community policing policy and efforts
- Body cam policy
- Ways we work with neighboring jurisdictions for same
- Our promotion process, specifically the rigorous testing process.

Many of us have participated in the Citizens Police Academy and possess this background, but given current events, a backgrounder would be so helpful.

Thank you,

Ellen

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### Answers: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

The task of compiling this information has been assigned to the Police Department, and they are in the process of creating a report for City Council. This process takes some time, and our Police staff have been focused on a number of more urgent tasks as well.

Once completed, this information will be shared with City Council and made available to the public.

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**From:** Theresa Brooks

**Sent:** Friday, May 29, 2020 4:28 PM

**To:** Lori G Bluhm <[BluhmLG@troymi.gov](mailto:BluhmLG@troymi.gov)>; Mark F Miller <[Mark.Miller@troymi.gov](mailto:Mark.Miller@troymi.gov)>

**Subject:** Questions

Hello!

I hope that everyone is staying safe!

Just a few questions;

1. Census 2020--There is a some great information on our website about completing the 2020 census, however has there been any additional outreach? In Rochester Hills for example I see signs posted around the city reminding people to complete the census. I have made a push on social media, however I think that with all else that is going on right now I can see how this can be easily overlooked. The census is important because it can have an impact on our community for the next decade.
2. Business Taskforce--I have heard that we may not be able to have a business taskforce. Is this correct? I was informed that we should instead work with the Troy Chamber.
3. Outreach to the Business Community--The Troy School District is doing a number of forums that are being posted on Facebook Live and other social media platforms which definitely seem to have a lot of community engagement. How could this be accomplished with Council? For example...is there a limit to the number of council members that can participate in such a forum because of the OMA?
4. Mental Health Awareness/Support--I would love to see some resources for community mental health care services provided on our website somewhere for our residents because this is something that is

incredibly important. I have been participating in a number of webinars/forums and this is a theme that continues to come up over and over.

This is all that I have for now.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful weekend!

**Theresa Brooks**  
**City Council**  
**Member**  
**City of Troy**  
O: 248.524.3500

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#### **Answers: Multiple**

1. Census 2020--There is a some great information on our website about completing the 2020 census, however has there been any additional outreach? In Rochester Hills for example I see signs posted around the city reminding people to complete the census. I have made a push on social media, however I think that with all else that is going on right now I can see how this can be easily overlooked. The census is important because it can have an impact on our community for the next decade.

#### **Answers: Drew Benson, Assistant to the City Manager**

City Administration has been very pro-active in encouraging residents to complete the Census for 2020. These efforts have been aided by recommendations made by the Global Troy Advisory Committee. Some example of our outreach include:

- Posting regularly on our social media about the importance of the Census, and opportunities to participate in the Census efforts.
- Created a City web-page dedicated to the 2020 Census to provide information and resources.
- The Census Bureau was provided space to share their message at the 2019 International Day portion of the Troy Daze festival.
- We have worked directly with the Census Bureau to connect their resources to faith-based organizations to share the messages to their constituencies.
- The Global Troy Advisory Committee was used to share information and opportunities to participate in the Census gathering effort from the Census Bureau to their respective diverse networks.
- Connecting with the Oakland County Census Coordinators to share strategies, information, and contacts on a regional level.
- The City worked directly with our Census partners to provide geographic advice for locations to focus data-collection efforts using our GIS capabilities and data.
- Working directly with the Census Bureau to provide training space for Census workers who will be the “boots on the ground” of gathering Census responses.

In addition, we had planned to have space and advertising of the Census at the Community Center & Library to encourage participation, and provide spaces to complete the Census. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 crisis and subsequent closing of those facilities limited what we could provide as the Census date drew closer.

Fortunately, Troy has had a great response rate to the 2020 Census to this point at 78.5%. This is in comparison to a 67.0% response rate for the State of Michigan as a whole. There is still more work to be done, and we continue to be in contact with our Census Bureau partners to improve our response rate. We will continue to use our channels of communication, including our community partners, to share information and encourage participation throughout the year.

2. Business Taskforce--I have heard that we may not be able to have a business taskforce. Is this correct? I was informed that we should instead work with the Troy Chamber.

**Answers: Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney & Glenn Lapin, Economic Development Specialist**

Section 3.20 of the Troy Charter limits independent boards, commissions, or task forces. The City has and expects to continue to collaborate with the Troy Chamber and Oakland County. There is also some concern about a duplication of efforts.

Regarding COVID-19 business engagement, the City has been partnering with Oakland County, Troy Chamber, MEDC, legislative offices, and others to provide information on resources to businesses and to participate in various webinars and forums to address business needs during the pandemic. In addition, the City will be distributing PPE equipment, provided by Oakland County, to small businesses over the next few weeks as businesses begin to reopen. Communications regarding this initiative will be going out soon. We will continue to partner with the Troy Chamber and others as needed to assist businesses during the pandemic.

3. Outreach to the Business Community--The Troy School District is doing a number of forums that are being posted on Facebook Live and other social media platforms which definitely seem to have a lot of community engagement. How could this be accomplished with Council? For example...is there a limit to the number of council members that can participate in such a forum because of the OMA?

**Answers: Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney & Glenn Lapin, Economic Development Specialist**

City Administration recommends that any type of on line or social media platform featuring the Troy City Council be scheduled as a meeting in order to comply with the Open Meetings Act. City Council members are allowed to attend on line forums, similar to what is permitted as a social gathering, but care should be taken so that there is no Open Meetings Act violation with deliberation or an appearance of impropriety. City Administration is also interested in ideas for outreach and community engagement.

Regarding business outreach, there are regular forums and informational sessions that currently take place to help reach out to the community, particularly from a business community perspective. City Council members have participated in many of these forums. Additional electronic forums (i.e. the monthly Chamber series with the Mayor) are being scheduled. City staff would be happy to work with Council and other organizations as needed to further Council outreach to the community.

4. Mental Health Awareness/Support--I would love to see some resources for community mental health care services provided on our website somewhere for our residents because this is something that is

incredibly important. I have been participating in a number of webinars/forums and this is a theme that continues to come up over and over.

**Answers: Robert Bruner, Assistant City Manager**

Yes, this has now been done. See the “Mental Health & Employment Resources” tab on the City’s [Community webpage](#), which links to [Oakland County’s list of resources](#). We found this to be a more reliable resource for up-to-date information regarding Mental Health and Employment Resources in our area.

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