

Memorandum



DATE February 24, 2017
TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
SUBJECT **Reality Based Training Center**

On Wednesday, March 1, 2017, you will be briefed on the Reality Based Training Center by Deputy Chief Jeffery Cotner and Lieutenant Matthew Williamson of the 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: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
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

Reality Based Training Center

Dallas City Council

March 1, 2017

Jeffery F. Cotner, Deputy Chief &
Matthew Williamson, Lieutenant
Dallas Police Department
City of Dallas



Presentation Overview

- Background/History
- Purpose
- Issues/ Operational or Business Concerns
- Operational Impact
- Proposed Action
- Next Steps



Background/History

- Simulated training designed to create realistic stress with a goal to improve critical decision making.
- Recognized as an essential training component by the Department of Justice
- Implemented by the Dallas Police Department (DPD) in 2012
- Submitted for inclusion in 2017 Bond Program
- Presented to the Public Safety Committee on October 24, 2016

3



Purpose

- Adverse police officer performance during critical encounters tarnishes DPD and exposes the taxpayers to financial liability
- Declines in use of force have been realized since 2012, sustainability is tenuous without a reliable facility to conduct exercises
- State of the art, adaptable Reality Based Training Center is needed to improve upon the frequency of desired outcomes and meet future challenges

Issues/Operational Concerns



- Reality Based Training is the standard of training to develop proper police practices
- The center would provide realistic structures mimicking an actual city
- To be effective, the training environment and scenarios have to be as lifelike as possible

5

Issues/Operational Concerns

- DPD does not have a long-term center
- Training is currently conducted at an unused Dallas Independent School District property which is projected to be sold in May, 2017
- Cadillac Heights property is under review by City staff
- Available space at the current In-Service Academy building will not support the training
- Approximately 158,000 square feet of space needed

6

Proposed Action

- Identify a long-term site for the Reality Based Training Center
- Seek alternative funding options to offset costs
- Authorize DPD to explore opportunities to share ownership through mutual agreements with other law enforcement agencies

Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends the Dallas City Council to consider and approve the following:
 - That the Reality Based Training Center be included in the 2017 Bond Program

Next Steps

- Council Action
 - Authorize to include in the 2017 Bond Program



Reality Based Training Center

Dallas City Council

March 1, 2017

Jeffery F. Cotner, Deputy Chief &
Matthew Williamson, Lieutenant
Dallas Police Department
City of Dallas

