



INFORMATION BRIEFING TO THE MSB ASSEMBLY ON THE 2019 MSB POLICE POWERS TASK FORCE

OUTLINE

- **Authority & Purpose**
- **Three Background Actions Prior to Police Powers Task Force**
- **Creation of MSB Police Powers Task Force**
- **Police Powers Recommended by the Task Force to the Assembly**
 - **Priority #1: Dedicated Drug & Property Crimes Police Task Force
Non-Areawide, but Includes Houston**
 - **Priority #2: Police Service Area in the Core-Area (Plus)
Non-Areawide, but Includes Houston**

AUTHORITY and PURPOSE: MSB ORDINANCE 19-030

“The Police Powers Task Force will investigate and consider steps to develop from one to three prioritized, fiscally reasonable, and possible proposals for the purpose of sending them to the Assembly for consideration. The Assembly will consider whether to present one or more of these proposals to the voters on the next regular ballot for the purposes of adding specific police powers to the Borough’s responsibilities.”

#1 PRIOR ACTION: CITIZEN WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

June 2018 – Results of 3 Meetings in Palmer, Wasilla & Willow

- **Top three Crime Problems: Drugs, Thefts, & Recidivism**
- **Top three Recommendations:**
 - **Repeal SB 91/Tougher Sentences-Expand Courts/Corrections**
 - **More Police: Better Response/Time to Investigate Crimes**
 - **More Services for Troubled People (Drugs & Mental Health)**

#2 PRIOR ACTION: PUBLIC SURVEY TO CITIZENS

Aug-Sep 2018: Public Survey – Responses from 602 Citizens

- Crime is Very Serious - 69%
- Crime is Very Serious or Somewhat Serious - 96%
- Have You Been a Victim of Crime - 41%
- Pay for Police with Sales Tax – 53% Yes
- Look into Getting Police Powers - 53% Yes, 31% No, 16% Don't Know

#3 PRIOR ACTION: CITIZEN ADVISORY VOTE

OCT 2, 2018, MATANUSKA-SUSITNA REGULAR ELECTION

- **Proposition No. B-1 Advisory Vote on Police Powers**
 - **“...Should the Matanuska-Susitna Borough investigate and consider steps to develop a proposal to voters that adds police powers to its responsibilities?”**
 - **Resulted in 59.76% voting “YES”**

CREATION OF MSB POLICE POWERS TASK FORCE

- **Considering the Results of three Previous Actions:**
 - **Citizen Working Group Meetings**
 - **Public Survey to Citizens**
 - **Advisory Vote On Police Powers**
- **Assembly Created the MSB Police Powers Task Force on March 5, 2019**
 - **19 Public Meetings Held From March through December 2019**

POLICE POWERS TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

PRIORITY #1: Dedicated Drug & Property Crimes Police Task Force

- **20 Officers – Approximate cost \$7 Million (Without facility)**
 - **Option a: Contract to WPD, PPD, and AST for each to Provide Officers**
 - **Option b: If no Contracts, Create Borough Dedicated Police Task Force**
- **Focus on Property Crimes and Drug Crimes (not exclusive)**
- **Leave Other Crimes Primarily to AST, WPD, and PPD**
- **Non-Areawide - Included Houston, but not Palmer or Wasilla**
- **Funding Source Preferences: 1. Sales Tax 2. Property Tax**

POLICE POWERS OPTIONS RECOMMENDED TO ASSEMBLY

PRIORITY #2: Police Service Area (PSA) – Core Area-plus

- **55 Officers – 1st Year \$18.1M, then \$14.1M (without bldg)**
- **Area Included Houston, but Not Wasilla or Palmer**
 - **Option a: Contract to Wasilla PD or Palmer PD**
 - **Option b: Separate PSA Police Force Reporting to MSB Manager**
- **Troopers would cover area outside of PSA**
- **Funding Source: PSA Sales Tax or PSA-Only Property Tax**

Questions