



GARLAND

MINUTES

The Public Safety Committee of the City of Garland convened in regular session at 9:00 AM on September 17, 2025, in the Work Session Room at the William E. Dollar Municipal Building, 200 North Fifth Street, Garland, Texas, with the following members present:

Present: Chair, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Chris Ott
Councilmember Carissa Dutton
Mayor Pro Tem Margaret Lucht

Staff Present: Crystal Owens
Michael Polocek
Tony Irvin
Paul Luedtke
Michael Brinkman
Letecia McNatt

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consider approval of Minutes from the Public Safety Committee on June 25, 2025.

- Motion to approve: Councilmember Carissa Dutton
- Seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Margaret Lucht
- **Vote:** Unanimous approval

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons who desire to address the Committee on any item on the agenda are allowed three minutes to speak.

No public speakers were present.

3. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

a. Review Polices in Place for Traffic Control Devices in Construction Zones - Scoping Discussion

This item was referred by Councilmember Dutton, with a second from Councilmember Williams, at the August 18, 2025, Work Session.

Councilmember Dutton initiated the discussion, citing persistent issues with traffic control devices—specifically orange cones and barrels—being left in place for extended periods, or being deployed prematurely before any construction begins.

Examples included:

- Abandoned cones on Shiloh at Buckingham.
- Overuse and confusion caused by cones on Miller Road at Garland and Saturn.

Emphasis was placed on the negative visual impact and public confusion resulting from long-term, unnecessary signage.

Suggested policy considerations included:

- Labeling of cones/barrels to identify responsible parties.
- Contract requirements for timely removal.
- Limiting deployment to within one week prior to the start of construction.

Committee Discussion:

- Staff acknowledged the issue and confirmed ongoing internal conversations.
- Committee agreed to revisit the issue after staff could evaluate potential policy changes.

Next Steps:

- Staff will return with a proposed plan of action or policy recommendations at the November Public Safety Committee meeting.

b. Review Regulations for Construction Crews - Portable Restrooms

This item was referred by Councilmember Dutton, with a second from Mayor Pro Tem Lucht, at the August 18, 2025, Work Session.

Councilmember Dutton raised concerns about the unsightly or obstructive placement of portable restrooms post-construction.

Specific examples discussed:

- Porta-potty left behind on Miller near Saturn after project completion.
- Two porta-potties on Buckingham (between Jupiter and Shiloh) unrelated to active work, placed on sidewalks.

Staff Response:

- Explained that porta-potties on Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) are governed by Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) and are strategically placed in less-visible, accessible locations.
- Confirmed that restroom services are typically coordinated by third-party vendors, with contractors responsible for arranging pickup.
- Acknowledged service frequency concerns and potential for missed removals.

Committee Discussion:

Explored need for:

- Defining “close proximity” for placement.
- Setting clear guidelines or timeframes for removal.
- Ensuring labeling and contractor accountability.
- Staff noted willingness to contact vendors and propose baseline service intervals and contract expectations.

Next Steps:

Staff will provide findings and recommendations at the next Public Safety Committee meeting.

4. ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:47 AM.

Submitted By:

/S/ Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Chris Ott, Chair

/S/ Letecia McNatt, Secretary