

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council**January 12, 2016**

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**SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH SIGNS**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to update the City Council on the status of Neighborhood Crime Watch Signs.

The City of Fort Worth provides Neighborhood Crime Watch signs to communities where Crime Watch groups have formed and completed the prerequisite training offered through the Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD).

Prior to December 2014, the Transportation and Public Works Department (T/PW) manufactured and installed Crime Watch signs, however, the decision was made to close the Signs & Marketing Section and T/PW advised the FWPD that they would need to work directly with outside vendors to produce the signs. FWPD staff contacted outside vendors to obtain bids for the creation of the signs; an unbudgeted expense since FWPD had not previously paid for the signs or any associated installation costs.

In order to facilitate the purchase of signs, in October 2015 FWPD staff proposed an offset of Crime Prevention budget funds for FY2016. That request was approved on December 24th. In FY2017, FWPD will request approval for an account in the CCPD Crime Prevention budget to address future sign purchase related needs. In the spirit of collaboration and interdepartmental cooperation, T/PW agreed to continue installing the signs to lower our direct costs.

On December 17, 2015, FWPD staff submitted a Purchase Authorization Form for fifty (50) Neighborhood Crime Watch Signs. The estimated manufacture and delivery of the signs is approximately six (6) weeks, with installations by March 2016.

If you have any additional questions concerning the crime watch signs, please contact Assistant City Manager Valerie Washington at 817-392-6192 or Chief Joel Fitzgerald at 817-392-4212.

David Cooke
City Manager