

COUNCIL INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM

City Code Sec. 2-214(14). *Council Initiatives. This section of the agenda is reserved for individual councilmember requests for future legislative or staff action. These shall be limited to giving direction to staff to assist in formulating policies, work plans, etc. for future consideration of the city council. An initiative moves forward by majority vote of the city council.*

COUNCIL MEMBER PROPOSING INITIATIVE: JENNIFER OWEN

SHORT NAME OF INITIATIVE: RECOMMENDATIONS ON ESTABLISHING A FAMILY VIOLENCE INVESTIGATION UNIT IN THE BILLINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE OR STAFF ACTION: (Please be as specific as possible. Indicate if action may be divided into steps or phases.):

This initiative requests that the City Administrator work with staff/leadership to develop recommendations to Council on the creation of a permanent dedicated Family Violence Investigative Unit in the Billings Police Department that meets at least the following criteria:

- Comprised of patrol, detectives, leadership, CSOs, technicians and administrative support.
 - Must have promotion potential within the BPD hierarchy
- Has a minimum scope of domestic violence (e.g. PMFA, violation of Order of Protection, harassment, stalking), crimes against children (e.g., assault on a minor, criminal child endangerment), and sexual assault.
 - This is not intended to interfere with existing task forces/special units, unless recommended by the City Administrator. However, this unit may be a liaison.
 - Consider where human trafficking belongs, as well as elder abuse (e.g., assault, exploitation)
 - Other scopes added as appropriate. Offenses Against the Family should be evaluated thoroughly.
- Has the ability to respond in real time to the scene for investigations.
- Includes robust initial and ongoing training in family violence-related topics.
- Able to analyze and assess complex crime data to detect patterns relevant to investigations and enforcement.
- Does not increase FTE unless there is a critical skill set missing.
 - One-time start-up and ongoing O&M expenses are allowable.

The recommendations should also include the appropriate format to formalize the creation of this unit in the BPD; for example, a Council resolution or ordinance.

SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENTS EXPECTED TO BE IMPACTED; CITY ADMINISTRATOR WILL DETERMINE APPROPRIATE STAFF TO CARRY OUT THIS INITIATIVE: Police, Legal, Leadership

DIRECTED TO TAKE ACTION: City Administrator to direct staff

HAS COUNCIL MEMBER MAKING INITIATIVE COMMUNICATED WITH THESE STAFF MEMBERS (OR DEPARTMENT HEAD) ABOUT THE INITIATIVE? YES No

ESTIMATE OF APPROXIMATE STAFF TIME REQUIRED: Unknown

APPROXIMATE TIMELINE FOR STAFF/DEPARTMENT ACTION: Recommendations to Council for consideration in 60-90 (on a work session prior to year-end)

COSTS OTHER THAN STAFF TIME, IF ANY: NO

PRIORITY RELATIVE TO EXISTING INITIATIVES (SEE LIST AVAILABLE FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR):
This is consistent with the number one priority of public safety.