

# Public Safety Study

## **Staff Report and Preliminary Recommendations**



SAN MATEO COUNTY  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

# Context

- Our campuses are safe learning environments where minimal criminal activity occurs.
- Our Department of Public Safety (25 Staff) is not a Police Department and has limited authority.
- The Department utilizes an Observe and Report model and works in partnership with Local Law Enforcement.
- Nationwide decline in trust and confidence of law enforcement in many underrepresented communities.



# Campus Outreach and Engagement

All Students, Faculty and Staff had multiple opportunities to participate in this important discussion:

- 15 Open Forums (across all campuses)
- 80 Stakeholder Interviews
- Visioning Workshops
- District Questionnaire with 700 responses
- Student Questionnaire with nearly 1,000 responses
- Anonymous Feedback Survey



# Margolis Healy Recommendations

- 71 recommendations over the following areas:
  1. Clarify Role, Mission and Strategy
  2. Develop a written directive system
  3. Develop a strategy for engaging with the campus community
  4. Develop a comprehensive physical security program
  5. Enhance emergency management planning
- Margolis Healy Report validated the work of DPS; 19 of the 71 recommendations were completed or underway by DPS before report was issued.



# Overarching Recommendation

- Margolis Healy recommended transitioning DPS to a Sworn and Armed Police Department:
  - Option #1 - “Transition to a Hybrid Campus Safety Model, with Arming Decision after Transition”
  - Option #2 – “Transition to a Hybrid Campus Safety Model, with Concurrent Arming Decision”
- **District administration does not agree with this recommendation**



# Rationale for Not Accepting Recommendation

- Our campuses are safe places to learn, work and visit.
- Local law enforcement does not support the District transitioning to its own police department.
- Establishing a new police department is very expensive (many millions of \$\$).
- There has been a nationwide decline in trust and confidence of law enforcement in many underrepresented communities.
- There are opportunities to work with local law enforcement to get to a feasible solution to enhancing safety.
- Having a sworn and armed police department is not congruent with the approach the District wants to pursue.



# Local Law Enforcement Feedback

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, San Bruno Police Department, San Mateo Police Department Feedback:

- Concerns regarding creating new police department within their jurisdiction
- Services sought by District can be provided by local law enforcement agencies



# SMCCCD Crime Statistics

Crime Categories	2013	2014	2015	2016
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses – Forcible	1	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	1
Incest	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2	0	3	1
Burglary	5	12	15	11
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	4	1	0
Arson	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	2	1	1
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	1	0	1





# Crimes Statistics Bay Area Colleges

District	2013	2014	2015
Chabot-Las Positas	15	3	7
Contra Costa	53	46	42
Foothill-DeAnza	21	14	16
Fremont/Ohlone	1	0	6
Marin	1	4	5
Peralta	26	42	22
San Francisco	17	12	12
San Jose-Evergreen	22	8	7
San Mateo	10	16	19
West Valley-Mission	11	7	19



# Preliminary Administration Recommendations

1. Clarify the Mission and Role of the Dept. of Public Safety.
2. Reject the recommendation to create a Sworn and Armed Police Department.
3. Implement, as directed by the Board of Trustees, the remaining recommendations of the Margolis Healy Study.
4. Explore alternatives to enhance local Law Enforcement services on or near the District's campuses.

