



HEALTH & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Virtual Webex Meeting

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Lewis-Chang
Councilwoman Greenberg
Councilwoman Jones
Acting Police Chief Dolinac
SORS Chief Rothstein
Ms. Davenport, Health Officer
Mr. Egelberg, OEM Coordinator
Mr. Battaglia, Village Engineer
Joycelyn White, Recording Secretary

General Discussion

Health Department Report

Ms. Davenport provided updates on summer health initiatives and public education campaigns, including mosquito control, heat safety awareness, and food vendor inspections during outdoor events. She reported that overall compliance among vendors remained strong.

Action Items:

- Health Officer to prepare a brief report on summer outreach outcomes for August meeting.
- Continue coordination with the county on health inspections and vector control.

OEM Report

Mr. Egelberg reported on ongoing emergency preparedness activities, including coordination for upcoming storm season readiness and updates to the local emergency response plan.

Action Items:

- OEM to finalize updates to the emergency operations plan by the next meeting.
- Begin community preparedness communications via the Township website and newsletter.



Rescue Squad Report

Chief Rothstein provided a monthly activity report for the South Orange Rescue Squad (SORS), noting stable response times and ongoing volunteer recruitment. He highlighted the success of recent community CPR training events.

Action Items:

- Rescue Squad to share a quarterly performance summary at the August meeting.
- Explore scheduling additional public CPR classes in coordination with the Health Department.

Police Department Report

• Mental Health Advocate Update

Acting Chief Dolinac presented updates on community policing initiatives, traffic enforcement, and ongoing collaboration with the Mental Health Advocate program. The department continues to see positive results from de-escalation and crisis intervention training.

Action Items:

- SOPD to provide a written update on Mental Health Advocate outcomes for the August meeting.
- Continue collaboration with neighboring municipalities on shared training sessions.

Traffic/Engineering Report

Mr. Battaglia reported on ongoing traffic signal evaluations and pedestrian safety improvements at key intersections. Preliminary studies indicate that recent traffic-calming measures are reducing speeding incidents.

Action Items:

- Engineering to finalize design for proposed crosswalk upgrades and submit to administration for review.
- Follow up on coordination with Essex County regarding signal timing adjustments.

Walk/Bike Ride South Orange Committee Update

Councilwoman Jones shared an update on the Walk/Bike Ride South Orange Committee, highlighting the success of the recent community bike safety event. The committee plans to expand outreach to local schools and explore additional bike lane options.



Action Items:

- Committee to propose a fall schedule of community walking and biking events.
- Work with Engineering to identify priority routes for infrastructure improvements.

Public Comments

The Chair opens the meeting for public comments.

The Chair opened the floor for public comments.

Residents expressed appreciation for the village's coordinated approach to public safety and encouraged further visibility around health education programs.

Next Meeting Date

August 12, 2025; 6pm

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Joycelyn White.