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Public Safety Advisory Board Subcommittee on Social Districts
Thursday May 28th, 2026 (11:00 AM) – Concord Police Headquarters Training Room
Meeting Minutes

Present: Chair Andrew Biemer, Natch Greyes, Councilor Amanda Grady Sexton, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic

Staff Members Present: Fire Chief Chisholm, Police Chief Moulton, Sergeant Dan White

Attendees: Jim Bouley, Councilor Stacey Brown, Mayor Bryon Champlin, City Solicitor John Conforti, Jason Gerhard, Representatives from InTown Concord, Catherine McLaughlin

Minute Taker: Councilor Amanda Grady Sexton

Call to Order

Subcommittee Chair Andrew Biemer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Action: Natch Greyes moved approval of the April 1st 2026 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kretovic. The minutes were approved 3-0 with Councilor Grady Sexton abstaining.

Discussion of Draft Ordinance

City Solicitor John Conforti presented to the subcommittee with a draft enabling ordinance to establish a social district framework within the City of Concord.

Attorney Conforti explained that Sections I and II of the draft ordinance are legally necessary because it is currently illegal to carry alcoholic beverages in public spaces in Concord. These provisions would create the legal exception necessary to allow social districts and establish the enabling ordinance authorizing City Council to approve social districts and associated management and maintenance plans.

Attorney Conforti further explained that all provisions beyond those legally required sections are policy decisions for consideration by the subcommittee, Public Safety Advisory Board, and ultimately City Council.

The subcommittee discussed several policy considerations, including:

- Whether districts should be temporary, intermittent, or permanent;
- Whether application should be required public hearings;
- The role of the Public Safety Advisory Board in reviewing applications;

- Authority for the City Manager, Police Chief, or Fire Chief to immediately close a district for public safety concerns;
- Insurance and indemnification requirements for participants;
- The role of Code Administration in reviewing applications;
- Whether there should be an ongoing review process for initial social district events.

Attorney Conforti clarified that the statute provides City Council with broad discretion regarding approval, boundaries, timing, operational restrictions, and maintenance plans for the social districts.

The Subcommittee discussed their overall role in the process, and alternate approaches to the approval process which included whether applications could be reviewed by the Public Safety Advisory Board and forwarded to City Council through the consent agenda process rather than requiring a separate City Council public hearing for each of the applications.

Attorney Conforti agreed to prepare alternate draft language for consideration by the full Public Safety Advisory Board, including an option removing the City Council public hearing requirement and establishing a review process through the Public Safety Advisory Board.

The subcommittee heard from the Executive Director of InTown Concord who explained that from a logistical perspective, a public hearing before the City Council on every proposal for a temporary district would be challenging for event planners.

Action: A motion was made by Councilor Kretovic to forward the proposed ordinance to the full Public Safety Advisory Board along with additional draft options prepared by Attorney Conforti. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Grady Sexton and passed 3-1 with Natch Greyes voting in opposition.

Lastly, the subcommittee discussed the importance of implementing a review process for the first several social district events in order to evaluate operations, identify issues, and recommend policy adjustments if necessary.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.