

## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Neighborhood Crime Unit in Police Department]

**Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to create the Neighborhood Crime Unit in the Police Department, to be activated when the Controller certifies that the Department is at the full staffing level mandated in the Charter, and to set minimum staffing levels for and assign duties to the Unit.**

### Existing Law

The Police Department has several different units, all of which share partial responsibility for preventing, investigating, and making arrests related to neighborhood crime.

### Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would create the Neighborhood Crime Unit within the Police Department. Unit would be responsible for deterrence and investigation of crime and quality-of-life violations in neighborhoods through the use of neighborhood foot patrols, among other tactics. The Unit would coordinate with police district captains, the 311 program, and the Department of Emergency Management to respond to reports from witnesses or victims of actual or suspected crimes. Officers assigned to the Unit would be required to coordinate with the Department of Public Health, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, Human Services Agency, and other departments to address violations of law relating to unlawful street behavior, with a focus on transitioning people off the streets and into shelter, housing, and critical health services.

The Chief of Police would not be required to establish or maintain the Unit unless the Controller certifies that there are at least 1,971 full duty sworn officers in the Department. By December 31 each year, the Controller would be required to issue a report certifying the number of full duty sworn officers employed by the Police Department. If there are at least 1,971 full duty sworn officers, then the Chief of Police would be required to assign no fewer than 3% of all sworn personnel to the Neighborhood Crime Unit. The ordinance would allow the Chief of Police to temporarily reassign officers assigned to the Unit, in order to address an emergency or other urgent law enforcement matter.

The ordinance would also require the Department to adopt a written policy governing the assignment and conduct of the Unit. The Police Commission would be required to review the policy at least once a year.