



Raymond Kelly Richardson
Superintendent

Barry Golner
Deputy Superintendent

Mark LeBlanc
Deputy Superintendent

To: Eileen Donoghue *EMD*
City Manager

From: Raymond Kelly Richardson
Superintendent of Police

Date: July 12, 2021

Re: City Council Motion Response

Councilor Rourke - Req. City Mgr. Work with Police Superintendent to form a Police Action League (PAL) for Lowell youth.

The Lowell Police Department (LPD) will be launching the Lowell Police Youth Athletic Services program with youth boxing later this summer. The LPD will collaborate with the West End Gym to start this program without having to rent our own facility. The LPD has a history of working with the West End Gym for several years through our Shannon Community Safety Initiative Grant, which made it a perfect fit for a partnership to begin the program. The LPD has already begun to receive e-mails (pal@lowellma.gov) from parents wanting to sign their children up as well as others interested in financially contributing to the program.

The LPD has several other sports including, but not limited to wrestling, basketball, and swimming that we hope to start as we move forward with the program. The LPD is creating the Youth Athletic Services program to build positive relationships and provide different opportunities to the youth of Lowell. However, the LPD's goal is to include a second component of our youth program, which would be tutoring. The LPD would like to collaborate with Middlesex Community College and the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and work with their Education Departments to utilize students studying education to provide tutoring as part of their work-study and/or internship programs. The LPD will be meeting with both institutions later this summer to discuss our ideas.

The LPD is also dedicating a vehicle to the youth athletic program. The LPD will utilize an older vehicle from our sign shop, which was recently replaced with a new vehicle. The vehicle will be decaled and set up for officers to carry equipment needed to coordinate the various programs. We have had a tremendous show of support from Lowell Police Officers volunteering to assist with the boxing program and hope this will continue as we move on to other sports and after school tutoring. We can update the City Manager as we begin to move forward with other programs. We are only in the early stages of this program; however, we are very optimistic in its success