

ARTICLE 26 - SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

(A) The City shall undertake all reasonable efforts to provide for employee health and safety in accordance with all laws applicable to the operations of the City concerning the safety of all employees covered by this Agreement. All employees shall comply with all safety rules and regulations established by the City.

(B) In order to facilitate this policy, the Association shall appoint six (6) Association members from different divisions to represent the Association on the City's Safety Oversight Committee (SOC). Association members shall be appointed by the Association President and should be representative of divisions where safety hazards have a more probable potential to exist. The City's safety and loss control representative shall chair the committee. The City shall provide any necessary clerical support for the SOC.

(C) The SOC shall meet at least once a month at a mutually agreed date and time to discuss and make recommendations on the maintenance of proper safety standards, the responsibility of employees concerning safety practices, and to provide direction in the development of the overall accident prevention program. Recommendations on changes to safety practices, equipment and/or facilities shall be prepared by the City's safety and loss control representative and forwarded to the appropriate department head for response. If the department head fails to respond to or satisfy the recommendation within thirty (30) days of receipt, the department head shall be asked to explain to the SOC the reasons for the failure to implement the recommendations and the matter shall be forwarded to the City Manager for resolution.

(D) Association Representatives and SOC Members shall function as contact points for employees in all departments to report safety issues and concerns. Association Representatives and SOC Members shall report all safety issues and concerns raised by employees to the SOC on a Notice of Safety Concern form. The SOC shall respond to the Notice of Safety Concern at the next scheduled monthly meeting. Any safety or health concern that poses imminent danger to any employee shall be immediately reported to the City's safety and loss control representative.

(E) To facilitate the adjustment of work schedules, SOC members shall notify their immediate supervisor of the dates and times of SOC meetings immediately upon the scheduling of any such meeting.

(F) Association members shall not lose pay for time spent in any meetings authorized by this Article.