



CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
VIA HYBRID / IN-PERSON
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 09, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Cervantes on Monday, December 09, 2024, at 8:48 a.m. in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr. Council Chambers, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Chair	Walter Cervantes
Commissioner	Marcos Holguin
Commissioner	Charley Lu
Commissioner	Bethesda Gee
Commissioner	Stephen Sanko

ABSENT

Vice-Chair	Armando Munoz
Commissioner	Ed Donnely

Davit Ghazaryan, Management Analyst, announced a quorum.

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Merrill Ladenheim, Deputy Chief of Police, Greg Lloyd, Fire Chief, Janet Braun, Councilmember, Ted Gerber, Director of Public Works, Davit Ghazaryan, Management Analyst, Kevin Tiet, Management Assistant were present at Roll Call.

OFFICIALS ABSENT:

Brian Solinsky, Chief of Police

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment:

Yvonne LaRose spoke regarding an LA Times article about a South Pasadena Detective, who was accused of grave behavior. She wanted to know the details on how the Detective had passed screenings before joining South Pasadena Police Department, as well as his hiring date and the people he has trained in the Department. She read an investigative report from the above-mentioned LA Times article.

Councilmember Braun responded to the comment by stating that the issue was immediately addressed. The Detective in question was on pension and was under investigation unbeknownst to the City of South Pasadena and South Pasadena Police Department. A thorough background check was conducted; however, the investigation was still ongoing at the time and couldn't have been disclosed to the Police Department. Per Councilmember Braun, he was hired for one day a week to review files and when the investigation was finalized, Chief Solinsky acted swiftly, spoke with the Detective and the latter chose to resign the same evening.

Zoom Public Comment

None.

PRESENTATION

1. Garfield Avenue and Clark Place Intersection: November Enforcement

Motor Officer Mike Sanchez made a presentation on November enforcement at intersection of Garfield Avenue and Clark Place, highlighting the dangers of the intersection and the additional traffic enforcement that was implemented as a result.

Chair Cervantes commented about the dangers of the intersection and the need to prevent accidents from happening by additional measures and seconded Commissioner Gee's suggestion regarding the possibility of installing on-demand pedestrian crossing traffic devices.

Commissioner Sanko agreed with the comments of Chair Cervantes.

Motor Officer Sanchez stated that the suggestions made by Commissioners are mostly related to the engineering aspect of the intersection and suggested that the item is brought up to the Mobility and Transportation Commission, where the engineering aspects of the intersection can be discussed.

Public Works Director Ted Gerber stated that there is a conflict in the State code to install the on-demand pedestrian crossing devices, because the State code prohibits giving vehicles two different control processes for stopping at an intersection. He mentioned that the City can't have the flashing beacon and a stop sign at the same time and gave an example of a different intersection in South Pasadena, where both signs were present, and the flashing beacon had to be decommissioned because of the above-mentioned State code. Director Gerber stated that there are other options that would increase driver visibility, such as additional lights and advance warning signs. He also offered that the item is brought up to the Mobility and Transportation Commission.

Commissioner Holguin proposed a motion to continue to monitor the issue and refer it to the Mobility and Transportation Commission for their review and potential suggestions on making the intersection safer, expecting to get an update by second quarter of 2025.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

2. **MOTION TO CONTINUE HEARING UPDATES REGARDING TRAFFIC SAFETY ON THE INTERSECTION OF GARFIELD AVENUE AND CLARK PLACE AND REFER IT TO THE MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, EXPECTING AN UPDATE BY SECOND QUARTER OF 2025**

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Holguin, seconded by Commissioner Cervantes, and approved by roll call vote, to continue hearing updates regarding traffic safety on the intersection of Garfield Avenue and Clark Place and refer it to the mobility and transportation commission, expecting an update by second quarter of 2025.

AYES: Chair Cervantes, Commissioner Gee, Commissioner Holguin, Commissioner Lu, Commissioner Sanko

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Donnely.

ABSTAINED: None.

Motion passed

3. **APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR October 14, 2024**

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Chair Cervantes, seconded by Commissioner Holguin, and approved by roll call vote, Item No. 3, the Meeting Minutes of the October 14, 2024, Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting as presented.

AYES: Chair Cervantes, Commissioner Gee, Commissioner Holguin, Commissioner Lu, Commissioner Sanko.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Donnely.

ABSTAINED: None.

Motion passed

4. **APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR November 19, 2024**

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Chair Cervantes, seconded by Commissioner Holguin, and approved by roll call vote, Item No. 4, the Meeting Minutes of the November 19, 2024, Public Safety Commission Special Meeting as presented.

AYES: Chair Cervantes, Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Holguin, Commissioner Lu, Commissioner Sanko

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Donnelly, Commissioner Gee.

ABSTAINED: None.

Motion passed

INFORMATION REPORTS

5. November Crime Statistics

Presentation of November Crime Statistics.

Deputy Chief Ladenheim presented the November 2024 Crime Statistics.

COMMUNICATIONS

6. City Council Liaison Communications

None.

7. Staff Liaison Communications

None.

8. Commissioner Communications

None.

ADJOURNMENT


There being no further matters, Chair Cervantes adjourned the meeting of the Public Safety Commission at 10:15 a.m., to the next Regular Public Safety Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, February 10, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Davit Ghazaryan
Management Analyst

Approved By:



Walter Cervantes
Chair