



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, March 10, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Cervantes on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 9:38 a.m. in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr. Council Chambers, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL:

<u>PRESENT</u>	Chair	Walter Cervantes
	Vice-Chair	Armando Munoz
	Commissioner	Marcos Holguin (via Zoom)
	Commissioner	Charley Lu
	Commissioner	Gabriel Reza
	Commissioner	Stephen Sanko

<u>ABSENT</u>	Commissioner	Bethesda Gee
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Davit Ghazaryan, Management Analyst, announced a quorum.

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Brian Solinsky, Chief of Police, Greg Lloyd, Fire Chief, Omari Ferguson, Councilmember, Shannon Robledo, Police Lieutenant, Davit Ghazaryan, Management Analyst, Kevin Tiet, Management, Assistant were present at Roll Call.

OFFICIALS ABSENT:

Merrill Ladenheim, Deputy Chief of Police

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Public Comment:**

Yvonne LaRose made a public comment, that “in light of the current invasiveness of the federal government”, she recommends “becoming aligned with healthcare services that support individuals who are elderly, disabled and live alone in order to lessen the threat of those individuals being targeted, if a new holocaust is in the domestic future”.

Zoom Public Comment

None.

PRESENTATION

2. Youth Diversion Program

Presentation of the Youth Diversion Program.

Brian Solinsky, Chief of Police, presented the Youth Diversion Program.

Chair Cervantes stated that this is an important and commendable program that can prevent young people from getting into trouble.

Vice-Chair Munoz asked if the parents' consent is needed for youth to be enrolled in the program or not. Chief Solinsky responded that it is up to the Police Department whether to recommend someone to the program, however the Department contacts the parents as well in order to inform them and many factors are taken into consideration when making such recommendations.

Councilmember Ferguson asked whether there are any costs for the program to the City of South Pasadena. Chief Solinsky replied that the program is of no cost to the City of South Pasadena and is entirely paid for by the County of Los Angeles.

Commissioner Sanko asked if the Commission could expect a follow up on an annual basis on the number of individuals who have been referred to the program and the outcomes. Chief Solinsky responded that because this is a pilot program for South Pasadena, the goal is to provide a 6-month number initially and then provide yearly reports, which will most likely be included in the Departments annual report.

Commissioner Holguin asked if participation in this program is reportable for college applications and other instances. Chief Solinsky responded that it is not, after completing the program, an individual's file is sealed and is not reportable.

3. Homeless Outreach Program (HOPE)

Presentation of the South Pasadena Police Department's Homeless Outreach Program (HOPE)

Shannon Robledo, Police Lieutenant, presented the South Pasadena Police Department's Homeless Outreach Program (HOPE).

Chair Cervantes complemented the program and called for spreading awareness among the general public regarding who to contact and how, when outreach or assistance is needed for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Lt. Robledo responded that either the general line 9-1-1 or 2-1-1 can be used for that purpose.

Vice-Chair Munoz asked whether the City of South Pasadena has the means to keep disruptive individuals experiencing homelessness out of the Public Library. Lieutenant Robledo responded that the Public Library is authorized to ban certain patrons for a certain amount of time depending on the severity of their offense. He also stated that there is a security guard at the Public Library who enforces the bans and maintains safety.

Commissioner Sanko complemented the program and thanked the Police Department for being forward-thinking in this area.

Commissioner Holguin asked about the number of officers currently in HOPE team and the type of specialized training they receive in comparison with other officers. Lieutenant Robledo responded that every officer in the Department has been trained to be a HOPE team member. Officers do need to take classes to be a member of the HOST (Homeless Outreach Services Team) program, which is a Countywide program.

Commissioner Holguin asked how the current number of 14 individuals experiencing homelessness in the city compares to past years. Lieutenant Robledo responded that the numbers were as high as 35 in the past 5 years and the trend is that the numbers are decreasing, mentioning that 4 people have been housed since September of 2024 through HOPE program only.

Vice-Chair Munoz mentioned that South Pasadena should potentially explore and look at the ideas of requesting restitutions from the City of Los Angeles, especially with the Summer Olympics coming up in the near future.

Chair Cervantes complemented Lieutenant Robledo's approach and his empathy when working with individuals experiencing homelessness and thanked him for his service.

Commissioner Reza also thanked Chief Solinsky and Lieutenant Robledo for looking at different public safety concerns from a broad spectrum.

4. Paramedic Subscription Program

Presentation of the Paramedic Subscription Program

Greg Lloyd, Fire Chief, presented the Paramedic Subscription Program.

Chair Cervantes stated that he has been a member of this program for 2 years and it's a great relief from a financial point of view.

Vice-Chair Munoz asked whether the Community is actually taking advantage of this program or not. Chief Lloyd responded that for the most part, they don't and that's partly the reason for the presentation, to spread awareness.

Commissioner Reza asked whether the program only works when an individual is to be transported from his residence or can they be anywhere else. Chief Lloyd responded that yes, they can be at any other location and take advantage of the mutual aid program.

Commissioner Holguin asked about the budgetary impacts of the subscription program, whether the City operates the program at a loss or not. Chief Lloyd responded that in 2024 only the Department brought in just a little short of a million dollars in revenue, through ambulance transportation.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

5. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR December 09, 2024

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Sanko, seconded by Chair Cervantes, and approved by roll call vote, Item No. 5, the Meeting Minutes of the December 09, 2024, Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting as presented.

AYES: Chair Cervantes, Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Sanko, Commissioner Holguin (via Zoom).

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Commissioner Gee, Commissioner Lu

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Reza.

Motion passed

6. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR February 10, 2025

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Reza, seconded by Vice-Chair Munoz, and approved by roll call vote, Item No. 6, the Meeting Minutes of the February 10, 2025, Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting as presented.

AYES: Chair Cervantes, Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Sanko, Commissioner Holguin (via Zoom), Commissioner Reza

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Commissioner Gee, Commissioner Lu.

ABSTAINED: None.

Motion passed

7. Discussion on the Need to Change Future Dates of Public Safety Commission Regular Meetings

The Public Safety Commission agreed with Chief Solinsky's suggestion to continue meeting at 9:30 a.m. every second Monday of each month and continue exploring options to change the date/time of future meetings in order to make sure all Commissioners are able to attend.

8. Public Safety Commission 2025 Work Plan

Consideration of adopting Public Safety Commission 2025 Work Plan

Chief Lloyd presented the edits that were made on the initial draft. The Fire Department is expecting an updated fire hazard severity zone map from the State Fire Marshall and the Work Plan will be revised accordingly once the map is published during the last week of March 2025.

Commissioner Sanko suggested an addition to the Work Plan for the month of May – cardiac arrest metrics. He offered to reserve a discussion on this topic for the Public Safety Commission regular meeting to be held in May. Commissioner Sanko offered to speak about the forthcoming expectations for Los Angeles County EMS agencies in relation to cardiac arrests for the coming year.

Chief Solinsky agreed with Commissioner Sanko's suggestion and offered the Commission to make a motion to adopt the work plan with an amendment to include a discussion on cardiac arrests for the month of May.

COMMISSION ACTION AND MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Sanko, seconded by Chair Cervantes, and approved by roll call vote, Item No. 8, approving the Public Safety Commission 2025 Work Plan, with an amendment to include a discussion for the regular meeting to be held in May 2025 on Community Approach to Cardiac Arrests with the task and activity being the exploration of current status of unmet needs for resuscitation at a community level, led by Fire Chief Lloyd and Commissioner Sanko.

AYES: Chair Cervantes, Vice Chair Munoz, Commissioner Sanko, Commissioner Holguin (via Zoom), Commissioner Reza

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Commissioner Gee, Commissioner Lu.

ABSTAINED: None.

Motion passed

INFORMATION REPORTS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

9. City Council Liaison Communications

None.

10. Staff Liaison Communications

Police Chief Solinsky issued a reminder that summer is approaching, people tend to stay out later, and crimes usually increase during this time of the year. He called for the public to be careful, lock their doors, windows, cars and called for everyone to feel free to reach out to the Police Department if there are any questions.

11. Commissioner Communications

Chair Cervantes mentioned that it was brought to his attention that children from middle school have called for the City Council to stop the fireworks considering the recent fires. He seconded that initiative and asked the fellow Commissioners to have a discussion on this matter. He asked Chief Solinsky if a motion can be made to be passed on to the City Council.

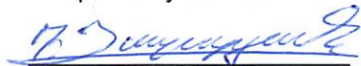
Chief Solinsky responded that a motion can not be made, since the item was not on the agenda, but it can be added to the next meeting's agenda and Commissioners can

attend the upcoming City Council meeting, where the item on fireworks will be discussed in order to voice their opinions, questions and concerns.

ADJOURNMENT


There being no further matters, Chair Cervantes adjourned the meeting of the Public Safety Commission at 11:34 a.m., to the next Regular Public Safety Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, April 14, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Davit Ghazaryan
Management Analyst

Approved By:


Walter Cervantes
Chair