



CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR. COUNCIL CHAMBER
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030
TEL: (626) 403-7210 • FAX: (626) 403-7211
WWW.SOUTHPASADENACA.GOV

Monday, September 14, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

**PUBLIC ADVISORY: THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS WILL NOT BE OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission for August 10, 2020 will be conducted remotely and held by video conference, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The Meeting will be broadcast live via the City's website at:

http://www.spectrumstream.com/streaming/south_pasadena_psc/live.cfm

Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, the Council Chambers will not be open for the meeting. Commissioners will be participating remotely and will not be physically present in the Council Chambers.

If you would like to comment on an agenda item or make a general public comment, members of the public may submit their comments in writing, for Commission consideration, by emailing them to: pscpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov

Public Comments must be received by **6 p.m., September 13, 2020** to ensure adequate time to compile. Public Comment portion of the email is limited to 250 words. Please make sure to indicate: 1) your name; 2) what agenda item you are submitting public comment on or if it is a general public comment; and 3) clearly state if you wish for your comment to be read.

South Pasadena Public Safety Commission Statement of Civility

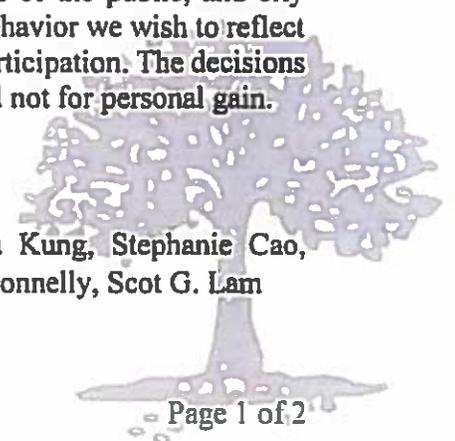
As your appointed governing board we will treat each other, members of the public, and city employees with patience, civility and courtesy as a model of the same behavior we wish to reflect in South Pasadena for the conduct of all city business and community participation. The decisions made today will be for the benefit of the South Pasadena community and not for personal gain.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jeremy Ding

ROLL CALL

Commission members Grace Liu Kung, Stephanie Cao,
Amin Alsarraf, Alan Ehrlich, Ed Donnelly, Scot G. Lam



PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Public Safety Commission welcomes public input. Members of the public may address the Public Safety Commission by emailing: pscpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov Public Comments must be received by **6 p.m., September 13, 2020** to ensure adequate time to compile. Public Comment portion of the email is limited to 250 words. Please make sure to indicate: 1) your name; 2) what agenda item you are submitting public comment on or if it is a general public comment; and 3) clearly state if you wish for your comment to be read.

Pursuant to state law, the Public Safety Commission may not discuss or take action on issues not on the meeting agenda, except that members of the Public Safety Commission or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising public testimony rights (Government Code Section 54954.2). Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

- 1. Minutes of the Public Safety Commission Meeting of August 10, 2020**
- 2. Mandated Inspection Report-Chief Paul Riddle**
- 3. COVID-19 Subcommittee Update-Chief Paul Riddle**
- 4. PSC Ordinance Revision-City Attorney Terri Highsmith**
- 5. Police Reform Subcommittee Update-Commissioners Lam & Donnelly**

COMMUNICATIONS

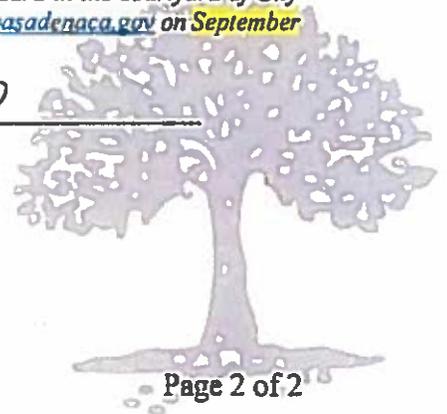
1. City Council Liaison Communications
2. Staff Liaison Communications
3. Commissioner Communications

*I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA, and the City's website at www.southpasadenaca.gov on **September 9, 2020** as required by law.*

Date: September 9, 2020

Signature: _____


Paul Riddle, Fire Chief



Please enter this into the public record and, if possible, read this general public comment during the Public Safety Commission meeting 9/14/20.

The South Pasadena YES on Measure U committee strongly urges your support to renew the Utility Users Tax (UUT) at the November 3 General Election.

For nearly forty years, we have relied upon stable, locally controlled funding from a UUT that provides \$3.4 million annually. This second largest source of funds for the City constitutes 12% of the General Fund. Revenues are distributed among City departments, including Public Safety, to provide vital City services.

The UUT has been consistently renewed by voters. There's one crucial difference with renewing it this time, however. Pandemic-related losses are devastating the City financially. Now more than ever, renewing the UUT is a way to maintain South Pasadena's basic services. In the future, if the tax is no longer needed, a majority of voters can make that determination and repeal it.

We want South Pasadena to be able to respond to residents, including:

- Maintaining rapid 911 emergency response times
- Preserving firefighter and paramedic services
- Funding community, family, youth, senior, and library programs
- Keeping City streets and sidewalks in good repair
- Supporting crime prevention and neighborhood safety
- Keeping parks and public areas safe and clean

We look forward to your support for this ballot measure and invite you to join us in voting YES to renew the UUT November 3. To participate by donating, endorsing, volunteering, and requesting a lawn sign, visit our website at www.SouthPasYesOnU.com.

Sally Kilby, Dean Serwin for the
South Pasadena YES on Measure U 2020 Committee

[words = 250]

From: John Srebalus <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:52 AM

To: Public Safety Commission Comment <pscpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov>

Subject: 9/14 Public Comment Submission - Care First Demand Letter

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Attached please find the recently issued demands from Care First South Pasadena to be included in public comments for the Monday, 9/14 Public Safety Commission meeting.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thanks very much.

John Srebalus
Care First South Pasadena

September 8, 2020

*Sent via email: rjoe@southpasadenaca.gov, mcacciotti@southpasadenaca.gov,
dmahmud@southpasadenaca.gov, srossi@southpasadenaca.gov,
rschneider@southpasadenaca.gov*

Mayor Bob Joe, District 1
Councilmember Michael Cacciotti, District 4
Councilmember Diana Mahmud, District 5
Councilmember Stephen Rossi, District 2
Councilmember Richard Schneider, District 3

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councilmembers:

Our jails are filled with people struggling with poverty, mental health needs and homelessness. Far too many people enter the criminal justice system instead of getting the resources they need to avoid contact with the system in the first place. We have seen routine contacts with law enforcement escalate into tragedies taking a disproportionate number of black lives. It is time for a new vision of public safety, one centered on health solutions and services provided in the community so that police intervention is the last option rather than the first and only response.

Here in South Pasadena, we support a Care First approach that reallocates resources from jails and law enforcement to programs that promote health, safety and welfare of communities. We demand that our city leaders adopt the priorities of a Care First approach as developed by the Los Angeles County Work Group on Alternatives to Incarceration.¹ It is time to start realigning our city budget to support community services, not excessive levels of policing.

The city is in a budget crisis. We demand a good-faith minimum 15% cut to the South Pasadena Police Department (SPPD) budget, Any expansion of the police budget should be halted. Below are our recommended immediate cuts to expenditures:

- We demand fewer police officers on the payroll. Wage and benefit expense has increased by \$1.2 million (17%) since 2016-17 while the crime rate has fallen. Total patrol staffing is out of proportion to patrol scheduling as reported in the SPPD's organizational chart.
- The SPPD owns 32 vehicles at an annual maintenance cost of \$100,000. With fewer than 10 officers on patrol at any given moment, this expense is unjustified. We demand that

¹ See Care First, Jails Last: Health and Racial Justice Strategies for Safer Communities (2020), <https://lacalternatives.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ATI-Final-Report.pdf>; JusticeLA, Care First Budget: LA County Reimagined Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (2020), https://justicelanow.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/CareFirstLABudget_2020.pdf.

some of these assets be sold, and the SPPD implement bicycle patrolling where feasible. As helicopter patrols are unpopular with residents and problematic in terms of privacy, noise and carbon emissions, we demand that the \$30,000 contract with the Foothill Air Support Team be terminated.

- During this time, we request that the city enlist an independent audit of the SPPD. See City of Sebastopol.²

We look forward to working with you. We can be reached at Care First South Pasadena carefirstsouthpas@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

1. Adam Fagenson
2. Afshin Ketabi
3. Afton Figueroa
4. Ahilan T. Arulanantham
5. Alexander Aquino
6. Alexandra Shannon
7. Alice Le-Nghiem
8. Aliza Rood
9. Allison Schreiner
10. Amber Chen
11. Amber Hernandez
12. Andrew Eaton
13. Andrew Terhune
14. Angel Gomez
15. Anna McCool
16. Anne Bagasao
17. Ariel Lee
18. Ava Carbonara
19. Ayaka Nakaji
20. Barbara Eisenstein
21. Barrett Schreiner
22. Becky Rios
23. Brandon Yung
24. Brian Henderson
25. Byron Sleugh Jr.
26. Caitlin Lainoff
27. Caitlyn Ference
28. Caroline Creaghead
29. Cassandra Horii
30. Cassandra Terhune
31. Che Hurley
32. Christine Higgins Chin

² Sebastopol City Council Policing Review Process [https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/getattachment/Meeting-Event/City-Council/2020/City-Council-Special-Meeting-of-June-30,-2020/Sebastopol-City-Council-Policing-Review-presentation-\(002\).pdf.aspx](https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/getattachment/Meeting-Event/City-Council/2020/City-Council-Special-Meeting-of-June-30,-2020/Sebastopol-City-Council-Policing-Review-presentation-(002).pdf.aspx)

33. Christopher Kramsch
34. Ciena Valenzuela-Peterson
35. Claire Cardet
36. Cloe Maurer
37. Daisy Mayer
38. Daniel Saunders
39. Danny Le
40. David Carbonara
41. David Hillel
42. Elana Mann
43. Elizabeth Moore
44. Ella Hushagen
45. Eric Schermerhorn
46. Erin Klingensmith
47. Erin Monty
48. Felicie Borrendon
49. Fiona Eddy
50. Frank Barrera
51. Georgia Parsons
52. Geri-Lynn Cesar
53. Glen Eddy
54. Gretchen Schulz
55. Halle Sunabe
56. Heidi Parker
57. Helen Tran
58. Hilary Graves
59. Hugo Budd
60. Ilai Gilbert
61. Isabel Barbera
62. Isabel Chin

63. Jacob White
64. Jade Roman
65. Jasleen Kohli
66. Jean Yu
67. Jennifer Ho
68. John Srebalus
69. Julia Moreno Perri
70. Juliet Chin
71. Kara Lane
72. Kate Hillel
73. Katharine Florence
74. Kayla Solomon
75. Kerrie Barbato
76. Kimberly Icreverzi
77. Kyle McBurnie
78. Laboni A. Hoq
79. Laura Riley
80. Laurent Borredon
81. Laurian Lien
82. Laurie Chatham
83. Leonor Nila
84. Levi Srebalus
85. Liana Derus
86. Lily Sortino
87. London Lang
88. Lulu Talesnick
89. Madeline Chin
90. Matthew Barbato
91. Matthew Hubbard
92. Megan Adams

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 93. Nancy Hurley | 111. Riva Weinstein |
| 94. Nancy Jo Lane | 112. Robert Grant |
| 95. Natasha Prime | 113. Ross McLain |
| 96. Nikita Mankad | 114. Ruby Mullen |
| 97. Nina Rathbun | 115. Sadie Metcalfe |
| 98. Norma Hernandez | 116. Sarah Perez-Silverman |
| 99. Ohad Gilbert | 117. Sean Meyer |
| 100. Paige Fillion | 118. Shandor Garrison |
| 101. Patrick Suarez | 119. Sharon Mizota |
| 102. Phung Huynh | 120. Sofia Alva |
| 103. Polly Grant | 121. Somi Jun |
| 104. Quinn Manzo | 122. Stefani Williams |
| 105. Rachel Orfila | 123. Stephanie Stein |
| 106. Rebecca Tager | 124. Susan Grant |
| 107. Remy Luz Julian-Lorenz | 125. Tony Lockhart |
| 108. Renee Rubin | 126. Warren A. Chin |
| 109. Richard Elbaum | 127. Will Hoadley-Brill |
| 110. Riko Enomoto | 128. William Kelly |

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read this aloud at the meeting:

On the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission, we hear and discuss at virtually every meeting concerns from the community involving speeding, failure to obey traffic control devices, traffic cutting through neighborhoods, and other traffic safety and management issues. Even with the recent formation of SPPD's Traffic Enforcement Bureau, the demand for enforcement greatly outweighs the supply. So, the City's two speed feedback trailers have become important tools in managing speeds, and SPPD's efforts in continuing to maintain, repair and deploy them where needed is very much appreciated.

One such area of concern happens to be my neighborhood, that is, Columbia Street, Hermosa Street and Grand Avenue between Orange Grove and Mission. These streets conveniently connect to create a convenient cut-through in order to avoid the interruption and delay caused by the traffic and signals on Orange Grove at the 110 freeway. Hermosa Street is a local street which lies on a hill with a blind curve and virtually no sidewalks. So, walkers, joggers, bikers, skateboarders and drivers all have to share the road. Many drivers callously speed up and down the hill and cruise through the all-way stops at Hillside and Grand on a regular basis, particularly during weekday AM and PM peak hours, jeopardizing our safety. We sincerely appreciate when SPPD deploys resources in our neighborhood and look forward to continued, regular enforcement as we await word from the Public Works Department on more permanent solutions.

Thank you,

Larry Abelson


Classification: Public

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**MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2020
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Ding on Monday, August 10, 2020, at 8:34 a.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Ed Donnelly, Grace Liu Kung, and Scot Lam; Chair Jeremy Ding, Vice-Chair Alan Ehrlich

Absent: Commissioner: Amin Alsarraf, Stephanie Cao

Officials

Present: Councilmember/City Council Liaison Richard D. Schneider, M.D., Police Chief/Staff Liaison Joe Ortiz, Fire Chief/Staff Liaison Paul Riddle, Deputy City Clerk Kenia Lopez, Police Department Clerk/Recording Secretary Laura Mendez, and Management Aide/Recording Secretary Kim Kha. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Fire Chief Riddle read an emailed public comment from Elizabeth Anne Bagasao signed by Ella Hushagen, London Lang, and Helen Tran (South Pasadena Residents): Requested the Public Safety Commission to consider establishing a local daytime drop-in cooling center, recommended the Public Safety Commission request City staff to evaluate the feasibility of opening a center immediately, if possible, expressed concerns for members of the community who not only are experiencing homelessness but also have nowhere to go when temperatures top 103 degrees, expressed that South Pasadena must step up its efforts to support the most vulnerable members of the community.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

1. Minutes of the Public Safety Commission Meeting of July 13, 2020

MOTION BY ED DONNELLY, SECOND BY GRACE LIU KUNG, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the Minutes of the July 13, 2020 Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting with correction by CHAIR DING item #2 passed 5-1 with VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH opposed.

2. Fire Prevention & Safety-Chief Paul Riddle

Fire Chief Riddle provided an update on the Fire Prevention & Safety/ Junior Fire program partnering with the elementary schools. The program is ready and may be conducted virtually. The Fire Department has partnered with the Children's Burn Foundation and participated in their 1-1/2 week Virtual Summer Camp for children who have suffered severe burns.

3. National Night Out/Police & Fire Open House-Chief Paul Riddle

Fire Chief Paul Riddle provided an update. Due to these being "hands on" events, both National Night Out and Police & Fire Open House events have been tabled.

4. CAD/RMS Upgrade for PD Communications Center-Chief Joe Ortiz

Lieutenant Shannon Robledo presented a Staff Report for the CAD/RMS upgrade. Current CAD/RMS system is antiquated and no longer meets the needs of the Police Department. The current CAD/RMS. Lieutenant Robledo explained the upcoming reporting standards that will be in effect January 1, 2021, which the current CAD/RMS system cannot comply with.

CHAIR DING asked for clarification of what CAD stood for and what it meant. CAD is Computer Aided Dispatch used by the Police Department's Dispatcher to prioritize calls for service.

VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH asked why End2End did not want to upgrade their software.

Lieutenant Robledo explained that End2End did not upgrade because the State of California has stricter requirements than other states for reporting. End2End is being used in other states and smaller departments.

VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH asked why the Police Department was responsible for all the P.R.R. Requests rather than the City Clerk.

Chief Joe Ortiz explained the Public Records Requests are directed to both the City Clerk and the Police Department as a matter of "Checks and Balances."

CHAIR DING asked for the implementation timeline and confirmation that the cost would be covered through grant funding.

Lieutenant Robledo reported a timeline of approximately 8 months to build and the cost would be covered by COPS grant.

CHAIR DING asked if CAD would pop up on the displays in the patrol cars.

Lieutenant Robledo explained that the functionality would be there, however the department does not have the proper computers in the vehicles. An upgrade of the in-car computers would be required.

CHAIR DING asked Chief Ortiz if he wanted approval or if the Commission was being briefed.

Chief Joe Ortiz responded "both."

Deputy Chief Solinsky added the history of the Police Department's current CAD/RMS stating End2End was originally geared towards schools and explained the need for the upgrade.

CHAIR DING clarified that as long as COPS grants were funded the CAD/RMS upgrade would be funded, while if the COPS grants were to stop the City would be on liable for funding.

Deputy Chief Solinsky explained the stability of the COPS grants and continuing their funding.

ED Donnelly asked for further clarification of the upgraded CAD/RMS for future proofing and integration with other agencies.

Deputy Chief Solinsky explained the selection process of the upgraded CAD/RMS and the use of this system of other agencies. It was also further explained that upgraded CAD/RMS is by Spillman, which is owned by Motorola and was compared against the current system in use.

VICE-CHIAR EHRLICH asked how records from other departments would get into the system.

Lieutenant Robledo explained that the system would be Police Department specific.

VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH asked how this would help with public records requests.

Deputy Chief Solinsky explained the process of the Police Department receiving public records requests. The request is funneled first through the City Clerk's Office and then to the Police Department.

COUNCIL MEMBER Schneider, MD asked if the City Clerk's Office would have access to the Police Department's records management system.

Deputy Chief Solinsky explained that they would not due to CLETS and other state mandates which would not allow access.

VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH asked if the system needed to be in place by January 2021, why was it not brought up to the Commission earlier.

Deputy Chief Solinsky replied that funding first had to be secured and in place prior as well as other external factors such as COVID and working with a third-party vendor before bringing it before the Commission and Council.

CHAIR DING acknowledged that the CAD/RMS upgrade had been brought up while Deputy Chief Solinsky was Acting Chief and that the project had been in the works for quite some time.

Chief Ortiz directed to VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH that the Spillman CAD/RMS has been vetted throughout the San Gabriel Valley and he has had numerous conversations with chiefs throughout the San Gabriel Valley and has gone through the different stages of the process. As a chief, he is very confident in the new system.

VICE CHAIR EHRLICH asked about the conversion of historical documents.

Chief Ortiz explained that the department would keep the legacy system on a separate server to retrieve historical data while the new Spillman would be separate.

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHNEIDER, MD asked Chief Ortiz when this would be brought to council and if the Police Department needed more funding.

Chief Ortiz stated that it would be brought up in the first or second meeting and that he did not think extra funding would be necessary.

MOTION BY CHAIR DING, SECOND BY VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH CARRIED 5-0, to approve and recommend CAD/RMS Upgrade for PD Communications Center

COMMUNICATIONS

1. City Counsel Liaison Communications

Councilmember Schneider stated that he looked over revisions and advice about the Charter.

2. Staff Liaison Communications

Police Chief Ortiz spoke with the City Attorney regarding an update on the Charter, which would be coming back for review.

Police Chief Ortiz provided an update on the 2019 Police Department Annual Report. It is currently a work in progress with about 50% to 65% complete. An update will be sent to the Public Safety Commission.

Chair Ding shared his concerns on the way that the city website was being updated. The agenda and public comments should be updated at the same time to reflect the current meeting. Police Chief Ortiz will address this issue and provide an update.

Chair Ding shared concerns from a community member regarding well intentioned actions from the Department with unintended consequences. For example, the removal of demographics from the weekly crime summary is a step backwards in transparency. The removal of thin blue line stickers from police equipment could be interpreted as improving race relations or an empty gesture.

Fire Chief Riddle provided an update on the Fire Department. The call load remains at normal levels, there is a slight decrease in suspected COVID cases in the past two weeks. The positive rate in L.A. County to 7.2%. Two Fire Engineers were put off as a precaution to COVID after responding to a traffic collision. The Fire Department has also sent out personnel to respond to multiple brush fires throughout the state. The Fire Department currently has one opening for their Firefighter/Paramedic position.

Fire Chief Riddle provided an update on COVID cases in South Pasadena. There are 229 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There were 25 deaths reported by LA County.

3. Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Kung stated that the school year is starting and that Chromebooks were issued to students for virtual learning.

Commissioner Lam stated that he, Commissioner Donnelly, and Chair Ding participated in a community meeting on police reform. They discussed recommendations and policies. They are waiting on another joint subcommittee meeting.

Vice Chair Ehrlich asked Fire Chief Riddle for more information about the spread of COVID within the community, the costs related to COVID, using goats to manage vegetation, and a fire related call.

Vice Chair Ehrlich asked Police Chief Ortiz on his plans to enforce speeding violations on Meridian and Fremont. Police Chief Ortiz stated that officers are working on the areas. Vice Chair then asked for an updated on the Traffic Bureau. The motorcycle academy class won't start until September due to Covid. Officers are responding to citizen's emails regarding concerns and complaints on traffic. The Traffic Bureau officers have been teaming up with patrol officers for traffic enforcement.

Vice Chair Ehrlich complimented Police Chief Ortiz and the Police Department on protecting protestors by blocking off streets in front of City Hall.

Vice Chair Ehrlich asked for clarification on the organization of a police reform meeting that occurred in July. Councilmember Schneider stated that it was a meeting for the public to voice their concerns on police activities. Police officials were present to listen to complaints. Participants had to email the City Manager's office in order to participate.

Chair Ding stated that the Public Safety Commission Charter was sent to Police Chief Ortiz, the South Pasadena Police Officers Association, and South Pasadena Youth for Police Reform. He has asked the city staff to include documents in the agenda packet for the community to access. Chair Ding as asked for the draft Charter to be reviewed on July 22nd. A recommendation was to reduce the Commission from 7 to 5 commissioners. Chair Ding was open to having a Youth Commissioner on the Public Safety Commission. He also believed that section "I" in the Charter should be removed. He felt some mandates would be better for a Police Commission rather than a Public Safety Commission. These include ride longs and using a force simulator. The Charter amendment discussion will be pushed to September.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ding adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Gary Sze
Recording Secretary

Approved By:

Jeremy Ding
Chair



Public Safety Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _____

DATE: September 14, 2020
FROM: Paul Riddle, Fire Chief 
SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution Confirming the Fire Department's Compliance with Mandated Inspection Duties

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Public Safety Commission acknowledging the receipt of the Fire Department's annual report of compliance for mandated inspection duties.

Discussion/Analysis

Existing law requires the Fire Department of any city, county, or district to inspect on an annual basis certain types of occupancies within their jurisdiction. These occupancies include schools, hotels, motels, lodging houses, apartment houses and accessory structures to those buildings. The purpose of these annual inspections is to ensure compliance with building standards and fire regulations.

As of January 1, 2019, Senate Bill (SB) 1205 requires the Fire Department to submit an annual report to the City Council confirming the Fire Department's compliance with its mandatory inspection duties. SB 1205 also requires that the annual report be given during the annual budget preparation or at another time set by the City Council. The City Council must acknowledge the receipt of the report by resolution.

In 2019, the Fire Department completed 1,206 inspections with 484 of the completed inspections State Mandatory Occupancies. The Fire Department was compliant in 2019 with its mandated inspection duties. The completed inspections were as follows:

- **Business Inspections, 722**
- **Apartment Inspections, 474 – State Mandatory Occupancy**
- **Schools, Six – State Mandatory Occupancy**
 1. South Pasadena High School
 2. South Pasadena Middle School
 3. Marengo Elementary School
 4. Monterey Hills Elementary School
 5. Arroyo Vista Elementary School
 6. Home Pre Schools and Day Care Centers

- **Nursing Care Facility Homes, Four – *State Mandatory Occupancy***
 1. South Pasadena Convalescent Hospital
 2. Prospect Manor
 3. Meridian Manor
 4. South Pasadena Care Center

The inspections were completed by suppression personnel as well as the Department's Fire Prevention Specialist. Suppression personnel typically inspect businesses and the Fire Prevention Specialist is assigned to the mandated occupancies.

Background

The Fire Department is responsible for conducting annual fire inspections for the City. The purpose of the annual inspections is to ensure that business, schools, apartments, hotels, and assisted living facilities are compliant with building standards and fire regulations. As previously stated, existing law requires the Fire Department to inspect certain occupancy types in the City and as a result of SB 1205, provide a report to the City Council.

In December 2016, a deadly fire at an Oakland warehouse, known as the Ghost Ship, killed 36 people, the highest death toll for a structure fire in the United States in over 10 years. The Ghost ship was a two-story warehouse that had been leased to artist who lived and worked in the building, periodically using it for events. Zoned as a warehouse, neither residential nor assembly uses were permitted by the city. Media reports suggested that the Ghost Ship hadn't been inspected in 30 years. Had an inspection occurred, officials could have raised concerns about the safety and occupancy of the building.

SB 1205 was introduced in August, 2018 and deals with the issue of some local fire departments failing to keep up with the statutory-related annual building inspections. By requiring annual reporting of their compliance to the local city council or board of supervisors, the bill is intended to apply local pressure to comply.

Legal Review

The City Attorney has reviewed this item.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact as a result of SB 1205. The Fire Department has been compliant with the annual inspections of mandated occupancies for at least the previous 10 years.

Public Notification of Agenda Item

The public was made aware that this item was to be considered this evening by virtue of its inclusion on the legally publicly noticed agenda, posting of the same agenda and reports on the City's website and/or notice in the *South Pasadena Review* and/or the *Pasadena Star-News*.

Attachment: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA,
ACKNOWLEDGING THE RECEIPT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT'S
ANNUAL REPORT OF COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATED
INSPECTION DUTIES**

WHEREAS, The Fire Department is required to inspect on an annual basis certain types of occupancies within the City; and

WHEREAS, These State Mandated Occupancies include schools, hotels, motels, lodging houses, apartment houses and assessor structures to those buildings; and

WHEREAS, In 2019, the Fire Department completed 1,206 occupancy inspections, 484 of which were State Mandated Occupancies; and

WHEREAS, In completing 484 State Mandated Occupancy inspections, the Fire Department was compliant with its mandated inspection duties in the year 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council has received and acknowledge the Fire Department's Annual Report of Compliance with mandated occupancy inspections.

SECTION 2. That, in 2019, the Fire Department has met the obligation of inspecting State Mandated Occupancies in the City.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk of the City of South Pasadena shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and its approval by the City Council and shall cause the same to be listed in the records of the City.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON this 16th day of September, 2020.

Robert Joe, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Maria Ayala, City Clerk
(seal)

Teresa L. Highsmith, City Attorney

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, at a regular meeting held on the 16th day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

Maria Ayala, City Clerk
(seal)



City of South Pasadena Fire Department

Memo

Date: September 14, 2020
To: Public Safety Commission
From: Paul Riddle, Fire Chief 
Re: Covid-19 Expense Recovery

Attached is a summary of recoverable expenses related to Covid-19 response and recovery.

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) for March to December 2020

- a. Administrative Expenses: \$26,768.30
- f. Facilitating Distance Learning: \$500.00
- g. Food Programs: \$2,487.19
- i. Improve Telework Capabilities of Public Employees: \$40,323.05
- l. Payroll for Public Health and Safety: \$155,114.66 *(includes some forecasted payroll costs)*
- n. Public Health Expenses: \$89,139.80

TOTAL CRF: \$314,333.00

AB2766 (South Coast Air Quality Management District)

- Laptops: \$39,369.64
- Secureworks Cybersecurity Software: \$37,729.42

TOTAL: 77,099.06

FEMA

- PPE: \$15,322.77
- Police Overtime and Fire Staff Time related to *Emergency Operations Center Costs* (forecasted): \$80,554.04

TOTAL: \$95,876.81

TOTAL COVID-19 Expenses To Date: \$487,308.87

From: SP Youth <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 9:19 PM

To: Public Safety Commission Comment <psscpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov>

Subject: public comment on agenda item #4: charter revisions

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This comment is being submitted by South Pasadena Youth for Police Reform. We request that it be read aloud.

It's clear that SPPD and Police Chief Joe Ortiz see the Public Safety Commission through an incredibly patronizing lens. Sure, you want to deal with cop topics? Well then you will also have to remove two members, put up incredibly unreasonable barriers and more than twelve hours of "stepping into our shoes." There are better ways of talking to commissioners. Why don't you start simply by asking? The draft displays a fundamental misunderstanding of how representative democracy should function.

It would take too long to go through what is wrong with SPPD's version of the charter point by point. At a basic level, the PSC should not be filtered through the city manager and should operate at the behest of council. That's what a commission is. Why is there no mention made of the increasingly important topic that is homelessness? Why is there no ride along requirement with the fire department if they are equally housed under public safety? Why does section vi pose police chief as equally determinant in the commission's work as council?

We urge the PSC and city manager to bring both versions before council for a vote. It would be a shame if the outcome of this entire process were regression on the topic of police reform in South Pasadena.

From: Matthew Barbato <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Public Safety Commission Comment <pscpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov>
Subject: COMMENT - Public Safety Commission - Agenda item #4

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please enter my comments into the public record:

I am deeply opposed to the Police Department and city attorney's attempts to take control of the Public Safety Commission with their move to reduce its size, stack it with allies and manipulate the charter to give themselves more power to control the outcome and mandates of the commission. Not only are these moves unethical, they are insulting to the residents of South Pasadena. In the wake of clear abuses of power and prejudicial behavior by police departments across the nation, concerned citizens demanding change are encountering only indignation and obstruction from police departments. Police and their unions are dismissing our requests for more effective, less-lethal policing with moves designed to expand their power and lessen their accountability. The timing of this move by the Police Department and city attorney's office is evidence enough that its purpose is to obstruct police reform and not, as they say, become more efficient.

Any changes to the Public Safety Commission charter should only serve to expand transparency and influence by the community. Any attempts in opposition to this in the name of 'efficiency' are a smoke-screen to secure even less accountability.

Matthew Barbato

My name is Evelyn Zneimer, a woman of color from District 1, commenting on Agenda item #4. **I would like my comment to be read during the meeting.**

FIRST:

I would like the commission to consist of seven members: men and women, people of color and someone with disabilities. We need a broad representation to ensure we have perspectives on different situations and how PD deals with different people. Our PD takes more than 1/3 of the city's annual budget, thus, it merits input from a diverse group, free from cronyism of City Councilmembers.

SECOND:

I don't think a background in public safety should be a requirement. While it could be a benefit to have a little bit of understanding but it can also bias their opinions or provide their own justifications because they were used when they were in uniform.

THIRD:

I don't think ride-alongs should be required. If you are going to make people do a "use of force" training, then de-escalation training should be mandatory. The goal is to resolve issues and not use force. What we need to evaluate is how quickly our PD uses force. There should be a balance between policy training and de-escalation training.

FOURTH:

PSC should be an independent advisory body free from the control of the city manager's office and should be able to provide direct recommendation to the City Council. PSC should not be bound or subject to the police chief's directions, otherwise it defeats the true purpose of this commission.

From: Abelson, Lawrence <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Public Safety Commission Comment <pscpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov>
Subject: 9/14/20 Public Safety Commission Meeting - Agenda item #4

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read this aloud at the meeting:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding staff's proposed revised ordinance for the Public Safety Commission (PSC):

1. The PSC should continue to have 7 members. It handles some of the most critical, high-profile issues for our City and involves the departments with the largest budgets and full-time employees. There is no demonstrated need for a reduction. Also, the "background in public safety" requirement is ambiguous, could hinder participation, and should be reduced to a recommendation.
2. The ride-along and "use of force" simulator training requirements seem burdensome. While certainly beneficial and worthy of encouragement, they should be recommended only, or lessened if required.
3. Both police and fire should be included in the first paragraph and subdivisions (ii) and (iv) of Section 2.43(b).
4. Section 2.43(i) should be deleted in its entirety. Not only is it way too granular, but it seems to be an improper attempt to micro-manage and handcuff the PSC. The PSC is the voice of the community on public safety issues. It should be allowed to communicate with staff and make requests and recommendations on these issues without being filtered through the City Manager.

I respectfully request that the draft revised ordinance which the PSC forwarded to staff for review at its 7/13/20 meeting be recommended for approval, excluding Section 2.43(h), as traffic and pedestrian safety and related issues are within the purview of and more properly addressed by the MTIC (of which I am Vice Chair).

Thank you,

Larry Abelson
[REDACTED]

Classification: Public

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Public Safety Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _____

DATE: September 14, 2020

FROM: Joe Ortiz, Chief of Police
Paul Riddle, Fire Chief
Brian Solinsky, Police Captain

SUBJECT: Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IVB, Section 2.43. Public Safety Commission, of the South Pasadena Municipal Code

Recommendation Action

It is recommended that the Public Safety Commission support the Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article IVB, Section 2.43 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code (SPMC) regarding the charge and duties of the Public Safety Commission (PSC).

Discussion/Analysis

The powers and duties of the Public Safety Commission were last updated in 2019. In the wake of renewed focus on public policing and the community desire to have a better understanding of police policies and changes to those policies, staff is proposing additional revisions to Chapter 2, Article IVB, to reflect updated authority, training and duties for the PSC. Additionally, it is recommended that the Commission be comprised of five members, rather than seven, for greater efficiency and ease in forming a quorum, and that at least two of the members have a background in public safety. If approved, the present members of the PSC would serve out their current terms, and new appointments would be made to five members after expiration of current terms.

The proposed changes will create a more efficient workflow and provide greater service to the community and Council by focusing efforts on essential policy and relevant needs related to public safety. The suggested changes are modeled on the City of Claremont police commission.

Examples of proposed revisions in the authority and duties of the Commission include acting as a forum for community discussion on public safety issues and making recommendations to the City Council, City Manager and Police Chief or Fire Chief on police or fire issues and promoting education and communication between citizens and the police and fire departments. To accomplish these new duties, the Public Safety Commission would have the authority to:

- Review and comment on police and fire policies, procedures and practices;
- Act as a forum to hear community concerns, complaints and commendations regarding the police department;
- Receive reports on the progress or conclusions of department investigations, where legally possible;
- Review and comment on annual reports from the Chief of Police and Fire Chief

- regarding best practices, which will include recruitment and training programs;
- Review and comment on quarterly updates presented by the Chief of Police on the department's customer service programs, community oriented policing programs, crime trends and statistics and crime prevention programs;
- Review and monitor reported data on police stops, arrests, citations, field interview cards and police logs and
- Perform all other acts referred to the Commission by the City Council, City Manager or the Police Chief.

In addition to this new authority, the proposed Ordinance modification would remove from the Commission's purview the analysis of traffic and pedestrian safety and code enforcement from the Commission's purview, as these matters are properly before the Mobility, Transportation and Infrastructure Commission and the Public Works Commission. Instead, the PSC would review and analyze emergency preparedness plans and services.

Because of the proposed new focus on police policy and practice, additional training for the PSC members would be required within 90 days of appointment, to include: 1) "ride-a-long" training with a member of the police department, to be repeated annually, and 2) training with the police department "use of force" simulator.

Next Steps

The City Council would consider this Ordinance at a regular meeting in the fall of 2020.

Background

The PSC was created in 2009 with the intent to provide civic engagement and insight to Council when addressing public safety issues affecting South Pasadena and the region. At that time, the charge was developed based on the current needs and issues surrounding the City.

In December 2018, staff reviewed the current PSC charge and authority as defined by SPMC Chapter 2, Article IVB, Section 2.43, finding that the duties and descriptions did not reflect current community and Council needs. The Ordinance was subsequently modified in 2019 to better reflect community and Council needs.

As public safety continues to evolve and adapt with environmental and societal demands, so too must the charge of the PSC to better serve the community and Council. Staff, therefore, recommends the PSC recommend the additional proposed changes attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Attachment 2.

Legal Review

The City Attorney has reviewed this item.

Fiscal Impact

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the proposed amendment of the PSC charge.

Environmental Analysis

This item is exempt from any California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis.

Public Notification of Agenda Item

The public was made aware that this item was to be considered this evening by virtue of its inclusion on the legally publicly noticed agenda, posting of the same agenda and reports on the City's website and/or notice in the *South Pasadena Review* and/or the *Pasadena Star-News*.

Attachments:

1. Proposed Amendment to SPMC Article IVB

2.40 Creation, ~~and composition~~ and member training requirements,

(a) There is hereby created a public safety commission for the city, consisting of ~~five~~~~seven~~ adult members, who shall be appointed pursuant to section 2 23 herein. At least two of the five members should have a background in public safety.

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(b) Within 90 days of appointment each member shall complete a total of eight hours of "ride-a-long" training with a member of the police department, with four hours spent on a day shift and four hours spent on a night shift. On an annual basis thereafter, each member shall complete a four hour "ride-a-long" with a member of the police department as refresher training.

(c) Each member shall attend and complete training with the police department on a "use of force" simulator within 90 days of appointment.

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2.41 Ex officio members.

The chief of police of the city and the chief of the fire department of the city shall be ex officio members of the public safety commission. They shall not have the power to vote.

2.42 Meetings.

The public safety commission shall hold a maximum of ten regular meetings per calendar year. The commission shall adopt a schedule of meetings each year, consistent with this section.

2.43 Powers and duties generally.

(a) The commission shall serve as a conduit of information for city residents and businesses to express their concerns regarding ~~enforcement of traffic and pedestrian safety, code enforcement, police and fire services~~ and emergency ~~preparedness~~ services. The commission shall hear these concerns, communicate them to the designated staff liaison for the commission, and report back to citizens within a reasonable amount of time.

- Commented [1]: Traffic and pedestrian safety issues are the purview of Public Works Commission or MTIC Code Enforcement is handled by the Planning and Building Department, not the Police Department.
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(b) The commission may provide a forum for community discussion on police issues; make recommendations to the city council, city manager, and police chief on police issues; and promote education and communication between citizens and the police department. In furtherance of this charge, the commission may:

(g) Assuming responsibility to maintain liaison and coordination between the city, the South Pasadena Unified School District, and the South Pasadena community by conducting school safety education, distributing safety materials to members of the public, including schools, and receiving and reviewing community concerns regarding school safety issues and reporting them with recommendations, as appropriate, to the city council.

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(h) Provide a written report to the city manager's office on a yearly basis to be forwarded to the city council for review.

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(i) While the commission may propose additional assignments and activities, such additional assignments and activities (other than specific duties and responsibilities of the commission) shall only be undertaken by direction of the city council or the city manager. All commissioner communications and requests of city staff must be made via the city manager's office including responses back through the city manager's office to all commissioners to allow for better tracking and follow-up on requests. Recommendations of the commission shall be undertaken by direction of the city council or city manager. Commission recommendations shall be made to the city council at the discretion of the city manager's office.

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