

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, February 10, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

**West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room - Council Chambers
625 N. San Vicente Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069**

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eramian called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Community Member Ray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Blau
Commissioner Freiberg
Commissioner Hallman
Commissioner Nickle
Commissioner Post
Vice Chair Harrison
Chair Eramian

Commissioners Absent:

None

Others Present:

Danny Rivas, City Community Safety Director; Anita Shandi, City Public Safety Manager; Jessica Anukam, City Public Safety Specialist; Erica Leon, General Manager, Block by Block; Lieutenant Fanny Lapkin and Sergeant Jason Duron, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Approve the agenda of February 10, 2025.

The motion was made by Commissioner Nickle, seconded by Commissioner Blau, and approved by the Commission.

5) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Approve the minutes of January 27, 2025.

The motion was made by Commissioner Hallman, seconded by Vice Chair Harrison, and approved by the Commission.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Agnew Wilson, West Hollywood resident, spoke about his experience and concerns with crime, pedestrian safety, and the City's unhoused community members.

Wendy Goldman, West Hollywood resident, spoke about safety concerns in the 5-story West Hollywood Park public parking lot.

Steve Martin, West Hollywood resident, thanked all the public safety partners and first responders for their hard work during the recent fires and spoke of the importance of emergency preparedness.

Stephanie Harker, West Hollywood resident, spoke about impersonations of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Officers and suggested bulletproof vests be provided to the Sheriff's Department volunteers.

Catherine Eng, West Hollywood resident, spoke about the importance of emergency preparedness, helping the community distinguish the West Hollywood City limit boundaries and better utilizing the City's various communication channels, such as social media, to help provide emergency notifications and messaging.

7) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

8) NEW BUSINESS

8A. REPORT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Manager Shandi informed the Commission that representatives from the Fire Department could not attend the meeting because they were assisting with other

unexpected assignments. Based on the reports submitted to the City by the Fire Department, Manager Shandi provided a brief fire report for January 2025.

Commissioner Freiberg asked if the fire hydrants in the City were in working order.

Chair Eramian inquired about the rubbish fires in January and asked if the dumpsters were locked.

Director Rivas and Manager Shandi responded to all the Commission's questions and comments.

8B. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK SECURITY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM – MONTHLY REPORT

Erica Leon, General Manager of Block by Block, provided the January 2025 reports, including the number of calls for service, business contacts, unhoused community member contacts, and safety escorts. She also mentioned some notable calls for service during the month of January that showcased the Ambassador's diligence in response to these calls.

Commissioner Freiberg inquired about N95 masks for the Security Ambassadors.

Commissioner Blau requested if the number of times Security Ambassadors administer Narcan could be added to future monthly reports

Agnew Wilson, West Hollywood resident, spoke about the Commission's question regarding the rubbish fires reported in January and thanked the Security Ambassadors for all their hard work.

Erica Leon responded to all the Commission's questions and comments.

8C. REPORT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Sergeant Duron reported crime stats for January 2025, including calls for service, emergency responses, the number of total arrests, the number of part 1 and part 2 crimes, and their percentages amongst the different City regions. He also reported on the number of pickpocket thefts, provided information on calls to the Mental Evaluation Team, and the number of volunteer hours completed to the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station. Sergeant Duron concluded by mentioning some notable incidents in January.

Lieutenant Lapkin spoke about the recent fraudulent ICE signs posted around the City and provided an update on a previous Commissioner's question regarding Proposition 36.

Commissioner Blau thanked all the public safety partners and first responders for their hard work during the recent fires and inquired about any incidents at the new parking lot at Crescent Heights and Santa Monica Boulevard.

Commissioner Freiberg inquired about the Sheriff's Online Reporting Tracking System (SORTS).

Commissioner Post asked for information on how the City's human services agencies communicate with the public safety partner agencies.

Commissioner Nickle inquired about a car burglary on the City's east side and commended the Deputies for a recent arrest.

Commissioner Hallman asked about the difference in neighboring Cities public safety response.

Vice Chair Harrison asked about comparing last year's traffic statistics to this year's.

Sergeant Duron and Lieutenant Lapkin responded to all the Commission's questions and comments.

9) ITEMS FROM STAFF

Manager Shandi provided updates for the Public Safety Division, including the announcement of the change in date for the Public Safety Appreciation luncheon and awards event, the Los Angeles Marathon, and how to receive emergency text notifications.

Director Rivas informed the Commission about the resources available to immigrant communities through the Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs, which can assist with their rights and potential encounters with ICE.

10) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jonathan Wilson, West Hollywood resident, inquired about the actions taken in response to the recommendations from the Center for Policing Equity meetings. He also shared his feedback on the data collected.

11) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Hallman followed up on questions from a previous meeting about a relay system for active nightlife business emergencies and placing bollards in high-traffic areas.

Chair Eramian inquired about the City adding more street lights on some residential and business district streets.

Commissioner Post spoke briefly about Proposition 36 and its effect on theft and burglary cases. He also inquired about debrief reports.

Commissioner Blau asked about the history of red-light cameras in the City. He also asked about speed cameras.

Director Rivas responded to all the Commission's questions and comments.

12) ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 7:11 P.M. to the next Adjourned Regular Meeting on March 24, 2025.

DocuSigned by:

Adam Eramian

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Public Safety Commission Chair

DocuSigned by:

Jessica Anukam

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Public Safety Commission Secretary

Video and audio of this meeting can be obtained by visiting, <https://www.weho.org/City-government/wehotv>

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore, the recordings are not of commercial quality.)