

MINUTES
CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS
REGULAR MEETING
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
DECEMBER 20, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Hawaiian Gardens Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chairmember Meraz on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, commencing at 6:00pm, at the Public Safety Center, 11940 Carson St. Hawaiian Gardens, California 90716.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairmember Meraz

PRESENT:	CHAIRMEMBER	BERTHA MERAZ
	VICE CHAIRMEMBER	LIZET MENDOZA
	COMMISSIONER	PEDRO AMARO
	COMMISSIONER	MARIO RICO
	COMMISSIONER	VALERIE MASON

Recording Secretary Claudia Raya, Staff Assistant II, did the roll call and announced a quorum. Also in attendance, Linda Suniga, Commission Liaison, Ramie Torres, Public Works Executive Assistant, Robert Salazar, Public Works Assistant Superintendent, Sergeant Maese and Deputy Emerson with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – ITEMS ON AND OFF THE AGENDA

This is the time reserved for members of the audience wishing to speak on items **on and off** the Agenda and within the legislative body's jurisdiction. This period will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, maximum time allocated is fifteen (15) minutes.

No Communications made

PRESENTATIONS:

Overview of Traffic Enforcement by Deputy Emerson, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Sergeant Maese introduced Deputy Emerson, the officer in charge of the motor patrol officers providing additional traffic enforcement in Hawaiian Gardens:

Motor patrol deputies began working in the City about a year ago. Currently, the City receives a total of approximately 50 hours per month of additional traffic enforcement by the motor patrol deputies. On average, in an 8 hour shift about 16 citations are given. Officers are scheduled for 2 to 8 hour shifts depending on the day and time and officer's regular schedule. Key areas of enforcement include Norwalk Blvd. due to speeding, Pioneer and Carson, for red light violations and enforcing the stop signs throughout the City.

Commissioner Rico is glad to see motor patrol enforcement activity.

Commissioner Amaro questioned if the hours only include Monday through Friday or are weekends included. Deputy Emerson responded that weekends are included.

Vice Chair Mendoza expressed her concern regarding patrol deputies citing closer to the Long Beach area city limit. Deputy Emerson stated that as long as they are a quarter mile from the city limit, officers are still able to cite for violations witnessed in Hawaiian Gardens. In addition, Vice Chair Mendoza asked if there has been any patrolling around the school areas. Personally Deputy Emerson has not worked the school zones, but he will ask the other motor patrol deputies. School hours are very specific and deputies are aware that enforcing a school zone can be key. Just presence alone can make a huge difference. Also, if there is any specific problem or issue, notify Staff and they will forward a request to him to address the problem.

Staff would like to add that there continues to be positive feedback from the community from the traffic enforcement. Additionally, the Commission brought up a concern regarding loud exhausts and the concern was passed onto Deputy Emerson, who passed it along to the motor deputies and they have since cited for this violation.

Commissioner Rico questioned if the exhaust citations are fix-it tickets. Deputy Emerson responded, if the exhaust is modified, then it will be a fix it ticket. Also, motor patrol officers have attended emissions training school. Officers are able to do a quick vehicle inspection of the engine compartment, in addition to the exhaust. If they find a modified exhaust and modified intake, then, the fix-it ticket now is sent to the Bureau of Automotive Repair for the State of California. The only way to get the citation signed off is by going there. It is not very costly, but fixing the vehicle is what becomes costly for the individual.

Commissioner Mason voiced her concern on the illegal U-turns that are being made in front of the Hawaiian Gardens Apartments as soon as they exit the apartment complex. Commissioner would like enforcement as this has become a safety issue. Several accidents and many near misses have occurred at this location. Deputy Emerson took note of it and will be enforcing.

Commissioner Amaro asked Deputy Emerson, if a vehicle drives through a store lot to avoid street lights and speeds through there, is this a violation? Deputy Emerson responded that entering and exiting a lot to avoid an intersection is not a violation. The

only way they can cite is if the vehicle enters the lot and exists onto street unsafely. The citation would be for unsafe entry on the highway. Moreover, speeding on a lot unfortunately cannot be enforced because it is private property.

A. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

None at this time

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. PRESENTATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2017.

COMMISSION ACTION: *Approve as Presented*

2. LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MONTHLY CRIMES REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2017.

COMMISSION ACTION: *Receive and File.*

3. LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2017.

COMMISSION ACTION: *Receive and File.*

Commissioner Amaro made a motion to approve item B1 as presented and file items B2 & B3; approve the Consent Calendar in its entirety. Commissioner Mason seconded. Motion passed.

C. STAFF REPORTS

None at this time.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Update on Public Works Activities

Public Works Executive Assistant, Ramie Torres informed the Commission the flood control gates have been re-done. The concerns with the gates being open during construction have been addressed. Also, Public Works has also been looking into

working with Community Development regarding the possibility of having the sides of the flood channels re-done and of course, working with the County for funds on this item as well.

In addition, a meeting with Republic Services took place. Bulky items was addressed with Republic Services in terms of missed items. According to the weekly report received, this program is now being utilized more by our residents.

Recycling Stickers have been ordered and will be used to provide recycling options at City events. Recycling stickers and decals are valuable tools that help our recycling efforts. Recycle stickers are an easy and efficient way to remind people where to put their empty containers among other items.

Vice Chair Mendoza informed the Commission that bulky item requests are not available through the Republic Services Mobile Application.

Vice Chair Mendoza pointed out the safety concern she has regarding private trucks that drive around the City picking up bulky items like: mattresses, metals, refrigerators etc. because now all these items all being piled up really high in one truck.

Commissioner Amaro asked Deputy Emerson if this would be a traffic violation. Deputy Emerson replied yes, for unsafe loads.

Commissioner Mason questioned Republic Services' schedule due to the holidays. Executive Assistant Torres would confirm with Republic and inform staff as soon as possible.

Commissioner Amaro took part in the Block Clean Up, but questioned why the TV's were being set outside the containers. Assistant Superintendant Robert Salazar answered that all of the E-Waste must be separated. It is later picked up by a local company at no charge during events such as the Block Clean Up.

5. Update on Public Safety Activities

Staff questioned the Commission if they had received the pet ownership flyer?

Commission was not aware that dogs and cats have to be altered and micro chipped. Staff informed the Commission that it is the law and it has been in place for many years for dogs and more recently for cats. The County determines how to enforce and has taken an approach that includes compliance requirements and increased fees for non compliance. Part of the reason why this law is in place is due the large amount of money that the public is spending on housing and euthanasia for stray and unclaimed animals.

Commissioner Rico questioned if people that breed dogs need a special permit. Staff said that individuals that breed need a license and a special exemption and it needs to be on record with the County.

Secondly, Commissioner Rico would like to know how the County will be enforcing the licenses on cats. Staff responded that it is the law to have both cats and dogs licensed

with a collar and tag showing. Vice Chair Mendoza informed the Commission, she received a response from an Animal Control Officer who made her aware, that people who feed cats can be held accountable for providing the cats with licenses, vaccines, microchips, etc.

Commissioner Mason has about 5-6 dogs on the property for reasonable accommodations. If owners do not comply with the updated registration can she contact Animal Control regarding the dogs? Staff informed that it is best to contact Animal Control so they can provide the proper procedure in handling the situation.

Lastly, Staff informed the Commission that the Public Safety Officers are in the last stages of interviews. Parking Enforcement will be a part of their duties.

E. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Mason - No reports

Commissioner Rico is glad to see the enforcement activity by deputies in the City.

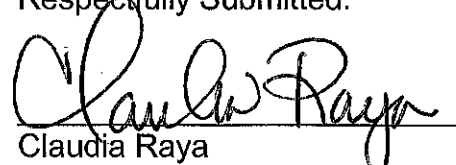
Commissioner Amaro asked, since the weather changed, has the City helped any homeless individuals go to shelters or have any homeless individuals reached out for help? Secondly, Commissioner Amaro apologizes for not being able to attend the Employee Recognition Dinner. Lastly, behind the donut shop on Brittain St. there is a big pothole on the alleyway. Public Works staff in attendance took note of the pothole. Staff responded to Commissioner Amaro's question. The homeless outreach efforts are ongoing and outreach workers come to the City on a regular basis. Outreach services do provide transportation for individuals who seek help and agree to services. Specifically on the weather, the County has a winter shelter system in place. It is not the easiest or closest to Hawaiian Gardens. Last year's designated winter shelter was in Bell. Long Beach has a shelter, however, it is in a different service planning area and we are not supposed to send any individuals from our community there.

Vice Chair Mendoza's questions and concerns got answered throughout the meeting. Moreover, Vice Chair would like to be excused for next month's meeting. She will be out of town.

Chairmember Meraz - No reports

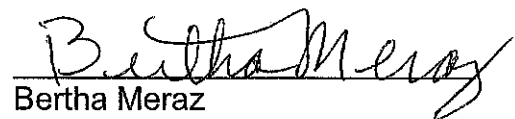
F. ADJOURNMENT to the next Regular Public Safety Commission Meeting on January 17, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted:




Claudia Raya
Recording Secretary

Approved:



Bertha Meraz
Chairmember

Attest:



Claudia Raya
Recording Secretary