

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**  
**JANUARY 15, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Hawaiian Gardens Public Safety Commission was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, and began at 6:00pm, at the Public Safety Center, 11940 Carson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hawaiian Gardens, California 90716.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Laughlin.

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>CHAIRMEMBER</b>	<b>BARBARA LAUGHLIN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
	<b>VICE CHAIRMEMBER</b>	<b>LIZET MENDOZA</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
	<b>COMMISSIONER</b>	<b>PEDRO AMARO</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
	<b>COMMISSIONER</b>	<b>MARIO RICO</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
	<b>COMMISSIONER</b>	<b>BERTHA MERAZ</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>

A quorum was announced.

Also, in attendance, Administrative Technician: Ramie Torres, Sr. Administrative Analyst: Linda Suniga, Staff Assistant I: Barbara Garcia, Public Safety Officer: Jose Loera, Recording Secretary: Mishaun Watkins, and with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department: Deputy Portillo.

**PRESENTATIONS - NONE**

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Ana Amaro is concerned about the lack of sidewalks on Pioneer Blvd., specifically in front of the Public Works Maintenance Yard. She suggests that a sign should be posted that warns pedestrians the sidewalk is coming to an end.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. PRESENTATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF DECMEBER 2019.  
**COMMISSION ACTION:** *Approve as Presented.*
2. LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MONTHLY CRIMES REPORT FOR DECMEBER 2019.  
**COMMISSION ACTION:** *Receive and File.*

3. LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2019.

**COMMISSION ACTION:** *Receive and File.*

Commissioner Pedro Amaro made a motion to receive and file the Consent Calendar in its entirety. Commissioner Berta Meraz 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor. Motion passed.

**STAFF REPORTS - NONE**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

As an update and response to previous Commission concerns, Sr. Administrative Analyst Linda Suniga discussed the following items:

- A staff report provided by the Community Development Department in response to Commissioner Rico's question regarding the ongoing projects in the City. Ms. Suniga referred the Commission to the second page of the report that gives a description of what the projects entail. Locations of these projects are also listed in the staff report.
- Ms. Suniga has put forth a request to the Community Development Department regarding the crosswalks on 226<sup>th</sup> Street. The director of the department, Joe Colombo, said that he would investigate this request. Mr. Colombo stated the City Engineer needs time to do some research and get back to us and that he will send the engineer to one of the future Public Safety Commission meetings.
- She also inquired about flooding in the Burger King parking lot. Mr. Colombo stated that he will do a test on the drain system and currently there is no code case opened regarding this matter. Ms. Suniga asked the Commission to call our Community Development Department the next time it rains to open a code case. When you call about the flooding ask that a request be put in to Vector Control either by the Community Development Department or by Public Works.
- A lighting project was approved in the city. Southern California Edison will replace current lighting with LED lighting. Mr. Colombo will work with Public Works to find out where the increases in light are needed. Also, please look at Tilbury Street and any other areas for any possible upgrades that can be done.
- Commissioner Bertha Meraz added that when she passed by Tilbury it was so dark that she could not see anyone crossing the street.
- Chairmember Barbara Laughlin reported that there is a tree blocking the crossing light on Norwalk Blvd by El Pescador.
- February is the annual reorganization for Chair and Vice Chair. Set to expire are Commissioner terms for Vice Chairmember Mendoza, Commissioner Pedro Amaro and Commissioner Bertha Meraz. Ms. Suniga explained that no direction has been received about Commission appointments. However, following past

practice, if you are interested in being reappointed, please submit a letter of interest.

- The homeless encampment on Norwalk and 221<sup>st</sup> Street has been cleaned up.

Recording Secretary Mishaun Watkins reported to the Commission:

- AARP will provide free income tax preparation assistance at the Public Safety Center. This will take place beginning on February 4, 2020 through April 14, 2020 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. Please see the flyer that is included in your binder for further information.

## **NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

## **ORAL STAFF REPORTS**

- Ramie Torres reported the following in response to previous Commission inquires:
  - There are two areas on 212<sup>th</sup> street where the sidewalk is lifting. Public works will know by next week when the next phase of repairs will begin.
  - Bulky Items- this program has continued with the new trash company. They will collect bulky items on Wednesdays when they collect the trash. Call the trash company to request a bulky item pickup.
  - Block Clean Up- the next Block Clean Up will be mid to late February. Flyers will be posted when the date is confirmed.
  - Flood Channel- the issue with flood channel is the gates being broken and locks being cut. This is an ongoing issue with the County because they own and maintain the flood channels. The City provides the County with immediate notification when repairs are needed.

Sr. Administrative Analyst Linda Suniga added: the news reported that the beaches in Long Beach were off limits because of a blockage in Hawaiian Gardens. Those sewer lines are managed by the LA County, not by Hawaiian Gardens. The County maintains our sewer lines on a regular basis. It is unfortunate that this negative thing was reported about our city.

Questions from the Commission regarding Mrs. Torres report:

- Chairmember Barbara Laughlin- Can we release something to the media explaining that the City was not responsible?
  - Ramie Torres- we have a good relationship with the County, going to the media is a decision to be made by the City Manager.
- Commissioner Pedro Amaro- is there a street sweeper going to sweep the debris from the construction?
  - Ramie Torres- yes, the construction workers are cleaning behind themselves.

- Commissioner Lizet Mendoza- There was a speed bump on 223rd Street between Juan and Pioneer that has been grinded down, is the bump going to be replaced.
  - Linda Suniga: is not sure if the removal of the speed bump is a part of the project and will keep an eye on it to see if they replace it.

## ORAL COMMISSION REPORTS

- Commissioner Bertha Meraz wished everyone a Happy New Year and she will submit a letter of interest soon.
  - Vice Chairmember Mendoza reported the following:
    - She appreciates that the speed was adjusted on the speed trailers and they are not as scary for drivers as they once were. She would like to know if the speed trailers are still being put out and if there cameras around the city.
    - Chairmember Mendoza would like a report from Public Safety Officers regarding how many citations are being given per month. She would like to have a Public Safety Officers statistics report included on agendas.
    - Do we have protocol in place if someone hits a fire hydrant?
- Sr. Administrative Analyst Linda Suniga response to Vice Chairmember Mendoza's questions:
  - Ms. Suniga has access to all parking data. She will speak with the City Manager and the Public Safety Officer supervisor regarding the information requested.
  - Public Works, Fire Department or the Water Department would be called to respond to someone hitting a fire hydrant.
  - We have cameras in place at all of our sites. Also, there are ongoing projects to add additional cameras in various parts of the city.
- Public Safety Officer Jose Loera responded to Vice Chairmember Mendoza's question regarding the speed trailers:
  - One of our speed trailers was vandalized about a week ago, so the speed trailers are brought in earlier.
- Commissioner Pedro Amaro wished everyone a Happy New Year and reported on the following:
  - Concerned about vendors selling food on the street.
  - Would like to know if the City Attorney can come to a meeting and explain the Senate Bill that requires vendors to get a permit to sell food.
  - Was anything sent to the Casino asking their employees to use the crosswalk?
  - Public Safety Officer Jose Loera explained that they are working hard to make sure vendors are permitted.

- Chairmember Laughlin wished everyone a Happy New Year. She is hopeful that this year will be better and urges the Commission to be stronger this year and to continue to keep an eye out in the community and report any and all safety concerns.

**ADJOURNMENT to the next Regular Public Safety Commission Meeting on February 19, 2020.**

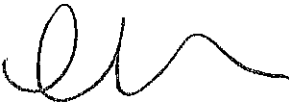
Respectfully,



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Mishaun Watkins,  
Recording Secretary  
January 08, 2020

Attest:



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Mishaun Watkins, Recording Secretary

Approved:



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Chairmember Pedro Amaro