

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Annika Guterman, Board Member
Tony Zimbardi, Board Member
Robert Morrison, Board Member
Brandi D'Amore, Vice Chair
Michael Connolly, Chair



HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Monday, June 27, 2022, 6:30 PM

Webinar ID: 945 9331 3243

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94593313243>

Meeting concluded without returning to approve May '22 minutes

Welcome

6:33 PM start

1. Roll Call

Attending

Robert Morrison Brandi D'Amore Michael Connolly Tony Zimbardi Annika Guterman

2. Approval of Minutes

Annika Guterman did not have the minutes ready at time of vote. Tabled to be heard later in the meeting.

****Meeting concluded without return to vote on minutes.***

3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each)

None

4. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance (5 minutes each)

***LAPD Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Heather Mata
SLO Mata gave a crime update.***

A body was discovered in a manhole on Beachwood. No further information is currently available. An investigation is being conducted. Investigations can take several months, so follow up details regarding the incident cannot be provided at this time.

There were 3 officer-involved shootings in the last few weeks. Incident 1 occurred at Highland and Milner during the Summit of the Americas in the first week of June. Incident 2 involved a home burglary. The 3 suspects were trying to flee the area and carjacked someone in the neighborhood. One of the suspects was armed. When they were confronted by officers, one of the suspects was injured by gunfire. No fatalities occurred. Incident 3 occurred near Beverly and Poinsettia. A man was pointing and shooting at passing vehicles. When officers arrived, he shot 7 rounds at the officers. No officers were hit. The suspect was hit in the arm and later taken into custody with non life threatening injuries.

A double homicide occurred outside the Villas on the 6100 block of Carlos Avenue, west of Gower Street. Police are treating the incident as domestic violence. The victim's 3 children were in a nearby vehicle at the time of the shooting. According to current information from police, the second victim was the current boyfriend of the children's biological mother. However, according to the Cheremoya Foundation, the second victim was the biological father of the children and the suspect was the current boyfriend. The suspect is in custody.

A second homicide occurred on Argyle and Selma outside of the W hotel. The incident appears to involve a narcotics transaction. The suspect is in custody. There has been an uptick in criminal activity in the Hollywood area within the last month.

Alexander, a member of the Oaks Homeowners Association, expressed concern about the gate to Bronson Park on Canyon Drive being unlocked during the night. He states the gate should not be open at night due to the severe fire hazard and the presence of the children's camp. According to SLO Mata, the Bureau of Street Services is responsible for closing and locking the city parks at night. Due

to a resource shortage in the last few months, several of the parks are not being closed at night. Mr. Alexander contacted the Park Ranger watch commander, Patrick Joyce, who said LAPD's Security Service division is responsible for closing the park. It is unclear who is responsible. Mr. Alexander requested BSS contact information.

Shannan Callan, Council District 13 Field Deputy, reports that Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell has called on Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong to work with the City to reopen St. Vincent Medical Center to provide acute care for the unhoused population on June 14. Council President Martinez called for a citywide summit on reproduction healthcare for women, girls, and transgender individuals in response to Roe v. Wade. This will allow the City of LA to offer family support services, which would be managed by the Community Investment for Family departments. There are 16 facilities.

A meeting held on June 23 requesting the amendment of Section 41.18 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), which makes it illegal to "sit, lie or sleep in or upon any street, sidewalk or other public way." The ordinance amends section 41.18 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, which bans sleeping, lying or obstructing certain areas of the public right of way. The places where the City code already prohibits sleeping include within two feet of fire hydrants, within 10 feet of a driveway and anywhere within a street. In addition, the current code bans sleeping within 500 feet of sensitive areas, including schools and daycare centers, but only if the Councilmember representing that area designates it. Additional amendment to 56.11 of LAMC to align it with 41.18 will be discussed later.

Sec 41.18 will extend to the Carlos/Gower/Yucca area. They are working with Care+. Scheduling has not been finalized. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and Urban Alchemy have been doing outreach for over a month.

5. Discussion and possible motion to recommend to full board a Community Impact Statement (CIS) on Council File CF 20-1376-S1

Unlawful Sitting, Lying, Sleeping / Unlawful Personal Property Storage, Use, Maintenance / Private Property / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1376-S1>

Robert Morrison is concerned about the expansion of Sec. 41.18, noting the Martin v. Boise ruling regarding camping, strain on LAPD resources, and lack of available shelter being offered to unhoused individuals. Mr. Morrison has repeatedly requested information regarding outreach and shelter offered to unhoused individuals, but has not received a clear answer. He expresses concern that the expansion of 41.18 is an overreach. Until the City can outline a clear process for ensuring that actual shelter beds are being offered, he expresses concern over the city's liability (see Martin v. Boise ruling).

Brandi D'Amore notes there may be a need to expand Sec. 41.18. She has observed a fundamental shift in the temperament of the unhoused population by the freeway off ramps near both Bronson and Gower. This change makes it challenging and potentially hazardous for people to walk in, around, and through these consecutive N-S corridors. According to Ms. D'Amore, there is an increase in previously incarcerated individuals in these particular camps, as well as a noted gang presence. Additionally, individuals have wandered onto the offramps, which poses obvious danger to themselves and others. Mr. Connolly expresses that Mr. Morrison's point is valid, but the need to expand 41.18 due to the change in demographics, violence, and drug traffic and open air use.

Officer Gonzalez states that the Bronson encampment has been cleared. A 41.18 task force, LASHA, and Urban Alchemy have been present in the area. Out of the 4 encampments, 3 had been given notice several months in advance to find a different location. 2 encampments turned down housing offered to them because they did not want to comply with shelter rules. Scientology conducted a community clean up, painted the wall, and removed debris from the fence. Officer Gonzalez is working with CD13 to clean the Gower location. Officer Gonzalez aims to have available housing ready to be offered before the clean up. One of the biggest problems encountered is individuals who refuse housing when it is offered and available. There has been an uptick in crime in this area. The center median north of Yucca has been cleared. Some of the encampments under the freeways have been cleared as well. Mr. Morrison asks the question, what specific housing is being offered to these individuals?

Officer Gonzalez does not have access to the housing web. Urban Alchemy and LASHA have access to all bed locations. Officer Gonzalez has observed that many individuals who decline housing are doing so because of drug policies at shelters.

Hector Vega, CD13 council aide, states that LAHSA and Urban Alchemy began outreach at the special enforcement zones on Bronson and Gower, but did not begin enforcement for several months. They are focusing on the outreach, rather than clearing. Urban Alchemy contracts directly with CD13. Mr. Morrison asks the question, what shelter are individuals being offered in these zones of sensitivity? Mr. Vega does not have access to this information because he does not have clearance from LAHSA. LAHSA has its own internal system and infrastructure. Mr. Morrison expresses a need to track and document exactly what was offered to each individual to be in compliance with Martin v. Boise. Mr. Vega states requests for this information from LAHSA were denied. Mr. Connolly does not understand why LAHSA is so secretive and expresses a desire for more transparency. He asks if any individuals that were offered housing on Bronson accepted it. Mr. Vega did not see this while he was there and does not know. There is general consensus that current statistics and data regarding outreach and available housing is insufficient and needs to be improved as soon as possible.

Kelly, a community stakeholder, agrees with Mr. Connolly that schools and children need to be protected.

There is a general committee consensus that transparency needs to be improved. Specific housing options offered to each individual in the special enforcement zones need to be methodically documented and presented in a clear way to the public. CD13 is contracting with Urban Alchemy directly. Taxpayers should have the right to at least non-identifying, statistical information regarding housing. The committee agrees to re-draft the impact statement provided by Mr. Morrison. Annika Guterman asks how housing is specifically defined with respect to compliance with Martin v. Boise. Ms. D'Amore states shelters, permanent housing, etc., and that it was already discussed.

Motion passed.

Motion Made: Discussion and possible motion with amendments to recommend to full board a Community Impact Statement (CIS) on Council File CF 20-1376-S1

Unlawful Sitting, Lying, Sleeping / Unlawful Personal Property Storage, Use, Maintenance / Private Property / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment

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Motion: Robert Morrison **Second:** Michael Connolly **Vote:** Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-0

Yes

Annika Guterman Brandi D'Amore Michael Connolly Robert Morrison Tony Zimbardi

6. Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance (NCEPA)

A) Summary of key outcome from 6/25/2022 meeting for NCEPA

None

B) Determination of attendance at next quarter's meeting(s).

A tentative determination of attendance for next quarter's meetings is determined. The meetings take place the 4th Saturday of the month

Robert Morrison - July

Tony Zimbardi - August

Annika Guterman - September

Michael Connolly - October

7. Committee Member announcements on items not on the Agenda

None

8. Old/Ongoing Business

None

9. New/Future Business

None

Adjournment at 8:30 PM

Reconsideration: The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place before the end of the meeting at which it was considered or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and take an action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a [Proposed] action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Motion for Reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a Motion for Reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Recording Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.