

Committee Members:

Christy Adair – Chair
Penny Gilbert - Secretary
Penny Johnson
Barbara McDermott
Jesse Smith
Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**

Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84270408817>



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Neighborhood Council
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In conformity with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to the concerns over COVID-19, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Public Safety Committee meetings will be conducted telephonically until further notice.

Every person wishing to address the Committee must either dial 1-669-900-6833 and enter 842 7040 8817 and then press # to join the meeting - or join the meeting from Zoom’s landing page using Webinar ID: 842 7040 8817. Instructions on how to sign-up for Public Comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT AT SONC PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

If the public wishes to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action on an item, the Public will wait to be addressed by the presiding officer before commenting. If accessing the meeting by telephone, the public is requested to press *9. If accessing the meeting by computer, the public is requested to click on the “raise hand” button.

Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period.

Please note that under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that the public brings to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become an item on a future committee meeting agenda. Public Comment is limited to two minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order** - Christy Adair, Chair at 6:34pm

2. **Roll Call** – Penny Gilbert, Secretary

3. **Introductions** - Committee members, elected officials and staff.

Officer Mariana Romo, Senior Lead Officer, northern Sherman Oaks, Basic Car 9A63
Officer Jose Saldana, Senior Lead Officer, southern Sherman Oaks, Basic Car 9A89
Ryan Ahari, Field Representative, Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian's Office

4. **Demo: Kids Safety** - Maria Turnhout, **KMA Blackbelt Champions**, will demonstrate:

Maria Turnhout

Maria suggests that Parents keep the safety conversation going. Practice with them over and over teaching the children how and when to say NO. Children should practice learning how to avoid situations - starting with eye contact, body posture and strong voice. Also:

- A good rule at home is for Kids to never open the door unless a parent is with them.
- If a child gets lost – they should stay put until parents or authorities can find them.
- Remind children that adults never ask kids for assistance. Teach child to move away from unknown persons and refuse to answer the adult. If stranger asks for assistance, children should run for an adult.
- Communicate NO secrets, NO surprises.
- Parents and children should talk to each other.
- Teach kids to be aware of their surroundings.
- Stand tall. Walk like you mean it.

Barbara McDermott commented that the KMA summer program was an overall wonderful presentation. AND, it was not just for kids. Adults need to pay attention to all of these training tips. Likewise, adults should put their devices down, beware of their surroundings, walk with confidence. Most powerful point is that adults NEVER ask kids for assistance.

5. **Administrative Motions** - Action Item; Vote Required.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021 Public Safety Meeting, as presented.
Motion was approved.

Approved by: Christy Adair, Barbara McDermott, Cissy Varkey-Altamirano, Penny Johnson.
Absent: Jesse Smith

6. Covid-19 Crisis Update – Jesse Smith

Vax locations: [solvehealth.com](https://www.solvehealth.com)

In the past two weeks, Los Angeles County has seen a near-doubling number of people hospitalized each day for COVID-19 illness. There are 1,437 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized; on Monday, July 26 there were 745 people hospitalized with COVID-19. The majority of the increase has been among unvaccinated people, while hospitalizations remain very low among vaccinated people. Between May 1 and July 17, 3,158 people were hospitalized in Los Angeles County; 92% of those hospitalized were not fully vaccinated

Christy Adair asked if vaccines are free.

Note: Per the CDC Vaccines are widely accessible in the United States and are available for everyone at no cost. For more info:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html>

Latora Green, attendee, thanked the committee for all the info (Latora Green is the co-founder and Executive Director of The Valley of Change).

7. New Senior Lead Officers (“SLO”) for Sherman Oaks Communities Update

Officer Mariana Romo has been assigned as the new SLO for Basic Car area 9A63.

Officer Jose Saldana remains the SLO for Basic Car area 9A89.

Officer Joel Gutierrez has been assigned as the new SLO for Basic Car Area 9A41.

Officer Kristan Delatori, formerly the SLO for 9A41, is now assigned to Basic Car Area 9A37.

Kira Durbin, attendee, welcomed Officer Romo. Glad to have a permanent SLO. Ms Durbin informed SLO Romo that she is working with Homeless Council and CPAB. Kira Durbin asked both SLOs if the “Citizen App” was reliable.

Officer Saldana replied that the Citizen App is reliable.

Note: The Citizen app reports what was called in to police. What officers encounter on-scene may be different than what was called in.

Barbara McDermott welcomed SLO Romo and Saldana. She expressed relief to have a permanent SLO in her area.

8. Social Media Misinformation – Barbara McDermott

Christy Adair has seen pictures on Nextdoor of coyotes, cute and cuddly. Christy is posting the Wild Animal video link to dissuade becoming friendly to wild animals.

Barbara McDermott says most posts on Nextdoor are now posted as viewable by “Anyone” on Nextdoor nationwide and can be shared to anyone on or off the Nextdoor site. The search feature now allows users to search names of anyone on Nextdoor nationwide, but there are privacy settings that can be utilized.

9. “What3Words”: A better way to get help in LA! – Penny Gilbert

Full report in a future meeting. App available for free, “What3Words”

App has location designations all over the world so that emergency services can locate and individual if they themselves cannot give an exact location.

10. Public Comments – Comments by the public on non-agenda items within the Public Safety Committee’s jurisdiction.

None.

11. Committee Response to Public Comment

None

12. Final Business and Announcements

a. Committee Business Discussion

Penny Gilbert - LADWP for October

Barbara McDermott - LAPD Communications Division (aka the 911 Dispatch folks)

Christy Adair - CERT Lite program

Christy Adair - Heat Illness – people and pets

Penny Gilbert - LADWP Electric talk; maybe 2x a year. Water folks too?

Penny Gilbert - What3words app

Penny Gilbert & Penny Johnson - Fireworks banning

13. Adjourn at 8:26pm

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