

Committee Members:

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

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 5721
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org

PS Committee Email:
SoncPSCommittee@gmail.com

Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda (Virtual)

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 9, 2021
6:30 pm

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED TELEPHONICALLY.

Every person wishing to address the Committee must dial 1-669-900-6833 and enter 842 7040 8817 and then press # to join the meeting. The meeting can also be joined from the Zoom “Join Meeting” screen 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 Board 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 of the Board.

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** by Jenna Lewis, Co-Chair at 6:34pm
 - 1a. Moment of silence for lives lost by COVID 19, led by Jesse Smith

2. **Roll Call** by Penny Gilbert, Secretary
Christy Adair, Cissy Altamirano, Penny Johnson, Jenna Lewis, Barbara McDermott, Jesse Smith, Penny Gilbert all present. A Quorum was reached.

3. **Administrative Motions** – Action Item, Vote Required.
Review and approval of February 9, 2021 meetings minutes.
Penny Gilbert asked for roll call approval of February 9, 2021 minutes. In favor of approving minutes of February 9, 2021: Christy Adair, Cissy Altamirano, Penny Johnson, Jenna Lewis, Barbara McDermott, Jesse Smith and Penny Gilbert. Minutes were unanimously approved.

4. **Introductions** - Committee Members, Elected Officials and Staff.
Members of the PSC introduced themselves. Also LAPD Senior Lead Officer Armando Magana, Battalion 10 LAFD Fire Chief Kilpatrick and EIT Bannan.

Update by LAPD SLO Armando Magana: LAPD is trying to get people housed through Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) utilizing their Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal (LA-HOP) referral website. Dept of Mental Health and different agencies can pull from referrals submitted, and anybody can use the website to request outreach for someone. <https://www.lahsa.org/portal/apps/la-hop/>

5. **“Earthquake: ‘The Big One’ Just Happened, What’ Next?”**
 - A. Conversation with Battalion 10 Fire Chief Kilpatrick and Captain Bannon
Chief Kilpatrick and EIT Bannan have both worked in Sherman Oaks and called Station 88 home for many years. They suggested that preparation for any emergency situation, citizens should practice, “Ready, Set Go” in the event of fire, EQ or other incident requiring evacuation. To obtain list of items public should stow in their “go-bags, they should go to LAFD.org or FEMA.org. The Chief stressed that Citizens will be on their own for at least a week and should have extra food, water and medications. If possible, a home generator would be helpful, especially a solar type. They also suggested having a contact outside the area/State as a family connection and to text/data instead of voice calls as any working cell towers will be overloaded.
Questions:
 - ✓ Christy A. asked: is there a site that lists evacuation details for a given area. Chief Kilpatrick stated that there is no site but residents within a 20-30 minute range of evacuation order will be contacted by phone and then LAFD and LAPD personnel.
 - ✓ William K. asked: if you have no vehicle with which to evacuate will the LAFD transport. Chief Kilpatrick explained that LAFD service vehicles will transport.
 - ✓ Christy A. asked: if area around 101 and 405 freeways near Station 88 are inaccessible will Station 88 ask for other Fire Stations in the area to check on the

- damage. Chief Kilpatrick stated that as Battalion Chief he can order other units to come into 88's area and access situation, plus in his command he has Search and Rescue and the facilities, transportation at Van Nuys Airport.
- ✓ Christy A. what are the first areas of concern after an earthquake? Chief Kilpatrick and Capt. Bannan stated they will first check, high rises, schools, hospitals, freeways and communication facilities. LAFD has a very sophisticated radio systems that will function even if other sources of communication are not functioning. They both recommend HAM as a citizen back-up.
 - ✓ Jenna L. asked how does someone get home if the roads are impassible? Chief Kilpatrick said to be very diligent of the surroundings and use a paper map. Cell service may be down.
 - ✓ Cissy A. asked if landlines were a good alternative in an EQ? Capt, Bannan said landlines were preferable. Cell towers can be shut down in a disaster to protect fire firefighters.
 - ✓ Barbara McDermott stated that landlines provide a better address source for 911 Dispatch
 - ✓ Christy Adair requested that Chief Kilpatrick and Capt. Bannan return for Fire season update. Chief Kilpatrick says that open fires in Sepulveda Basin is an area of concern and the LAFD is trying to clear out brush and debris to reduce further fire hazards.

B. Christy Adair Presentation on Earthquake Awareness, Preparedness, and Recovery
Power Point Presentation showing visuals of San Andreas, Ring of Fire in the Pacific

Awareness:

There are 100's of faults in LA, but the San Andreas fault has LA's lifelines crossing it like freeways, waterways, pipelines, cell towers & rail systems that will be compromised.

Know your area; where to shop, get supplies, proximity to freeways, and rivers.
HAM operators in your area will begin passing communications immediately.
Older homes may come down and possibly start fires. People will be trapped.
95% of rescues will be done by private citizens.

Preparedness:

Go bags should be packed and ready for humans and pets.
Get an out of state contact in case your family is separated.
Load an Early Notification app & Pulse Point onto your phone to stay informed.
Simple rules during quake Duck, Cover, Hold.

Recovery:

Pre-prep of food, water, lights and generator will help you survive.
Check fire extinguishers and replace as necessary.
Create a reunification program with family members.
Neighbors will help neighbors!

Questions:

- ✓ Barbara M. asked if there a way to dispose of fire extinguishers? Chief Kilpatrick says there is a HazWaste recycle place on Balboa and Devonshire open Saturdays. To check your fire extinguishers there is a place on Kester and Calvert.
- ✓ Personal Fire Extinguisher Tip: you should shake your extinguisher once a month to see if the powdered contents are moving around inside. If not, it may need to be replaced.

6. Public Comments

There were none.

7. Committee Response to Public Comments

There were none

8. Neighborhood Council Elections

14 seats for re-election, 28 certified candidates. March 12, 2021 date to request ballots.

9. COVID 19 Crisis Update by Jesse Smith

News is positive. We are nearing RED tier, more businesses opening. Schools will be opening soon. Red tier evaluation date will be March 17, 2021. Vaccines available for Seniors. Medical workers, Teachers, and Agricultural employees. By June, vaccine should be available for everyone.

- ✓ Jenna Lewis added that if a person checks on Myturn.CA.gov they can find a vaccine site.

10. Community Police Advisory Board Update (“CPAB”) Summary by Penny Johnson

LAPD has 3 Public Service Announcements:

1. “Lock it, Hide it, Keep it”
2. “How To Wear A Mask”
3. “Walk Smart”, using crosswalks

LAPD encourages using the 311 app to get City maintenance done and “Citizen’s App” recommended. Barbara McDermott was not certain that using the Citizen’s App was a good idea and she wants to do more research on the app and the LAPD recommendation. Brian Patton discussed mental health and drug related topics.

11. Helpful Safety Tips, Presented by Penny Johnson

Faraday boxes can be purchased online for around \$20.

Christy A. said that Faraday cages can also be used to protect ham radios against Electro Magnetic Pulse (EMP) blasts. Microwaves, ammo boxes and any airtight box with metal that blocks radio signals will also work to protect key fobs, radios and cell phones.

12. Social Media Misinformation of the Month, Presented by Barbara McDermott

- Many types of police reports can be filed online at lapdonline.org, including Theft from Motor Vehicle crimes unless a suspect left some type of evidence behind (e.g. a tool, an article of clothing, etc). In those cases, officers will have to be dispatched to collect the evidence and take the report. Jenna Lewis: Tip from your friendly neighborhood prosecutor, "DON'T touch the evidence. They want the suspect's DNA on it, not yours."
- The non-emergency 877-ASK-LAPD lines are staffed by live operators and never go to voicemail. Non-emergency and 911 operators work alongside each other in each of the two call centers.
- Jenna L. mentioned it is always better to call 911 if you don't know for sure whether something's an emergency, but it feels like it might be. If, however, you know for a fact

something is a non-emergency (e.g. you wake up in the morning and someone has broken into your car and the suspect is long gone), then use 1-877-ASK-LAPD or report it online to keep the 911 lines open for immediate emergencies.

13. Final Announcements

a. Committee Business

Length of meetings and topics for future meetings was discussed. It was suggested meeting lengths be no longer than -1.5 hours (6:30pm to 8pm) with fewer topics covered – or to focus on 1 main topic. Ideas and suggestions for better managing the length of meetings include having fewer agenda items, allocating shorter segment times, setting 15-30 minutes as a speaker presentation length, presenting related topics at separate meetings rather than one longer presentation, and revisiting some topics throughout the year. For longer topics, it was suggested having a special meeting with a truncated agenda or have a town hall meeting for some larger subjects such as Active Shooter.

Speakers and topics discussed for future meetings:

- Meeting in odd months for emergency preparedness, meetings in even months for public safety.
- Neighborhood Prosecutor Andy Soliman, possibly for April's meeting
- Highlights of Coronavirus Tier opening guidelines
- Someone from Public Health to discuss information and safety of Coronavirus vaccines
- Town Hall meeting for Active Shooter training

b. Weekly Homework Assignments or Community Action Item

- ✓ Attendees should internet-search their home address and see what is within a mile radius
- ✓ Attendees should find their fire extinguishers and shake each one for a minute to loosen the powder.
- ✓ Attendees should find and rummage through their personal Go-Bags to see if everything is still reasonable.

14. Adjourned at 8:56pm.