Public Safety Commission Meeting 05-06-26
Item 3.B.1.

Public Safety Commission Agenda Report

To: Chair Spiegel and Members of the Public Safety Commission

Prepared by: Noah Tyler U. Tabbay, Administrative Assistant

Approved by: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Director

Date Prepared: April 27, 2026 Meeting Date: May 6, 2026

Subject: Approval of Minutes

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes for the Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting of July 2, 2025.

DISCUSSION: Staff have prepared draft minutes for the Public Safety Commission for their July 2, 2025 Regular Meeting, and hereby submits the minutes to the Commission for approval.

ATTACHMENTS: Draft July 2, 2025 Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

MINUTES
MALIBU PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 2, 2025
MALIBU CITY HALL – MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Spiegel called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair Joshua Spiegel, Commissioners Alexis Aria, Chris Frost, and Keegan Gibbs, and Ex Officio Member Woodworth (entered at 5:07 p.m.).

ABSENT: Vice Chair Brian Merrick.

ALSO PRESENT: Councilmember Haylynn Conrad, Malibu City Council; Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Director; Robert Duboux, Public Works Director; Travis Hart, Deputy Public Works Director; Sarah Flores, Emergency Services Coordinator; Luis Flores, Public Safety Coordinator; Gabriel Etcheverry, Fire Safety Liaison; Noah Tyler Tabbay, Administrative Assistant; Sergeant Christopher Soderlund, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Assistant Fire Chief Drew Smith, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Mark Russo, Malibu Volunteers on Patrol Team Leader.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Haylynn Conrad led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Commissioner Frost moved, and Commissioner Aria seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called, and the motion carried 4-0 with Vice Chair Merrick absent.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Administrative Assistant Tabbay reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on June 26, 2025.

ITEM 1 CEREMONIAL / PRESENTATIONS

None.

ITEM 2.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne Komarovsk requested Commissioner Frost to recuse himself due to his online

comments made on the Nextdoor platform.

ITEM 2.B. STAFF COMMENTS

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that they have recently completed an agreement with California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for a grant to do some DUI checkpoints and traffic saturation. She stated that Public Works Deputy Director Travis Hart notified her that the new VOP vehicles are scheduled to arrive any day now. She also stated that the Covered 6 Security contract was extended until September 16 and a review of services will occur at the August Public Safety Commission meeting. She added that they have opened a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a contractor to assist with updated the City's evacuation plans.

Emergency Services Coordinator Flores stated that they have been working with Witt O'Briens for After-Action Review of Franklin and Palisades Fires and has been meeting with City staff, volunteer groups, and partner agencies, including input from the community. She stated that Malibu CERT is restocking the City's Disaster Supply Bins due to supplies being passed out during recent incidents. Still planning the Safety & Preparedness Fair scheduled for Saturday, September 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. She added that it will look like the previous year but with a few more additions.

Ex Officio Member Woodworth entered the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Public Safety Coordinator Flores stated that 129 vehicles were towed at the temporary impound yard. He added that there are 2 new Parking Enforcement Officers who are bringing to onboard with the Team. He stated that the year-round temporary impound yard is scheduled for a City Council presentation during their July 14 meeting.

Fire Safety Liaison Etcheverry provided an update to the Live Fuel Moisture test results from the LA County Fire Department's Forestry Division. He stated that they tested it to be 88%, which is down from last year and under that historical data average. He stated that he is installing blue dot fire hydrant markers on private roads based on requests and that he pushed out public messaging for requests to place markers. He adds that he has already placed about 90 markers so far.

ITEM 2.C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gibbs inquired if the After-Action Report is open for Community Brigade members to comment on.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that it is mainly internal as it relates to City emergency operations.

Ex Officio Member Woodworth inquired if it is just internal for the City's Emergency Operations Center and expressed interest in joining the After-Action Report if it does not fall outside of the scope of the Report.

Emergency Services Coordinator Flores stated that it is more internal with City volunteers, but she added that they are open to schedule some time with Community Brigade members to provide input into the Report.

Commissioner Aria asked Fire Safety Liaison Etcheverry about the wetland property and the palm trees located on that property since those trees were ablaze in the recent fires.

Fire Safety Liaison Etcheverry stated that it is an environmentally sensitive area and the City cannot do anything on that property. He also added that they had just finished a tree grant and were willing to pay for more tree removal but are not allowed to do so, therefore, no progress was made.

Commissioner Aria inquired if the City receives any air quality reports either monthly or quarterly, especially for the burned areas regarding asbestos or chemicals in the air.

Fire Safety Liaison Etcheverry stated that he is unsure but mentioned that he used to utilize South Coast Monitoring for the information but is uncertain if the reports are current.

Commissioner Aria inquired if the unburned areas were ready to prevent fires by either burhs clearances, brush clearing goats, or other means of protecting those areas. She also asked how chimneys are constructed and why chimneys are always standing after fires.

Fire Safety Liaison Etcheverry stated that chimneys stay standing depending on the mix of the mortar and added that bricks are hard to burn.

Commissioner Aria asked Public Safety Director Dueñas if it would it be possible to agendize statistics the number of lives lost on Malibu Canyon road from the past to 10-20 years. She also inquired to see if it were possible to install Angel Tires on the Cross-section of Civic Center Way and Malibu Canyon Road.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that she believes that it is something that has to come from the City Council. She added that the City has already have a long list of projects so directions would have to come from the City Council to make movement on that. She recommended Commissioner Aria to speak to the Councilmember who appointed her.

Commissioner Frost expressed concerns regarding the battery backup of power in Malibu West. He states that there are no power and battery backups did not work. He added that the traffic lights were blinking or out completely and that it was during the day but worse at night since individuals cannot see the lights or stoplights. He suggests that this is something that Public Works has to get with Caltrans to discuss.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that Interim City Manager Candance Bond has stated that she is going to have a meeting with Caltrans.

Commissioner Frost added that Southern California Edison's (SCE) system is prone to shutting down sooner and that the City cannot rely on their website or their people.

Chair Spiegel stated that there was a pretty good handle on generators powering the lights right when a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) happened due to the Red Flag event with generators being staged prior to shut off. He adds that there is a 6-hour lead time with Caltrans to respond to down traffic lights and recommends that something needs to be done about it. He adds that he is willing to reach out to Interim City Manager Bond regarding this if the Commission is okay with it.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that she will make sure to let Chair Spiegel know when they get together and added that the City's Public Works Department would stage the generators ahead of time of a PSPS.

Chair Spiegel asked Public Safety Director Dueñas where they City is with implementing the speed cameras.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that the Use Policy and Impact Report is currently undergoing public review and will be at the City Council at their August 11th Regular Meeting. She added that after the approval, then it would greenlight Public Works to purchase the speed cameras.

Chair Spiegel asked Public Safety Director Dueñas on how we gently tell the State to do their job regarding brush clearance.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that they are working on a plan to work together with the Mountains and Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) to create fire breaks in the brush.

Chair Spiegel wants to receive a consensus regarding the Conditional Use Permit for the radio repeater for the Sheriff's Sub-Station at the Santa Monica College, Malibu campus. He stated that this has come up before the City Council as an appeal and intends to speak on this issue as an individual but wants to see if the Commission would like to speak on the item as a Commission instead of speaking as individuals.

Public Safety Director Dueñas states that this discussion may need to be agendized for the Commission to act on this topic.

Administrative Assistant Tabbay recommends having this topic as an agendized item for the Commission to act on or make any decisions.

Ex Officio Member Woodworth mentioned that SCE stated that there will be a significant increase in PSPS due to and increase their numbers of weather stations and monitoring areas and recommended to be prepared for various PSPS in the area. He added that he spoke to SCE regarding their relationship with the cell phone towers in the area and how

long those towers are supposed to stay up after a PSPS. He stated that they do not interface too much with the cell phone towers but added that the cellular networks are the ones responsible for keeping those towers up and running.

ITEM 3 CONSENT CALENDAR

Chair Spiegel opened the floor to public comment on the Consent Calendar.

Ryan Embree provided public comment on Item No. 1.1.

As there were no other speakers present, Chair Spiegel returned the matter to the table for discussion.

RECOMMENDATION Staff recommends postponing the Consent Calendar to a future meeting due to no staff report.

CONSENSUS By consensus, the Commission agrees to the recommendation made by staff to postpone the Consent Calendar to a future meeting.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

A. Previously Discussed Items
None.

B. New Items
1. Approval of Minutes – September 4, 2024
Recommended Action: Approve minutes for the Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting of September 4, 2024.
2. Approval of Minutes – December 4, 2024
Recommended Action: Approve minutes for the Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting of December 4, 2024.

ITEM 4 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS

A. Measure A Replacement of Measure H in Los Angeles County

Recommended Action: Receive and file a report on LA County Measure A and its impact on the City of Malibu.

Public Safety Coordinator Flores presented the staff report.

Chair Spiegel opened the floor to public comments. As there were no speakers present, Chair Spiegel returned the matter to the table for discussion.

Commissioner Aria asked Public Safety Coordinator Flores if the Outreach team can conduct 5150 holds.

Public Safety Coordinator Flores stated that the Outreach team cannot conduct 5150 holds and only Law Enforcement or licensed individuals can conduct 5150 holds.

Commissioner Frost stated that the unincorporated portions of the County receive a big chunk of Measure A, but the City receives only through the Council of Governments (COG).

B. Public Safety Agency Monthly Activity Report

Recommended Action: Discuss recent Public Safety Agency activities and receive and file the monthly activity reports for May 2025 from the California Highway Patrol, LA County Fire Department, LA County Fire's Lifeguard Division, and LA County Sheriff's Department.

Sgt. Soderlund reported that on the 19th of June, there was an attempted robbery at one of the businesses by a transient and the individual assaulted the business owners. He added that a VOP unit overhead the call broadcast and were able to observe the suspect in the Malibu Lagoon and alerted deputies. He stated that the suspect was apprehended by Deputies. Sgt. Soderlund reports that on the 15th of June, there was an attempted murder by Tower 5 on the beach by two homeless individuals who had got into an argument. He adds that Beach Team were currently deployed and were dispatched to the incident and apprehended the suspect. He adds that the victim was not severely injured and gave kudos to the Beach Team. Sgt. Soderlund reports that today, July 2, there was a traffic collision on Decker Canyon Rd. He stated that it was between an off the highway vehicle versus another vehicle and the vehicle went over the cliff. Sgt. Soderlund stated that they found solo occupant in the vehicle that went over the cliff and was found ejected and later pronounced deceased on scene with the next of kin notification still pending and cannot comment further.

Commissioner Gibbs inquired if the accident occurred within City limits.

Sgt. Soderlund confirmed that it was within City limits. Sgt. Soderlund continued his report with the 4th of July Point Dume parade. He stated that the VOP Team and Malibu CERT are involved along with the Beach Team being deployed with extra deputies on ATVs and motorcycles.

Commissioner Gibbs inquired about the augmentation with the LA County Sheriff's Department due to station Deputy shortages.

Public Safety Director Dueñas stated that it is a budget item and that the City is only charged for what Deputies are used for.

Commissioner Frost asked Sgt. Soderlund if the Beach Team is fully staffed.

Sgt. Soderlund stated that they are almost fully staffed for the most part with July 4th being fully staffed.

Malibu VOP Team Leader Russo reported that they have a new VOP team member who came from the Los Angeles Police Department. He added that this would be their third LAPD-related volunteer in this past year.

Commissioner Gibbs inquired how many individuals are on the VOP team and if there are plans to train all of them.

Malibu VOP Team Leader Russo stated that they have a total of 23 members and that they intend on training all of them, if not at least 20 members, and added that they have recently went through some bleeding and tourniquet training. Russo provided an update on their VOP vehicle fleet and stated that the third vehicle is currently in the process but has two beautiful new units ready to go for deployment. He added that summer is here and would love to get the vehicles out on the roads. Russo also added that the team is seeing crowds on Point Dume in numbers and added that the LA County Beaches & Harbors Department closes the gate at Westward Beach at night, which is a big plus, he added. Russo stated that the 26th Annual Point Dume Community Parade is taking place on Friday and if working in conjunction with Malibu CERT. He added that LA County Sheriff's Department resources are currently depleted due to the demonstrations happening in Downtown Los Angeles.

Assistant Fire Chief Smith reported that all 4 fire stations within the City are doing great and added that he is still on the hunt to replace Fire Station 88's current location. He added that they are targeting to have Truck services in Fire Station 70 hopefully in the next month. He stated that it would be a hand-me-down Ladder Truck or Quint due to new apparatuses in fleet coming in. He complemented Fire Safety Liaison Etcheverry's comments on the Life Fuel moisture report and added that he has a hand in the report working with meteorologists. He added that the live fuels are historically lower than before but is not a big piece in fire scenarios. Chief Smith states that the Santa Monica mountains split between 101 side and coastal side and everything relies on fine fuel moisture contents. He adds that the live fuel moisture is on soil saturation. He stated that there may be relative risk for the area of the US Highway 101 corridor to Las Virgenes and that it could have a fast rate of spread. Chief Smith added that he hasn't seen fires since the 1996 fires. He adds that Arson Watch and VOPs work with LASD to patrol the primary targeted areas with activity, specially making sure that fireworks are not lit up due to them being illegal in the area. He emphasizes the need to let individuals know of which evacuation zone they reside in.

Chair Spiegel opened the floor to public comment.

Speakers: Ryan Embree, Anne Komarovsk.

As there were no other speakers present, Chair Spiegel returned the matter to the table for discussion.

Commissioner Aria asked Assistant Fire Chief Smith to educate her on an area of land that involves palm trees not being able to be taken out and the risks associated with it, especially being a fire hazard with flames.

Assistant Fire Chief Smith stated that palm trees could be a problem if they are not maintained.

Commissioner Aria commented that flames touched a building on Civic Center Way and was impressed on how quickly the LA County Fire Department was able to knock down the fire on the Smith property. She asked Chief Smith if there were any solutions to prevent fires, especially in environments that are prone to fires and illegal fireworks being set off.

Assistant Fire Chief Smith stated that he needs to find out what the opposition is and why and added that if they have the legal ability to do it, they will do it. He added a suggestion to have signs with what zones they are in along the highway and corridors. Chief Smith states that this is especially helpful for visitors to know what Zone they are in, even having a QR Code to identify where they are.

Public Safety Director Dueñas added to Chief Smith's remarks stating that they are currently looking what to start with, especially the possibility of zone signs on the Beacon Boxes.

Chair Spiegel asked Malibu VOP Team Leader Russo and Sgt. Soderlund if they are aware of a recent golf cart crash on Grayfox Street and if they have seen the footage?

Sgt. Soderlund stated that he had only seen a still picture of the incident, not footage.

Chair Spiegel stated that messaging is not getting out there and added that any lifted carts are prone to falling over. He expressed the need to educate people about the risks of golf carts.

Sgt. Soderlund stated that golf carts must have registration and insurance, and the golf cart operator must have license and can only go to the 35mph speed limit or less.

Chair Spiegel wants and urges individuals to wear seatbelts when operating a golf cart.

C. Homeless Services Monthly Report

Recommended Action: Discuss recent homeless services activities and receive and file the monthly report for May 2025 from The People Concern.

Public Safety Coordinator Flores presented the staff report.

Chair Spiegel opened the floor to public comment.

Speakers: Anne Komarovsk.

As there were no other speakers present, Chair Spiegel returned the matter to the table for discussion.

Chair Spiegel praised the Outreach team for doing a great job and made a comment that it is money well spent.

Commissioner Frost extended a thank you to the Outreach team for their work.

D. Parking Enforcement Monthly Report

Recommended Action: Discuss recent parking enforcement activities and receive and file the monthly report for May 2025 from the LAZ Parking Enforcement Team.

Public Safety Coordinator Flores presented the staff report.

Chair Spiegel opened the floor to public comment.

Speakers: Anne Komarovsk, Ryan Embree.

As there were no other speakers present, Chair Spiegel returned the matter to the table for discussion.

Commissioner Aria asked Ryan Ambree to clarify the Fire Development Fee.

Ryan E. stated that it is a development fee that is about $1 per square foot on new construction.

Commissioner Frost inquired about the Warning Status statistics listed on the Parking Enforcement Monthly Report and if those were connected to citation appeals or a different statistic.

Public Safety Coordinator Flores clarified that the yes and no columns indicate whether the vehicle received a citation or a warning, adding that it is not related to citation appeals.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Spiegel adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the Public Safety Commission of the City of Malibu on May 6, 2026.

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JOSHUA SPIEGEL, Chair

ATTEST:

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NOAH TYLER U. TABBAY, Recording Secretary