

MINUTES  
MALIBU PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 1, 2020  
TELECONFERENCED - VARIOUS LOCATIONS  
5:00 P.M.

**The following meeting was held pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and fully teleconferenced from various locations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost 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 Chris Frost; Vice Chair Doug Stewart; and Commissioners Keegan Gibbs and Dale Skophammer

ABSENT: Commissioner Fred Roberts

ALSO PRESENT: Reva Feldman; City Manager, Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager; Jerry Vandermeulen, Fire Safety Liaison; Rob DuBoux, Public Works Director; Arthur Aladjajian, Public Works Superintendent; Brandie Ayala, Senior Administrative Assistant; Kelsey Pettijohn, Deputy City Clerk; Alex Montano, Senior Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Vice Chair Stewart moved and Commissioner Gibbs seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Commissioner Roberts absent.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Executive Assistant Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on June 24, 2020.

ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 1.B. STAFF UPDATES

Public Safety Manager Dueñas reported the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training was paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated the CERT Team continued to refresh emergency bins. She stated the CERT management team would meet on July 11 to discuss future training. She reported the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) community survey closed in June and results would be reported to the Commission at its next meeting.

Public Works Director DuBoux stated Public Works staff were placing No Parking signs along PCH in preparation for the Fourth of July holiday weekend in response to the County order closing the beaches and beach parking lots. He discussed permanent No Parking signs installed along Tuna Canyon. He discussed a coastal development permit (CDP) application for No Parking signs on PCH in the Corral Canyon and Zuma Beach areas. He stated speed humps in Point Dume were scheduled to be discussed at the July 13 City Council meeting. He stated staff was working with Caltrans on a concept design for a right turn lane at Trancas Canyon. He discussed the Caltrans Trancas Bridge replacement project. He stated Caltrans has updated all the signals from Trancas Canyon to the McClure Tunnel in Santa Monica for backup generators, including a transfer switch. He stated Caltrans and the City tested the signals last week. He stated secured cages would be placed on the signals. He stated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be executed between Caltrans and the City to operate the signals during a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS).

ITEM 1.C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Skophammer inquired about parking restrictions at Zuma Beach and Corral Canyon. In response to Commissioner Skophammer, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated a Safe Parking Program had not been required for approval of the No Parking zones at Tuna Canyon. Public Works Director DuBoux stated the Tuna Canyon No Parking zone was in full compliance, and the City hoped for the same outcome with the Zuma Beach and Corral Canyon locations.

Commissioner Skophammer discussed activity at the Trancas Canyon/PCH lookout, including vendors selling merchandise and food. He stated cars were making illegal left turns to enter the location. Public Works Director DuBoux stated he had discussed it with the Sheriff's Department, and deputies had begun citing vendors for operating without a permit.

Commissioner Gibbs requested an update on enforcement over the holiday weekend due to mixed public messages from the Sheriff's Department. Public Safety Manager Dueñas confirmed there would be enforcement from the Lost Hills Station. She stated deputies would be enforcing mainly through education with citations as a last resort. She confirmed 40 deputies were scheduled for beach enforcement. Commissioner Gibbs discussed recent

protests and the Black Lives Matter movement. He discussed the Mitrice Richardson case. He suggested the Commission send a letter requesting transparency from the Sheriff's Department by providing records for deputies working in Malibu.

Vice Chair Stewart agreed with Commissioner Gibbs and suggested the letter also request the status of the Mitrice Richardson case. He discussed a Los Angeles Times lawsuit about transparency.

Executive Assistant Linden explained the Commission could request an item be brought back to discuss what information it would like to receive from the Sheriff's Department and provide a recommendation to Council to request that information on behalf of the City.

#### CONSENSUS

By consensus, the Commission agreed to request staff bring back an item to discuss information to be requested from the Sheriff's Department, including but not limited to records of deputies assigned to work in Malibu and the current status of the Mitrice Richardson case.

Commissioner Gibbs commended staff for doing a great job of communication and transparency throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

Vice Chair Stewart commended Public Works Director DuBoux and Public Works staff for their work on the Trancas Canyon Road right turn lane and speed humps in Point Dume. He stated guardrail repairs were going great. He suggested the CERT Team be permitted to flip the switch for traffic signal back-up power. He commended Sheriff's Lieutenant Jim Braden on his promotion. He discussed parking restrictions for the holiday weekend. In response to Vice Chair Stewart, City Manager Feldman stated Bluffs Park would be open over the weekend and would close at dusk each day. She discussed additional enforcement from Sheriff's deputies. She stated Lieutenant Braden would be on duty as Incident Commander. Vice Chair Stewart expressed concern about expected heavy traffic on PCH and fire danger from illegal fireworks. He discussed the difficult financial impacts of the new public health order prohibiting indoor dining at restaurants.

Chair Frost stated the Sheriff's Department would be well-staffed for the holiday weekend. He thanked Public Works Director DuBoux for continuing to work on a right turn lane at PCH and Trancas Canyon Road. He stated staff did a great job with portable generators and the grid system. He suggested installing candlesticks on Trancas Canyon to prevent illegal turns at the lookout. He confirmed Point Dume speed humps would be heard by the City Council on July 13. He commended the Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) and suggested allowing VOP to call for a tow truck rather than having to wait for a deputy. He encouraged everyone to wear a mask out of responsibility and common sense.

ITEM 1.B. STAFF UPDATES (continued)

Fire Safety Liaison Vandermeulen stated Home Ignition Zone Assessments were paused due to the COVID-19 outbreak but had resumed on April 28. He stated 37 additional assessments were completed for a total of 48 in 2020. He stated 174 assessments had been completed since the program started. He stated he assisted with the Los Angeles County Fire Department's promotion of its Ready! Set! Go! Program. He stated he worked with the Media Information Officer to push out messaging about brush clearance. He stated live fuel moisture levels were posted regularly on the City website. He stated there were 225 responses to the CWPP survey. He stated he attended a wildfire conference where bills being considered by the State legislature were discussed, including AB 2367 about insurance coverage for high fire danger communities, and AB 3074 about defensible space.

In response to Commissioner Gibbs, Fire Safety Liaison Vandermeulen stated he did maintain a database of properties where Home Ignition Zone Assessments had been completed.

Fire Safety Liaison Vandermeulen introduced Los Angeles County Fire Department Chief Drew Smith. Chief Smith discussed 911 calls and the telemedicine program. In response to Chair Frost, Chief Smith explained that telemedicine used Zoom or Skype to help treat patients for minor issues. He stated it was crucial to keep emergency rooms open at this time for more critical patients. He discussed the Fire Department's robust response plan for the upcoming holiday. He acknowledged high demand for response related to illegal use of fireworks was anticipated for the holiday weekend. He stated Arson Watch would be working with the Sheriff's Department on enforcement. He stated 2,203 brush clearance inspections had been completed with 1,900 remaining. In response to Chair Frost, Chief Smith confirmed the Forestry Division was assisting with inspections.

ITEM 2 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Chair Frost moved and Commissioner Gibbs seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Commissioner Roberts absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

A. Previously Discussed Items

None.

B. New Items

1. Approval of Minutes – March 4, 2020

Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Safety Commission Regular meeting of March 4, 2020.

ITEM 3 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 4 NEW BUSINESS

A. Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

Recommended Action: Receive and file report regarding the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas presented the report. She stated the City began tracking the potential impacts of coronavirus in January and began participating in regular conference calls in February. She discussed the City's public communications throughout the pandemic. She discussed testing provided by the City and its partners. She discussed the City's emergency supplies, including N-95 masks, food, and medicine, that could be repurposed for use following a fire or other emergency. She discussed staffing at City Hall, which was now open by appointment only.

Vice Chair Stewart commended the City for adding security when needed.

Chair Frost stated Brian La Spada, Chaplain for the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station, had reached out to all local clergy.

B. Revised Evacuation Terminology

Recommended Action: Receive and file report regarding the revised terminology for mass evacuations.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas presented the report. She discussed the differences in terminology and the impact of having statewide standards. She discussed the definitions of evacuation orders, evacuation warnings, and new road closure terminology.

Vice Chair Stewart suggested that Dolphin Decal stickers should be included.

In response to Commissioner Skophammer, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated smaller shelter populations would utilize hotels coordinated by the American Red Cross. She discussed formation of parking lot hotels and the use of parking lots to shelter people in their vehicles.

Commissioner Gibbs discussed logistical support for people that become displaced. Chief Smith stated they did not want to send people back into infrastructure that could be in a hazardous condition. He stated authorities walked a fine line on repopulation. He discussed many factors considered before repopulation.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 6:13 p.m., Commissioner Gibbs moved and Commissioner Skophammer seconded a motion to adjourn. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Commissioner Roberts absent.

Approved and adopted by the Public Safety Commission of the City of Malibu on August 5, 2020.



CHRIS FROST, Chair

ATTEST:



MARY LINDEN, Executive Assistant