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, Fred Roberts, and Dale Skophammer

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager; Jerry Vandermeulen, Fire Safety Liaison; Rob DuBoux, Public Works Director; Lieutenant James Braden, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department; Brandie Ayala, Senior Administrative Assistant; Parker Davis, Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Chair Frost moved and Vice Chair Stewart seconded a motion to approve the agenda with Item No. 3.A. to be heard after Item No. 4.C. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Executive Assistant Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on September 30, 2020.

ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Cranston discussed the City’s preparations for potential fires. He stated the Evacuation Plan did not take into account residents who would choose not to evacuate. He
suggested those residents be permitted to collaborate with the Fire Department. He stated his recommendations, emailed to the City, included residents registering with City, attending home defense classes, and being issued a special decal. He requested the Commission prepare a proposal to be presented to the City Council.

Josh Spiegel thanked the Commissioners for donating their time to the community. He discussed ongoing break-ins, particularly at beachside homes. He suggested the City recommend the Lost Hills Sheriff’s Station implement a notification system similar to Ventura County’s new Community Crime map that is powered by LexisNexis at no cost. He stated residents deserved tools with 21st century technology to protect themselves.

ITEM 1.B. STAFF UPDATES

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated Public Safety staff, CERT team members, VOP and Arson Watch had gone door to door in Eastern Malibu to discuss evacuation zones and plan with residents, contacting 199 residents over two weekends. She said most were unaware of the new evacuation zones. She discussed staff training on the City’s new virtual Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on an Oracle platform. She discussed homeless set up near Corral Beach and Dan Blocker Beach. She stated she contacted Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors and the Sheriff’s Department to coordinate efforts to clear the area.

In response to Mr. Cranston, Fire Safety Liaison Vandermeulen stated the City is the smallest player in any major fire incident. He stated the Fire Department and Incident Commander would need to approve any type of plan. He stated any such plan should be presented to the Los Angeles County Fire and Sheriff’s Departments. He stated the Los Angeles Emergency Response Foundation recommended not to have residents staying behind to fight fires but instead to establish volunteer fire brigades, which was in progress. He discussed the levels of control during a major incident. He discussed the Home Ignition Zone Seminar offered on September 24. He discussed impacts of Assembly Bill (AB) 3074 recently signed by the Governor that provided for fuel reduction in the ember zone of properties in High Fire Zones, including Malibu. He stated CalFire would draft recommendations and the Los Angeles County Fire Department would enforce the new law. He stated current Fuel Moisture was currently at 59 percent.

Public Works Director DuBoux stated warrants would not support a stop sign at Busch Drive and Merritt Drive because there had been no accidents reported at the intersection. He stated the new Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) car was currently being outfitted. He stated the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Caltrans for operation of the transfer switches on signal controllers along PCH had been approved by the City Council and was out for execution. He discussed the status of the Civic Center Way Improvements Project. He stated staff met with the Fire Department and Sheriff’s Department regarding temporary access ramps installed for emergency vehicles. He stated no work would be done during Red Flag Warning periods.
ITEM 1.C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gibbs stated he read Mr. Spiegel’s email. He discussed similar app produced by Citizen. He stated he would support any app with input from either public agencies or citizens. In response to Mr. Cranston, he stated he agreed with Fire Safety Liaison Vandermeulen’s comments. He discussed work to integrate fire brigades with the County. He stated they were working through liability issues and there would be a lot of education for residents. He commended the City and County for their efforts.

Commissioner Roberts asked who was responsible for repairing missing or damaged sections of railing near Zuma Beach. Public Works Director DuBoux stated he would reach out to Caltrans and Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors. In response to Commissioner Roberts, Public Works Director DuBoux stated parking limitations on PCH near Zuma Beach and Corral Canyon would be heard by the Planning Commission on October 19.

Commissioner Skophammer agreed with Mr. Cranston’s suggestions including certifying homes, determining who would stay behind and get signed releases of liability with the City. He agreed with Mr. Spiegel that homeless individuals breaking into homes was a real concern for many residents. He discussed recent incidents. He asked who was responsible for prosecuting those crimes. He stated they should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. He stated this situation was a danger for both residents and the invaders. He suggested the City Attorney should assist with getting these crimes prosecuted. He thanked Public Works Director DuBoux for investigating options at Busch Drive and Merritt Drive.

Vice Chair Stewart discussed a recent fatal accident on PCH at Rambla Pacifico. He stated safety at the Rambla Pacifico and Las Flores Canyon Road intersections with PCH needed to be addressed. In response to Mr. Cranston, he stated the Firefront Following Brigade developed after the Woolsey Fire should be pursued. In response to Mr. Siegel, he stated the City’s crime statistics may have been flat over recent years but did not feel that way to residents. He discussed suggestions at the Business Roundtable and candidates forum were to put signage up on PCH identifying the evacuation zones and include the descriptions of the zones. He thanked Public Works Director DuBoux for the Big Rock Community Meeting that discussed dewatering issues and landslide threats. He stated it was critical that there was staffing set for the generators and switches during overnight hours. He commended Public Safety Specialist Kaplan and the Public Safety team for all the presentations during Emergency Preparedness Month. He stated the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) successfully tested the new repeater on Castro Peak last night from Big Rock to Ventura County. He encouraged Public Safety Manager Dueñas to let the community know about the virtual EOC.

Chair Frost stated he participated in the radio test, communicating from creek level in Paradise Cove to Big Rock. He commended the City and Richard Garvey on radio
improvements. In response to Mr. Cranston, he stated safety has to be paramount. He stated anyone who was not trained and stayed behind in Malibu Park during the Woolsey Fire would have been in trouble. He stated he might support a brigade or other system if people were vetted. He stated the parking situation was getting bad again with people parking on sidewalks. He discussed longtime problems at the intersection of PCH and Las Flores Canyon Road. He stated the left turn signal on westbound PCH at Rambla Pacifico confused drivers about oncoming traffic. He stated Caltrans needed to resolve these problems. He discussed two fires over the last three days, possibly due to homeless encampments. He stated agency agreements should be signed and posted. He stated everyone should be vigilant and report any encampments to the Sheriff’s or Fire Department. He discussed the recent fatal accident at Trancas Canyon. He suggested adding bollards there. He stated he supported Mr. Siegel’s and Commissioner Skophammer’s suggestion about an app, but it would only work if people used it. He stated the fuel moisture level was a concern. He thanked Public Safety staff and the CERT team for their efforts the past month. He requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dwight “Doc” Stayer, a local surfer who passed away a few weeks ago.

ITEM 2 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Commissioner Gibbs moved and Vice Chair Stewart seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

A. Previously Discussed Items
   None.
B. New Items
   1. Approval of Minutes – September 2, 2020
      Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Safety Commission Regular meeting of September 2, 2020.

ITEM 4 NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Safety Services Annual Review
   Recommended Action: 1) Review services provided by the County of Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, Fire Department, and Lifeguards, and Malibu Volunteers on Patrol (VOP); and 2) provide a recommendation to the City Council for service level adjustments, if appropriate.

   Public Safety Manager Dueñas welcomed Acting Assistant Fire Chief Drew Smith and Community Services Liaison, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Chief Lifeguard Fernando Boiteux, Los Angeles County Lifeguards, Lieutenant Jim Braden, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, and Mark Russo, Malibu VOP.
Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith thanked the City for its support and presented a report for the Fire Department. He discussed wildfires in Malibu, including two in the Carbon Canyon and Big Rock areas, and a 100-acre fire in Malibu Creek State Park. He stated the Fire Department worked closely with City staff on education and media outreach. He discussed the County’s Ready! Set! Go! program. He stated he participated in lengthy discussions regarding evacuation plans. He commended Community Services Liaison Currier for being available 24/7 to provide information as the City’s first point of contact.

Chief Lifeguard Boiteux presented the Lifeguard report. He discussed Lifeguards’ presence in Malibu, including 27 lifeguard stations and the rescue boat berthed off the Malibu Pier. He stated it was a very busy year, even with beach closures due to COVID-19, including over 3,000 water rescues and 410 boat calls. He stated the Junior Lifeguard Program was cancelled in 2020, but he was confident it would be available in 2021.

Lieutenant Braden thanked Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith and Chief Lifeguard Boiteux for working closely with the Lost Hills Sheriff’s Station. He stated the past year included participation in numerous trainings, discussions about the evacuation plan, and future responses to fires. He stated protocol did not include arresting people resisting evacuations during a fire, but it was important to note the growing number of people dying in wildland fires. He discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and Safer at Home Orders. He agreed with Chief Lifeguard Boiteux that crowds were larger than past years. He discussed funding provided by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl’s office for additional patrols from March through Labor Day. He stated Sheriff personnel normally assigned to work County courthouses were available when the courthouses were closed. He stated Malibu’s regular patrol included 15 deputies. He stated deputies responded to 545 calls to date in 2020, which was nearly the same as in 2019. In response to Mr. Siegel’s concerns, he stated residents could file a Letter of Agency with the Sheriff’s Department consenting to removal of persons from their property. He stated anyone could voice concerns to the District Attorney’s office and request trespassers be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. He discussed changes in homelessness and the need for a shelter and safe parking area. He stated he would look into creating a website or app for accessing information in real time and would check what other counties offered.

Mark Russo, VOP, thanked the City for the new VOP car that is expected to be delivered in about two weeks. He stated there were 20 members on the team. He stated shifts normally operated from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. seven days a week providing high visibility patrols in residential areas. He stated they aided residents in completing and submitting letters of agency. He stated three new applicants were working through the training process. He stated VOP responded to traffic collisions, which helped free up deputies to get back on patrol more quickly. He reported that,
since January 2020, the VOP team had issued 14,679 parking citations and had put in 10,966 volunteer hours. He discussed red tags issued for illegal parking. He stated many motorists simply moved their vehicles the minimum distance to avoid being towed. He stated he supported increasing the distance required to move a parked vehicle before it was towed. He stated most motorists complied with the law, but many simply shuffled to other locations within Malibu.

Chair Frost thanks Mr. Russo and the VOP team members for all the hours they worked. He stated Malibu’s VOP program was more advanced with higher participation than teams in other areas. He commended VOPs who responded in the middle of the night.

Commissioner Gibbs commended Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith and Community Liaison Currier for providing critical information for the Malibu area via Twitter. He suggested the City push out the information on its social media network. Community Liaison Currier stated she would send the Fire Department’s social media handles to the City’s Media Information Officer.

Vice Chair Stewart discussed training deputies to monitor drug rehabilitation centers. He stated there were more rehab centers than in the past and their mental, drug and alcohol issues become Malibu issues. He stated there needed to be a safe parking area at Zuma for night hours only with specific requirements to get in.

Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith discussed mobilizing resources during high fire risk periods. He discussed augmenting staff with additional hand crews and strike teams that would provide for more than 100 people available for a first alarm response. He stated the Fire patrol provided 24-hour surveillance.

Lieutenant Braden stated the Sheriff's Department had funding for extra deputies during red flag conditions.

Commissioner Skophammer stated the need for a homeless shelter did not change the fact that individuals who invaded homes should go to jail and not be released so quickly. He reiterated that these people should be prosecuted and punished. In response to Commissioner Skophammer, Lieutenant Braden stated residents could call the detectives at the Lost Hills Station or the filing section at the District Attorney’s office in the Van Nuys Courthouse. Commissioner Skophammer thanked and commended the VOP and Lost Hills Station for their great work.

Lieutenant Braden commended the VOP for the tremendous support and assistance they provided to the Sheriff’s Department. In response to Commissioner Skophammer, Lieutenant Braden discussed current deployment in the City. He stated early mornings were especially thin and could use additional deputies. He stated units from other areas were available for additional support during the day.
In response to Commissioner Skophammer, Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith explained how decisions were made and strategies set for different areas or fire corridors at Incident Command. He stated they were based on corridors and time of day or night. He stated history and lessons learned from 100 years of fires in the Santa Monica Mountains helped determine priorities and challenges. He stated other fires being combatted at the same time affected resource allocation for fire and law partners. He stated four other fires were being fought when the Woolsey Fire began. He discussed how geospatial analysis contributed to the plans.

Commissioner Skophammer asked if a strategic plan specifically for Malibu would be beneficial, especially if the Incident Commander was not familiar with Malibu.

Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith stated there was a plan that included zone maps. He discussed different ways to combat fires based on the fire’s character, how it is moving, climatology and changes. He stated tactics differed on different days within a red flag event. He described a variety of maps available to Incident Command and all agencies responding to a fire.

Chair Frost discussed a supervisor class offered by the Fire Department he took that taught how to run a division during a fire. He stated he was impressed with how quickly they could access maps and other information.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas thanked Chief Lifeguard Boiteux, Acting Assistant Fire Chief Smith and Lieutenant Braden for their partnership, dedication, and support over the past year. She commended the Lifeguards and Sheriff’s Department for extra efforts required on the beaches this summer due to the pandemic. She reported there have already been 18 fires in 2020. She thanked and commended Community Services Liaison Currier for so quickly informing the City any time a fire occurred.

B. 2020 Summer Beach Enforcement Operation Summary

Recommended Action: Receive and file summary report of the 2020 Summer Beach Enforcement Operation.

Lieutenant Braden presented the report. He stated managing the beaches and PCH was already busy prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and enforcement was even more challenging since March. He discussed the Beach Team’s activity statistics. He stated alcohol citations were three times the number issued in 2019. He discussed problems with towing vehicles this year. He stated next year’s plan will be adjusted to include towing.

Vice Chair Stewart agreed the City needed to help establish a spot for the towing company. Lieutenant Braden stated a mid-city location would be best.
C. Public Safety Agency Activity
Recommended Action: Discuss recent Public Safety Agency activities and receive and file activity reports from the County of Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, Fire Department and Lifeguard Division.

CONSENSUS
By consensus, the Commission agreed to receive and file activity reports from the County of Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, Fire Department and Lifeguard Division.

ITEM 3 OLD BUSINESS

A. Parking Citation Penalties (continued from September 2, 2020)
Recommended Action: Provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding revisions to the City’s Schedule of Parking Citation Penalties.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated Chair Frost and Vice Chair Stewart had conducted research into other cities’ parking fine schedules.

Vice Chair Stewart stated they reached out to the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG) cities and other coastal cities. He stated the staff report attachment compared Malibu’s schedule of fines to those of Calabasas, Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach and Laguna Beach. He discussed suggested changes to Malibu’s parking citation penalties to more closely reflect those of similar cities. He suggested increasing fines under $100 for the most commonly cited violations with no change to penalties already over $100.

Commissioner Gibbs asked what the revenue increase would be compared to last year’s revenues if the changes were implemented. Vice Chair Stewart stated there would be a substantial increase by just increasing fines by $5 to $10 per citation.

Commissioner Skophammer asked if fines could be increased each year by $10.

Chair Frost stated he and Vice Chair Stewart had discussed the process with the City Attorney’s office. He stated Santa Monica’s public lots and Laguna Beach’s parking meters made their situation different. He stated he thought the City should go as high as possible without being challenged in court. He stated the Assistant City Attorney recommended staying within the range of other COG cities. Chair Frost suggested the Commission’s recommendation to Council include that the citation schedule be revisited in the future.

Vice Chair Stewart agreed with conducting an annual review that included comparing other cities’ fine schedules. He explained how the City’s portion of the fine was determined.
MOTION Chair Frost moved and Vice Chair Stewart seconded a motion to provide a recommendation to the City Council to: 1) Revise the City’s Schedule of Parking Citation Penalties as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Current Fee</th>
<th>Proposed Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15.20.070</td>
<td>Failure to Obey Signs</td>
<td>$58.00</td>
<td>$73.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.20.130</td>
<td>Parking Space Markings</td>
<td>48.00</td>
<td>53.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.44.140</td>
<td>No Parking Areas - Placement of Vehicle</td>
<td>48.00</td>
<td>53.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.64.110</td>
<td>Bus Loading Zone</td>
<td>263.00</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.140</td>
<td>Temporary No Parking</td>
<td>53.00</td>
<td>73.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.260</td>
<td>No Parking Anytime</td>
<td>53.00</td>
<td>73.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.280</td>
<td>Parking Wrong Side of Street</td>
<td>53.00</td>
<td>58.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.320</td>
<td>Parking Driveway</td>
<td>53.00</td>
<td>73.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.370</td>
<td>Parking Fire Hydrant</td>
<td>68.00</td>
<td>83.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.400</td>
<td>Handicap Parking Street</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.64.410</td>
<td>Handicap Parking Off Street</td>
<td>338.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.76.080</td>
<td>Vehicles on Sidewalk</td>
<td>53.00</td>
<td>73.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2) Add a new fee of $73.00 for Parking at Red Curb (Code 15.20.070); and 3) direct the Public Safety Commission to review the Schedule of Parking Citation Penalties annually. The question was called and the motion carried 4-1, Commissioner Roberts dissenting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 7:48 p.m., Chair Frost moved and Commissioner Skophammer seconded a motion to adjourn in memory of Dwight “Doc” Stayer. The question was called and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and adopted by the Public Safety Commission of the City of Malibu on November 4, 2020.

CHRIS FROST, Chair

ATTEST:

MARY LINDEN, Executive Assistant