

COMMUNITY-POLICE ADVISORY BOARD OLYMPIC COMMUNITY POLICE STATION

1130 Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90006



Report for 6 March 2025

CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Co-Chair Moises Gomez in the Commander Matthew Blake Community Room, Olympic Station.

MINUTES. The Minutes of the meeting of 3 October 2024 were reviewed. The identification of Officer Joe Cirrito as a 'former Olympic officer' was corrected to read 'current Olympic officer.' The minutes were approved as corrected. Olympic C-PAB has not met in the interim.

CAPTAIN'S REMARKS. Captain O'Connor introduced himself and briefly reviewed his LAPD career.

Captain O'Connor stated that the change in crime reporting methodology (based on 'incident' rather than 'victim') makes year-over-year comparisons invalid until the anniversary of the new system. Meanwhile, month-over-month comparisons suggest decreases in Robbery and Theft From Motor Vehicles but an increase in Burglary. He noted that these burglaries often occur through an open door on a second-floor balcony after the perpetrator climbs or is boosted from the ground. He suggested placing a stick in the track of a sliding door to prevent its opening. He also noted that all Olympic officers have returned from their deployments during the fires.

The Senior Lead Officer (SLO) assignments have been updated and all areas are covered although with some duplication of the personnel. New maps were distributed. The retirement of long-time SLO Dikran Melkonian was celebrated last week.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS.

A member asked about the amount of gang activity, especially MS13 activity along Brendo. Captain O'Connor said that the Olympic Gang Unit is proactive and making numerous arrests; further there is very little gang-related crime in the Division, meaning gang shootings or intra-gang violence. The KYCC teams remove graffiti promptly. The member refocused the question to gang members who hang out in public locations, drinking, doing drugs and causing difficulties for residents.

A member from the Arapahoe/Olympic neighborhood stated that the direct connection to KYCC for quick response to graffiti is no longer working and requests for service to 311 take months even if reporting drugs, guns and public drinking. Residents need to band together, make multiple reports to 311 and involve the Council office. The LA Controllers Office has a web page that reports on the number of 311 requests received (<u>Link to page</u>.)

The neighborhood near Pico & Elden is experiencing graffiti and non-working street lighting from copper wire thefts. The Captain will investigate personally.

A representative of the Pico-Union Neighborhood Council asked if Olympic Officers would work with a local volunteer experienced with homeless issues. Unfortunately, Officers can work only with official City personnel.

Can LAPD support return of LAUSD Police to embedded positions within schools? Captain O'Connor said that LAPD does not assign LAUSD Police staff because it is a separate organization. Residents should communicate with the Council office.

A member asked what can be done about multiple abandoned or unlicensed vehicles parked in their neighborhood. The SLO will investigate and arrange for citations and towing.

A member asked if SLOs can attend the regular Pico-Union Neighborhood Council meetings occurring on 1st Mondays. The Captain will coordinate with Rampart whose territory comprises part of the Council.

A member asked for assistance regarding a motor home encampment on 8th St. near Hoover.

SENIOR LEAD UPDATES.

SLO Eric Mollinedo provided details for the Prom Closet, described below, with attached flyer.

SLO Alex Cho (20A53, west side Crenshaw to Mariposa,, Pico to Wilshire) spoke about improving communications with residents and ways of combatting thefts, Burglary From Motor Vehicles and Burglaries.

Patrol Officer Oropeza (area 20A39, north-east corner) provided his phone (213) 810-7861 and said he would assist with resident concerns during the transition from recently retired SLO Melkonian

EVENTS

1. Neighborhood Clean-Up in conjunction with Equitas Academy, 1050 Beacon Ave., 9-11 am,

- 2. Neighborhood Clean-Up in conjunction with Loyola High School, 1901 Venice Blvd, 8 am.
- 3. Coffee With A Cop, 19 March, 1 pm. Koreatown Plaza 928 S Western Ave. Opportunity to meet SLOs, Detectives, Command Staff for discussion of concerns. Flyer attached below.
- 4. Prom Closet. 30 March 9 am − 1 pm Olympic Station. Free distribution of clothing to allow students to attend their high school proms in the appropriate dress. Men's and women's clothing available. Questions to Officer Escamilla 37380@lapd.online. Flyer attached below.
- **5.** Neighborhood Watch Committee, 2 April, 6:30 pm. Olympic Division Station.
- **6.** Opening Day, Seoul International Park, 3250 San Marino St, Los Angeles, CA 90006, Sports & Recreation activities.

Meeting adjourned 7:05 pm.

NEXT MEETING, Thursday, 3 April 2025, 6:00 pm, Olympic Station.

(Meetings are normally 1st Thursdays but may change to accommodate events and schedules.)

Submitted by Robert Reeves, Secretary. Comments and suggestions should be made through the Olympic CRO.



