

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION
October 28, 2021
MINUTES**

➤ **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting on Thursday, October 28, 2021, was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by GoToWebinar Meeting.

➤ **ROLL CALL**

Fire & Police Commissioners:

Present: John Stedman, Chair
Lizzie Rodriguez, Vice Chair
Commissioner John Ahlman
Commissioner Dianne Travis-Teague

Absent: None

Staff: Chris Mailes, Fire Chief
Bernard Melekian, *Interim* Police Chief
Carol Lupo, Commission Secretary
Nicole Kasper, Commission Secretary

➤ **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None

➤ **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR September 23, 2021**

MOTION: Commissioner Travis-Teague motion to approve the minutes from September 23, 2021. Vice Chair Rodriguez seconds approval of minutes.

ACTION: Unanimous voice vote.

➤ **PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ NONE

➤ **OLD BUSINESS**

➤ NONE

➤ **FIRE AND POLICE LIAISON REPORTS**

Police Liaison – Chair Stedman

➤ NONE

Fire Liaison – John Ahlman

➤ NONE

➤ **POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Chief Melekian and Dennis Diaz with I.T. update on current projects

- Many projects happening in I.T. at the Police Department; core infrastructure equipment upgrades, cloud sync and security initiatives including A.I. technology and active monitoring, MDC (computers in patrol vehicles) replacement.
- I.T. is also working with Officers for soft implementation of body worn cameras which started with Team 1 (day shift) and will continue to be distributed in the weeks ahead.
- I.T. is also working on digital evidence management, as the need for additional storage space (approx. 300 TB) will increase with implementation of body worn cameras.
- Transient related calls around the Rose Garden Inn have had a slight increase compared to 2019.
- Violent crime is down 3%, property crime is up 13%, gang incidents are down 63%, and gang related incidents (an incident where a person commits a crime, but it is not to further a criminal street gang) are down 53%.

➤ **FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Chief Mailles

- Fire crews have been dealing with a very busy fire season; nine wildland fires in the state.
- A brush truck made six rotations for two separate fires, which results in that truck being unavailable for three months.
- City Council approved a Regional Fire Communications Facility (R.F.C.F.). All 37 fire stations will be dispatched by one center. The closest available unit (regardless of jurisdiction) will respond. Emergency calls will continue to be received by the Combined Communication Center, but if it is a Fire or EMS related emergency, the call will be transferred to the R.F.C.F.
- City Council allocated \$100K for fuels mitigation. There is now a three-person team directly involved with vegetation management.

➤ **NEW BUSINESS**

- Vice Chair Rodriguez requests to agendaize a discussion about conducting a first responder climate survey.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Chair Rodriguez

- The Community Formation Commission (CFC) has chosen a conceptual hybrid model which includes a review focused component, the most prevalent component of hybrid models; an auditor-monitor focused component, which uses data, trends, and stats to promote systemic change; and an investigation component when needed, which includes a contracted professionally trained investigator. The details of each model have yet to be determined.
- Should an investigation be needed, a consultant would need to be hired to conduct the investigation as it requires time and technical skills beyond the scope of the C.F.C.
- Two commissioners withdrew, which were replaced by the 2 alternates pre-appointed by the City Council.

➤ **ADJOURNMENT / 6:02 PM**

MOTION: Vice Chair Rodriguez requests to move for adjournment.
Second by Chair Stedman.

ACTION: Unanimous voice vote.