

## **Pacific Palisades - Community Advisory Group call with LAPD - Recap**

Maryam welcomed all and noted Marian Ensley, Capt Gabaldon, Sgt Alpert, SLO Espin and Inspector Sutton. LAPD updated and discussed existing operations and crime prevention efforts in Pacific Palisades. The group explored ways to improve community communication and safety through enhanced reporting channels, information exchange systems, and coordination between private security and law enforcement. A dedicated line at the West LA station was suggested by Capt. Gabaldon, and Sgts responsible for each area were designated as points of contact. Concerns about construction staging areas and the eventuality that these will be targeted for stealing and will need a law enforcement solution were raised. Warren Sutton provided updates on LAFD brush clearance efforts and fire safety regulations, and how they are different now, as LAFD remains mindful of Palisadians' unique circumstances.

### **Summary**

#### **Community Safety and Operations Update**

The group welcomes representatives from the LAPD, LAFD Brush Clearance, and the mayor's office. Maryam mentions that the Army Corps of Engineers has made impressive progress, and she will share their report. The meeting aims to discuss community concerns, law enforcement landscape, and brush clearance efforts in Pacific Palisades.

#### **Checkpoint Operations and Crime Prevention**

Captain Richard Gabaldon reports that operations are running smoothly and that the checkpoints will continue until approximately July 7th, when they will be reevaluated. Crime reports have been low in the area recently. Once checkpoints are disbanded, LAPD plans to implement a crime suppression effort (as shared on May 13th) with 5 sectors, each with two officers in separate patrol cars. Jessica provides positive community feedback on the checkpoints but notes some inconsistencies in verification procedures. Concerns are raised about potential security challenges with upcoming construction staging areas. Sergeant Alpert and Senior Lead Officer Espin address recent burglaries and explain that checkpoint procedures are balancing security needs with traffic flow considerations.

#### **Community Security Enhancement Strategy**

Capt Gabaldon outlines plans for improving security and response times in the area. He proposes having sergeants liaise with private security, establishing a real-time crime center, and creating a dedicated phone line for non-emergency calls. Jessica emphasizes the need for a long-term prevention-focused approach, given the area's vulnerability to theft and expected influx of construction activity. She suggests maintaining checkpoints and seeking state and federal funding for continued protection. Maryam agrees to follow up on improving communication channels and developing a digital platform for the community.

## **Brush Clearance Inspection Delays**

Warren Sutton, the brush clearance inspector for Palisades and Brentwood, reports that initial inspections are behind schedule due to funding cuts and will likely be completed by late July or early August. He notes challenges with properties affected by the recent fire, including regrowth on burnt lots. Warren also mentions potential changes in brush clearance regulations, such as the proposed 5-foot ember-resistant zone, and discusses efforts to clear state parkland. He encourages residents to contact him directly with specific property concerns.

## **Fire Risk and Fence Regulations**

Warren clarifies that while there is less fuel load in the recently burned areas, the brush grows back quickly within a few years, becoming dense with a high fire risk. He confirms that wood fences are currently allowed even close to houses, and if Zone 0 regulations are adopted, wood fences would still be permitted beyond 5 feet from structures. Regarding built-in planter boxes with small vegetation near homes, Warren explains that these are not currently being enforced against, and he hopes they won't be cited even if new regulations are adopted. Warren apologizes for the confusion caused by recent mailers mentioning (unadopted) Assembly Bill 3074 regulations.

## **Community Concerns and Traffic Solutions**

Maryam concludes the meeting by addressing several community concerns. She mentions that modern rebuilding codes might already comply with the 5-foot setback requirement. Brian from LAPD agrees to relay concerns about traffic light timing at Chautauqua and PCH to Caltrans. The group also discusses the potential restoration of speed limits and access from PCH to Chautauqua. Maryam shares USACE notes in the chat (see below) and shares that Tem Cyn Rd is being cleared and remediated (perhaps in time for schools) and that she is getting a tour of WR operations later.

### *Overall Palisades Fire Area*

*Over 3,000 properties have been fully completed and approved by the county*

*An additional 400 are cleared, with paperwork being processed by USACE and the county (So that's 3,400 total cleared)*

*We're working several multifamily complexes, with more starting in the next few weeks.*

*Over 1,000,000 tons of debris has been cleared.*

### *Palisades Neighborhoods:*

*Alphabet Streets: 88% complete*

*Marquez: 74% complete*

*Highlands: 51% complete*

*El Medio/Via Bluffs: 74% complete*

*Tahitian Terrace: Expect to be 100% cleared by early next week*

*Temescal Canyon Road Debris Reduction operations are complete. We've started the process of removing equipment so we can restore the road. This will take a few months to complete.*