

Summary: Pacific Palisades Community Advisory Board (PP-CAB) Meeting with LAPD

Date: May 21, 2025

Location: Pacific Palisades – remote zoom (called by M Zar and Pali Recovery Coalition)

Purpose: Improve coordination between LAPD and community stakeholders on security, communication, and deployment strategy.

Overview:

The group focused on security in the Palisades Pools-National Guard (presumed to be end of May) and fostering collaboration between residents, private security agencies, and the LAPD as the security landscape evolves and shifts, requiring adjustments.

I. Sector-Based Security Deployment Plan

LAPD presented a plan to divide the Palisades into four patrol sectors, aiming to optimize officer presence despite limited staffing. The community emphasized the need for continued heightened presence during the ongoing post-fire rebuilding phase, where many homes are vulnerable and unoccupied.

Sector Assignments:

1. **Sector 1:** Palisades Drive & The Highlands
2. **Sector 2:** Marquez area
3. **Sector 3:** Alphabets & Huntington
4. **Sector 4:** Santa Monica Canyon & Lower Riviera

Each sector is expected to have two dedicated officers, with the ability to scale depending on crime data and staffing availability. Officers will mostly come from LAPD's West Bureau, with flexibility for citywide support as needed.

Community Concerns & Proposals:

- Some community members, including Jim and Sharon, voiced concerns about declining police visibility and asked for access to crime statistics that drive deployment decisions.
- Sharon advocated for assigning the same officers to specific sectors for consistency and familiarity with residents and geography.
- John raised concerns about traffic bottlenecks once the current checkpoint system is removed and requested LADOT assistance for traffic control and resident verification.
- Jessica proposed creative deployment strategies including the use of bike patrols, drones, and integrating Ring footage.
- Property owners noted the vulnerability of unattended construction sites and asked for increased patrols and theft deterrence strategies.

Action Items:

- **LAPD** to evaluate foot and bike patrols as complementary coverage methods.
- **LAPD** to investigate integrating Ring camera data and other private surveillance into official monitoring systems.
- **Community members** to continue advocating for an extension of checkpoint patrols.

- **LAPD** to explore maintaining consistent officer assignments by sector.
 - **LAPD & LADOT** to coordinate on post-checkpoint traffic control plans.
 - **Community leaders** to pursue fundraising efforts to support additional private patrols or LAPD overtime hours.
 - **LAPD** to refine plans based on crime data and on-the-ground feedback.
 - **Property owners** to instruct crews on securing equipment and maintaining site safety.
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II. Security and Communication Coordination

MZ proposed weekly CAB meetings with LAPD, which Captain Gabaldon supported as a way to better integrate community insights into police response. There was a shared understanding that while LAPD has limited capacity, strategic collaboration and smarter communication tools could bridge the gap.

Key Issues Discussed:

- A system is needed for private patrol companies to coordinate directly with LAPD — potentially a dedicated group chat, encrypted line, or shared reporting form.
- Funding support for enhanced LAPD presence in the Palisades was briefly explored, with a commitment to follow up on the legal and procedural considerations.
- The group emphasized the importance of LAPD utilizing modern tech infrastructure such as Ring cameras, Starlink-supported networks, and shared data from private surveillance systems.
- The current crime reporting system is widely viewed as ineffective. Many residents bypass formal channels and post on social media instead.
- Residents expressed interest in forming a direct line of communication with LAPD for non-emergency coordination, particularly for neighborhoods with active private security patrols. Capt. Gabaldon said a separate landline at the station is being discussed, but a WhatsApp group can be set up for area leaders and the Sgts in charge of each sub-area for swift communication.

Action Items:

- **Captain Gabaldon** to look into 911's compatibility with SMS/chat for emergency communications, and streamlined communications.
 - **Maryam & Jessica** to contact Cort about private funding possibilities for increased LAPD involvement.
 - **Lou** to discuss with Ring and Starlink on discounts for security devices and network integration.
 - **Kambiz** to provide Googledoc link for uploading property trespass authorization forms.
 - **Maryam** to initiate weekly Wednesday meetings at 12:30 PM for ongoing coordination.
 - **Jessica & LAPD** to discuss designing a new, user-friendly crime reporting interface.
 - **Captain Gabaldon** to discuss fairness and feasibility of new reporting systems with LAPD leadership.
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III. Key Takeaways and Future Outlook

- There is a shared desire for smarter, tech-enabled coordination between residents, private security, and LAPD.
- Weekly meetings and consistent officer presence are seen as critical to rebuilding trust and ensuring long-term safety.
- The success of the proposed sector plan hinges on continued LAPD responsiveness and community initiative in fundraising, equipment sharing, and coordination.
- A unified, modern reporting platform could significantly improve community participation and response times.
- Stakeholders are optimistic but recognize that leadership, funding, and communication infrastructure will determine the pace and strength of recovery, and once shortfalls are identified, a community supported plan to engage private security (perhaps through an RFP) will be necessary.