



## AGENDA

### COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD

#### A Regular Meeting via Teleconference

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers, La Mesa City Hall  
8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California

This meeting is being conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with Government Code Section 54953, as amended by Assembly Bill 361.

The public may view the meeting live using the following remote options:

Teleconference Meeting Webinar

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81729273715>

Telephone (Audio only)

(669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782 | Webinar ID: 817 2927 3715

Copy and paste the webinar link into your internet browser if the webinar link does not work directly from the agenda.

#### Live Public Comments

To provide oral public comments during the meeting, join the Zoom meeting by computer, mobile phone, or dial in number. On Zoom video conference by computer or mobile phone, use the “Raise Hand” feature. This will notify the moderator that you wish to speak during a specific item on the agenda or during non-agenda Public Comment. Members of the public will not be shown on video but will be able to speak when called upon. If joining the meeting using the Zoom dial-in number, you may raise your hand by pressing \*9. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. No further comments will be entertained after the Chair closes public comment.

#### Written Public Comments

Members of the public who wish to make public comments may submit their comments by email to be read aloud at the CPOB meeting by City staff. Email comments must be submitted to the City Clerk at [comments@cityoflamesa.us](mailto:comments@cityoflamesa.us) by **2:00 p.m.** the day of the CPOB meeting and be no more than 300 words. Any language beyond the 300 words shall not be read during the CPOB meeting. The counting of words, for the purposes of public comment submissions, shall follow the same standards as set forth in Elections Code § 9 (see Attachment A). Please note in your email subject line either “public comment” for non-agenda Public Comment or the agenda item number related to the comment. All email comments shall be subject to the same rules as would otherwise govern speaker comments at the CPOB meeting. Form correspondence of identical content signed by different individuals shall be read aloud only once during the comment period. Immediately prior to the reading of such correspondence, the name of each signatory shall be stated aloud.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public may address the CPOB on subjects within the jurisdiction of the CPOB. Unless such subjects are contained within this agenda, there can be no discussion or action by the CPOB until a subsequent, publicly noticed meeting.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD REGULAR MEETINGS HELD WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, AND SEPTEMBER 1, 2021**
2. **LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**
3. **UPDATE FROM THE LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT REGARDING UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**
4. **UPDATE FROM CPOB AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEES ON ANNUAL REPORT**
5. **REVIEW / UPDATE OF STUDENT APPLICATIONS FOR CPOB INTERNSHIP**

**STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the CPOB after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 8130 Allison Avenue, during normal business hours.

Copies of the CPOB Agenda are posted for public review on the announcement boards located near the entrance to City Hall and the entrance to the Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California, no less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to a meeting of the CPOB.

The City of La Mesa encourages the participation of disabled individuals in the services, activities and programs provided by the City. Individuals with disabilities, who require reasonable accommodation in order to participate in CPOB meetings, should contact the City's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, Rida Freeman, Director of Administrative Services, 48 hours prior to the meeting at 619.667.1175, fax 619.667.1163, or [rfreeman@cityoflamesa.us](mailto:rfreeman@cityoflamesa.us).

**State of California****ELECTIONS CODE****Section 9**

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9. (a) Counting of words, for purposes of this code, shall be as follows:
- (1) Punctuation is not counted.
  - (2) Each word shall be counted as one word except as specified in this section.
  - (3) All proper nouns, including geographical names, shall be considered as one word; for example, "City and County of San Francisco" shall be counted as one word.
  - (4) Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression shall be counted as one word.
  - (5) Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.
  - (6) Dates shall be counted as one word.
  - (7) Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, such as "one," shall be considered as a separate word or words. "One" shall be counted as one word whereas "one hundred" shall be counted as two words. "100" shall be counted as one word.
  - (8) Telephone numbers shall be counted as one word.
  - (9) Internet Web site addresses shall be counted as one word.
- (b) This section shall not apply to counting words for ballot designations under Section 13107.

*(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 697, Sec. 3. (SB 1253) Effective January 1, 2015.)*



**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City of La Mesa  
Community Police Oversight Board  
August 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California**

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This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Castaños called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** (X indicates present)

Chair Castaños	X
Vice Chair Dillard	X
Board Member Darby	X
Board Member Davis	X (arrived at 4:04 p.m.)
Board Member Duff	X
Board Member Fuentes	X
Board Member Johnson	X
Board Member Kertson	X (arrived 4:04 p.m.)
Board Member McWilliams	X
Board Member Sylvester	X
Board Member Tiffany	X

Others present: Assistant City Manager Tomaino; City Clerk Wiegelman; General Counsel Larson; General Counsel Chiappetti; Independent Police Auditor (“IPA”) Croxton, Montejano, Nunley, Rasmussen, and Smit.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Castaños led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD REGULAR MEETINGS HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2021, AND JULY 21, 2021**

**ACTION:** Motioned by Board Member Darby and seconded by Vice Chair Dillard to approve the minutes for the Community Police Oversight Board (“CPOB”) Regular meetings held Wednesday, July 7, and July 21, 2021, as amended, to show Board Member Kertson arriving at 4:12 p.m. in the July 21, 2021 CPOB meeting minutes.

**Vote:** 11-0

**Yes:** Chair Castaños, Vice Chair Dillard, Board Members Darby, Davis, Duff, Fuentes, Johnson, Kertson, McWilliams, Sylvester, and Tiffany

**No:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Absent:** None

Motion passed.

### **2. LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS**

Chief Sweeney stated three Community Listening Sessions were held and were successful. Chief Sweeney announced the next Community Listening Session would be held on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at Northmont Elementary School, and the Community Listening Sessions would continue on a quarterly basis or sooner if needed.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

### **3. PRESENTATION FROM LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT REGARDING DRAFT POLICY ON BIAS-BASED POLICING**

Chief Sweeney provided an overview of the draft policy on bias-based policing and explained the purpose for the policy.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

### **4. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD AD-HOC COMMITTEE(S) IN PREPARATION OF AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LA MESA CITY COUNCIL**

Assistant City Manager Tomaino recommended four different ad hoc subcommittees for the purpose of preparing the CPOB’s annual report to the City Council. Assistant City Manager Tomaino explained the ad hoc subcommittees would be comprised of two to three CPOB Board Members, one La Mesa Police Department representative, and one IPA team member.

ACTION: Following discussion, it was the consensus of the CPOB to form the following four ad hoc subcommittees comprised of the following members for the purpose of preparing the CPOB's annual report to City Council:

1. Policies, Operations, and Trainings:  
Board Member Fuentes  
Board Member Duff  
Lieutenant Katy Lynch  
IPA Bert Nunley
  
2. Emergency Operations and Communications:  
Board Member Darby  
Board Member Sylvester  
Captain Matthew Nicholass  
IPA Bruce Smith
  
3. Community Policing and Outreach Programs:  
Board Member Tiffany  
Board Member McWilliams  
Lieutenant Chad Bell  
IPA Karisa Croxton
  
4. Hiring Practices/Promotions, and Employee Wellness Programs:  
Board Member Johnson  
Board Member Kertson  
Lieutenant Gregory Runge  
IPA Dennis Montejano

## **5. REVIEW OF UPDATED DRAFT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

General Counsel Larson explained the CPOB Ordinance limits the scope of the CPOB's oversight authority to LMPD officers and the draft policies and procedures would need to be amended to refer to 'LMPD officers' and not 'LMPD employees'. General Counsel Larson recommended the CPOB monitor the complaints over the next six to twelve months to determine if any complaints pertain to LMPD non-officers and if there would be a need to return to the City Council to broaden the oversight authority of the CPOB to include LMPD non-officers.

Board questions and comments ensued.

ACTION: Motioned by Board Member Darby and seconded by Board Member Sylvester to approve the policies and procedures with the following amendments: (1) include a referential note in Article 5 Section 2(b) to Article 8 Section 1(b); (2) change the wording of Article 6 Section 3(c)(2) to read, "Develop recommendations for improvements to policies, practices, procedures, and trainings"; and (3) add a sentence to Article 9 Section 2(e) stating, "The first report will be due by the end of January 2022."

Vote: 9-0

Yes: Chair Castaños, Vice Chair Dillard, Board Members Darby, Duff, Johnson, Kertson, McWilliams, Sylvester, and Tiffany

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Board Members Davis and Fuentes

Motion passed.

**6. PRESENTATION FROM THE INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR OF THE SAMPLE QUARTERLY REPORTS**

IPA Smith introduced the IPA team from BartlettJames, LLC.

IPA Rasmussen provided an overview of the CPOB projects the IPA team was working on and reviewed the sample quarterly reports.

Board Member Fuentes left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Castaños announced that she, Vice Chair Dillard, and Board Members Sylvester, Duff, and Darby attended a de-escalation training through the District Attorney's Office.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Castaños adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.



**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City of La Mesa  
Community Police Oversight Board  
September 1, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California**

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This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Castaños called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** (X indicates present)

Chair Castaños	X
Vice Chair Dillard	
Board Member Darby	X
Board Member Davis	X
Board Member Duff	X
Board Member Fuentes	X (arrived at 4:01 p.m.)
Board Member Johnson	X
Board Member Kertson	X
Board Member McWilliams	X (arrived at 4:01 p.m.)
Board Member Sylvester	X
Board Member Tiffany	X

Others present: Assistant City Manager Tomaino; City Clerk Wiegelman; General Counsel Larson; Independent Police Auditor (“IPA”) Nunley, and Rasmussen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Fuentes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

**1. LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Lieutenant Lynch provided an update on the La Mesa Police Department (“LMPD”) staffing and introduced the new facility dog, Declan.



Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**2. PRESENTATION FROM INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR ON POLICE-COMMUNITY MEDIATION PROGRAMS**

IPA Rasmussen provided an overview of police-community mediation programs and the statistics of success.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**3. REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD MEMBERS ON DE-ESCALATION TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE SAN DIEGO DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

Chair Castaños, Board Member Duff, Board Member Sylvester, and Board Member Darby shared what they learned from the de-escalation training provided by the San Diego District Attorney's Office.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**4. REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD MEMBERS ON COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: UNITED AGAINST HATE**

Chair Castaños and Board Member Darby shared their takeaways from the Community Conversation: United Against Hate event.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**5. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES IN PREPARATION OF AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LA MESA CITY COUNCIL**

Chair Castaños summarized the purpose and duties of the ad hoc subcommittees established for the preparation of the CPOB Annual Report and the information that should be included in each ad hoc subcommittee's report.

Assistant City Manager Tomaino said Senior Management Analyst Dedmon would be contacting the Board Members to determine meeting dates and times for each ad hoc subcommittee. Assistant City Manager Tomaino stated each ad hoc subcommittee would meet approximately three times over the next couple of months.

Board Member Davis was appointed to the Hiring Practices/Promotions, and Employee Wellness Programs Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

General Counsel Larson reviewed La Mesa Municipal Code Sections 2.30.100 and 2.30.110 which set forth the powers and duties of the CPOB and outline the public reports to be drafted and issued by the CPOB.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

### **STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Castaños encouraged Board Members to reach out to individuals who may be interested in the CPOB internship program and announced the CPOB Regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 15, 2021 was cancelled.

Assistant City Manager Tomaino announced the National Association for Civilian Citizens Oversight of Law Enforcement (“NACOLE”) had upcoming virtual trainings.

Senior Management Analyst Dedmon explained how Board Members could sign up for the NACOLE trainings.

IPA Rasmussen announced the IPA team would be transmitting the first audit in a couple of days.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Castaños adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.