



AGENDA

CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE

A Regular Meeting via Teleconference

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

La Mesa Police Department Community Room
8085 University Avenue, La Mesa, California

This meeting is being 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.

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

Teleconference Meeting Webinar

<https://zoom.us/s/98068149329>

Telephone (Audio only)

(669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782 | Webinar ID: 980 6814 9329

Public Comments for Items non on the Agenda

Members of the public who wish to make public comments may submit their comments by email to be read aloud at the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force meeting by staff. Email comments must be submitted to Comments@cityoflamesa.us by 3:00 p.m. the day of the Task Force meeting and be no more than 300 words. Any language beyond the 300 words shall not be read during the Task Force 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 that this is for "PUBLIC COMMENT". All email comments shall be subject to the same rules as would otherwise govern speaker comments at the Task Force meeting.

Public Comments for Items on the Agenda

Members of the public who wish to make comments on items on the agenda may submit their comments by email to be read aloud at the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force meeting by staff. Email comments will be accepted prior to the Task Force meeting and up until the time that the Chair announces that public comment is closed for that item. Email comments must be submitted to Comments@cityoflamesa.us and be no more than 300 words. Any language beyond the 300 words shall not be read during the Task Force 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 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 Task Force meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**
2. **REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE COMPLAINT HANDBOOK**
3. **PRESENTATION OF LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS – Lieutenant Bell**
4. **DISCUSSION OF SURVEY DISTRIBUTION**
5. **DISCUSSION REGARDING RESEARCHING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR**
6. **STAFF AND TASK FORCE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ADJOURNMENT to the Regular meeting of Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the La Mesa Police Department Community Room, 8085 University Avenue.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Task Force 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 Task Force Agenda are posted for public review on the lobby door of the La Mesa Police Department and 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 Task Force

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 Task Force 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.

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

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.)

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE
5:00 PM, LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM
8085 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942**

**MINUTES
September 16, 2020**

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.

The Agenda Items were considered in the order presented, except for Items 2 and 3, which were considered together.

CALL TO ORDER

City Clerk Wiegelman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

- Robert Duff X
- Dr. Janet Castanos X
- Jamal McRae X
- Susan Wayne X
- Caitlin Tiffany X
- Patricia Dillard X
- Rev. Frank Willey X
- Joshua David Morse X
- Kathie Taylor
- Andy Trimlett X
- Vacant (La Mesa Police Officers' Association Representative)

Others present: City Clerk Wiegelman; Lieutenant Lynch; Community Service Officer Allsberry; General Counsel Larson; General Counsel Sheridan Ordin; General Counsel Chiappetti

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

City Clerk Wiegelman read aloud the emailed public comments submitted by 3:00 p.m. the day of the Task Force Meeting.

Meegan Nolan submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to

meet and confer.

Demetrius Antuna submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Cheri Robertson submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Nicole Chenelle submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Quintin Lucas submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Sasha Jonestein submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Missy Solis submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

The following comment was not received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline, and therefore was not read aloud during the Task Force Meeting:

Apryl Stepp submitted a comment regarding the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY JULY 15, 2020 AND SPECIAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020

ACTION: Motioned by Member Wayne and seconded by Member Willey to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Regular Meeting held Wednesday, July 15, 2020.

Vote: 8-0

Yes: Chair McRae, Vice Chair Castanos, Members Wayne, Tiffany, Dillard, Willey,

Trimlett, and Morse
No: None
Abstained:None
Absent: Members Taylor and Duff

Motion passed.

ACTION: Motioned by Member Wayne and seconded by Member Dillard to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Special Meeting held Wednesday, July 29, 2020.

Vote: 8-0

Yes: Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard, Rev. Frank Willey, Andy Trimlett, Joshua David Morse
No: None
Abstained:None
Absent: Kathie Taylor, Bob Duff

Motion passed.

Task Force Member Duff joined the meeting.

Agenda Item Nos. 2 and 3 were considered together.

- 2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE TASK FORCE'S PROPOSAL BY THE LA MESA CITY COUNCIL FROM THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**
- 3. DISCUSSION OF PRESENTATION FOR THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 LA MESA CITY COUNCIL MEETING – General Counsel Larson**

General Counsel Larson explained that changes made to the document were based on Task Force recommendations, not recommendations from City Council.

Substantive changes to the proposal included:

- The clarification of the eligibility of former public safety officers.
- Clarification of who will appoint the positions on the board.
- An added provision regarding the review of serious incidents from the past.

The Task Force discussed the time period of five years for looking back at past incidents within La Mesa Police Department. It was determined that this time frame was based on state law for records retention.

The Task Force discussed the letter received by City Council from the La Mesa Police Department Police Officers' Association's legal counsel regarding the request to meet and confer.

City Clerk Wiegelman read aloud the emailed public comments submitted for Item 2 and 3.

Dave Myers submitted a comment regarding language and clarification of parts of the proposal, internal investigations and the suggestion of a press conference.

Gene Carpenter submitted a comment regarding City Council Member Baber's acceptance of a La Mesa Police Department POA donation.

ACTION: Motioned by Janet Castanos and seconded by Bob Duff for Task Force Members Trimlett, Taylor, Willey, Castanos and Dillard to draft a letter to the POA, to be discussed at a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2020.

Vote: 9-0

Yes: Chair McRae, Vice Chair Castanos, and Members Wayne, Tiffany, Dillard, Willey, Trimlett, Morse, Duff

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Member Taylor

Motion passed.

4. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT COMMUNITY COMPLAINT PROCESS HANDBOOK – Chair McRae and Members Dillard and Willey

Task Force Member Dillard gave an overview of the handbook, explaining that the goal was for the handbook to be user friendly. The Task Force discussed legal issues, language and also ensured the handbook was consistent with the Ordinance.

5. STAFF AND TASK FORCE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Counsel Larson told the Task Force that he was optimistic and encouraged the Task Force to feel the same way.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Castanos adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2020.

Prepared by:

Nora Allsberry, Community Service Officer

La Mesa - Police Review Questionnaire

For the statements below, please place an X in the box that best represents your response.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
1. I believe most police officers in La Mesa listen to me when I speak to them							
2. I believe most police officers in La Mesa treat me with respect.							
3. I believe most officers in La Mesa will react appropriately to a situation.							
4. I believe most officers in La Mesa view me negatively because of my identity.							
5. I believe most officers in La Mesa will treat me differently because of my identity.							
6. I believe that I will be treated fairly by the criminal justice system.							
7. I myself and/or someone I know has had a negative experience(s) with the police.							
8. I know where and how to file a complaint with the La Mesa Police Dept..							
9. I believe that if I made a serious complaint about the La Mesa Police Dept. it would be addressed fairly and in accordance with the law.							
10. I believe that in La Mesa, police officers are held accountable for their actions if they do something wrong.							
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A

Only for statistical purposes, please check or fill in the following information:

Your Age: 20 or younger ____ 21-35 ____ 36-50 ____ 51 or older ____

Zip Code of residence: _____

Gender: Female ____ Male ____ Non-Binary ____ Other ____ Decline to state ____

Do you identify as Person of Color? Yes ____ No ____

Shelter Status: Renter ____ Homeowner ____ Unhoused individual ____

Annual income \$0-\$24,999 ____ \$25,000-\$74,999 ____ \$75,000-\$124,999 ____
 \$125,000-\$174,999 ____ \$175,000-above ____

Is English your primary language? Yes ____ No ____