



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

Chula Vista Police Department, Community Room
315 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista

CCAC Members Present: Norma Cazares, Patty Chavez, Takisha Corbett, Jose de la Garza, Henrietta Harb, Marla Kingkade, Shante Lampkin, Jesse Navarro

CCAC Members Not Present: Ray Aragon, Martin Barros, Gerry Sablan

Staff Present: Chief Roxana Kennedy, ASM Jonathan Alegre, Captain Miriam Foxx, SAS Cathy Miller, Captain Dan Peak, Captain Henry Martin, Assistant City Attorney Megan McClurg

1. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Police Department's Community Advisory Committee of the City of Chula Vista was called to order at 9:33 a.m. in the Community Room, located at the Chula Vista Police Department, 315 Fourth Ave. Chula Vista, California.

2. ROLL CALL

Secretary Miller called the roll.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

User "Robert" has entered the following comment(s):

"how much of our resources are being used to solve crime for other departments. is this a tool for our city or just used to solve crime which left another city?"

(for ALPR Overview in Police Department Community Advisory Committee Special Meeting 7/25/2024 9:30:00 AM)

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Moved by Member Jose de la Garza

Seconded by Jesse Navarro

Approve April 4, 2024 minutes

Result:Carried Unanimously

5. CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Kennedy welcomed committee members and introduced Deputy City Manager Courtney Chase and Assistant city Attorney Megan McClurg.

5.1 Staffing

Since January 2017, the chief has hired 176 recruits, 47 laterals, 113 professional staff and has promoted 183 personnel. The department is authorized 290 sworn and currently has 280 sworn personnel with 10 vacancies. The department is authorized 113 professional staff and currently has 11 vacancies, with a total of 102.

5.2 ALPR Overview

Acting Captain Giaime gave the overview of the ALPR program. A 2023 grant from BSCC expanded the City program to one fulltime auto theft detective; 5 detective vehicles and 150 fixed cameras at the ingresses and egresses of the city. A map was shown of the city's "hot spots". Coverage is at the west and east ingress and egress areas along with thoroughfares such as Broadway, Fourth Avenue and Telegraph Canyon Road. These cameras "hit" read only the back license plate and will help with stolen vehicles, missing person Amber alerts. It requires human verification and

review. These cameras do not have facial recognition technology, nor traffic enforcement technology. It only shows the plate and the direction of travel.

CAC member Kingkade asked about the recent homicide off East Palomar where the suspect fled on a scooter. The cameras could not fix on the scooter because there was no plate to read.

The CVPD ALPR transparency portal page explains what the cameras detect and don't detect and how the images stay in the system for 30 days.

Co Chair Cazares asked if the transparency portal page can take public comments, concerns or disagreements. Or if the transparency portal page could include a link to send a complaint or concern.

CAC member Chavez asked if there was a way to link on the CAC website that could connect with the Flock portal.

CAC member Corbett asked what an "alert" was - it would "alert" on a stolen vehicle or license plate or Amber Alerts.

Officers, when using the 30 day search system, must put in a reason why they are researching the plat for auditing purposes.

CAC member Navarro asked about the excess of stolen vehicles driven across the border. To recover these vehicles the PD works with the Mexican liaisons and the Regional Task Force.

CAC member DelaGarza if there could be a presentation on crime across the 52 square miles of Chula Vista.

Chief Kennedy discussed how strong arm worries have increased where juveniles have been forcefully stealing purses. Education and strategies are being put in place on thefts with opportunistic criminals. CAC Member Navarro asked if the victims are seniors and it varies. An opportunistic criminal knows what to look for and the department can work on the series. Education is given to stores that are the victim.

Chief Kennedy discussed an article on drones being used in marginalized communities. With our department, the drones are deployed where the calls for service comes from and are used to help the victims.

CAC member Navarro asked how many homicides there have been in Chula Vista - there have been four.

5.3 Update on Recent Court Case

Chief Kennedy briefly shared the outcome of a recent court case. Body worn camera was extremely important in this case and after four years a unanimous vote of "not guilty" was given.

5.4 National Night Out & Evening With Heroes

National Night Out will be on Tuesday August 6, 2024. The police department celebrates with the community with Tacos el Gordo and canine demonstrations. This gives the opportunity and the police department to come together for a night of fun, education and food.

Evening with Heroes fundraiser will be September 14, 2024. This is the one big fundraiser that raises funds to help the police department fund programs such as the cadet and Senior Volunteers as well as getting equipment the City usually cannot purchase.

The DFR program hit 20,000 flights.

Co Chair Cazares suggested CAC members sponsor a table. Tickets are \$200 a piece.

6. City of Chula Vista Human Resources Update on API Categorization - Deputy City Manager Courtney Chase

Deputy City Manager Courtney Chase attended the meeting and was asked how the City defines the API category. The government sets the guidelines and it is how staff or community self identifies with those guidelines.

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Keeping Chula Vista Safe, Clean and Well-Maintained, A Status Update on Measure P - Deputy City Manager Courtney Chase

Deputy City Manager discussed the hopes of continuing with the Measure P (1/2 cent sales tax for another 10 years) and will be placed on the November ballot. She explained what the City has done with the sales tax these past 10 years which included upgrades or replacement to drainpipes, paved roads, repaired sidewalks, upgraded equipment for 911 and fire, recreation centers and parks updated with new equipment, pools, which is ADA compliant. The Civic Center library upgraded their bathrooms and two fire stations were relocated.

7.2 Adhoc Committee By-Law Review and Potential Action to Approve - CAC CoChair Norma Cazares

Tabled to October.

Potential Vote to approve Amended By Laws

8. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Members were given the 2025 calendar of meetings:

- January 9, 2025 (special meeting - moved due to the holiday)
- April 3, 2025 (regular meeting)
- July 10, 2024 (special meeting - moved due to the holiday)
- October 2, 2025 (regular meeting)

January's meeting will include voting on the chair position.

Co-Chair Cazares asked if CAC could receive CVPD press releases.

CAC member Kingkade asked for a wellness topic at the January meeting when officers go through a critical incident.

CAC member Navarro discussed community concerns with calls for service at a Walgreens during the evening hours and a call for service at Don Pedro's on a person with a knife. Assistant Chief Peak asked CAC member Navarro to get the specifics on the two calls and follow up with him. Chief Kennedy stressed the importance of relaying concerns to the police department so issues may be addressed. CAC member Navarro also asked about the recruiting process with a candidate who has been in backgrounds for four months. He will follow up with Assistant Chief Peak on this as well.

CAC member Chavez asked if the police department will increase in size due to the Gaylord project along with the growth out east. The City is creating a committee regarding all the growth in the city. As of this time, the department has not increased in size so this committee will be able to provide information to the City Manager's office in order to prepare for the future. Measure A does not have a "sunset clause". The City Manager is working with a consultant company to what the city's needs are and how monies are spent. City of Chula Vista is the second largest city in San Diego. As of right now there are 290 officers. The police department would like to add an additional 60 officers and expand to 350.

In context, San Diego has 1800 officers and 9 substations. A funding mechanism must be created to sustain the growth of personnel. Mellow Roos pays for schools and fire repair and growth, but not the police department. If Measure P passes it will free up monies to help grow the police department.

The City is trying to balance the budget with upcoming projects not funded. The City Manager is supportive of funding the police department with their needs and will be using strategies to be successful.

Once Otay Ranch is completed built out, it will be the size of San Francisco.

A request to add "Community Concerns" on the agenda. This will be to further discuss CAC members concerns that they hear from the community.

A question was asked if a substation will be built. Chief Kennedy explained that it would cost a minimum of \$60 million dollars. It is not feasible, and the funds could go to adding more officers and equipment, as well as pairing up sworn. In context the city does not have the same funding as San Diego (San Diego's budget is \$300 million - Chula Vista's is \$70 million). The Eastlake mall also has a storefront which can be used to take reports. It is better to spend on adding officers.

CAC member Corbett observed officers completing reports in the field and how the community appreciates seeing them. This makes them feel safer and it is a deterrent.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.

Minutes prepared by: Cathy Miller, Secretary

Cathy Miller, Secretary