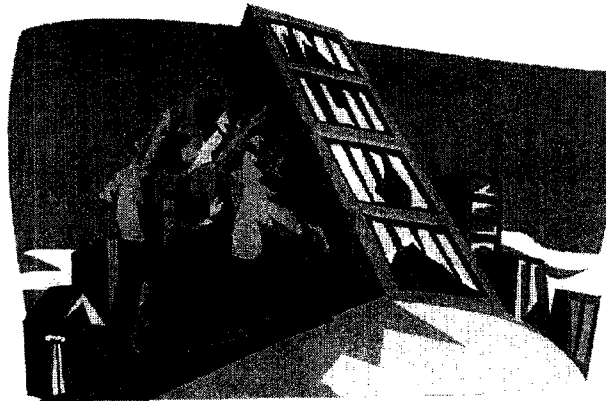


City of Long Beach
Public Safety Advisory Commission



**Annual Report
2003**

Prepared for
The Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach

ANNUAL REPORT

January 2003 through December 2003

Public Safety Advisory Commission City of Long Beach

Commissioners

Thomas Biggart
Miles Devine
Larry Ginn
Juan Gonzalez
Robert Hildebrand
Andrew Jones
David Kean
Roger Kavigan
Marlin McKeever
Alex Norman
Maria Norvell
Sereivuth Prak
Jessica Quintana
Bill Ruzgis
Norman Ryan

Staff

Commander Torben Beith
Commander J. J. Craig
Long Beach Police Department
Janet Pittman
City Clerk Department

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT January 2003 through December 2003

In accordance with the City of Long Beach Municipal Code, Section 2.18.090, the Public Safety Advisory Commission (PSAC) is submitting their Annual Report. This report covers the period of January 1, 2003 through December 30, 2003.

COMMISSION'S OBJECTIVES

The Public Safety Advisory Commission was established on June 19, 1984 through City Ordinance No. C-6069 and has 13 Commissioners. The Ordinance charges the Commission with making "advisory policy recommendations to the City Council on public safety issues, to serve as a forum for community discussion of these public safety issues, and to encourage input and participation from all sectors of the community." PSAC is limited to considering "public safety policy matters over which the City Council has control that are related to police service."

Ordinance No. C-6069 stipulates that the Public Safety Advisory Commission shall place "specific emphasis" on the following: Neighborhood Watch Program; public safety awareness; public safety commendations to private citizens and public employees; traffic flow; community relations of the City's public safety department; and special projects, including those directed by the City Council.

The Public Safety Advisory Commission conducts its business in accordance with Chapters 2.18 (Advisory Boards, Commissions and Committees) and 2.52 (Public Safety Advisory Commission) of the Long Beach Municipal code, and with applicable sections of the California Open Meeting Law.

MEETINGS AND MEMBERS ATTENDANCE RECORD

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of PSAC is held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 425 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, California. During 2003, PSAC held 11 regular meetings.

The attendance of the members of PSAC at the monthly meeting is attached.

STAFF

The Commission enjoys an exceptional relationship with the Commission Staff, who are dedicated and committed to supporting the Commissioners in every aspect of their responsibilities.

During the fiscal year, the staff has included:

Torben Beith, Commander, Long Beach Police Department
J. J. Craig, Commander, Long Beach Police Department
Janet Pittman, Deputy City Clerk

2003 PRESENTATIONS

Possible Improvements for Parking and Pedestrian Safety

12/10/02 City Council referred to Public Safety Advisory Commission

Dates: January 8, May 14, June 11, July 9, September 10, October 8 and November 12, 2003

Regarding: Determine the costs and feasibility of implementing possible improvements for parking and pedestrian safety which includes reverse angle parking, audible traffic signals, count-down crosswalk signals and orange flag crosswalks

Speakers: Lon Maddox, Traffic & Transportation Bureau Manager, Public Works
David Roseman, City Traffic Engineer, Public Works

Outcome: **October 8, 2003, Chair Thomas Biggart advised a response memorandum was delivered to City Council, Public Safety Committee, as an update to the work being done**

Update: Discussion continued into 2004

Councilmember Rob Webb, 8th District Presentation

Date: January 8, 2003

Regarding: The need for boards, commissions and committees to play an active role as City Council advisers; the North Long Beach Police Station at Scherer Park, and a joint meeting of the Tidelands and Harbor and Public Safety Commission as they discuss the Marine Patrol potential to receive limited peace officer status

Racialized Gang Violence Draft Questionnaire

Dates: January 8 and November 12, 2003

Regarding: Reexamination of the racialized gang violence issue and possible solutions and presented copies of the Human Relations Commission Report on Youth and Gang Violence "Addressing Interracial Gang Violence in Long Beach"

Speakers: Lydia Hollie, Human Relations Commission Chair
Rene Castro, National Conference for Community and Justice
Commissioner Robert Hildebrand

Gang Prevention

Date: February 12, 2003

Regarding: Discussed the role and services offered through the gang intervention and prevention program, and of the gang activities in Long Beach

Speaker: Alvin Bernstein, Gang Prevention and Intervention Superintendent, Parks, Recreation and Marine Department

Child Abuse Prevention

Dates: March 12, April 9 and May 14, 2003

Regarding: Requested City Council proclaim April 2003 as Child Abuse Prevention Month; discussed what the Long Beach Police Department considers child abuse; and how child abuse was handled; and received a pamphlet entitled "Abuse and Violence Intervention Center"

Speakers: Detective Wendy First, Long Beach Police Department
Commissioner Sereivuth Prak

Outcome: City Council proclaimed April 2003 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Community Team Building Forums

Date: May 14, 2003

Regarding: Advised what the Community Team Building Forums were and invited Commissioners to attend a Forum

Speaker: Simon Funge, National Conference for Community and Justice

Auto Crime, Gang Violence, and Police Customer Service

Dates: May 14, July 9, September 10 and November 12, 2003

Speaker: Commander Torben Beith, Long Beach Police Department

Regarding: Detailed overall crime, noting that property crimes and gang murders had decreased, and car theft and gang activity had increased; advised that a priority of Police Chief Anthony Batts, Long Beach Police Department, was increasing patrol officer staffing; announced that task forces were addressing the continued gang shootings; and noted auto theft and burglaries were driving the City crime rate upward

High-Risk Intersections Pedestrian Decoy Program

Date: May 14, 2003

Speaker: Commander Torben Beith, Long Beach Police Department

Regarding: Indicated how the Program worked

Truancy and Petty Theft Crime at CityPlace

Dates: May 14 and September 10, 2003

Speaker: Commander Torben Beith, Long Beach Police Department

Regarding: Spoke regarding non-paying riders causing problems on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority metro trains and in downtown Long Beach

Photo-Enforced Red-Light Intersections

Date: July 9, 2003
Speaker: David Roseman, City Traffic Engineer, Public Works Department
Regarding: Provided information on the photo-enforcement red light intersections

Community Oriented Public Safety

Dates: July 9 and October 8, 2003
Speakers: Commander Torben Beith, Long Beach Police Department
Sergeant Paul Gallo, Long Beach Police Department
Regarding: Discussed the community oriented public safety guideline document being prepared by the Long Beach Police Department to train employees and the community in identifying and solving problems, and improving Long Beach quality of life
Update: Discussion continued in 2004

Identity Theft

Date: July 9, 2003
Speaker: Commander Torben Beith, Long Beach Police Department
Regarding: Noted that identity theft was continuing to grow

Illegal Fireworks

July 15, 2003 City Council referred to Public Safety Advisory Commission

Dates: July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8 and November 12, 2003
Speakers: Marsha Rohn, Long Beach Police Department
Augusta Williams
Don Darnauer
Captain Patrick Willis, Long Beach Fire Department,
Arson Investigation Unit
Lieutenant Jay Johnson, Field Support Division,
Long Beach Police Department
Public Safety Advisory Commissioners
Officer Jan Blair, Community Relations Division,
Long Beach Police Department
Arson Investigator Robert Chen, Long Beach Fire Department
Robert Villegas, Administrative Analyst, Second District
Regarding: Determined an action plan to deal with illegal fireworks in the City of Long Beach; advised that for 2004 Chief Anthony Batts, Long Beach Police Department, was committed to zero tolerance enforcement before and during the July 4, 2004 holiday weekend; spoke on ways to address the problem with various education forums and outreach; noted that in general the public was unaware fireworks were illegal in the City; discussed the magnitude of the enforcement problem, the issues associated with fireworks and preparing the recommendation to City Council regarding illegal fireworks, and that Commissioner Robert Hildebrand agreed to prepare the report
Outcome: **March 23, 2003, letter presented recommendations to City Council for dealing with the problem**
Update: Many Commission recommendations have been and will be carried out to deal with the problem of illegal fireworks in the City of Long Beach

Public Safety Service Commendation

Date: October 8, 2003
Speakers: Public Safety Advisory Commissioners
Regarding: Discussed where to present the Commendations as they would no longer be presented at City Council meetings
Update: Discussion continued into 2004

Medicinal Marijuana Policy

Date: November 12, 2003
Speakers: Eugene Mohr
Diana Lejins, Advocates for Disability Rights
Joe Czuba
David Zink
Nathan Smiley, Jr.
Regarding: Heard from speakers requesting the Commission proceed with a discussion
Update: Discussion continued into 2004

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

During 2003 the Public Safety Advisory Commission (PSAC) examined a wide range of public safety issues, including two issues forwarded to them by City Council. Through these reviews, the Commissioners and the citizens of Long Beach, who they represent, gained a better understanding of the public safety issues, resources, and plans of the City of Long Beach. PSAC stands ready to provide further assistance to City Council and the Public Safety Committee when there are projects the Commission could undertake on their behalf. Because of the role the Commission plays in exploring public safety issues and providing information and recommendations to the City Council, we feel that the Public Safety Advisory Commission should be continued.

Attachment

Attachment A

2003 Attendance

Commissioner	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Thomas Biggart	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ex
Miles Devine	X	Ex	Ex	X	X	X	X	Ex	X	Ex	X
Larry Ginn	Ex	X	X	X	Ex	A	X	X	Ex	X	Ex
Juan Gonzalez	X	X	Ex	Ex	A	A					
Robert Hildebrand	X	X	Ex	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Andrew Jones	X	A	X	X	Ex	A	Ex	X	Ex	Ex	Ex
David Kean	X	X	Ex*	Ex*	Ex*	Ex*	Ex*	Ex*	X	X	A
Roger Kavigan									X	X	X
Marilyn McKeever							X	Ex	X	Ex	X
Alex Norman	Ex	A	X	X	X	X	X	Ex	X	A	X
Maria Norvell	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ex	X	X
Sereivuth Prak	X	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ex	X	
Jessica Quintana	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ex	X	X
Bill Ruzgis	X	Ex	X	X	X	X	X	Ex	X	Ex	X
Norman Ryan	A	Ex	A	A	A						

Legend

X	Attended Meeting
Ex	Excused (called in)
Ex*	Excused (in Iraq)
A	Absent
	Resigned
	Not appointed yet