



**DOWNTOWN  
LONG BEACH  
ALLIANCE**

**MEMBERS**

Cheryl Roberts, Chair

Antonio Gallardo, V. Chair

Paul Boyd-Batstone

Terrence Krieger

Robb Smith

Vincent Severen

Paul Hargis

Andrew Fiorentino

Teri Tan

**STAFF**

Juan Torres,  
Operations Manager

James Ahumada  
Sr. Vice President & Deputy  
CEO

Stew Stephens,  
Programming Assistant

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 29, 2023**

**3:00 PM**

**DLBA Conference Room**  
100 W Broadway, Suite 120  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Voting Present:** Cheryl Roberts, Rev. Antonio Gallardo, Vincent Severen, Terri Krieger, Paul Hargis, Teri Tan.

**Voting Absent:** Robb Smith, Paul Boyd-Batstone, Andrew Fiorentino.

**DLBA Staff:** Stew Stephens, Juan Torres, Cesar Garay, James Ahumada.

**Guests:** Laura Reimer, Sgt. Derek Ernest.

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Cheryl Roberts, Chair  
**Meeting Presentation.** Called to Order 3:08 PM
2. **ACTION: Approve minutes from October 25, 2023 committee meeting.**  
**VOTE: 1<sup>st</sup>: Krieger; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Roberts.**  
**MOTION:** None opposed. Severen Abstains. Motion Passes.
3. Chairperson Report – Cheryl Roberts
  - a. FY23-24 Committee Working Group Projects Selection
    - i. De-Escalation Application for Homeless Resource/Guide
    - ii. Scooter Safety
    - iii. Fresh Start
    - iv. Walk Audit
  - b. Selection of 2023-2024 Projects
    - While he had to leave early, Smith offered the idea of expanding the Fresh Start project (project #3) to include the collection of non-perishables, dry food & hygiene products, and clothing donations to students in need at LBCC and CSULB. At these institutions, a startling number of students live in their cars, struggle with financial and food insecurity, and have many needs associated with the high cost of living & tuition. This expansion to the Fresh Start project would not take items intended to benefit local or downtown transient individuals but exist in addition to those collections. The Fresh Start project operates with the help of 3 primary organizations to divide & distribute collections and donations.
    - Ahumada recommended the group try to focus primarily on 3 project goals instead of taking on a 4<sup>th</sup> focus. If the working groups manage to complete or advance 3 of their original goals, then they could consider taking on a 4<sup>th</sup> focus within the FY23-24. An alternative to this would be combining the scooter safety under the umbrella of safety walk audits.
    - Working group interest per member was as follows (#1 De-escalation Training/Response Guide Development, #2 Safety Audits, #3 Fresh Start):
 

○ Roberts: 1, 2, 3	○ Boyd-Batstone: TBD
○ Gallardo: 1, 2, 3	○ Hargis: 2, 1, 3
○ Smith: 3	○ Fiorentino: TBD
○ Severen: 1, 2, 3	○ Tan: 1, 2, 3
○ Krieger: 2, 1, 3	



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4. Public Safety Partners Report
    - a. Long Beach Police Department – South Division
    - b. Department of Public Works – Clean Team
    - c. Department of Health and Human Services
    - d. City Prosecutor
  - Reimer informed the group that the city prosecutor’s office put pressure on the DA to reconsider the headline assault which took place in the East Village from a misdemeanor to a felony. In addition to this advocacy, Doug Haubert’s office is also creating a transparency page online [here](#). This will house noteworthy information for the public to be aware of regarding high-profile cases or cases of note/interest to the community. To help with these efforts, the City Prosecutor’s office is also creating an app for LBPD officers to be able to view more information about potential perpetrators (especially regarding cases involving stay-away orders), as well as connect them with available housing organizations, mental health & medical services, and other resources for unhoused or unwell individuals. Some of these programs include offering vouchers for mental health and drug rehabilitation services by the LEAD and PATH programs who are working closely with the City Prosecutor’s office.
  - In addition to these efforts, Reimer informed the committee of their 6-point plan to review the No-Bail system of the LA county court, which will emphasize the use of Magistrate review at the request of the LBPD officers, to ensure certain criminal cases do not result in the immediate release of potentially dangerous or destructive individuals. Roberts asked how local businesses can help provide PD with the necessary info to deter criminals and seek restitution when necessary.
  - Sgt. Ernest informed the group that there will soon be a new representative from the LBPD to report at the public safety committee meetings among other neighborhood events. LBPD will also be expanding and increasing their enforcement efforts in the downtown area following a difficult season of violent crime, vandalism, burglaries, and large populations of disruptive drug-addicted or unhoused individuals, which has seen tensions and frustrations rise and many more businesses and residents affected. Sgt. Earnest spoke about the effects of the new sidewalk vending ordinances currently going through the city council on police response, regulation, and education for health permits. This may take a bit longer for the Pike and Shoreline Village areas because they must go through the coastal commission.
5. Staff Report
    - a. Clean and Safe Update
  - Ahumada informed the committee about the Downtown Recovery Plan with the Mayor and the City Manager’s offices. This represents a recommitment from all departments to reinvest and refocus efforts to improve DT spaces. Torres spoke on engagement with LBPD during conversations as a great space to connect and collaborate on neighborhood issues. These connections will hopefully result in special training for the Safety Ambassadors with Reimer and the City Prosecutor’s office. The focus of these trainings would be to educate the Clean & Safe Team about what can and cannot be done in dealing with difficult, violent, or unwell individuals, often on behalf of disgruntled business owners and residents. The desire is for DLBA and the Clean & Safe staff to remain proactive in dealing with local issues but to remain safe and protected while doing so.
  - Ahumada also spoke on the temporary hiring of a security team to increase night-time patrols and vigilance.



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6. Public Comment (Three minutes on all non-agenda items)
7. Old Business
  - Roberts requested that the group consider including cyberattacks for the Emergency Preparedness Disaster Plan.
8. New Business
  - Hargis asked about the data points that present the improvements in the present situation, to which Ahumada responded about the Public Safety Survey (facilitated by the DLBA every 2 years), as well as Spring Assessments released in the summertime. Further reporting efforts are needed for more comprehensive messaging.
  - Tan asks about the safety issues on Pine resulting from idle cars parked in the center of road to which Reimer recommended we inform parking enforcement's non-emergency line when noticed.
9. Adjournment  
Adjourned at 4:16 PM

**Next Public Safety Committee Meeting**

**January 31, 2024**

**3:00 PM**

**DLBA Conference Room**

**100 W Broadway, Suite 235**

**Long Beach, CA 90802**

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