

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

Resolution and Community Impact Statement on City Police Budget & Use of Force

Council File 20-0600

The following motion was approved at the June 16, 2020 Stakeholder Meeting of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council:

The residents of Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council district have long understood the relationship between the LAPD and their community. They have asked for more community and constitutional policing with access to a local jail and courthouse. We are currently at an inflection point where there can be substantial change, not only in the policies, but in budget priorities and police culture in all of Los Angeles.

Too often, crime suppression has taken precedence over guarding justice in our community. To that end, we support the following to create peace, justice and resilience.

The transition to a resilience-based Los Angeles Police Department will not come overnight. It will require a succession of steps that starts with limiting the harm caused daily by police power, and begins the orderly transfer of resources from the police to projects, programs, and grassroots initiatives that meet people's emergency and long-term needs.

Neighborhoods with good jobs, affordable homes, healthy food, and green places to play produce less conflict and fewer mental health crises than ones that feature empty lots, under-funded schools and starvation wages.

Like any process of change, the transitional period will raise new questions and pose new problems. It will, naturally, meet with concerted resistance. The solutions that result, however, will be designed to help all our communities thrive rather than contain and divide them.

We support all actions to reduce the use of force in policing our communities including:

1. Requiring officers to intervene to stop another officer from using excessive force;
2. Restricting, or prohibiting, the use of chokeholds, strangleholds, and carotid restraints;
3. Requiring officers to de-escalate situations, when possible, before using force;
4. Using a Force Continuum or Matrix that defines and limits the types of force that can be used to respond to specific types of resistance;
5. Requiring officers to give a verbal warning before using deadly force;
6. Prohibiting officers from shooting at people in moving vehicles unless the person poses a deadly threat by means other than the vehicle;
7. Requiring officers to exhaust all other reasonable alternatives before resorting to using deadly force;
8. Requiring comprehensive reporting that includes both uses of force and threats of force.

Each of these eight reforms was associated with a 15 percent reduction in police killings for the average police department and departments that implemented more than four.

We further support the use of non-armed civilian personnel to respond to the homeless, engage with the mentally ill as first responders and to promote community engagement in low-income areas with sports and educational opportunities. These activities do not necessitate armed and badged officers.

Be it resolved that the CeSPNC supports the transfer of \$150 million from the LAPD budget to begin the process of transferring non-crime related activities from LAPD jurisdiction to other departments that have trained expertise in mental health, homeless services, drug and diversion counseling and gang diversion.

And be it resolved that we support the City's efforts to promote and build low-income housing and to promote sustainable job creation in our community as economic hardship is a core cause of crime.

And that in each LAPD sub-division a Community Review Board be formed made up of representatives of that division's neighborhood councils for the purpose of reviewing policy implementation and community complaints and transition.

The motion was approved by a vote of: 7 Yes, 2 No, 1 Abstain, 1 Ineligible, 0 Recused, 5 Absent