



## Mar Vista Community Council



### Committee on Public Safety Minutes

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 6:00 p.m – 7:30 p.m. at  
The Windward School (Conference Room 1030)  
11350 Palms Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Co Chairs: Bill Koontz and Elliot Hanna  
[billk@marvista.org](mailto:billk@marvista.org) and [elliott.hanna@marvista.org](mailto:elliott.hanna@marvista.org)

- **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m.
- **Brief Introductions**
- **Public Comment and announcements**
  - There will be no committee meeting in May, 2017. The next meeting will be on June 27, 2017.
  - Senior Lead Officer Juan Ceja (L.A.P.D.) discussed the April 14, 2017 homicide at the CVS on National and Sepulveda. The major facts are:
    - The incident had nothing to do with the homeless
    - It had nothing to do with RV dwellers
    - This was a drug deal gone bad
    - Two suspects shot one victim
    - Both suspects surrendered with their attorneys and are in custody.
    - One suspect was from the South Bay and one was from the Valley
    - The incident was not gang-related
    - The shooting was captured by security cameras at CVS and by a private citizen's dash cam
- **Review and approval of minutes** - Minutes from 3/28/2017 approved
- **Action Items and motions:**
- **New Business**
  - **Guest speaker** – *Aram Sahakian, General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Emergency Management* –

Aram Sahakian is the General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Emergency Management. Appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti in 2016, he has the responsibility of preparing the city for any disaster, be it natural or man-made.

Mr. Sahakian has extensive experience in emergency management. Prior to assuming this role, Mr. Sahakian led the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's (LADOT) Special Traffic Operations and Emergency Response Division, where he managed emergency response and major special events for over two decades. He's served as Incident Commander, alongside the LAPD and the LAFD for dozens of major incidents including the 1994 Northridge earthquake, the 2008 Metrolink railway disaster in Chatsworth, the 2008 Marek and Sesnon wildfires, and many

others.

Mr. Sahakian discussed the current state of emergency preparation:

- a. Everyone must prepare for a worst-case scenario.
- b. In a major disaster, 400,000 could be displaced, 14,000 could be injured, and 3,000 could be killed
- c. Red Cross can shelter up to 10,000.
- d. The majority of police officers' and firefighters' families are not adequately prepared.
- e. Many emergency responders will be caring for their own families and unable to report for work
- f. Millions of dollars have been spent on emergency preparation: mostly to L.A.P.D. and L.A.F.D. Too little flows to the community.
- g. In a worst case scenario, first responders will be neighbors or family members.
- h. Religious institutions are wary to trust the Emergency Management Department (EMD).
- i. It's important to identify one's community and to draw boundaries.
- j. It's important to know each other and to exchange information.
- k. It's important to identify those with special needs.
- l. Neighborhood's must have a simple communications plan.
- m. Families must have adequate emergency supplies on-hand. EMD is working with the federal government on possible subsidies.

- **Future guest presentations –**

- May, 2017 – No meeting
- June, 2017 – Robyn Salazar, Burglary det. Supervisor, Los Angeles Police Department; Lee Versoza, Inspector, United States Postal Inspection Service; and Kim Gordon, Inspector, United States Postal Inspection Service
- July, 2017 – Alison Berglas, Community Ambassador for the Los Angeles Region, American Red Cross

- **Old Business - None**

- **Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.**

---

\*in compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at <http://www.marvista.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact [secretary@marvista.org](mailto:secretary@marvista.org). \*\*As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting [chair@marvista.org](mailto:chair@marvista.org)