

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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October 12, 2021

Captain Elaine Morales
Central Division
Los Angeles Police Department

RE: Use OF LAPD Reserve Officers For Foot-Patrols

Dear Captain Morales:

At our regularly held public meeting on October 12, 2021, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to provide the following comments below:

In FY 19-20 the Los Angeles Police Department, with the assistance of the City Council, allocated fiscal and departmental resources to fund over-time for foot-beat officers to patrol in residential and commercial areas in the core of Downtown. Due to budget constraints and pandemic-related staffing reductions, these departmental resources have not been reallocated.

With the onset of the pandemic, the City of Los Angeles has seen a dramatic rise in both violent and petty crimes that have hurt the most vulnerable, especially Downtown stakeholders. As business and recreational activities return to Downtown Los Angeles in full force, the challenges that come with being a major urban center also become ever more present.

As such, with the pedestrian-centric nature of our community, DTLA saw that foot-patrols offer the most effective persistent visibility for crime deterrence, while providing a sense of community engagement that is missing from motorized patrols.

DLANC recognizes that current staffing and financial resources may not be optimal at the division level to assign officers by basic car area to foot-patrol beats. However, as seen in

LAPD's West Bureau, LAPD Reserve Officers have been utilized to provide foot-patrol in various locations across Council Districts 4, 5, and 11, especially along the Hollywood Walk-of-Fame and Venice Boardwalk.

The deployment of LAPD Reserve Officers has been highly received as these officers provide financial relief due to their volunteerism, but also provide an invaluable community engagement component that serves as the basis of a more enhanced model of community-policing.

Therefore, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council would like to request that LAPD deploy an allotment of reserve officers to Central Division for the purposes of providing foot-patrol in the high-traffic residential and commercial corridors across all neighborhoods within Downtown.

Given the nature that these officers are volunteers, we recognize that their service and deployment may not be consistent. As such, any deployment modal whether it be deploying Reserves for a few hours per week or during high traffic hours such as weekends would be greatly beneficial.

We appreciate the continued help and support between DLANC and LAPD Central Division, and look forward to working with you and our community partners in creating a safer and stronger Downtown.

*** SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY DLANC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON OCTOBER 12, 2021***

Sincerely,

Claudia Oliveira
President,
DLANC

Debby Zhou,
Chair,
DLANC Livability Committee

CC: Board of Police Commissioners (via email)
Los Angeles Police Department, Office of the Chief of Police (via email)
Los Angeles Police Department, Central Bureau (via email)
Council District 14 (via email)
Downtown Center Business Improvement District (via email)
South Park Business Improvement District (via email)
Fashion District Business Improvement District (via email)
Historic Core Business Improvement District (via email)