

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

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October 21, 2024

Captain Mario Mota
Metropolitan Division,
Los Angeles Police Department

VIA EMAIL

RE: Enhanced LAPD Mounted Platoon Deployment to DTLA

To Whom It May Concern:

At our special public meeting on October 21, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to provide the following comments below:

As the urban and historic heart of our city, Downtown Los Angeles is home to uniquely vibrant and densely packed neighborhoods that form the backbone of the city's economy. DTLA's pedestrian-centric nature, combined with its dense mix of residential, commercial, and retail uses, makes it an ideal location for the Mounted Platoon. Their presence offers effective crime deterrence and fosters a sense of community engagement that is often lacking with motorized patrols.

In light of escalating crime rates and increasing retail theft, there is a growing need for additional support. Staffing shortages and heightened call volumes further complicate the ability to maintain effective foot-beat and community-facing policing. This creates a pressing need for augmented patrols and force multipliers to assist officers in responding to radio calls for service.

DLANC acknowledges that current staffing and financial resources may limit the regular deployment of Mounted Platoon officers to the Central Division area. However, previous deployments have demonstrated the immense value of Mounted Platoon officers in enhancing community engagement and improving the effectiveness of community policing.

In response to these challenges and to address the rising concerns of our community, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council strongly supports the LAPD Central Division's

request for the deployment of Mounted Platoon officers to high-traffic, commercial, and retail areas within DTLA. Additionally, we encourage the LAPD to consider additional deployments of these resources to target high-need areas of Downtown such as the Fashion District and Santee Alley, the Jewelry District, the South Park neighborhood outside of LA Live, and the Historic Core.

We are confident that this deployment will significantly contribute to crime prevention efforts and strengthen the connection between law enforcement and the community.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We appreciate your continued dedication to maintaining safety and fostering positive community relations in Downtown Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claudia Oliveira', written in a cursive style.

Claudia Oliveira
President,
DLANC

Cc:

Board of Police Commissioners (via email)
Los Angeles Police Department, Office of the Chief of Police (via email)
Los Angeles Police Department, Operations Central Bureau (via email)
Los Angeles Police Department, Central Division
Council District 14 (via email)
Council District 9 (via email)
Office of the Mayor (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)