



CITY OF ARTESIA

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

**LOCATION**

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
18747 CLARKDALE AVENUE  
(562) 865-6262

**DATE**

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments received prior to the commencement of the meeting will be read at this time. Any public comments that cannot be heard within the next 20 minutes will be heard at the end of the meeting. Under the provisions of the Brown Act, the Public Safety Commission is prohibited from taking action on items that are not listed on the agenda, but may refer the matter to staff or to a subsequent meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Approval of the Minutes – January 11, 2024

**NEW BUSINESS**

2. Receive and File a Report by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Regarding Public Safety Activities and Incidents throughout the City of Artesia
3. Discussion on Artesia's Participation in the Neighbors Public Service App
4. Discussion on the Implementation of an Operation Night Light Program
5. Receive and File an Update on Automated License Plate Readers

## **STAFF UPDATES**

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*The City of Artesia complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact City Hall at (562) 865-6262 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*



**CITY OF ARTESIA**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**TO:** Public Safety Commission

**FROM:** Adrian Fajardo, Management Analyst  
Melissa Burke, Deputy City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the Minutes

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**BACKGROUND**

The minutes of the Public Safety Commission meeting held on January 11, 2024 has been prepared and is attached to this report for your review. The minutes capture the actions taken during the meeting. The minutes must be approved to ensure an accurate record of the proceedings.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Public Safety Commission approve minutes as presented for the following Public Safety Commission meetings:

- January 11, 2024 – Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission

**ATTACHMENTS**

Minutes – January 11, 2024 – Public Safety Commission Meeting



CITY OF ARTESIA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

**LOCATION**

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
18747 CLARKDALE AVENUE  
(562) 865-6262

**DATE**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission of the City of Artesia was called to order on January 11, 2024 at 6:02 p.m. at the City of Artesia Council Chambers by Chairperson De Medeiros.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT:

Chair Paul De Medeiros  
Vice Chair Frank Nunes  
Commissioner Aracelly Rodriguez  
Commissioner Lou Trerotola

ABSENT:

Commissioner Natalie Garcia

ALSO PRESENT:

Melissa Burke, Deputy City Manager

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was let by Chairperson De Medeiros.

**ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No speaker cards were submitted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Approval of the Minutes – October 12, 2023**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 12, 2023**

Motion was made by Commissioner Trerotola, second by Commissioner Rodriguez.

Said motion carried (3-0-1-1) in the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Rodriguez, Trerotola, and De Medeiros  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Abstain: Commissioners: Nunes  
Absent: Commissioners: Garcia

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. Election of Officers of the Public Safety Commission**

Adrian Fajardo, Commission Clerk, provided a report.

Discussion was held. Two separate motions were put forward.

#### **MOTION: To re-elect Vice Chair Nunes to the position of Vice Chair of the Public Safety Commission**

Motion was made by Commissioner Trerotola, second by Commissioner Rodriguez. Said motion carried (4-0-0-1) in the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Rodriguez, Trerotola, Nunes, and De Medeiros  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Abstain: Commissioners: None  
Absent: Commissioners: Garcia

#### **MOTION: To re-elect Chair De Medeiros to the position of Chair of the Public Safety Commission**

Motion was made by Commissioner Trerotola, second by Commissioner Rodriguez. Said motion carried (4-0-0-1) in the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Rodriguez, Trerotola, Nunes, and De Medeiros  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Abstain: Commissioners: None  
Absent: Commissioners: Garcia

### **3. Receive and File a Report by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Regarding Public Safety Activities and Incidents throughout the City of Artesia**

St. Ramos from Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department presented an update on year over year crime statistics, recent cannabis activity, and gang activity.

Discussion was held.

**MOTION: To Receive and File the Informational Report.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, second by Commissioner Rodriguez.

Said motion carried (4-0-0-1) in the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Rodriguez, Trerotola, Nunes, and De Medeiros  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Abstain: Commissioners: None  
Absent: Commissioners: Garcia

**4. Overview of CERT Program and Discussion of Trainings**

Adrian Fajardo, Commission Clerk, provided a report. Deputy City Manager Burke provided additional comments.

Discussion was held.

**MOTION: To Receive and File the Informational Report.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Trerotola, second by Vice Chair Nunes.

Said motion carried (4-0-0-1) in the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Rodriguez, Trerotola, Nunes, and De Medeiros  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Abstain: Commissioners: None  
Absent: Commissioners: Garcia

**5. Discussion of Climate Adaptation Planning Grant Application**

Adrian Fajardo, Commission Clerk, provided a report. Vice Chair Nunes provided comments.

**MOTION: To Receive and File the Informational Report.**

Motion was made by Vice Chair Nunes, second by Chair De Medeiros

Said motion carried (4-0-0-1) in the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Rodriguez, Trerotola, Nunes, and De Medeiros  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Abstain: Commissioners: None  
Absent: Commissioners: Garcia

**STAFF UPDATES**

No updates were provided.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Vice Chair Nunes provided comments on Automatic License Plate Readers along Pioneer Blvd. Chairperson De Medeiros provided comments on a proposal to remove

the graphic wrap from the City's bus. Deputy City Manager Burke stated that the Item could go to the City Council's Ad Hoc Committee for discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson De Medeiros adjourned the meeting to the next Public Safety Commission meeting scheduled on April 11, 2024.

  
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Adrian Fajardo, Commission Clerk



**CITY OF ARTESIA**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**TO:** Public Safety Commission

**FROM:** Adrian Fajardo, Management Analyst  
Melissa Burke, Deputy City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Presentation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Regarding  
Public Safety Activities and Incidents throughout the City of Artesia

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**BACKGROUND**

The City of Artesia contracts with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for public safety services. Sergeant Ramos, of the City's Special Assignment Team, will provide a presentation regarding Public Safety activities and incidents in the City.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Commission receive and file the report by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) on crime statistics and other related information within the City.



**CITY OF ARTESIA**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**TO:** Public Safety Commission

**FROM:** Adrian Fajardo, Management Analyst  
Melissa Burke, Deputy City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Discussion on Artesia's participation in the Neighbors Public Service App

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### **BACKGROUND**

Security cameras are vital to public safety efforts, offering both preventative and investigative benefits. They provide real-time surveillance capabilities, enhancing the ability to monitor public spaces and private properties for unusual activities. Footage from these cameras can serve as crucial evidence in crime detection and prosecution, aiding law enforcement in their investigative processes.

Neighbors by Ring is a free app designed to help residents connect with their communities and stay informed about what's happening around them. The Neighbors App offers a platform for residents to share footage from their security cameras and other crime information and receive updates from official sources. Local agencies can interact with residents on Neighbors using a tool called Neighbors Public Safety Service (NPSS). The service is free for all users, including public safety agencies.

NPSS facilitates a collaborative digital environment where residents and public safety agencies share real-time alerts, updates, and safety tips. Local agency users can view and comment on public Neighbors App posts within their jurisdiction to connect with and help community members. They can also create posts to provide communities with safety tips and other information and invite community members to safety events. Agencies can follow up to let residents know when an incident has been resolved to close the loop.

Public safety agencies can also issue "Requests for Assistance," enabling community members to share information or video recordings voluntarily, fostering a collaborative environment for addressing local safety concerns.

### **ANALYSIS**

NPSS has been instrumental in enhancing safety through community and public safety agency collaboration, demonstrating success in various communities in reuniting missing

persons, assisting in disasters, and resolving crimes. About 25 public safety agencies in Los Angeles County have joined Neighbors.

Real-world applications of the Neighbors App have demonstrated its potential in various contexts:

- In San Bernardino County, a missing person was successfully located and reunited with their family following a community alert issued through NPSS.
- During the Woolsey Fire in LA and Ventura Counties, the Neighbors App provided critical real-time updates to affected communities, aiding coordination and evacuation efforts.
- The Duluth Police Department utilized footage from Ring cameras to identify and apprehend a suspect involved in car break-ins, showcasing the utility of combining digital platforms with traditional policing methods.

Benefits include enhanced situational awareness, quicker incident response, and more robust community engagement in public safety efforts. This platform could be another tool for the City's public safety campaign and would allow the City to leverage innovative technological solutions to enhance public safety.

Should the Commission be supportive of this participating in the Program, staff will work closely with the Lakewood Sheriff's station to implement the system in Artesia and develop community engagement strategies to encourage residents to download the app.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Commission discuss and make a recommendation to support the City's participation in the Neighbors Public Service platform.



**CITY OF ARTESIA**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**TO:** Public Safety Commission

**FROM:** Adrian Fajardo, Management Analyst  
Melissa Burke, Deputy City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Discussion on the Implementation of an Operation Night Light Program

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### **BACKGROUND**

The concept of Operation Night Light comes from a crime abatement strategy developed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, aimed at reducing nighttime residential and vehicle burglaries. The program was introduced as a response to the adaptive behaviors of criminals, who have increasingly shifted their activities to residential areas.

Operation Night Light is grounded on the observation that poorly lit homes and properties attract unwelcome attention from potential burglars. Criminals are reported to survey residential neighborhoods from sunset onwards, looking for signs of unoccupied homes, particularly those lacking exterior or interior lighting. This program encourages community participation by asking residents to keep their porch lights on from dusk until dawn, creating an environment less conducive to criminal activities.

This program complements a series of public safety efforts the City has undertaken in recent years. Notably, these efforts include the Neighborhood Watch program, the introduction of a security camera rebate initiative to encourage residents to install surveillance equipment, and the implementation of a robust public safety marketing campaign. The City's marketing campaign has effectively utilized social media platforms and the Artesian to inform and engage the community about safety measures and crime prevention strategies. Operation Night Light can be the latest addition to the City's comprehensive approach to community safety, furthering the City's commitment to protecting residents and their properties.

### **ANALYSIS**

Implementing Operation Night Light within the City could offer several benefits:

1. **Enhanced Nighttime Security:** By increasing visibility during the night, the program could deter criminal activities and make it easier for law enforcement and residents to spot suspicious behavior.

2. **Community Engagement:** Encouraging residents to participate in Operation Night Light fosters a sense of community responsibility and involvement in public safety efforts. It can also serve as a stepping stone to further engagement with the City's Neighborhood Watch program.
3. **Cost-Effectiveness:** The program's simplicity and reliance on residents' participation make it a cost-effective method of crime prevention. The use of photocell-equipped lighting further reduces the burden on residents by automating the process.
4. **Visibility and Deterrence:** A well-lit neighborhood sends a clear message to potential criminals that the community is vigilant and proactive about security. This can have a psychological impact on would-be burglars, potentially reducing crime rates.

The Operation Night Light program presents an opportunity to enhance nighttime security through a simple, community-driven initiative. This program represents a natural extension of the City's efforts to create a safer community. It not only strengthens the City's existing programs but can also empower residents to contribute to the safety of their neighborhoods directly.

The program's effectiveness would depend on widespread community participation and awareness. Should the Commission be supportive of implementing an Operation Night Light program, we would seek additional guidance on how to promote it through the City's various marketing channels.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Commission recommend implementing an Operation Night Light Program.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Cerritos – Operation Night Light Flyer



**CITY OF CERRITOS - COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION**  
**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**  
**OPERATION**  
**NIGHT LIGHT**

**Cerritos Sheriff's Station/  
Cerritos Community Safety Center  
18135 S. Bloomfield Avenue  
Cerritos, California 90703  
(562) 916-1266**

**Visit [crimemapping.com](http://crimemapping.com) or [safercerritos.com](http://safercerritos.com)  
for easy access to current neighborhood  
crime reports, statistics, and maps.**

**UNLIT HOMES ATTRACT  
UNWELCOME ATTENTION!**



**DEAR COMMUNITY PARTNER:**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is seeking your help to reduce nighttime residential and vehicle burglaries within this region.

Criminals are adaptive creatures. Enhanced daytime patrols, security cameras, and automatic license plate reading technologies have caused some would-be burglars to switch their illicit activities to nighttime.

Thieves appear to be surveilling residential neighborhoods at sunset and beyond looking for homes that appear to be unoccupied. Homes that have no exterior or interior lights on draw the unwanted attention of would-be burglars.

**OPERATION NIGHT LIGHT** is a new crime abatement strategy designed to dissuade would-be criminals during the hours of darkness.

Anyone can participate in **OPERATION NIGHT LIGHT** by simply turning on your porch light each day from dusk until dawn. Lights equipped with a photocell do this automatically.

A lit porch light will brighten your property and "illuminate" the fact that residents on your street are part of an active Neighborhood Watch program.

**OPERATION NIGHT LIGHT** gives criminals who operate under the cover of darkness what they don't want ... well-lit areas and exposure.

**KEEP'EM ON TO KEEP'EM OUT!**



**CITY OF ARTESIA**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**TO:** Public Safety Commission

**FROM:** Adrian Fajardo, Management Analyst  
Melissa Burke, Deputy City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Receive and File an Update on Automated License Plate Readers

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**BACKGROUND**

In recent years, Los Angeles County has observed an uptick in vehicle-related crimes, notably vehicle thefts and the use of vehicles in the commission of crimes. This trend poses significant challenges to public safety and law enforcement efforts, underscoring the need for innovative and effective surveillance solutions.

In April 2022, the Public Safety Commission briefly discussed the potential implementation of Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras throughout the City. Commissioner Nunes suggested the City consider the ALPR cameras from Flock Group Inc. Since then, the City has explored deploying ALPR cameras and solicited proposals from Flock and Motorola's Vigilant Solutions. After receiving and evaluating proposals from both Flock and Vigilant Solutions, it was determined that Vigilant Solutions offered a more cost-effective solution over time.

Vigilant Solutions has an existing contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. This pre-established relationship presents an opportunity for seamless integration, enabling the City to easily connect with the broader network of Vigilant ALPR cameras throughout the County. This network can foster enhanced regional coordination in public safety operations, leveraging county-wide data for more effective crime prevention and investigation.

**ANALYSIS**

The City is proposing deploying ALPR cameras at critical thoroughfares and intersections within the City. Staff met with Sgt. Ramos and the Advanced Surveillance and Protection Unit (ASAP) of the Sheriff's Department to carefully identify these specific locations. These locations have been selected based on traffic patterns, historical crime data, and the strategic importance of monitoring vehicular movements in and out of the City.

The following locations are being considered at this time:

- Northbound Pioneer Blvd/Artesia Blvd
- Northbound Pioneer Blvd/South St.
- Southbound Pioneer Blvd/166th St.
- Southbound Pioneer Blvd/183rd St.
- Southbound Pioneer Blvd/
- Southbound Pioneer Blvd/
- Southbound Norwalk Blvd/Artesia Blvd
- Westbound Norwalk Blvd/South St.
- Westbound Norwalk Blvd/Artesia Blvd
- Eastbound Artesia Blvd/Gridley Rd.
- Eastbound 183rd St./Gridley Rd.

After carefully considering and reviewing available options, the City has determined that the L6Q ALPR Camera from Vigilant Solutions would best suit our needs. The L6Q was designed with rapid deployment capabilities, a high-capacity swappable internal battery, and compatibility with solar and AC/DC power sources. Its sophisticated radar-based triggering system is designed to capture data on vehicles moving at specified speed thresholds and directions and across multiple lanes. The system includes long-range integrated infrared illumination and a starlight sensor, enabling effective operation in low-light conditions.

The L6Q is a powerful tool for enhancing public safety and investigative capabilities. By capturing detailed data on every vehicle that passes, including license plate, make, model, color, and speed, deputies can quickly identify stolen vehicles, track suspects, and gather crucial evidence for investigations.

The adoption of ALPR Cameras offers the City of Artesia significant technological advantages. These cameras align with the City's goal to enhance public safety by providing a robust foundation for crime prevention and investigation efforts. Our Sheriff Deputies will have a critical tool to deter criminal activities and solve crimes more effectively. This program underscores the City's broader commitment to harnessing technology to address evolving public safety concerns.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Commission receive and file an update on the implementation of Automated License Plate Reader technology.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Map - License Plate Reader Locations

# Proposed Locations for ALPRs

