PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
INTRODUCTION

1.9 SQUARE MILES

35,000 RESIDENTS + DAILY POPULATION OVER 70K

200+ RESTAURANTS, LOUNGES, BARS & NIGHTCLUBS

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF ANNUAL VISITORS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

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The City continues to be a very safe place to live, visit, and work.

While West Hollywood’s residential population is approximately 35,000 people, its population typically more than doubles with the number of people who work in the city and visit.

For a city that is only 1.9 square miles, West Hollywood is home to a large number of entertainment-oriented businesses, such as restaurants, lounges, bars, and nightclubs; there are over 200 establishments in the city. Additionally, West Hollywood is home to a number of large-scale special events that attract many thousands of visitors at a time, such as LA Pride in West Hollywood and Halloween Carnaval.

West Hollywood is a contract city. It contracts with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department for law enforcement services and is part of the Los Angeles County Fire Department’s Consolidated Fire District for fire protection services. This allows a small city to leverage resources from the county, which is an enormous benefit to public safety.
The station remains dedicated to its goal of providing the City with efficient and effective law enforcement services on every level. As always, each person at the West Hollywood Station appreciates the strong partnership with City staff and the community. The Community Impact Team (CIT) and other station personnel make frequent efforts to speak with the West Hollywood community regarding crime prevention and quality of life issues.

City staff and the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station Captain are exploring options for an expanded eastside Sheriff’s presence.

Furthermore, the station has increased its social media engagement as a means of reaching out to the public and providing valuable information to the community. Sheriff’s personnel plan to continue to improve upon these efforts to build public trust and to best serve the various communities of West Hollywood.

The City of West Hollywood funds a dedicated Mental Evaluation Team in partnership with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and the Department of Mental Health. A "MET" team consists of a deputy sheriff and a DMH licensed mental health clinician and provides mental health support, field crisis intervention, and appropriate psychiatric placement in situations involving patrol deputy contacts with citizens suffering from mental illness. The goal of this co-response model is to reduce incidents with use of force, reduce hospitalizations, and avoid unnecessary incarcerations of severely mentally ill citizens.

The Sheriff’s Station remains committed to collaborating with City officials, residents, and businesses to resolve community concerns.

Sheriff’s personnel is focused on efforts such as neighborhood patrols and maintaining the quality of life for the community. Sheriff’s personnel, Public Safety staff, and the Public Safety Commission regularly examine crime statistics in order to identify problem areas and adjust resource deployment as appropriate. The station has continued to utilize both bicycle and foot patrols to supplement traditional vehicle patrols.
Station personnel regularly conduct blood pressure checks with constituents who visit the local stations and routinely provide Fire Station tours for the public. They also participate in Neighborhood Watch meetings organized by the City and Sheriff’s Department when requested.

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department offers Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to the community, which was developed through FEMA to provide basic fire safety and life saving skills. Following a major disaster, police, fire and medical professionals may not be able to fully meet the demand. People will have to rely on each other to meet the immediate life saving and life sustaining needs, particularly in isolated neighborhoods that may be cut off from the main roads for a period of time. CERT gives community members an opportunity to learn these important skills.

The City of West Hollywood is primarily served by personnel at Los Angeles County Fire Stations 7 and 8. An Assistant Fire Chief manages the resources within Division VII, of which West Hollywood is a part.

The City of West Hollywood Public Safety Commission was created on September 18, 1989 and is comprised of five (5) members, appointed by individual Councilmembers, and two (2) members appointed by the Council as a whole (at-large). Each member of the Commission serves a two-year term.

It is the function of the Public Safety Commission to evaluate and recommend suggestions involving public safety issues, to assist the City Manager’s office and the City Council in strengthening community response to emergencies, and to evaluate and make recommendations regarding neighborhood livability issues.
NEIGHBORHOOD LIVABILITY PROGRAMS

The City's Public Safety personnel continue to promote neighborhood livability and address the various quality of life issues that regularly impact the West Hollywood community, including impacts from noise (loud music, motorcycles), speeding, and nightclub operations as well as anti-scavenging, dogs off leash, illegal pet waste disposal, illegal street vendors, and short-term rentals, electric scooters, and vacant properties.

Public Safety staff and Sheriff's personnel continue to work with the Public Safety Commission on public safety education, including utilizing social media and hosting "Coffee with the COPPS" (Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving team) community outreach opportunities.

CODE COMPLIANCE

The Code Compliance Division works with business and property owners in order to protect public health and safety and maintain the City’s unique urban balance with emphasis on neighborhood livability. By means of information, education, and the Administrative Remedies program, Code Compliance staff enforces the City’s Municipal Code. The Division also oversees Animal Care and Control contract services and administers the City’s regulatory Business License program.

HOMELESS INITIATIVE

Sheriff’s personnel remain committed to addressing various quality of life issues. The foot beat program has helped provide services to the city’s homeless population. To effectively address these issues, station personnel, including deputies that speak a
variety of languages (Spanish, Armenian, Farsi, and German among many others), and the Community Impact Team continue to work together with City staff and the City’s contracted service providers. The addition of the Mental Evaluation Team Deputy and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Clinician has been extremely valuable to the city. The MET team has been able to successfully diffuse situations and assist individuals as they enter substance abuse treatment.

The City’s Strategic Initiatives Division coordinates the City’s Homeless Initiative. Sheriff’s station personnel actively participate in quarterly Homeless Collaborative meetings with City staff and social services providers. These meetings further strengthen the partnership between the City, the Community Impact Team members, and the City’s contracted social services providers.

CONTRACTS WITH SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDERS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS INCLUDE:

**STEP UP ON SECOND**

The City funds a dedicated West Hollywood Mobile Interdisciplinary Team (MIT) to provide street-based services to chronically homeless, mentally ill community members. The MIT includes a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), a substance abuse counselor, a peer advocate and a psychiatrist. Additional funding from the City supports a Nurse Practitioner (NP) for the team.

**ASCENCIA**

The City funds an additional dedicated street outreach team and access to up to ten shelter beds with Ascencia, who also offer case management, access to housing resources, employment and financial literacy training.

**APLA HEALTH (Formerly AIDS Project Los Angeles)**

The City funds a full-time HIV Specialist Outreach Position, which accompanies the City’s contracted outreach teams in engaging homeless community members living with or at-risk for HIV. The services provided through this program address a variety of challenges that have created barriers for homeless community members seeking permanent supportive housing.

THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD PARTICIPATES IN THE ANNUAL GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT, COORDINATED BY THE LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY (LAHSA).

Sheriff’s deputies took the lead in guiding teams of volunteers, including City Council members, Commissioners, Advisory Board members, and residents, in the point-in-time count. The teams counted the number of homeless people in all of the census tracts that comprise the City and the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station served as the deployment site for the effort.

Finally, homeless individuals may obtain TAP cards (for access to transit on Metro) and other emergency outreach supplies at the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station. These supplies are provided on an ongoing basis to the Sheriff’s by the City’s Social Services and Strategic Initiatives Divisions.
COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

The Community Impact Team (CIT) includes the Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) Team and the Entertainment Policing Team (EPT). The teams collectively manage community concerns and promote crime prevention through a variety of intervention and enforcement techniques. The members work with Social Services, Rent Stabilization, and other City divisions to address the quality of life concerns.

The COPPS Team remains committed to collaborating with City officials, residents, and businesses to resolve community concerns. Team members work with several Neighborhood Watch groups to address residents' concerns, including criminal transient issues such as drinking in public, urinating in public, drug usage, littering, trespassing, theft, panhandling, and misuse of public facilities. Personnel not only make arrests for violations of law, but also provide information and assistance regarding shelters, medical attention, jobs, and substance abuse education.

In addition, the COPPS team conducts numerous park patrols, works closely with local businesses to address their concerns, and helps institute a "Letter of Agency" where appropriate. A "Letter of Agency" gives the Sheriff’s Department the authority to enforce trespassing on private property, including vacant or closed properties.

BLOCK BY BLOCK SECURITY AMBASSADORS

Deploying Block by Block (BBB) Security Ambassadors along Santa Monica Boulevard and adjacent residential streets has had a positive impact on safety and neighborhood livability. Security Ambassadors provide a highly visible uniform presence at the street level to serve as a visual deterrent, report unwanted activity, challenge low-level quality of life crimes. Block by Block (BBB) Security Ambassadors work in collaboration with the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station and provide a high level of customer service for people who live, work, or play in West Hollywood.

COMMUNITY IMPACT TEAM AND ITS COLLABORATION WITH CODE COMPLIANCE

Community Impact Team (CIT) Deputies and the City’s Code Compliance staff are proactive in addressing the impacts from entertainment establishments and special events. CIT Deputies and the Alcohol Liaison Officer work with staff at nighttime establishments to prevent alcohol-related incidents and have increased criminal enforcement of various neighborhood concerns, including drinking in public, criminal transient issues, and various nuisance issues. The Sheriff’s Department and Code Compliance personnel also work with the Alcoholic Beverage Control to educate businesses and work collaboratively on alcohol-related issues. On a nightly basis, they actively patrol bars, nightclubs, and hotels.
COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

The City of West Hollywood has implemented a variety of improvements as part of comprehensive plan with three unique areas to improve pedestrian safety: Engineering, Enforcement, and Education. The City's Engineering Division has completed crosswalk safety improvements along Fountain Avenue at five key intersections. These crosswalks have been enhanced with new flashing pedestrian warning lights that assist pedestrians with visibility when using crosswalks and help stop traffic along Fountain Avenue for safe crossing. The City's Public Safety Department continues to work on improving pedestrian safety throughout the City with Deputies from the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station working to encourage safety among drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

PARK SAFETY

West Hollywood Park, Plummer Park, and other smaller parks in the City of West Hollywood provide quality leisure service experiences to residents and visitors. The City’s Recreation Services Division offers a myriad of programming in the City’s parks at an affordable cost which promote health, wellness, community, and well-being. To support the safety people in the City's parks, the Public Safety Department has enhanced security with PacWest guards who patrol the parks on a daily basis and maintain a safe environment.
EASTSIDE ENHANCEMENTS

The City continues to work to increase public safety on the Eastside of the City. The foot beat program has greatly improved law enforcement presence on West Hollywood’s Eastside, where a number of quality of life concerns have been voiced. The West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station has increased both bicycle and foot patrols, and more Deputies are trained now for bicycle patrol than ever before. Additional foot patrol security guards have also been added to serve Plummer Park.

“LIVE, WORK, PLAY. BE SAFE.”

The City’s Public Safety staff and Public Safety Commissioners have conducted "Live, Work, Play. Be Safe.", "Coffee with the COPPS", and other street outreach efforts that serve to raise awareness about public safety and convey messages about topics such as vehicle burglary prevention, street robbery prevention, and personal safety tips.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Through its participation with various violence prevention agencies, the City of West Hollywood continues to be one of the leading municipalities with regard to advocating for improved services for survivors of domestic violence and those affected by hate crimes, hate incidents, and other family violence issues. The Public Safety Department continues to work with the Los Angeles LGBT Center and other community partner agencies that provide domestic violence counseling services. Staff regularly meets with the City’s Women’s Advisory Board and works to raise awareness through the ‘Only Yes Means Yes’ education efforts. Staff meets on a quarterly basis with the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission Network Against Hate Crimes Committee. Additionally, staff arranges presentations from the Human Relations Commission when requested by Commissions or Advisory Boards. The City continues its relationship with the Maple Counseling Center for counseling services for community members who are victims of crime or disaster.

ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

Code Compliance staff in conjunction with Sheriff’s Station Deputies address electric scooters illegally maintained and operated on sidewalks Citywide. Sweeps are performed on a regular basis by Code Compliance staff which result in the impoundment and issuance of administrative citations to responsible companies. The Sheriff’s Station also issues traffic citations to riders operating electric scooters on the sidewalk during periodic focused enforcement efforts.

COOLING CENTER

To confirm Cooling Center hours, please call the Center at (323) 848-6530.

When temperatures climb above 90 degrees, the City of West Hollywood activates a Cooling Center at Plummer Park. The Cooling Center is located at Plummer Park’s Community Center Senior Lounge, located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard. When the Cooling Center is activated, there is information posted on the home page of the City’s website, www.weho.org.

Residents may also visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov to find other designated cooling centers throughout Los Angeles County.
Emergency management is a key component to the Public Safety Department, and staff is responsible for ensuring that the City is prepared to respond to, and recover from, a disaster. This includes working closely with City staff and external agencies.

- **MAJOR SPECIAL EVENTS**
- **AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS**
- **NIGHTTIME SAFETY**

**MAJOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

An interdisciplinary team headed by the Event and Film Services Division and Public Safety Department regularly meets to plan, manage, and evaluate all major special events in West Hollywood. Threat assessments are conducted by Sheriff’s intelligence experts on each event, and recommendations to improve security are implemented. Event Action Plans and Crisis Communications Plans are written by Sheriff’s and Fire personnel in coordination with City staff, and the Incident Command System is followed. The multidisciplinary team also coordinates the use of medical care centers, which allows medical professionals to treat patients on site when possible and avoids transporting patients to area hospitals when unnecessary.

**AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS**

The City has installed Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) in key locations at City Hall, parks, and other City facilities. AEDs are used to treat sudden cardiac arrest and have successfully saved lives. When a person experiences sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), the heart’s electrical impulses suddenly misfire. As a result, the heart flutters uncontrollably and cannot pump blood, which results in the body being deprived of oxygen. When a person experiences SCA, only an electric shock from an AED can get the heart beating normally again. The survival rate from SCA in places where AEDs are available is close to 70%, while the survival rate in areas without access to AEDs is 5%. Therefore, having an AED public access program can protect citizens and visitors to the City by providing access to AEDs when needed. AEDs do not require training to use: the machine itself walks you through the steps. So, members of the public can use the AEDs by following the prompts.
NIGHTTIME SAFETY

The City of West Hollywood has created a safety handbook for nightlife establishments. The goal of this document is to assist nightlife owners in maintaining safe bars, lounges, and clubs free from illegal activity including: drug sales, underage drinking, overconsumption of alcohol, violence, prostitution, sex offenses, and terrorism.

The Sheriff’s Entertainment Policing Team continues its work on Sunset Boulevard, as well as on Santa Monica and Robertson Boulevards. The Deputies primarily focus on "entertainment" and "alcohol" related law enforcement issues in the City. On a nightly basis they actively patrol more than 60 bars, nightclubs, and hotels. While patrolling the different venues, the team members make contact with the management of the different establishments to maintain a cooperative working relationship and to stay informed on individual business concerns and events.

The EPT issues vehicle citations, tows vehicles, and completes a large number of field investigations and arrests. As part of their regular duties, EPT handles crowd control issues and Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) enforcement. Personnel also continue to work closely with the Sunset Strip Business Association (SSBA), their related security detail, SSBA members, Block by Block Security Ambassadors, and the City’s Code Compliance Division.

In addition, the deputies enforce the code with regard to modified exhaust, loud music, and other quality of life issues.

EMERGENCY SERVICES LOCATIONS

City Hall
8300 Santa Monica Blvd

Sheriff’s Station
780 N. San Vicente Blvd

Fire Department
Station 7 — 864 N. San Vicente Blvd
Station 8 — 7643 Santa Monica Blvd

Automatic External Defibrillators
West Hollywood Park — 647 N. San Vicente Blvd
City Hall — 8300 Santa Monica Blvd
Plummer Park — 7377 Santa Monica Blvd

SEE BACK PAGE FOR CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SERVICES LOCATIONS

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For more info about Public Safety in the City of West Hollywood, please visit weho.org/publicsafety

SHERIFF
(310) 855-8850
911 for emergencies
@WHDLASD
@westhollywoodsheriffsstation

LACOFD DIVISION VII
@LACoFD_DivVII
@lacountyfire7

FIRE STATION 7
(310) 358-3430

FIRE STATION 8
(323) 654-5445

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