

JUSTICE LA

WEHO LASD CONTRACT PUBLIC COMMENT TOOLKIT

SOCIAL MEDIA: jlanow.org/WeHoPosts

PETITION: change.org/JusticeLA-Weho-Petition

JUNE 27TH 6:00 pm [Agenda](#)

**LOCATION: 625 N. San Vicente Blvd, West
Hollywood 90069**

CONTEXT

The LA County Sheriff is not keeping us safe. #GoogleLASDGangs

Do you earn over \$385,000 a year? That's how much cities in LA County pay for one deputy. [Overbilling](#) is standard practice — Compton is suing the LASD for fraud. Over the past decade, the cost of a deputy has increased by 100%. [What are cities getting in return?](#) The largest Sheriff's department in the world spends billions of taxpayer dollars to surveil communities and incarcerate residents. It has 18 deputy gangs. LASD is responsible for nearly 300 in-custody deaths in the last 9 years. LASD's \$3.6 billion budget is larger than the budgets for Public Health (\$1.8 billion) and Affordable Housing and Homelessness (\$218 million) combined.

WE NEED YOU TO SHOW UP! GIVE WRITTEN OR IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT FOR TUESDAY JUNE 27th

West Hollywood is #PayingMoreforLess

In February, the WeHo Public Safety Commission recommended the City Council direct \$3.6M out of the Sheriff's contract into social services or the hiring of unarmed security ambassadors. There are 60 Officers in the two square mile city, who [soak up 20% of the annual budget](#). City staff are ignoring the Commission's recommendations and proposing to allocate LASD an additional \$290,000 this year plus \$500,000 just for Pride. The 2022-23 proposed budget allocates four times more to the Sheriff's department than to social services. For one deputy, WeHo could have three mental health or social service workers, or 11 unarmed security ambassadors.

GIVE LIVE PUBLIC COMMENT AT 6:00 PM

IN PERSON

1. Plan to be at WeHo Council Chambers by 5:45 pm to speak '
2. Park at the WeHo Park Parking 625 N San Vicente Blvd (get validation inside Council Chambers)
3. Sign up for public comment at Chambers

VIA ZOOM

1. Email publiccomment@weho.org and mcrowder@weho.org by 2:00 p.m. to be added to the Public Speaker List for the meeting for agenda item 4C
 - a. Please include your name, the phone number from which you will be calling, and that you want to speak for agenda item 4C and general public comment
2. Dial-in
 - a. **Dial:** 669-900-6833
 - b. **Enter Meeting I.D:** 845 8320 2670, then #
3. Give public comment when instructed (two minutes)

TALKING POINTS

- We are disappointed to see that this year's proposed contract is once again an overinvestment in the sheriff's department and an underinvestment in care.
- Last year, 60 deputies cost \$20.4 million. The cost per deputy rose by over 100% in the last decade. What are cities getting in return? The crimes the department solved last year were 2 out of 249 stolen phones.
- The Sheriff has not been prevented from hiring more deputies to serve Contract Cities. It hired 1,900 more deputies last year which can be assigned to WeHo.
- The sheriff is not being defunded. In fact, LASD's budget increased from \$3.5 to \$3.6B this year.
- WeHo's budget is a reflection of the city's leadership. The proposed Sheriff's budget is four times the budget for social services. Instead of re-allocating funds from the department, LASD received an additional \$290,000 plus \$500,000 just for Pride weekend.
- For the cost of one LASD deputy, West Hollywood could employ three clinical mental health workers.
- Reallocating money from the deadliest, most well funded law enforcement agency in the world is a popular mandate.

- This is an issue of fiscal responsibility. When asked to provide line by line accounting of how contract costs are being spent by the department the Sheriff's department showed up with a blurry spreadsheet of general expenditures.
- Cell phone theft in West Hollywood is a real thing and can't be ignored but what we've seen is that the Sheriff's department is not the agency to address this issue. Their 'undercover units' retrieved TWO out of over 400 cell phones stolen in the last year. Investing in a public awareness campaign about securing one's belongings is a more worthwhile investment than increasing funding for a department that does next to nothing to solve this issue.
- Clearly the city of West Hollywood believes in challenging the systems of mass incarceration. I support the city investing in pretrial services and alternatives to incarceration and believe that these values should also be reflected in their contract with LASD.

AMPLIFY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

USE THE SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT: <https://jlanow.org/WeHoPosts>

SIGN AND SHARE: <https://www.change.org/JusticeLA-Weho-Petition>

Be sure to sign and share why you support the reallocation of the contract!



LEARN MORE

MEDIA ARTICLES

- [LASD Fights Accountability on Overbilling](#) - The Knock, 4/4/22
- [An Explainer on LASD Contracts](#) - The Knock, 5/19/22
- [Enough Audits. Contract Cities are Paying More for Less LASD Service](#) - The Knock, 4/28/22
- [A Tradition of Violence: The History of Deputy Gangs in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department](#) - The Knock

JUSTICE LA RESOURCES

- [WeHo One Pager](#) - JusticeLA, 6/6/22
- [WeHo Complete Data of Crime and Costs](#) - JusticeLA, 4/22/22

GOV'T DOCUMENTS

- [2022-23 Sheriff Department rates](#) - LA County, 3/2/22

INFORMATIVE TWITTER THREADS

- Public Safety Commissioner on [crime in WeHo](#)
- Analysis of WeHo in the context of [law enforcement scrutiny](#)
- Reporter on WeHo Pride [LASD presence](#)