



DRAFT MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
Thursday, March 12, 2026

At 6:00 p.m. Vice Chair Sidharth Rajaram called the Regular Public Safety Commission meeting to order at the Quinlan Conference Room, 10185 North Stelling Road and via Teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Chair Sidharth Rajaram and Commissioners Sashikala Begur and Ravi Kiran Singh Sapaharam. Absent: Commissioner Gregory Klein.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Subject: January 6, 2026 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes
Recommended Action: Review and approve the January 6, 2026 Public Safety Commission meeting minutes

Commissioner Begur made corrections to the minutes, including updating the Commissioner Report section to capture her statement regarding Cupertino Library Foundation's Fire Wise Cupertino meeting, to include having people look at the Cupertino Library Foundation's website and look at Fire Wise Cupertino because the website would tell its viewers where the fire maps are and what to do under the circumstances of fire preparedness; and to amend the minutes to change Commissioner Sapaharam's report to replace the word "electricity" with AlertSCC.

MOTION: Begur moved and Sapaharam seconded to make amendments to the minutes, and for the amended minutes to return to the Commission at the next Public Safety Commission Meeting. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Rajaram, Begur, Sapaharam. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Klein.

POSTPONEMENTS

MOTION: Rajaram moved and Sapaharam seconded to move the election to a special Public Safety Commission meeting to be scheduled at a later date. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Rajaram, Begur, Sapaharam. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Klein.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Roger Costa discussed the County Board of Supervisors vote prohibiting the use of Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR), noting its usefulness in resolving incidents, such as a recent case in New York.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

2. Subject: Election of Commission Chair and Vice Chair
Recommended Action: Review and discuss list of potential meeting topics for 2026

As noted under Postponements, this item was postponed to a future meeting date.

3. Subject: Presentation on the West Santa Clara Landscape Resilience Project
Recommended Action: Receive presentation on the West Santa Clara Landscape Resilience Project

Steve Harrington, Senior Project Manager with the Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council and Grace Mannell, Associate Wildfire Resilience Planner at Ascent, gave a presentation.

Commissioners asked questions which staff and presenters responded to.

Vice Chair Rajaram opened the public comment period, and the following people spoke:

- Roger Costa

Vice Chair Rajaram closed the public comment period.

The Commission received the presentation on the West Santa Clara Landscape Resilience Project.

4. Subject: Report by the Santa Clara County Fire District
Recommended Action: Receive Report by the Santa Clara County Fire District liaison

Santa Clara County Fire District liaison Hector Estrada gave a presentation.

Commissioners asked questions which staff and the presenter responded to.

Vice Chair Rajaram opened the public comment period and, seeing no one, closed the public comment period.

The Commission received the report by the Santa Clara County Fire District liaison.

5. Subject: Report by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office
Recommended Action: Report by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office

Captain Neil Valenzuela of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office gave a presentation.

Commissioners asked questions, which staff and the presenter responded to.

Vice Chair Rajaram opened the public comment period, and the following people spoke:

- Roger Costa

Vice Chair Rajaram closed the public comment period.

The Commission received the report by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office.

6. Subject: Commissioner Discussion on Expanded Scam and Fraud Prevention
Recommended Action: Discuss results of Commissioner research into expanding scam and fraud prevention

Commissioners made the following recommendations:

- Increase the frequency of workshops with real-life examples to raise awareness and have City staff reach out to the public through City newsletters and the City website, including making these resources multilingual to reach a broader audience.
- When possible, coordinate with other agencies like the Santa Clara County Major Fraud unit.
- Take the call to action and draft a recommendation to City Council for funding to roll out an initiative for increasing awareness about scams.
- Increase public education by utilizing programs like KnowBe4 and making them available to members of the public through agencies like the Sheriff's Office, Rotary clubs, and other organizations throughout the City to pool resources.
- Share information about novel threats and solutions and include these novel scenarios and solutions in the Scene magazine as an "AI Tip of the Month".
- Talk to an assembly member about how AI-generated content and other scams can be more easily identified and determine what can be done legislatively about these issues.
- Determine a way to have a quick link to educational resources that IT or TICC can

design for Cupertino residents seeking more information.

- Request that the Sheriff's Office gather data on programs or campaigns to stop scams and share the information at the next meeting and have the Commission share this information with the public.
- Boost outreach with tips on red flags and tools for how to spot scams and add these to the City Newsletter, City website, senior centers, libraries, and other agencies.
- Meet with TICC to determine how they can contribute to increasing awareness about scams, including the possibility of a joint meeting or having an individual from the Public Safety Commission attend the meeting.
- Request that the Sheriff's Office gather data about 2026 campaigns like Stop Senior Scams Seminars at the senior center and report back.
- Commissioners will individually e-mail City staff with what they believe should be included in the Scene magazine and potentially published in other City communications.
- The Vice Chair will raise the issues discussed at the Mayor's Meeting.

Vice Chair Rajaram opened the public comment period and, seeing no one, closed the public comment period.

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Block Leader Coordinator Marta Drown reported on the mandatory commissioner training taking place at Community Hall, shared volunteer programs including Psychological First Aid Training, Communications and Outage, First Aid Booth Training, Bunny Run Support, and the Block Leader Meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA SETTING – None

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:11 p.m. Vice Chair Rajaram adjourned the Regular Public Safety Commission Meeting.

Minutes prepared by:

Lindsay Nelson, Administrative Assistant