

**ATTENTION: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A UNIQUE PANELIST LINK BY EMAIL. PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.**



## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022  
9:00 a.m.**

*Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 and the findings made by CVAG, this meeting will only be conducted via video/teleconferencing.*

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members of the public may use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88013837900?pwd=UmZmSWhvR3JoRXB5aDNLWWhFRVlwUT09>  
Password: 149989

**One Tap Mobile:** +16699009128,,88013837900#

**Dial In:** +1 669 900 9128

**Webinar ID:** 880 1383 7900

**Password:** 149989

*This will provide listening access and ability to address the  
Public Safety Committee when called upon.*

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO CONNECT VIA DIAL IN OPTION, PLEASE CALL 760-346-1127.**

Public comment is encouraged to be emailed to the Public Safety Committee meeting prior to the meeting at [cvag@cvag.org](mailto:cvag@cvag.org) by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the committee meeting. Comments intended to be read aloud should be no more than 300 characters.

**THIS MEETING IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE.  
ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.**

**UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL ACTION ITEMS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR FINAL APPROVAL.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Waymond Fermon, Mayor, City of Indio

2. **ROLL CALL** – Jennifer Nelson

A. **Member Roster**

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3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Public Safety Committee on agenda items. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.

5. **DISCUSSION/ ACTION**

A. **Roundtable Discussion on Coachella Valley’s Response and Readiness to Active Shooter Situations at Schools and Other Soft Targets – Erica Felci**

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**Recommendation:** Discussion

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, September 26, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Item 2A**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Public Safety Committee  
Member Roster  
2021-2022**



<b>Voting Members</b>	
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Raymond Gregory
City of Coachella	Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto – <b>VICE CHAIR</b>
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Roger Nuñez
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Greg Sanders
City of Indio	Mayor Waymond Fermon - <b>CHAIR</b>
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Pena
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Karina Quintanilla
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Grace Garner
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Iris Smotrich
County of Riverside	Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
<b>Ex-Officio Members</b>	
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Robert Bradbury, Emergency Services Manager
California Highway Patrol	Dennis Woodbury, Commander
Cathedral City Fire	John Muhr, Fire Chief
Cathedral City Police	George Crum, Chief of Police
Desert Hot Springs Police	Jim Henson, Chief of Police
District Attorney's Office	Michael Hestrin, District Attorney
Indio Police	Mike Washburn, Chief of Police
Palm Desert Sheriff Station	Dean Agnoletto, Captain
Palm Springs Fire	J. Kevin Nalder, Fire Chief
Palm Springs Police	Andrew Mills, Chief of Police
Riverside County Fire Department	Robert Fish, Deputy Chief
Riverside County Probation Department	Ron Miller, Chief Probation Officer
Riverside County Sheriff's Department	Sheriff Chad Bianco
Thermal Sheriff Station	Michael Bianco, Captain
U.S. Border Patrol	David Kim

**ITEM 5A**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Public Safety Committee**

August 8, 2022



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Roundtable Discussion on Coachella Valley's Response and Readiness to Active Shooter Situations at Schools and Other Soft Targets

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Assistant Executive Director ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Discussion

**Background:** At the June 2022 meeting of the Public Safety Committee, several members made comments about gun violence, ranging from the tragedy in Uvalde, Texas to recent rallies in the desert. There also were a number of comments about the level of support at local schools, both in terms of security officers as well as mental health services. Following the comments, CVAG staff met with Public Safety Chair Waymond Fermon and Vice Chair Megan Beaman Jacinto about leading a discussion on the topic.

The August 8 special meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be a roundtable forum about the Coachella Valley's readiness and response plans to an active shooter situation, particularly at soft targets such as schools. The roundtable will feature the following speakers:

- Indio Police Chief Mike Washburn;
- Cathedral City Police Chief George Crum;
- Palm Springs Unified School District's Executive Director of Security and Disaster Preparedness Levaughn Smart;
- Desert Sands Unified School District's Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Jordan Aquino and Director of Safety and Security Edward Nacua;
- Coachella Valley Unified School District's Director of Safety and Security Gus Paiz; and
- Riverside University Health System-Behavioral Health's Desert Region Adult Services Administrator Jim Grisham

Local law enforcement and schools have long planned for the unthinkable scenario of an active shooter situation. Additional trainings have been held since the May 24 mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, where 19 children and two teachers died in their classrooms. For example, a recent training by Palm Springs Police Department, which was highlighted in a KESQ in-depth report, included training with semi-automatic rifles and munitions, or non-lethal training ammunition. (<https://kesq.com/news/in-depth/2022/07/22/exclusive-embedding-with-palm-springs-police-during-active-shooter-simulation/>) Among the other trainings was one held in July when Desert Sands Unified partnered with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department on an active shooter simulation at Palm Desert Charter Middle School. Such trainings are not limited to schools, as the staff at Indio City Hall was recently updated on active shooter scenarios.

There also have been calls for elected officials at the state and federal levels to take legislative steps to curb gun violence at schools. This summer, California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a series of bills, including Assembly Bill 2571 to ban the marketing of firearms to minors and Assembly Bill 1621 to further restrict ghost guns. (A recap of these bills can be found here:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2022/07/21/governor-newsom-signs-new-measures-to-protect-californians-from-gun-violence/>) At the federal level, President Joe Biden in June signed a bipartisan bill that was heralded as the first major gun control measure to pass Congress in nearly three decades. Among the provisions of the bill is expanded background checks for prospective gun buyers between the ages of 18 and 21; expansion of an existing law that prevents people convicted of domestic abuse from owning a gun; and grants meant to encourage states to create so-called red flag laws, allowing law enforcement or other entities to petition a court to remove guns from a person deemed to be a threat to themselves or others.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for this informational update.