

April 12th, 2017

Dear Assistant Chief Villegas,

Thank you for taking the time from your busy schedule to meet with Nani Shaked and myself on Wednesday, March 8th in regards to the LAPD, Police Sciences and Leadership (PSL) training classes that are given to the Probationary Police Officers in their 11th month in the Academy.

As Community members who have attended the entire training, (4 consecutive days) in PSL, both Nani and I, along with others- Members of the League of Women Voters Los Angeles- are very impressed by the curriculum, engagement, and importance of PSL, and feel that the future of "Community Policing" lies within this program. Having the officers regroup with their classmates on their 11th month, just prior to becoming P2's, and again in 3 years is a sure way to continue shifting not only the community's perception of the LAPD with time but also to provide the core foundation for officers who need to adapt to policing methods with an ever changing community that it serves.

We would like to ask your consideration in bringing up how crucial and important it is for the City Council to approved the proposed 2017-2018 LAPD budget allowing for the creation of dedicated units where needed. We feel that the future and sustainability of PSL would be assured with a dedicated, consistent and stable unit in order to ensure the succession of the curriculum delivered as it has with the two instructors.

Both instructors, Sergeant Tom Datro and Officer Adam Deckel, in their way of teaching, offered a safe space for officers to be engaged in the training, and are an imperative element of the program. We sincerely hope that both instructors, as head instructors, will be able to train the trainers later to ensure the continuation of PSL while consistently monitoring, delivering, and facilitating the materials the way they have been doing so.

It is through this letter that we, the following community members issue a Citizen's Commendation to both Sergeant Tom Datro and Officer Adam Deckel for their passion, knowledge and dedication to PSL.

We also want to recognize Dr. Luann Pannell for having brilliantly conceived the concept of PSL and brining it to reality, which we feel, is the legacy of the LAPD in its efforts of "Community Policing".

Sincerely,

Nani Shaked, C-PAB Co-Chair, West Valley Division
Corinne Ho, C-PAB member, Topanga Division

Cc: LAPD, Police Commission Honorable President Matthew Johnson and the Police Commission Board
Honorable Councilmember Krekorian, Chair of Budget & Finance Committee
LAPD Deputy Chief, Jon Peters, Commanding Officer, Police Sciences and Training Bureau