



**Police Department**

**Staff Liaison**

Sergeant Aaron Leone  
(510) 215-4418  
aleone@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

## **AGENDA**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE Community Safety Committee**

**May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

City Hall Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue  
El Cerrito, Ca 94530

**This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible**

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#### **6:00 PM CONVENE REGULAR MEETING**

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair James Dolgonas, Vice-Chair Cedrick Cobb, Members; George Gager, Rosa Esquivel, Howard Hickman, and Richard Ehara
2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**  
*Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person.*
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**  
CSC members will have a vote to approve the meeting minutes from the April meeting.
4. **COUNCIL AND STAFF LIASION REPORTS**
5. **CITY OF EL CERRITO JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION**  
CSC members will discuss their involvement at the July Fourth event
6. **FIRE SEVERITY ZONES**  
Chair Jim Dolgonas will lead a discussion about fire severity zones in El Cerrito and show maps from the CalFire website.
7. **REVIEW THE CITY DOCUMENTS THAT DISCUSS THE CHARGE OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
Chair Jim Dolgonas will lead a discussion about the charge of the Community Safety Committee to assist in focusing the committee
8. **DISCUSS CSC ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**  
The accomplishments document will be due to the City Clerk on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Review the accomplishments document to date and see if there is anything to add. This document will need to be approved at the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to have it to the City Clerk by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
9. **DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF EXISTING AD HOC COMMITTEES**  
The committee will discuss which Ad Hoc committees can be dissolved.
10. **UPDATE FROM AD HOC COMMITTEES**  
Members of the Ad Hoc committees will update their progress on their projects. These may include;

Cobb and Dolgonas – Vegetation Management  
Cobb and Dolgonas – Red Flag Day parking program  
Cobb, Esquivel, and Ehara – E-bicycles  
Esquivel and Ehara – Crime Blotter

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

Please limit comments to three minutes.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison, (510) 215-4418. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at El Cerrito Police Department – 10900 San Pablo Avenue El Cerrito, Ca 94530 during normal business hours.



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## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE Community Safety Committee**

**Monday, April 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

El Cerrito City Hall Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue  
El Cerrito, Ca 94530

**CONVENE REGULAR MEETING** Chair Cobb called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL** – Present: Chair Cedrick Cobb; Vice Chair Dolgonas; Members Rosa Esquivel, and Howard Hickman. Absent Geroge Gager and Richard Ehara.
2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**  
None
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**  
**Moved/Seconded:** Member Esquivel/Dolgonas **Action:** Passed a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. **Ayes:** Members Cobb, Dolgonas, Esquivel, and Hickman **Noes: None**
4. **COUNCIL AND STAFF LIASION REPORTS**  
**Council Member Ktsanes provided an update. Here is a summary;**
  - Overview of agenda preparation process for upcoming City Council meetings.
  - Upcoming discussion regarding **senior exemption programs** related to the library:
    - One program appears unfunded and possibly inactive.
    - Another functions more as a tax-related exemption.
    - Criteria and eligibility are still under review by legal counsel.

- Future agenda item:
  - **Flock (ALPR) contract renewal** expected to be presented to City Council in approximately two weeks.
  - Discussion will include both public safety benefits and civil liberty concerns.

**Sergeant Leone provided an update. Here is a summary;**

- Officers responded to a series of **11 auto burglaries** in one neighborhood.
- A witness provided a description of suspect vehicles.
- Using **Flock license plate reader system**, officers:
  - Identified suspect vehicles.
  - Determined vehicles were stolen after the crimes.
  - Located one vehicle and processed it for evidence.
- Evidence recovered:
  - Fire department portable radio (returned to owner).
  - Stolen tools (returned to owner).
- DNA and fingerprint evidence collected for further investigation.
  - Case highlighted as an example of effective technology use.

**5. POLICE DEPARTMENT FLOCK ALPR CAMERA PRESENTATION**

Lieutenant David Wentworth provided a presentation on Flock. Here is a summary;

**Program Overview**

- 40 cameras installed citywide (June 2023).
- System captures:
  - License plate images
  - Date, time, and location
- Data retention: **30 days**.

**Uses**

- Detect stolen vehicles entering/leaving the city.
- Assist in post-crime investigations.

**Successes**

- Assisted in solving:
  - Homicide investigation (tracking suspect movements).
  - Fatal hit-and-run (suspect identified within 24 hours).
  - Home invasion robbery (suspect arrested within 48 hours).

- Contributed to:
  - 40-year low in burglaries and stolen vehicles.

### **Issues Identified**

- Early implementation (June–August 2023):
  - No administrative control.
  - Data was shared with two federal agencies
- Additional access incidents:
  - USPS (via system loophole—later closed).
  - Veterans Affairs Police (misidentified as California agency).

### **Corrective Actions**

- Federal access was removed and restricted.
- Monthly system audits implemented.
- Increased contract safeguards proposed.
- Transparency portal available to the public.

### **Costs**

- Approx. **\$103,500 per year**
- Total 3-year contract: **\$328,500**

### **Committee Discussion**

- Members discussed:
  - Benefits of Flock system for crime prevention.
  - Concerns regarding:
    - Data privacy
    - Unauthorized access
    - Vendor oversight
- Comparison to other vendors noted, but Flock preferred due to network size and integration with other agencies.

### **Public Comments**

Public raised several concerns:

- Data privacy and cybersecurity risks.
- Potential access by federal agencies without city knowledge.
- Possibility of subpoenas and undisclosed data sharing.
- Skepticism about true deletion of data after 30 days.
- Recommendation for:
  - Independent statewide oversight entity for technology vendors.
  - Broader expert review of surveillance systems.

Additional comments:

- Request for balanced presentations, including civil liberties perspectives (e.g., ACLU input).
- Questions about scope of data collected (clarified as limited to license plate, time, and location).

## Committee Action

**Moved/Seconded:** Member Dolgonas/Esquivel **Action:** Passed a motion to support continuation of the Flock program. **Ayes:** Members Cobb, Dolgonas, Esquivel, and Hickman **Noes:** None

### 6. ACCEPT NOMINATIONS AND VOTE FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR POSITIONS

**Moved/Seconded:** Member Esquivel/Dolgonas **Action:** Passed a motion to have Dolgonas serve as Chair and Cobb serve as Vice-Chair. **Ayes:** Members Esquivel, Hickman, Dolgonas, and Cobb.

### 7. DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF EXISTING AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Discussion of ongoing committees:
  - Vegetation management
  - Red flag parking program (pending further study session)
- Noted member absences and recruitment challenges.

### 8. UPDATE FROM AD HOC COMMITTEES

### 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Plan to participate in **Fourth of July** event:

- Booth confirmed
- Opportunity for community outreach and crime prevention education

### 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**Chair:**

This is to certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting on April 6, 2026, as approved by the Community Safety Committee

**Staff liaison:**



**Staff Liaison**  
Maya Williams | 215-4300  
mwilliams@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

## **SAMPLE MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**

**Monday, March 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

City Hall – Hillside Conference Room  
10890 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito

**This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible**

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**7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING** Chair Charge called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

- 1. ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Joe Charge; Vice-Chair Jane Smith; Members John Adams, Jane Doe, James Person **Absent:** Members Alice Anderson, Jack Johnson

- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

John Smith spoke about an opportunity to attend an art class at the community center.

~~Jane Doe~~ shared concern about lack of communication on Art day.

- 3. Art Communication Plan Review**

Review, Discuss and pass a motion to approve the proposed Art Communication Plan for 2019.

Members discussed the content of the document to be approved and clarified with staff the methods regarding Art outreach to the community.

**Moved/Second:** Member Adams/Person **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt Resolution ACC 2019-01 approving the Art communication plan for 2019. **Ayes:** Members Adams, Doe, Person **Noes:** Member Charge

- 4. Future Agenda Items - None**

- 5. ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at ( #:## p.m.)

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Joe Member, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular Arts and Culture Commission meeting of March 12, 2019 as approved by the Arts and Culture Commission.

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Maya Williams, Staff Liaison