



MINUTES

Thursday, March 5, 2026

6:00PM

Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeremy Oliver-Ronceros, Chair
Shantal Anderson, Secretary
Angela La Riva
Dorit Dowler-Guerrero
Edward Cervantes
Ingrid Rivera-Guzman
Jack Inman
Jackie Zhao
Jean Hooper
Joyous Barva
Karen Downard
Leila Kashani
Leslie Ridings
Maxwell Cabello
Skye Price
Foster Adzraku, Alternate
Marcos Molina, Alternate
Melanie Wolske, Alternate
Katina Nance, Ex Officio
Michael Sweeney, Ex Officio
Oscar Lopez, Ex Officio

ATTENDED VIRTUALLY:

None.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Yi

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:04PM

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

1. Virtual Meeting Protocols
 - a. Attendees can join via Zoom webinar format with the Zoom link posted on the published PSAC Agenda. Attendee cameras are off and microphones are muted. During the meeting, we will invite your feedback during our public comment period after each agenda item.
 - b. During the public comment period, use the 'raise hand' icon or submit your comment using the 'Q&A' feature in the chat section. The meeting will be recorded and posted on the Metro PSAC website for future reference.
 - c. One attendee was present on Zoom.
2. Community Meeting Guidelines
 - a. Metro is committed to ensuring that all participants can fairly and clearly share their ideas, comments, and concerns at this meeting. Help us provide a safe and equitable process.
3. Roll call was conducted by Secretary Anderson. A quorum was established.
4. PSAC Objectives
 - a. Enhance the Customer Experience by addressing perceptions of safety for riders and employees through infrastructure.
 - b. Enhance the Customer Experience by addressing perceptions of safety for riders and employees through transparency and the use of data and technology.
 - c. Enhance the Customer Experience tied to safety for people with disabilities and aging.
 - d. Monitor strategies to address unhoused people sheltering on the system.
 - e. Monitor strategies that provide alternatives to law enforcement on the system.
5. Approval of Meeting Agenda and Minutes
 - a. Agenda Items
 - i. Call to Order
 - ii. General Public Comment
 - iii. Customer Safety Index
 - iv. SB 707 – Just Cause Review & Information on Teleconferencing Meeting Option
 - v. Executive Committee Elections and Alternate Order Selection

ALR = A. La Riva	IRG = Ingrid Rivera-Guzman	JH = J. Hooper	KD = Karen Downard	MC = Maxwell Cabello	FA = Foster Adzraku	KN = Katina Nance
DDG = D. Dowler-Guerrero	JI = J. Inman	JY = John Yi	LK = Leila Kashani	SA = S. Anderson	MM = Marcos Molina	MS = M. Sweeney
EC = Edward Cervantes	JZ = Jackie Zhao	JB = Joyous Barva	LR = Leslie Ridings	SP = S. Price	MW = Melanie Wolske	OL = Oscar Lopez

LEGEND: Y=YES, N=NO, A/C=ABSENT/CONFLICT, C=CONFLICT, ABS=ABSTAIN, A=ABSENT, P=PRESENT

- b. Committee member Inman motioned to approve the February General Meeting agenda. Committee member Dowler-Guerrero seconded the motion.

APPROVED - March Agenda

ALR	DDG	EC	IRG	JI	JZ	JH	JY	JB	KD	LK	LR	MC	SA	SP	FA	MM	MW	KN	MS	OL
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A/C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A B S	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S

- c. Committee member Dowler-Guerrero motioned to approve the revised meeting minutes. Committee member Inman seconded the motion.

APPROVED - February Meeting Minutes

ALR	DD G	EC	IRG	JI	JZ	JH	J Y	JB	KD	LK	LR	M C	S A	S P	FA	MM	MW	KN	MS	OL
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A/ C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	ABS	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S

6. Announcements

- a. In partnership with the Department of Public Safety, members were notified of an opportunity for PSAC Cohort 4 to tour Metro's Emergency Security Operations Center on Friday, April 17, from 1:00–2:00 p.m. Participation is voluntary and limited to seven voting members (first-come, first-served), with priority given to new members and those who did not attend last year; Alternates and Ex Officio members may also attend. Further details will be shared via email.
- b. Members were advised that the Thursday, July 2 General Meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, July 9, at the same time and location due to the holiday.
- c. Members who have not yet submitted their bios were asked to submit a brief bio by Friday, March 13. Returning members were also invited to submit any updates to their existing bios by the same deadline.
- d. Cohort 4 members were reminded that the first Knowledge Building Session (KBS) of the year is scheduled for April 9, beginning at approximately 5:15 p.m. Members were asked to monitor their email for information regarding follow-up homework assignments and next steps shared after Onboarding and Orientation, and to complete all outlined items by the stated deadlines.
- e. Members were asked to note two upcoming May events: the scheduled Grand Opening for the D Line on Friday, May 8, and the Older Adult Expo for Metro's On the Move Riders program on Friday, May 15. Members were informed there may be opportunities for involvement and were asked to save the dates. Additional details will be shared at a later time.
- f. The Safety Hub, a public facing dashboard of Metro security statistics, is now live on Metro's website. PSAC members were thanked for their feedback that helped shape it.
- g. Cohort 4 members who have not yet received their Metro badges still have their paperwork being processed, but will receive them shortly.
- h. Committee members were informed that Executive Committee elections and Alternate member order selections would take place during the meeting. Staff expressed enthusiasm about working with the newly elected Executive Committee. These items were scheduled to be addressed under Agenda Item 5.

7. PSAC Members Discussion

- a. Secretary Anderson shared that riding transit in other cities, like she did in San Francisco, can offer insights and lessons to help inform PSAC's work. She encouraged Committee members to utilize public transit when they travel and note similarities and differences to Metro.
- b. A Committee member thanked Deputy Chief Gummer for his work with pylons at the Universal station, noting positive public interactions and deterrence effects.
- c. A Committee member requested the date for Older Adult Expo be repeated. Staff shared it's scheduled for Friday, May 15 for Metro's on the Move Rider program.

- d. A Committee member reviewed Metro's World Cup Enhanced Service proposal, highlighting direct service to SoFi Stadium and potential volunteer opportunities for committee members.
 - e. Chair Oliver-Ronceros encouraged new cohort members to attend the upcoming Older Adult Expo, noting it as the first public facing volunteer opportunity of the year and a rewarding chance to engage directly with older adults and learn from their perspectives.
8. No comments or questions were presented by the public in-person or online.

Agenda Item #2: General Public Comment

- 1. PSAC Members Discussion
 - a. A Committee member emphasized the importance of being transit advocates, noting that San Francisco pales in comparison to Los Angeles's public transit. He encouraged others to tell positive stories about using transit to normalize and promote it.
 - b. A Committee member praised Metro for the reported reductions in violent crime, noting 87% of riders feel safe and the 50% decrease in assaults on bus operators.
- 2. One comment was presented online by a member of the public.
 - a. ONLINE PUBLIC COMMENT BY ANONYMOUS: "As an LA resident, it'll be interesting in 2028 to see how public transportation is going to be pushed. I understand athletes may be using buses for athletic transportation purposes, but because many of the sports utilize professional athletes, it will be interesting. Are the professional athletes going to be using their own personal motor vehicles during the Olympics? That'll be interesting. I guess we'll wait for the paparazzi to catch them in action. Thank you."

Agenda Item #3: Customer Safety Index

- 1. Mark Vallianatos, Executive Officer, Office of Strategic Innovation, provided an overview of a proposed concept to develop a single safety metric that would combine crime statistics and safety perception data into a score between 1–100.
 - a. Vallianatos asked whether the Committee believed the metric would be useful and whether the proposed inputs and weighting were appropriate. He emphasized that the metric would not replace existing safety reports.
 - b. He stated the metric could combine six inputs: crimes against society, crimes against property, crimes against persons, rider perception of safety from crime, rider satisfaction with the behavior of other riders, and non-rider perception of Metro safety. He noted the data would be standardized and weighted, with crimes against persons receiving the highest weight.
- 2. PSAC Members Discussion
 - a. A Committee member asked if the metric would capture gaps between crime data and safety perceptions and questioned the low weight for "behavior of other riders." Vallianatos said weights are preliminary and the category replaced a homelessness-related survey item.
 - b. Secretary Anderson asked how Metro captures nonrider perceptions and whether the metric would be public. Vallianatos said data comes from the brand survey and the index is primarily for internal leadership use.
 - c. A Committee member urged increasing the weight of "behavior of other riders," citing personal experience. Vallianatos said staff would revisit the weighting.

- d. Multiple Committee members said nonrider perception may be weighted too heavily and recommended increasing the weight of “behavior of other riders.”
 - e. Chair Oliver-Ronceros requested clarification on crime categories. Bill Scott, Chief of Police, Department of Public Safety (DPS), explained that the categories follow federal reporting standards, with “crimes against persons,” involving harm or threats to individuals, being the highest category. He explained “crimes against property” involves theft or damage, and “crimes against society” involves quality of life offenses such as narcotics violations.
 - f. A Committee member noted riders may interpret narcotics violations as rider behavior rather than “crimes against society” and suggested the metric be public.
 - g. A Committee member asked if other agencies use similar safety indices. Vallianatos said none were identified but noted comparable composite metrics in other sectors.
 - h. A Committee member suggested separating statistical safety measures and perception measures before combining them.
 - i. A Committee member asked if leadership could still access individual metrics. Vallianatos confirmed yes, and the member proposed adjusting several category weights.
 - j. A Committee member asked if the index could be broken down by line, station, or geography. Vallianatos said it would supplement existing detailed reporting.
 - k. A ex-officio Committee member suggested including operational factors (e.g., delays, breakdowns, cancellations) that may influence safety perceptions, especially for ADA riders.
 - l. A Committee member said crowding can affect perceived safety and asked about drug-use classification. Vallianatos said crimes vs. society are incidents while rider behavior comes from surveys, and Chief Scott noted some conduct may qualify as crimes against persons.
 - m. A Committee member noted many complaints involve city-managed bus stations and suggested considering external factors like station conditions and wait times that affect safety perceptions.
3. No comments or questions were presented by the public in-person or online.

Agenda Item #4: SB 707 – Just Cause Review & Information on Teleconferencing Meeting Option

1. Danielle Valentino, Metro Administrative Staff, explained that SB 707 updates Brown Act rules related to teleconferencing and public meeting access. She noted that PSAC currently meets in person, with virtual participation allowed for “just cause” twice a year, but the new law allows PSAC to adopt a more relaxed teleconferencing option. Valentino clarified that even if adopted, a physical meeting location must remain open to the public. She also stated that the Metro Board has approved PSAC’s ability to consider this option and will review it every six months.
2. PSAC Member Discussion
 - a. **ACTION ITEM:** A Committee member asked whether any studies compare the effectiveness of teleconferencing, noting that while he values being together in person, teleconferencing may allow for broader participation.
 - i. Valentino said she would look into it and noted that the legislation change is intended to increase accessibility and engagement in meetings.
 - b. A Committee member asked whether adopting the relaxed teleconferencing option would require a change to the Bylaws.

- i. Valentino suggested not adding it to the Bylaws since the Metro Board reviews it every six months and could revoke it.
 - c. Secretary Anderson wanted to know how Metro leadership and the Board of Directors feel about implementing this.
 - i. Valentino said the Board and Metro leadership are supportive and the Committee can always change its mind in a future vote.
 - d. A Committee member expressed support for keeping meetings primarily in person, noting that in person meetings allow for stronger engagement, focus, and relationship building among members.
 - e. **ACTION ITEM:** A Committee member asked whether adopting the relaxed teleconferencing option would mean all meetings become virtual or if the Committee could choose to hold only certain meetings remotely.
 - i. Valentino said the rules are not prescriptive and the Committee may have flexibility, but they will confirm.
 - ii. Aura Garcia, Parliamentarian, clarified that a physical meeting location must still be available to the public unless there is an emergency declaration, even if members participate remotely.
 - iii. Valentino clarified that the Committee is not required to vote on the teleconferencing option and could choose to place it on a future agenda if desired.
 - f. Chair Oliver-Roncero noted that while teleconferencing could help with accessibility, the Committee could also expand public participation by promoting meetings more to communities and Metro channels.
 - g. A Committee member expressed that they prefer maintaining the current format and proposed that if meetings become virtual, a dress code may need to be implemented.
 - i. MAS Valentino noted she could create virtual protocols.
- 3. One in-person comment and one online comment was presented by members of the public.
 - a. **IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT FROM J. RIMER:** “The AAC, which is the governing body that I serve on, does allow us to do the virtual, because there are members that do not travel anymore to headquarters. And before SB 707 came into play, the county counsel had to give the AAC leadership approval to be able to relax the Brown Act rules because of the fact that some of our members do not travel all this way anymore because of either health or other ordeals. With that being said, if your committee does do the relaxed rules, as stated by your parliamentarians and your people here, the room itself, just like it will be for next week for our committee, has to be open to committee members and the public. So that definitely will help you so that you can decide, I don't wanna go in this month, I'll just be online, and you don't have to really tell them anything. So, it's something for you guys to think about, but you don't have to make any fast decisions. Thanks. So, we already do that as part of the AAC.”
 - b. **ONLINE PUBLIC COMMENT BY ANONYMOUS:** “First, as a member of the public that is utilizing Zoom, I would like to thank you very much for having this opportunity available. I wanted to share at my first Zoom meeting back in 2020, I remember there was an attendee who was stating that as a person with a disability and his community had been advocating for teleconferencing for the platforms at the time availability. And before 2020, the response was, I'm not saying it was Metro, but the response internationally was, “Oh no, the logistics, the costs”. Suddenly when the abled community became inconvenienced with

the inability to meet in person, while millions of people were perishing around the earth, suddenly, this platform opened up and Zoom became a phenomena that allowed people who were shut, literally, shut out of meetings, to be made available to attend meetings from home, to a building maybe across the street, to maybe across the world. So, I just remember that when you're trying to push back the opportunities available, please remember those members of the public who utilize Zoom and these platforms to be able to feel, and be part of the community. Thank you for your consideration."

Agenda Item #5: Executive Committee Elections and Alternate Order Selection

1. Facilitator Boatman-Dixon provided a brief explanation of the Alternate advancement process and conducted the number draw, with the alternates advancing in order: Melanie Wolske first, Marcos Molina second, and Foster Adzraku third.
2. Facilitator Boatman-Dixon then explained the election process, noting that each Committee member received a ballot. She outlined the responsibilities of the Executive Committee positions, emphasizing the time commitment and potential duties such as attending board meetings, participating in community engagement events, and speaking with the media. She then detailed the voting procedure: candidates would have two minutes for a campaign speech, ballots would be collected in a box, and the parliamentarians would count the votes before she announces the results.
3. Committee member Ridings and Incumbent Secretary Anderson ran for the Chair position.
 - a. Committee member Ridings was elected as the PSAC Chair, receiving a final count of eight out of the fourteen possible votes.
4. Committee members Price, Cervantes and Inman ran for the Vice Chair position.
 - a. Committee member Inman was elected as the PSAC Vice Chair, receiving a final count of eight out of the fourteen possible votes.
5. Committee member Dowler-Guerrero ran for the Secretary position.
 - a. Committee member Dowler-Guerrero was elected as the PSAC Secretary, receiving a final count of fourteen out of the fourteen possible votes.
6. Vice Chair Elect Inman motioned to vote Jeremy Oliver-Ronceros as Chair Emeritus. Chair Elect Ridings seconded.

APPROVED – Chair Emeritus Oliver-Ronceros

ALR	DD G	EC	IRG	JI	JZ	JH	J Y	J B	KD	LK	LR	M C	S A	S P	FA	MM	MW	KN	MS	OL
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A / C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	ABS	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S

7. PSAC Member Discussion
 - a. A Committee member congratulated Vice Chair Elect Inman, noting he is highly qualified and the Committee is in good hands.
8. One comment was presented online by a member of the public.
 - a. ONLINE PUBLIC COMMENT BY M. WILKS: "Hi, you all. I just wanted to say hello. I've been watching. It's so exciting to see what the next phase is going to be. I did not even think that I would be a part of this last meeting at all in any way. And something in my head right about at the right time said, it's first Thursday. So I couldn't even not show up. Something in my mind made me go search for a link. So, I just wanted to say bye to you all. It was amazing. I'm so excited about

what the next cohort is going to do. And I do plan to either be in attendance in person when I come back to the country or via Zoom whenever possible, but I just wanted to say bye and hi and love y'all, and y'all are amazing. Bye!"

9. Secretary Elect Dowler-Guerrero motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Elect Inman seconded the motion.

APPROVED - Meeting Adjournment

ALR	DD G	EC	IRG	JI	JZ	JH	J Y	J B	KD	LK	LR	M C	S A	S P	FA	MM	MW	KN	MS	OL
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A / C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	ABS	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S	AB S

1. The next PSAC Meeting is scheduled for 6PM, Thursday, April 9, 2026.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:28PM