



**City of Moreno Valley
Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of September 16, 2025**

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Cheylynda Barnard, Council Member, called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm.

The following attendees were present at the meeting:

Subcommittee Members:

Elena Baca-Santa Cruz, Mayor Pro Tem (Alternate)
Cheylynda Barnard, Council Member

Staff Members:

Brian Mohan, City Manager
Launa Jimenez, Assistant City Manager (Administration)
Sarah Mack, Chief of Police
Shanna Palau, Public Safety Contract Administrator Division Manager
Ashleigh Renz, Animal Services Division Manager
Jesse Park, Fire Chief
Edgar Gonzalez, Fire Marshal
Vanessa Leccese, Management Analyst
John Peraza, Assistant to the City Manager

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Elena Baca-Santa Cruz motioned to approve the meeting minutes of August 19, 2025, and Council Member Barnard seconded. The motion passed without objection.

4. Action Items

None

5. Advisory Items

a. Updates from Animal Services

Ashleigh Renz, Animal Services Division Manager, provided an update on the department's programs. She reported that the "Ride Free" program, which is funded by a grant, is on track to fully expend all allocated funds by the end of September. This program covers all fees for residents reclaiming their pets at the animal shelter. Additionally, the spay and neuter voucher program, supported by a \$125,000 donation for low-income residents with medium to large dogs, is showing strong participation. To date, 124 vouchers have been issued, with 94 already redeemed. In August, Animal Services conducted 23 free microchip tests. Ashleigh also encouraged continued outreach and



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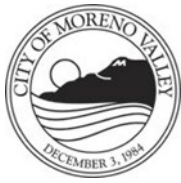
promotion of the microchip services, especially as funding has been renewed for the new fiscal year. She and her team are available to assist with messaging and increasing community awareness to ensure the success of these programs throughout the budget cycle.

b. Updates from Fire Services

Fire Chief Jesse Park provided the Fire Services update, noting that Emergency Operations & Volunteer Services Division Manager Diana Rockot was attending training and therefore absent from the meeting. Chief Park highlighted activities surrounding National Preparedness Month, which the City Council has officially proclaimed. Staff have been actively engaged in community outreach, providing information and holding training sessions, including an event held in front of City Hall. Regarding fire activity statewide, most recent fires have been caused by lightning rather than human activity, which is a positive trend. Although the lightning-related fires have recently decreased, Chief Park noted the fire risk remains. A major new development discussed was the implementation of the Nurse Navigation Program at the County's 911 dispatch center, which was accredited earlier this year. This accreditation allows the dispatch center to implement new protocols, enabling more efficient use of emergency response resources. Instead of automatically dispatching fire engines and ambulances to every 911 call, certain calls will now be routed through nurse navigators. These nurses use an algorithm to assess the caller's needs, whether mental health support, integrated healthcare, prescription assistance, or other non-emergency services, reducing unnecessary emergency room visits and allowing fire and ambulance units to remain available for true emergencies. This program will launch on September 17, 2025, and is expected to gradually divert between 30,000 to 50,000 calls from emergency dispatch annually, easing strain on the system. The nurses providing this service are employed by Global Medical Response (GMR), a third-party contractor under the county contract. Chief Park emphasized that the program will be carefully monitored and expanded over time.

Fire Marshal Edgar Gonzalez reported that there are ongoing efforts across more than 50 campuses in partnership with the Moreno Valley Unified School District to ensure fire safety compliance, with inspections expected to be completed by mid-October. The Fire Prevention Division is collaborating with the Building and Safety Division to adopt the 2025 fire codes, set to take effect in January pending final approvals. In anticipation of Fire Prevention Week, running through October 11th, the Fire Prevention Division plans to support a city proclamation and focus outreach on the dangers of lithium-ion batteries. Educational efforts will include demonstrations of the risks involved with improper handling of these batteries, such as setting them on fire and extinguishing them incorrectly, and informing residents about lithium-ion products subject to transport restrictions. Chief Park also noted the extensive scope of fire prevention work, referencing the upcoming council agenda item related to the state-mandated fire inspections under regulation 1205. This involves inspecting approximately 1,668 individual buildings to ensure code compliance, a massive and ongoing effort.

c. Updates from Police Services



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Minutes of September 16, 2025**

Chief of Police Sarah Mack reported a slight increase in Part 1 crimes, which include serious offenses such as theft, robbery, burglary, rape, and homicide. Despite this uptick, the three-month average remains lower compared to June, and the department has seen significantly improved response times for Priority 1 calls, typically involving Part 1 crimes. This quicker response has led to more arrests and allowed for better prosecution outcomes. The recent rise in calls is believed to be seasonal, related to the end of summer, and is expected to decrease soon. The department has also received positive feedback from community engagement efforts. These interactions have helped the police understand and address community concerns more effectively by targeting enforcement efforts with purpose rather than broad, blanket approaches. This strategy has been especially impactful in addressing quality-of-life issues.

The Crisis Behavioral Assessment Team (CBAT) has been very active, with two full teams now operating to provide coverage from Sunday through Saturday, and efforts are underway to fill the remaining vacancy to enable continuous weekly coverage. CBAT's role is crucial in responding to mental health-related calls where a full police response may not be necessary, allowing for better resource allocation, follow-up, and connection to appropriate services. This approach helps reduce repeat calls to the same locations and supports long-term engagement with individuals in need, minimizing public disturbances related to mental health crises.

The department also celebrated National Night Out last month and is preparing for upcoming holiday events like Trunk-or-Treat scheduled for October 27th, with thorough safety planning in place. The police maintain close partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce and community businesses to support these events. In light of recent local incidents, the department has emphasized readiness and the ability to mobilize additional resources from the Sheriff's Department if needed to ensure community safety. Training tailored to local needs is ongoing, with a focus on protecting key venues such as the auditorium, city council, and other community spaces.

Regarding CBAT staffing, there remains one vacancy, which is pending final clinician placement. Coordination with the county and Riverside University Health System (RUHS) has resolved funding flow issues for these positions, and the department is currently awaiting the final clinician hire. These clinicians are vital as they participate in ride-alongs to better understand field conditions and help build effective relationships with deputies. The collaboration between clinicians and deputies has proven highly effective, with positive follow-up outcomes that demonstrate the program's value. The department takes great care in matching deputies and clinicians to ensure the best possible team dynamic. Lastly, the first cohort of trainees was released into active duty as of early September, with another group currently in training expected to complete their program in about four months, helping to maintain staffing levels.

No further comments from the committee.

6. City Manager Update

City Manager Brian Mohan announced the next subcommittee meeting will be on October 21, 2025.



**City of Moreno Valley
Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes of September 16, 2025**

7. Sub-Committee Member Comments

The committee had no further questions or comments.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:28 P.M.

Prior Meeting Attendance

Subcommittee Member	12/17/24	1/21/25	2/18/25	3/18/25	4/15/25	5/20/25	6/17/25
Council Member Ed Delgado	NM	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mayor Pro Tem Cheylynda Barnard	NM	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mayor Pro Tem Elena Baca – Santa Cruz (Alternate)							

Subcommittee Member	7/1/25	8/19/25	9/16/25	10/21/25			
Council Member Ed Delgado	NM	X					
Council Member Cheylynda Barnard	NM	X	X				
Mayor Pro Tem Elena Baca – Santa Cruz (Alternate)			X				