



**CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS  
CITY COUNCIL  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Item #{{section.number}}3

**DATE:** July 11, 2023  
**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Ernesto Marquez, City Manager  
**BY:** Steve Gomez, Public Safety Director

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommendation to adopt Resolution No. 026-2023, clarifying the Public Safety Commission's responsibilities.

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**SUMMARY**

Chapter 6.32 of Title 6 of the Hawaiian Gardens Municipal Code created and established the Public Safety Commission. Section 6.32.040 of the Hawaiian Gardens Municipal Code charges the Public Safety Commission with the responsibility of making recommendations regarding matters affecting public health and safety within the city and related matters that may be directed by order of the City Council.

**BACKGROUND**

Section 6.32.040 of the Hawaiian Gardens Municipal Code specifically provides:

The Public Safety Commission shall be charged with the responsibility for making recommendations regarding matters affecting public health and safety in the City, and such related matters that may be directed by order of the City Council, and in that connection shall hold such meetings and such hearings as the Commission deems necessary to effect these purposes. Actions of this Commission shall take the form of recommendations and reports to the City Council.

The language of Section 6.32.040 is broad and unclear as to the specific matters which constitute "public health and safety." Additionally, the Code is silent as to what factors should be considered and evaluated by the Commission when deliberating and making recommendations to the Council. Staff finds that this broad and vague language in the Code has created confusion in administering the Commission's duties, as well as inefficiencies in conducting meetings.

Staff desires to clarify the specific duties and responsibilities of the Public Safety Commission. Staff finds that clarifying the duties and responsibilities of the Commission will enhance public understanding of the appropriate channels for addressing matters within the Commission's scope, promote more efficient Commission meetings, and ultimately contribute to the advancement of public safety within the City's boundaries.

Therefore, staff has proposed a resolution in which the Council will clarify that "public health and safety" shall mean matters relating to the City's emergency preparedness, police and fire services, traffic safety, neighborhood safety, emergency medical services, and animal control. It also gives the Staff Liaison to the Commission the authority to interpret whether matters considered by the Commission constitute public health and safety as defined by the Council. Lastly, the Resolution gives the Commission guidance on factors to consider when deliberating and making recommendations to the Council.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

#### **SUGGESTED ACTION**

Approve Recommendation.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

A. Resolution No. 026-2023