Updated

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Therese Kosterman
(310) 285-2456

Public Encouraged to Attend Special Meeting on School Security

Beverly Hills, CA – The public is encouraged to attend a special City Council meeting tonight (March 6, 2018) at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber to hear recommendations for additional security in the City’s five public schools while the District puts into effect plans to increase campus security. The special meeting will take place before the regular City Council meeting.

At the meeting, Police Chief Sandra Spagnoli will present a security plan that supplements the School Resource Officer program and includes assigning additional officers as a temporary measure until the Beverly Hills Unified School District is able to implement adequate security measures.

“The safety of our children and the staff who educate them is a top priority for our City,” said Mayor Lili Bosse. “This temporary proposal for additional security is the right thing to do, to enhance the security of our schools and to ensure that students and staff feel that they are safe on our campuses.”

“The Police Department already has an outstanding and comprehensive plan to protect our schools, which includes traffic safety officers, armed patrols and cyber-monitoring,” said Councilmember John Mirisch, who serves on the school safety ad hoc committee. “While the District’s announcement today that it has created the new position of a full-time dedicated director of school safety is extremely welcome, it might take them a little time to implement all the planned measures. We’re looking to the City to step up to backstop the schools until they have fully secured the campuses and provided adequate security.”

“Our current staffing plan of two School Resource Officers, and Adopt-a-School Officers includes a comprehensive deployment plan designed to keep our schools safe,” said Chief Spagnoli. “However, after reviewing the current security situation, I have identified the immediate need to temporarily fill the security gap with three additional officers to
cover the five campuses until the school district is able to make the necessary operational security changes to limit access to each campus.”

The City Council will consider the recommendation of adding three additional police officers to the current deployment plan of two School Resource Officers, dedicating one police officer per school on a temporary basis. The City will continue to provide Traffic Control Officers for pick-up and drop-off times, Adopt-a-School Officer deployment and perform planned and unplanned school drills.

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