



February 9, 2021

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**Venice Neighborhood Council, Public Health and Safety Committee
Special Report: LAPD Calls for Service by Venice
Homeless Service Providers**

Dear VNC Board Members and Members of the Public,

On February 3rd, 2021, the Public Health and Safety Committee (“PHSC”) officially held a public meeting. Committee Member, Allan Parsons presented a report to the Los Angeles Police Department (“LAPD”) that was meant to serve as a deep dive into the LAPD calls for service to Venice homeless & permanent housing service providers operating in Venice Beach and Venice-adjacent neighborhoods, which initially stemmed from the 100 sunset project, A Bridge Home¹, also known as Bridge Housing, where Mayor Garcetti stated to Venice Beach Residents that “they will be good neighbors”, a keystone quote used by Bridge Housing.

Notable Findings

- 204 Lincoln Boulevard, which is a VCH facility with only 13 residents, had 127 calls for service to LAPD during the period between June 2019 and October 2020.
- The operator generating the most calls to LAPD was VCH, which generated approximately 76% of all calls to the LAPD out of SPY, PATH, and VCH. This makes sense since VCH operates the most number of facilities in Venice Beach.

In September, 2020, LAPD reported to the Venice Neighborhood Council (“VNC”) that LAPD had responded 114 times between the dates of February 22 (shelter open date) and August 18 2020.

Inspired by the revelation that the LAPD responded to calls from the Pacific Sunset Bridge Home 114 times between February & August of 2020, Parsons used data from a CPRA request he’d filed and compiled stats for all Venice Community Housing, Safe Place for Youth

¹ <https://www.lamayor.org/ABridgeHome>. A highlighted project proposed by Mayor Eric Garcetti in 2019 and endorsed by Councilmember Mike Bonin.



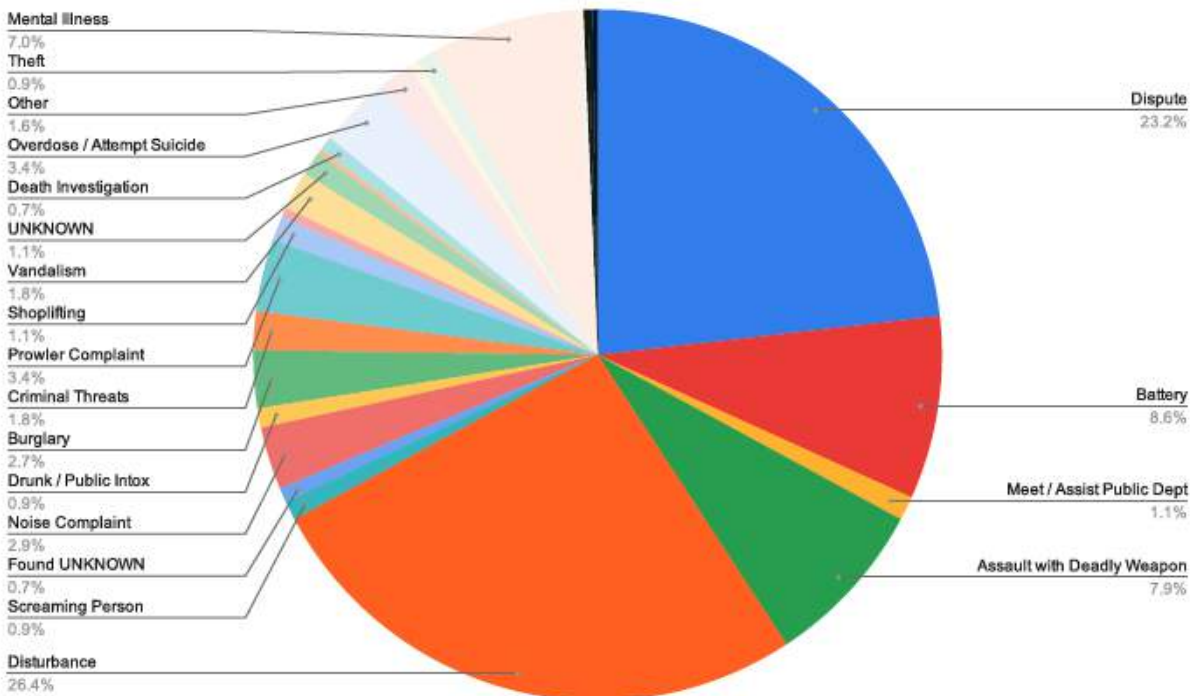
and PATH facilities in Venice, Del Rey and Mar Vista from June 1, 2019 to October 14, 2020. Parsons submitted a California Public Records Act (“CPRA”) asking for the data to be sent in excel format, which is a dump of data between June 1, 2019 and October 14 2020, representing a little over a one year’s worth of LAPD data.

Parsons noted that public LAPD data sources do not annotate the address (real or approximated) for a call to service (“CFS”), necessitating a CPRA request. If LAPD exposed a complete data set through the Public LA Data Portal (<http://data.lacity.org/>), Parsons could leverage APIs to pull this data in real time. In order to get a better look at the data, Parsons did the following to clean the data: consolidated/aggregated addresses; removed any information-only or shifted change status calls; simplified call codes by collapsing them into categories.

Top Five Reasons LAPD was Summoned to Service Provider Operated Properties

- 26.4% Disturbance
- 23.2% Dispute
- 8.6% Battery
- 7.9% Assault With a Deadly Weapon
- 7.0% Mental Illness

Percentage of Call Types





The Top Five Call Types to 100 Sunset (Bridge Housing)

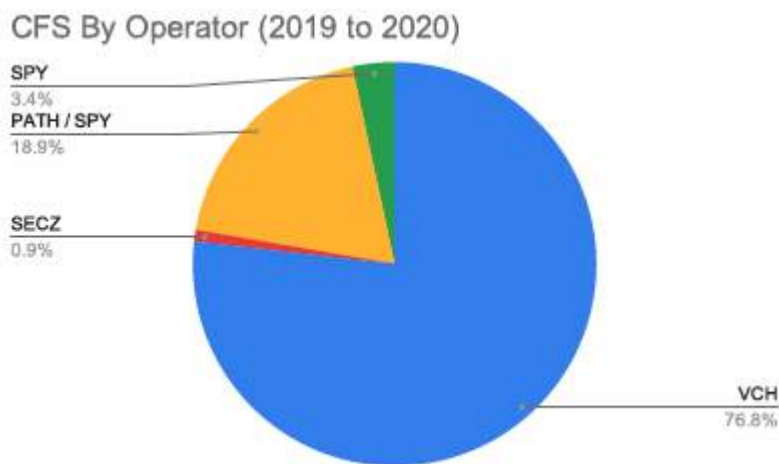
- 20.2% Battery
- 20.2% Disturbance
- 16.7% Assault with a Deadly Weapon
- 6% Overdose and/or Suicide
- 6% Mental Illness

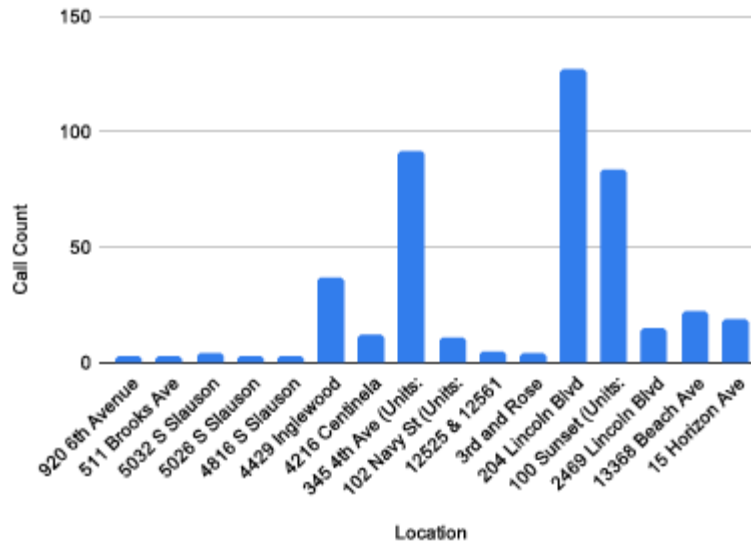
The top three reasons for these calls (totaling almost 70% of all calls) were disturbances, disputes and batteries.

Summary of Calls for Service by provider by Year

Calls for service by operator VCH are generating approximately 77% of all calls among the three shelter operators in Venice and Venice-adjacent neighborhoods (VCH, SPY, PATH).

Over a 14 month period, VCH generated 350 calls to LAPD for their properties. VCH generated 60 Calls from June to December, 2019 and 281 Calls from June to December, 2019.

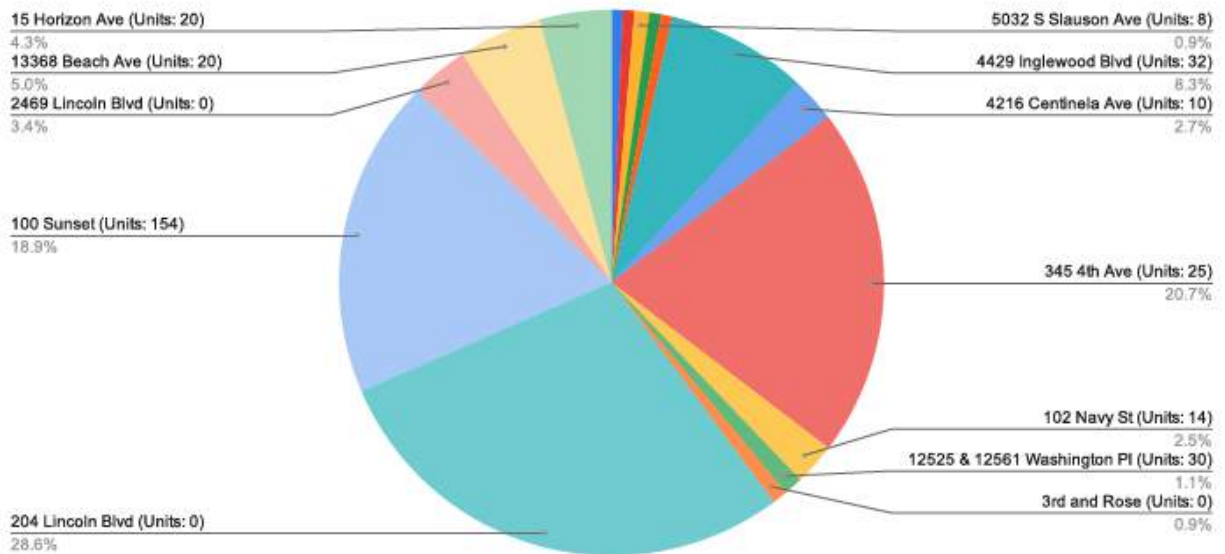




Calls for Service by Location

204 Lincoln Blvd had the most number of LAPD calls for service, with over 128 calls for service, representing 28.8% of the calls to LAPD for this dataset. The next busiest location with LAPD calls for service is 345 Fourth Avenue, which comprises 20.7% of calls, followed by 100 Sunset Avenue, which comprises 18.9% of calls. Dispute and Disturbances take up the vast majority of calls to LAPD.

CFS By Location (2019 to 2020)





PHSC Asks for LAPD Input

The Public Health and Safety Committee turned to LAPD to ask the following questions:

- Does this data line up with what LAPD sees?
- Are there other locations in Venice that generate as many calls for LAPD service?
- Would these locations be on par with some other large commercial buildings or on par with some bars in the area?
- How does this data translate into how the LAPD staffs Pacific Division?

LAPD Pacific Division explained that their analysts typically run a quarterly report for the top 20 locations that generate the most CFS. LAPD confirmed that they do speak with local commercial and bar operators when their addresses show up on the “Top 20 Calls for Service” list, but admitted that until now, they have not been treating Homeless Service Providers the same way they work with local bars and commercial operators to reduce strain on LAPD resources.

LAPD confirmed that the VCH addresses in the presentation are well-known to their senior lead officers. If an address visited frequently by LAPD was a private business / bar, LAPD would work with partners in the Alcohol and Beverage Control Board to determine if licenses should be modified or renewed. LAPD’s senior lead officers stated they often engage with business owners or conduct surveillance to determine if those establishments are attracting a disproportionate amount of crime due to vice activity. LAPD first tries to meet with the businesses conducting enforcement with the goal of getting those businesses into compliance, sometimes recommending environmental or business practice changes. These efforts and relationships would hopefully drive down LAPD’s calls to a particular location.

LAPD admitted this information was both interesting and helpful, because LAPD have never specifically paid attention to or targeted homeless service providers as being magnets for crime, nor has LAPD attempted to work with homeless service providers to drive down call volume to these locations. LAPD mentioned they will likely begin treating homeless service providers in the same manner that they do commercial property and restaurants/bars who drive a disproportionate call volume to LAPD.

PHSC Findings

In summary, LAPD confirmed the following: The addresses in this report correspond to those listed on their top 20 Addresses for Calls To Service, a report generated quarterly; 100 Sunset is a top location for LAPD Calls. LAPD does not dispute any findings in this report and findings are consistent with what LAPD is seeing.



Since these calls are incredibly taxing on LAPD's resources, especially in Pacific Division, LAPD takes action on other businesses which generate a similar volume of calls. LAPD tailors its response depending on the business type, and works with the business to minimize this call volume. For example, an Alcohol Beverage Consumption ("ABC") location would have a unique response since LAPD would include the City, who oversees liquor licenses. LAPD highlighted an example of how they recently closed a recent alfresco outdoor dining and drinking establishment, due to permits, because it received too many calls for services and increase in crimes. Although the LAPD has yet to crack down/fine non governmental or governmental entities, this data shows that they will have to speak with these service providers to bring them into compliance.

Conclusion

The Public Health and Safety Committee will continue to work with LAPD in order to address stakeholder concerns and questions, and reach out to other municipal departments.

Do you have a public health and safety question that you would like to be answered or addressed at our next meeting? Please email us:

publicsafety@venicenc.org



V E N I C E

**LAPD Calls For Service
To Venice Homeless
Service Providers**

PUBLIC DATA: AVAILABLE SOURCES

- **LA Public Data** (open):
 - <https://data.lacity.org/>
 - Pros: open, APIs, easy to use, good tooling
 - Cons: limited data sources, disorganized data, missing fields
- **Empower LA Data** (closed, account required):
 - <https://empowerla.org/data>
 - Pros: high quality data, open APIs
 - Cons: requires account white-listing, relatively new (to me!)
- **CPRA Data** (open, account required):
 - <https://lacity.nextrequest.com/>
 - Pros: you can request data not otherwise available on aforementioned platforms (emails, additional metadata for data points, etc.)
 - Cons: painfully slow and bureaucratic, not self-serve, no api, data in unusable formats (but ask!)

Why look at Public Data
For **LAPD Calls for Service** to
Venice Homeless Organizations / Shelter Operators?


“Residents Will Be Good
Neighbors”

LAPD HAS RESPONDED **114**
TIMES BETWEEN FEB 22,
2020 AND AUG 18, 2020



LAPD Report Presented in September 2020 VNC Meeting

BRIDGE FACILITY	
MONTH	
AUGUST CRIMES :	
1	ADW
1	BATTERY
2	TOTAL
AUGUST CALLS FOR SERVICE	
9	AUG
YEAR-TO-DATE	
2020 TOTAL	
CRIMES	
8 - VIOLENT	
2 - PROPERTY	
15 - PART II	
2020 TOTAL	
CALLS FOR SERVICE	
114	

PACIFIC AREA		TODAYS DATE : 8/18/20	
 A Bridge Home <i>Emergency Temporary Housing</i>			
100 SUNSET AVE (RD 1412)		OPENED : 2/26/20	
BRIDGE FACILITY		BRIDGE ZONE	
MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
AUGUST CRIMES :		2020 TOTAL	
1	ADW	CRIMES	
1	BATTERY	8 - VIOLENT	
		2 - PROPERTY	
		15 - PART II	
2	TOTAL	2020 TOTAL	
AUGUST CALLS FOR SERVICE		CALLS FOR SERVICE	
9	AUG	114	
BRIDGE ZONE A BRIDGE HOME (ABH) ZONE 4th AVE to the EAST SPEEDWAY to the WEST NAVY ST to the NORTH WESTMINSTER AVE to the SOUTH			
ZONE STATISTICS & NUMBERS YTD			
41	VIOLENT CRIMES		
94	PROPERTY CRIMES		
95	PART II CRIMES		
28	TRANSIENT PART I CRIMES		
26	TRANSIENT PART 2 CRIMES		
* Including Bridge Facility			

CRIMES FOR THE MONTH.			
DATE TIME	CRIME	SUMMARY	DR #
1 8/8/2020 300	A D W	M B 22 (former resident) used Glass Bottle, threw at M B 37 (Security Guard) outside ABH	2014-15125
2 8/16/2020 1840	BATTERY	Male Unknown 20/29 used B/F Struck & Spit on F B 34 while victim was inside vehicle	2014-15597
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			

WHAT DO LAPD CALLS LOOK LIKE AT **OTHER FACILITIES** MANAGED BY **PATH / SPY / VCH?**

102 Navy Street, Venice

920 Sixth Ave., Venice

720 Rose Avenue, Venice
4429 Inglewood Blvd., Del Rey

511 Brooks Ave., Venice

2469 Lincoln Blvd, Venice

200/204 Lincoln Blvd., Venice

5026 Slauson Ave., Del Rey

15 Horizon Ave., Venice

100 Sunset Ave., Venice

13368 Beach Ave., Del Rey

12525 & 12561 Washington Pl., Mar Vista

640 Westminster Ave., Venice

5032 Slauson Avenue, Del Rey

4816 Slauson Ave., Del Rey

13368 Beach Ave., Del Rey

4216 Centinela Ave., Del Rey

345 4th Ave., Venice

ANALYZING THE DATA

- **CPRA** was used to request the data in an XLS format:
 - Data Analyzed between **June 1, 2019** to **October 14, 2020**
 - Public LAPD data sources **do not annotate the address** for a Call-to-Service.
 - Request No.: 20-7318
- **Cleaning the data:**
 - Worked to **normalize addresses** (ex: 102 Navy St. != 102 E Navy St)
- **Removed LAPD 'information only' calls:**
 - SECZ car and other **status updates filtered out** of data:
 - “Code 6”
 - “Return to Station”
 - “Radio Silence”
- **Mapped and Collapsed / Simplified Call Codes**
 - Ex: “245” has ~10+ subcategories (245D is domestic violence, 245AK is cutting and need an Ambulance, etc.)
 - A few call codes remain unknown, but are shown as UNKNOWN

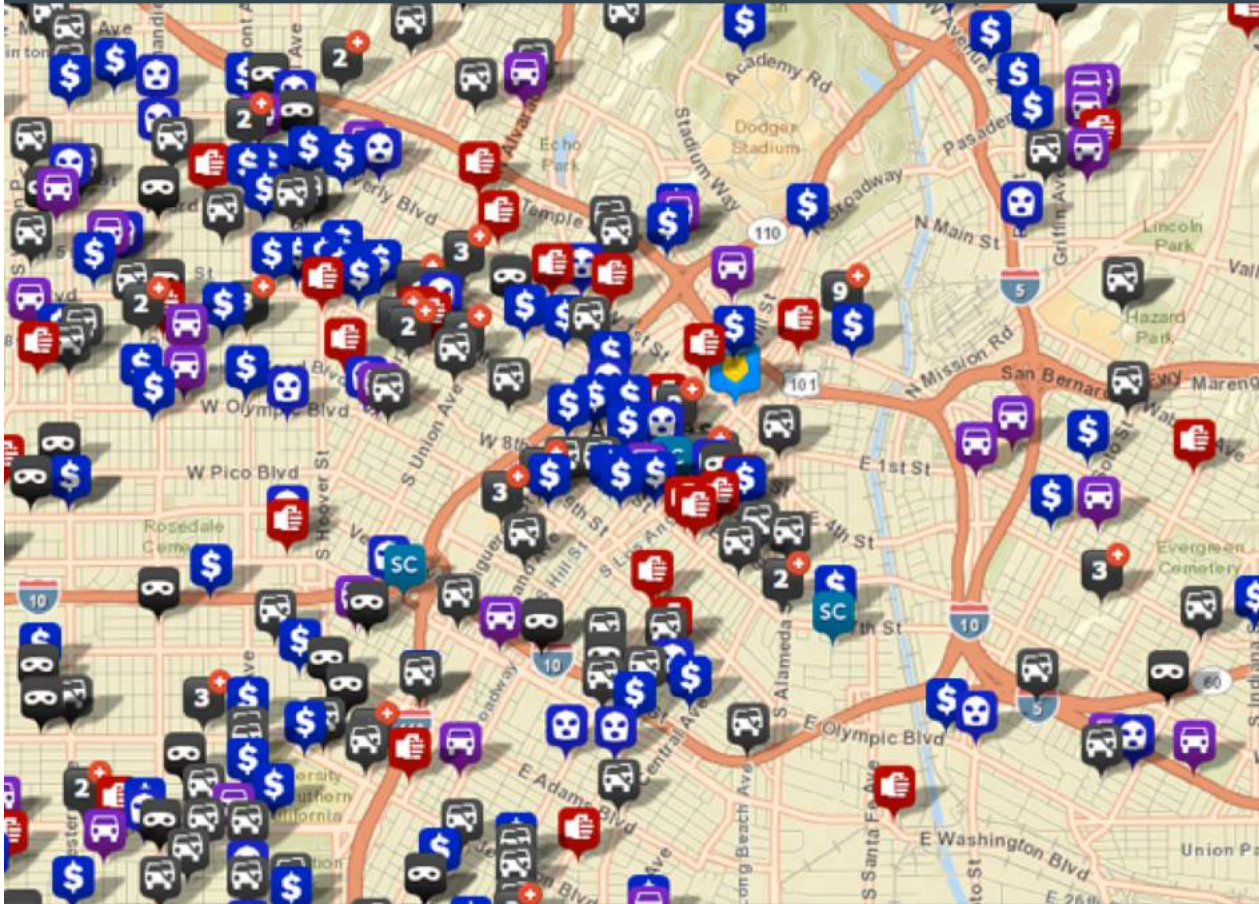
ANALYZING THE DATA - NOTABLE TRENDS

- **Facility with most CFS:**
 - 204 Lincoln Blvd (a VCH facility with 13 residents)
 - Total Calls to LAPD between June 1, 2019 and October 14, 2020: 127
- **Operator Generating Most Calls to LAPD:**
 - VCH generates the bulk of calls to LAPD: 76%
- **Top 5 Reasons the LAPD is called to the facilities:**
 - Disturbance: 26.1%
 - Dispute: 23.2%
 - Battery: 8.6%
 - Assault w/ Deadly Weapon: 7.9%
 - Mental Illness: 7%
- **Top 5 call types to 100 Sunset:**
 - Battery (20.2%), Disturbance (20.2%), Assault w/ Deadly Weapon (16.7%), Overdose / Suicide (6%), Mental Illness (6%), Prowler Complaint (6%)

Demo Time!

<http://tinyurl.com/7g8qeiwa>





Q&A?

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