

Safety and Security Update: July 25, 2025

Dear Escena Residents:

As Board liaison to the Escena Safety and Security Committee I post a monthly update on its work. Here are the main items the Committee looked at since the last update. Feel free to jump to the item of most importance to you.

1. Access issues

This month Committee Chair Javier Lopez-Quinones and other members participate in a zoom call and reviewed a demonstration video from Proptia. Proptia is a southern California company that provides software and hardware solutions for various gate and access issues. For example, Escena has a system in which the call box (DoorKing), cameras and gates are not integrated. Proptia says it can provide a solution so that the disparate information we now received would be integrated. It also provides software and hardware for License Plate Recognition cameras. Javier is currently organizing a walk-through of Escena by Proptia to see exactly what services it could provide.

In addition, we invited another potential vendor, Safe Passage Solutions, to perform a walk-through and provide us a more accurate estimate of what their system would cost.

At the end of August, I will present various access options to the Board to see if we can chart a path forward to improve our access system. It has taken a number of months, various site-visits, numerous telephone calls and emails and time to get to this point and we appreciate the patience of the community in this effort.

2. Gate repairs/attendants

We have been working with the Infrastructure Committee to coordinate on gate repairs. Gate repairs for the Escena Way entrance gate are set to occur the week of July 28. Repairs should take approximately one week. During that week additional gate attendants will be at the Artisan gate with hours identical to what is now taking place at Escena Way. In addition, a gate attendant will be at Escena Way during normal hours to direct incoming traffic to Artisan.

3. Contractor Traffic

After last month's report of contractor vehicles improperly using the traffic circle by the Artisan Gate we encountered the same issue with a plumbing contractor, whose van number was recorded. The contractor's fleet manager was contacted and notified of the issue.

We also asked contractor traffic going to NOLA to take a left off of Artisan to reach the construction site rather than go around the traffic circle. There is a sign on Artisan directing them, although it sometimes falls over in the wind.

4. Plant theft:

A number of thefts in various locations in Escena relating to gold barrel cactus have occurred. The police department was contacted and we sent a community wide notification that had a link where people could file online police reports. The police encourage those who have suffered these thefts to file a report, no matter how minor.

We also requested logs of vehicle entries at three different gates video from the night before the most recent thefts were discovered. We also reviewed video footage of one vehicle, although it turned into a dead end as it was an authorized vehicle (newspaper delivery, although using the wrong code.)

If you suffered a theft, please take 5 minutes and file a police report at <https://www3.palmsprings-ca.gov/services/online-crime-report>.

Please feel free to alert me or other committee members about thefts, even if they seem minor, right away. In this particular case, we learned about some thefts third-hand and did not know when they occurred. In order to check vehicle logs knowing the date and time is crucial.

Another reason for prompt reporting is that the community's video footage, maintained by our management company, is only saved for 7 days. Late reporting precludes our ability to review that footage.

Thank you for your assistance.

5. Traffic Safety

A single car accident occurred on Grandview last month. The person was not authorized to be in Escena, as they were a guest of an employee of a Toll Brothers' subcontractor. That guest was asked not to return. Toll Brothers has a policy not to bring guests to construction sites and we earlier had communicated our concern to Toll.

This is a good time to remind people that the speed limit on Grandview and Clubhouse is 25 mph. We also observed people failing to stop at stop signs, which presents a danger. Please look out for your fellow residents.

6. No Trespass Signs

Locations for the signs were staked out this month and the sign company is currently constructing them. Once installed they will allow us to ask the police to remove trespassers on

community property. Of course, residents already have the ability to call the police about trespassers on their own property.

Conclusion

Thanks to all residents for their help and a big thanks to the volunteer members of the Safety and Security Committee for their work. They put in a lot of time on behalf of residents and are to be commended for their work on behalf of the community.

Note: The opinions expressed in this update are mine and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Committee or the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

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