

Greater Rockridge NCPC - Agenda (12Y/13X)
Thursday, April 23, 2009
Rockridge Library 5366 College Avenue
General Public: 7:00-9:00PM

NCPC Officers	OPD Personnel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Jackson, Co-chair • Denise Boisvert-Jorgensen, Co-chair and Treasurer • Karen Ivy, Information Officer and Secretary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer Patrick Gerrans, PSO, Beat 12Y • Officer Randall Chew, PSO, Beat 13X (not present) • Anna Chang-Lai, Neighborhood Services Coordinator

At 7:07 PM Chris Jackson called the meeting to order and requested introductions.

Sixteen people signed in for the meeting including the following OPD personnel:

- Officer Patrick Gerrans, PSO, 12Y
- Officer Eric Van Scoy
- Officer T. Bowen
- Officer J. Pinzon, patrol weekday day watch officer

Nila Kim of Councilwoman Brunner's office was also present.

Officer Gerrans stepped aside with some neighborhood residents to discuss the Kales problem house privately, during the introduction period. The disruptive tenants have gotten worse lately.

OPD Report

Officer Pinzon reported that College Avenue has had a run of burglaries between midnight and 6 AM, mainly restaurants. Windows have been smashed or removed. OPD suspects a transient; they've been having trouble with transients and suspect them of both restaurant and residential burglaries. They know these transients by name; some local residents "adopt" them, give them food and money, and complain to police when they consider the transients are being harassed.

Several assaults have been reported around the BART parking lot, usually teenagers fighting, usually dispersed by time OPD arrives. Chris Jackson noted that Tech High and Far West students come down to this end of College. Officer Pinzon observed that these fights are usually middle school students, high schools seem to have better control. Chris Jackson said that he knows black professional women who won't come out on the street when the middle school kids are out, we're trying to get control of the situation. Claremont Middle School is getting a new principal, a very sharp black woman from East Oakland, whom we hope can get a handle on this. Our walking officer has been pulled away for some time, he really helped cool down the middle school kids. Nila Kim stated that Officer Chimpky will be back on duty Monday April 27th.

Officer Pinzon noted that a major incident like a homicide (OPD dealt with one on April 23 around 40th and Telegraph), or a deranged individual with a gun, will pull *all* the resources from the entire North Oakland area, and from the neighboring district. This is why calls to OPD stack up; big incidents take many officers.

A resident complained of upcoming budget cuts, and asked what are we supposed to do? She lives alone, she's being assaulted and insulted by recycling thieves. Officer Pinzon asked if she could get video? He noted that if you take matters into your own hands it's vigilantism and against the law.

Officer Pinzon responded to a request to define the difference between a beat officer and a walking officer:

- *Walking officer* is assigned to a specific area, about a 10 block radius. He works one 40 hour shift, usually during the week. He's not on duty on weekends. College Ave. usually has one, Piedmont Ave. has one 7 AM - 3 PM.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

- RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com
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- *Beat officer* works 3-4 days (rotating schedule) of 12 hour shifts. Beat officers chase 911 calls, they have 30 min. to respond per call. Oakland gets over 2000 911 calls/day. Taking a statement or writing a report on a single call can take up to 2 hours. Some beat officer is on duty most of the time.

A resident reported a burglary across the street from her house, the same MO as a burglary at her house last year: a young black man in sunglasses knocks on a door, asks an innocuous question – then goes next door and breaks into the house. What do you do when he asks the innocuous question?? He hasn't committed any crime yet. Can you take a photo? Officer Pinzon stated yes, you can take a photo; but OPD can't take someone in for "casing." The officer reported that he has walked right into houses – people leave doors and windows open. Lock doors, put valuables like laptops out of sight. Most burglaries are committed through small windows.

Officer Gerrans was asked to report on the burglaries around Chabot Road, Clover, and Ross. He found that there were 10 incidents in a month in that area, then the next month there were only 2 incidents, which were clearly not related. He can't tell how many people were involved but it sure looks like someone hit the area. No one was taken into custody for this. A resident of Ross said she is worried about all the construction, at Chabot Elementary, on Ross next door to her house, and the BART reconstruction. The transients are migrating down the highway because of all the disruption. Chris Jackson noted that CalTrans is now taking in transients, giving them shelter, then bringing them back to clean out the encampments and keep them clear. This seems to be working.

The couple who reported the home invasion in March did not attend this meeting.

A resident asked about CrimeView CyberWatch? It has reported 6-7 incidents of "vandalism" within a half mile radius of the Chabot/Ross area - where are those? What does "vandalism" mean? Karen Ivy commented that she's dubious about CrimeView CyberWatch, she's tried to look some incidents up on the official CrimeWatch map and they aren't all there. She also sent an email asking for information on the subscription service, and never got an answer. Nila Kim expressed an interest in this, and Karen agreed to send her what information she has.

A resident reported that numerous people in the area have had nails stuck in tires; she doesn't think they called in the incidents. She suggested they bring it to NCPC and they laughed; she has put it on the record.

Chris Jackson complained that people *won't call the police*.

No one attended from beat 13X. Officer Chew was not in attendance, there was no report on beat 13X priorities.

Two residents reported that recyclers on their blocks have been cursing at the residents who complain that they steal the recycling. The recyclers even had a fight over who "owns" the block. They taunt residents, "ya gonna call OPD?" A resident asked if it is true that the City Council voted that theft of recycling is not a crime? This has been reported all over the Yahoo groups. Nila Kim will check to see if it's true. Chris Jackson said he is annoyed by a couple who transfer items between shopping carts at 11 PM; his neighborhood also has a group who come in with vehicles, which affects the shopping cart recyclers. He calls OPD about the recyclers in trucks; but OPD has asked: do you want us to chase recyclers or murderers? To stop recycling theft, put recycling out in the morning, but that's a pain.

The neighbors of the house on Kales attended to report that the disruptive tenants are still an issue; 4 people attended.

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Merchant Issues

Chris Jackson reported numerous attacks on restaurants, including smashed windows. It's not clear that all these incidents are being reported to OPD, Captain Toribio ran statistics, it didn't look like the pattern that Chris had seen.

Chris J. has cracked down on College Ave. panhandlers; he physically checks the licenses of solicitors. He's been checking on people; he got rid of the black guy who was "helping" people with the parking kiosks and then demanding money (the man is now in Montclair). Chris works with the lady who does the permits, she's moving them around to different locales. Chris reports aggressive solicitors, especially from Save the Children.

Nila Kim asked what was done about Water Lounge. She's still getting complaints from *one woman*. Chris Jackson says the DJ has left, and as far as he knows there's no more music. Nila asked if it is still really a problem? Officer Gerrans will try to get by in the evening during his shift.

Nila Kim agrees to try to get the speed trailer at 58th between Vicente & Canning.

For various reasons, none of the bus stops we've been concerned about (top of College at Broadway, College in front of the library) can be moved.

Nila Kim announced that there is an open position for the CPRB (Citizens' Police Review Board), details available on Oakland city web site.

Priorities

Beat 12Y

1. Problem house at 5552 Kales – noise has erupted again, also bonfires and violent profanity.

Beat 13X

1. Automobile arson incident on Thomas Ave, also 2 trespassing incidents, 12 burglaries, several vandalized autos, and theft of artwork from a residence.

Traffic Priorities - Both Beats

Speeding on Claremont Ave. between College Ave. and the highway.

*Next meeting is Thursday, May 28, 2009 at 7:00 PM, in the Rockridge Library Community Room,
College and Manila. See you there and stay safe!*

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