

Greater Rockridge NCPC Meeting Agenda (12Y/13X)
Thursday, July 19, 2012
Seneca Center for Education and Training, 6925 Chabot Road, Oakland
General Public: 7:00-8:30PM

NCPC:

Frank Castro – Chair
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair
Denise Jorgensen – Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

NCPC board members present: Frank Castro, chair; Barbara Minton, vice chair

Officers Balaoro, Lane, Green (BART), NSC Patricia Rose, James Bassett, OPD supervisor

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

Crime Stats: 6/11-7/15

Beat 12Y: Crimes Against Persons-11, Crimes Against Property(non-auto)-22, Residential Burglaries-8, Crimes Against Property (auto)-18, Quality of Life- 0, Total 51

Beat 13X: Crimes Against Persons-1, Crimes Against Property(non-auto)-5, Residential Burglaries-4, Crimes Against Property (Auto)-8, Quality of Life-1, Total 15

We are moving toward filling ranks of OPD, police academies coming up in September?

Zach Wald, Councilwoman Brunner's office: How many robberies are armed robberies?

Is there an average in crime stats? How does this month compare to the average? That information is not really available now. These are just raw statistics.

Is there a pattern in robberies? Is Monday a high crime night? Bad guys see these as crimes of opportunity. They know we are short of police and they will probably not get stopped.

Joint OPD Report, PSO Balaoro, Beats 13XYZ

Projects: robbery suppression, speeding on Ocean View Dr., he has requested traffic control to survey Ocean View, maybe put in speed bumps.

His crime statistics covering a slightly different period: 7 auto, 4 residential burglaries. 2 vehicles left unlocked, 9 forced open.

Balaoro: Tips for homeowners: Have and use window coverings. Crooks look in to see what's there. Don't let papers/mail pile up in front. Lock windows and doors. Repair broken locks. Activate alarms. Most burglaries happen from 8-5 but motion sensing flood lights will help prevent nighttime problems. Bushes and shrubbery can be a hiding place for burglars. Surveillance cameras are great, especially hi-def for face id and license plates. Serial numbers on valuables can help identify

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RockridgeNCPC/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RockridgeNeighborhoodWatchNetwork/>

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stolen property. Take photos of jewelry. Keep firearms in a locked safe. Lock windows and doors of cars, activate alarms. Don't put stuff in trunk while someone can observe; use steering wheel lock. Don't leave anything in view inside car.

Donald Lane, Beat 12Y:

Again, stats are slightly different for a different time period. Burglaries: 14 auto, 10 residential, 15 robberies, 5 stolen cars, 1 assault, no homicides.

Armed robberies, 7, others strong-armed. He has handouts on home security check list, available at the sign-in table. Cell phones are a target: recording serial numbers is a good precaution for laptops, cells, iPads. Tracking software helps find electronics. College is a main artery for robbery, people need to pay attention, not walk while texting/talking. Canning St. is a big area too. Officers will try to be around there more in next few weeks.

Is there a database where citizens can look for suspicious cars, etc.? Yahoo list may have something like that. Yahoo is one of fastest ways for people to communicate with neighbors.

What is most efficient way to call police? Give as much info as possible, call nonemergency number, give description, license plate number, etc.

How do officers focus in on information given to them? They use software to check matches on possible partial plates, descriptions of car, etc. all based on calls to the non-emergency number. OPD gets over 2000 911 calls per day. This explains why response times are sometimes long. Don't be discouraged and decide not to call. Make the call. Otherwise, no one will know about the crime. There's nothing wrong, if you see someone knocking on doors, trying knobs, etc., with calling police. You have a right to do it. If it looks suspicious, it probably is.

7 armed robberies in last few days is very unusual. Do you see any patterns in those 7?

Pattern is, people are getting off BART, not paying attention, and robbers are looking for an opportunity.

Lots of shootings in Montclair recently: more aggressive than usual. Don't fight. Thugs have no compunction in shooting you for your stuff.

Officer Green BART

Cell phone thefts up. Thefts on trains include stolen bikes. Rockridge is safest station in Oakland. Economy is bad, cell phones sell at premium. There's high demand for new iPhones. Machines in malls pay you for used phones. People are comfortable using phones on BART, in daily life, etc. They're easy to steal. Typically, you see people on train with heads down using phone; someone grabs the phone, runs off as doors close. They've had a lot of breaking into cars in station parking

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lots. Don't keep stuff in the car, especially not visible; be aware that people are looking for things to steal.

How many cars are regularly hit? Overwhelming majority are commuters. Crooks know the schedule. Quite a few cars get stolen at Rockridge. Bikes are in demand, it's easy to cut off locks, jump on, ride off, you can steal 3 or 4 a day easily. Serial numbers can help find stolen bikes. Even U-locks can be broken; if the bike is nice, they will figure out a way. Ashby BART flea market is a hotbed for stolen articles. Police can't get rid of it because of fear of treading on someone's rights.

Solutions for cellphones: internal identifiers on phones. Call ATT if your ATT/iPhone phone is stolen. They will wipe the phone and shut it off. Internal identifiers need to become universal to work. In Australia, all phone companies do it. Here they are just beginning to do it.

Neighborhood Issues: Carol Behr, FROG park chair, reported homeless people staying in the park, leaving trash, push carts, sleeping, etc. How do we coordinate with OPD, etc. to report problems?

We will list it as a priority for 12Y. The police need to know how often, how many people, who is seeing them, etc. Frog Park includes the Green Belt, it used to be known as Hardy Park.

Keep a log of daily incidents: how many people, descriptions, time they show up, etc. Concentrate on who is actually staying overnight. The more info you have to give officers, the more likely you will get results.

The next NCPC meeting is Thurs, Aug 9 at the Seneca Center at 6925 Chabot Rd. Oakland, at 7 p. m. We will have a presentation on Logitech Surveillance cameras. The program is successful; now we want to give people another chance to learn about it. Next Wednesday the city is implementing Operation Ceasefire. There will be a presentation from 6 30 to 8:30 at City Hall.

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 7. Patricia Rose says over 350 parties have been planned. Frank Castro invites anyone who is not already going to a party to come to the one at the corner of Desmond and Clifton from 5 till 9, there will be food, alcohol, music, kids, and dogs. Bring a dish to share.

MEETING ADJOURNED
Barbara Minton
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Meetings are the SECOND Thursday of the month.
Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August, 2012** at 7:00 PM
NEW LOCATION:

Seneca Center for Education and Training, 6925 Chabot Road, Oakland
See you there and stay safe!

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