

Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) - Minutes
Thursday, July 10, 2014
Rockridge Library, College and Manila, Oakland
General Public: 7:00-8:30PM

NCPC:

<vacant> – Chair
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair
Molly Singer - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

Barbara Minton opened the meeting at 7:03 PM. Twelve people attended the meeting. OPD was represented by Lt. Chris Bolton, as all the PSOs were pulled off to a major operation and were not available to attend the meeting. Lt. Bolton supervises the PSOs. Patricia Rose, the Neighborhood Services Coordinator, presented the status reports for both beats, given her by Officer Trode.

Mike Ubell has volunteered to become the NCPC chairman for the Greater Rockridge NCPC. He'll serve pro tem until the September 11 meeting, when we plan to have an election for all officers; we encourage residents to plan to attend the September 11 meeting.

OPD Status Reports, 12Y and 13X – Patricia Rose

Before giving the statistics, Patricia made several general announcements:

- National Night Out this year is August 5 – register your party now. So far about 365 parties have registered, 17 in beat 12Y, 8 in beat 13X. Neighborhood Services is trying for 675 registered parties.
- There are handouts on the table for CPR and first aid classes from OFD. Pick up a handout for dates and times.
- Organize your neighborhoods, to improve safety.

Crime statistics over the previous 30 days:

<i>Crime, Beat 12Y</i>	<i>Last 30 days</i>	<i>Last year this time</i>
Auto burglaries	9	17
Residential burglaries	5	3
Robberies	2	10
Stolen vehicles	1	5

<i>Crime, Beat 13X</i>	<i>Last 30 days</i>	<i>Last year this time</i>
Auto burglaries	7	5
Residential burglaries	2	3
Robberies	0	0
Stolen vehicles	1	1

Lt. Bolton asked how many people were attending their first NCPC meeting – 2 hands went up, both from beat 13X.

The Lieutenant explained that the police prioritize robberies, residential burglaries, shootings and aggravated assault. Those are the crimes that hit people hardest. Last year had a serious spike in armed and strong-arm robberies. They are currently focusing on reducing robberies.

OPD is developing a new tool for up-to-date crime mapping, which will be available to officers.

Top calls to OPD from 13X

- Broadway and Golden Gate had numerous calls, mostly welfare checks and 911 calls
- 6500 block of Broadway Terrace had calls for disturbing the peace

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

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- Broadway Terrace and Clarewood (the gas station corner) had suspicious person calls

Lt. Bolton explained that they review calls for service quarterly, looking for patterns. The goal is to identify how they can prevent future calls. Residents are using social media much more, especially *Nextdoor*, to report incidents and suspicious persons to neighbors. OPD Area 2 Command pioneered the use of social media in this way, but they can't rely on social media for exact data of incidents – residents must call the incident in so dispatch can get the details.

PSO Projects in 13X

- Broadway Terrace & Harbord – traffic issues, especially speeding.
- Broadway Terrace @ Clarewood – Officer Trode plans to start heavy traffic enforcement near the schools, including walking patrols, verbal warnings, and citations.
- Throughout the beat there are burglaries & robberies.

Q: Is there any defense against electronic opening of cars? It happened to her in San Francisco, also to some people in her neighborhood. When she returned to the car everything in the console was on the seat.

Lt. Bolton: He doesn't know much about opening cars electronically, but that isn't the primary method of robbing cars that the police see. Criminals walk around, looking into car windows for loose stuff, sometimes with a getaway car trailing them. They come back to the target, smash the window, grab, and run. We aren't seeing much beyond broken glass around here.

Q: What is grand theft?

Lt. Bolton: Grand theft is stealing property worth \$950 or more. The most frequently stolen items are smartphones and iPads. If items are stolen from an unlocked car, that can be grand theft; if the car is locked, the theft is auto burglary.

Mike Ubell reported that Rick Bellew of Open Oakland is working on the police data system, which everyone agrees needs to be easier to access.

Karen Ivy read from an email sent by a resident, reporting two issues in the area around College and Keith, both during the period of the morning commute (details excerpted from the email and edited for clarity):

1. **Red light runners from College onto Keith.** In recent months there has been a SIGNIFICANT uptick in the # of cars that blatantly run the red light, typically at high speeds to ensure making it. They narrowly miss pedestrians, including the elderly and those of us with dogs.
2. **Adult bicyclists on the sidewalk.** On College at both Miles and Keith, bicyclist commuters RACE onto the sidewalk to make their train. They don't slow down once they're on the sidewalk and they weave through pedestrians in order to make their train. The resident reported 3 close calls in 3 days, with bicyclists coming down College towards Broadway, speeding from their side of the street, against traffic, up onto the sidewalk at Miles. Bicyclists on the sidewalk are worse during morning commute but the practice isn't limited to those hours.

Karen promised to forward the email to Lt. Bolton, who said he needs more information to make either one a PSO project, but he could certainly ask Patrol to check the area out during morning commute hours.

Mike Ubell reported that next week, the City Council will discuss the replacement measure for Measure Y, which is sunseting. Measure Y is a parcel tax, it has to be renewed on the ballot, and the replacement needs 67% of the vote to pass. Part of this pays for PSOs, part pays for violence prevention programs, some goes to the fire department. The new measure will be structured

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slightly differently than Measure Y was: police funding will be a little more flexible while still guaranteeing the money. Violence prevention programs are administered via a commission which oversees the money, and reviews programs for accountability. The new measure tries to get rid of problems we've had with Measure Y – the city wasn't spending money as mandated. If this measure doesn't pass we'll lose direct funding for many officers, violence prevention and outreach programs, and OFD funding. PSOs are the *only* officers not tied to calls for service, who can stop, think, plan, and work on local priorities. The NCPC urges you to support this measure.

Lt. Bolton noted that OPD has had problems maintaining a reliable PSO for beat 12. For now Officer Trode is covering two beats. They hope Officer Del Rosario will be back on duty soon.

Q: How's staffing going?

Lt. Bolton: Great, we're up to around 680 officers, but the last 2 classes are still in field training, so they're not really working yet. Field training is 26 weeks. Staffing is trending up. OPD is so short-handed now that Problem Solving Officers and Crime Reduction Team officers are working as field training officers.

Q: Do you still need civilians to interview new officer candidates?

Lt. Bolton: Yes, you can find the phone number to volunteer at opdjobs.com.

NCPC Priorities for July 2014

Under new OPD rules, each beat is allowed a single priority, instead of the previous 3; and new priorities must be *identifiable* and *measurable*. PSOs will also work on a *Crime project* and *from time to time* on a *Call reduction project* for the beat. Remember that 12Y and 13X are only part of beats 12 and 13.

12Y:

1. *NCPC Priority:* None at present.
2. *Crime Project:* High visibility vehicle patrols on College Avenue between Broadway and Claremont
3. *Call Reduction Project:* to be announced

13X:

1. *NCPC Priority:* Traffic issues in the area around Broadway Terrace/Harbord/Clarewood, near the Village Market.
2. *Crime Project:* none at present.
3. *Call Reduction Project:* to be announced

NCPC meetings are normally the SECOND Thursday of the month.

*Next NCPC meeting is **Thursday, August 14, 2014** at 7:00 PM
Rockridge Library Community Room, College & Manila*

See you there and stay safe!

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