

Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) – Agenda
Thursday, February 11, 2016
Rockridge Library, College & Manila
General Public: 7:30-9:00PM

NCPC:

Michael Ubell – Chair
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair
<open> - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

Introductions

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:35 PM. Twenty-one people attended. All the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) officers were present, including Mollie Singer, who will serve as treasurer through the April meeting and then resign. Both Community Resource Officers were present, plus Officers Moriarty, Williams, and Chan. City Council member Dan Kalb was accidentally omitted from the published agenda, but he did attend the meeting and his remarks are covered in the minutes.

After the NCPC officers introduced themselves, Mike reminded the meeting that our treasurer is resigning and we will need a new treasurer. No one volunteered.

Priorities

Karen Ivy said that the NCPC currently has no priorities, and asked the group if there were any situations that should be named as priorities. No new priorities were introduced.

OPD Status Reports, Beats 12Y and 13X

Beat 13X

Officer Jurgens asked if anyone from beat 13X was present. No hands went up. She reported the following crimes for the beat.

<i>Crimes</i>	<i>February 2016</i>	<i>February 2015</i>
Robberies	0	1
Auto burglaries	6	9
Residential burglaries	9	8
Stolen cars	5	8

Beat 12Y

Officer Hutzol reported that there were 2 recent carjackings, one on BART property. He was happy to report that OPD now has 5 individuals in custody, part of a ring doing organized carjackings. Two of the people in custody did the BART carjacking. The group’s working method was to send out 3 people, 1 robber and 2 lookouts. They appear to come in on BART from elsewhere, and rob and carjack people around RockRidge BART.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

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The two street level robberies so far in 2016 all seem very similar to the carjackers' technique, and the group in custody says they did them, so they probably did. Street level robbery was probably part of their technique, too. Elsewhere in the city, Oakland has had 138 robberies this year.

Q: Do these guys do residential burglaries?

A: Probably not. That's a different kind of crime. Robberies are very high risk, robbers often use guns; burglaries are very low risk, done by preference when the homeowners are away. The 2 types of crime are usually done by different guys.

Officer Hutzol mentioned that there has been discussion online about a sexual assault somewhere in North Oakland, possibly associated with a carjacking. He's researched carefully but he hasn't been able to identify anything like this reported within the last 90 days.

Chris Jackson, from the Rockridge District Association, asked the officer to discuss Shane. Mike Ubell explained that Shane is the guy on College Ave who yells obscenities at people and sometimes tries to jump them. He's a very explosive person. Officer Hutzol said he has been working with Shane, and with his caseworker. Shane has a therapy dog now, he talks to Officer Hutzol, and he's very willing to chat. This is a big change. OPD is very aware of him, Officer Hutzol talks to him at least 2-3 times a week. He's vastly improved. He won't go to an SRO because he won't go near drugs. He prefers to be homeless.

Q: Is there another one like him?

A: Yes, there are a couple of other men on the street. At least one is not homeless; he lives with his brother but hangs out on the street. Officer Hutzol knows most of the regulars by name.

Resident: I've seen both of these men defecating in public and exposing themselves.

Chris Jackson observed that there are 2 men who sleep in the library parking lot. Many of these men just prefer to live on the street. They don't even panhandle. One of them defecates in public when the teen center is in use, and also defecates on a street corner. Officer Hutzol is trying to get some port-a-potties for them. He says there will be a bike patrol on College Avenue soon. The involved community is very helpful to the police when we report issues like this.

Officer Hutzol reported that the police have solved a problem at the 63rd and College Safeway with a homeless man called Seamus, who is now in Berkeley. He had several friends who liked to drink until they passed out. They're all now in Berkeley, and they say they'll stay there, they like it better.

Proposed 7-11 Store at 6606 Telegraph Avenue

The speakers were Blaire Skellie, Senior Real Estate Representative for 7-Eleven, Inc., and Aparna Joneja, Development Project Manager for 7-Eleven, Inc. Ms. Skellie described a proposed new 7-11 store at 6606

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Telegraph. This would replace White Horse Liquor, which hasn't had any work done for years. The plan is to redo the inside and outside of the existing building. Currently 50% of the shelving is beer and wine; 13 of the 21 coolers contain beer and wine, and the southern wall is mainly liquor. The new 7-11 will have much less beer and wine (only 3 of 12 coolers will contain beer and wine, plus a few bottles of wine on a shelf), and no liquor, on sale. The store will sell more fresh foods, such as fruit cups, sandwiches, and salads, all very inexpensive.

7-11 stores are no longer cookie-cutter designs; they try to customize buildings to local priorities.

Ms. Joneja took over the discussion here. Safety is always a concern. The entire site will be lighted so police can see what's going on, and both side walls are glass allowing a clear view of the inside of the store. They plan 3 security cameras on the outside, and 1 inside. They always install a large, visible camera at the front of the store.

All franchisees must be trained in safety procedures. 7-Eleven's "Come of age" program trains them in avoiding underage use of alcohol, and is required yearly. Franchisees also take annual training on general security procedures, low cash levels, and managing robbery and/or violent situations.

Q: Do you have a security guard?

A: No, we've never found it necessary. We work very closely with police.

Q: How do you deal with noisy patrons, especially loud boom boxes in the small hours?

A: Franchisees are trained to call the police for nuisances, it isn't a usual situation.

Q: There's a 7-11 farther into Berkeley that looks like a ghetto store, what do you plan to do about that?

A: We're visiting and assessing our local stores and will work on ways to make them look nicer. We hold community meetings to reassure neighbors that the store will not be a mess.

Q: Have you been to the store at 4100 Broadway? The signs are always trashed, and it has panhandlers hanging out. What will you do about the graffiti, also about the panhandling?

A: We visited the site at 10 AM; we haven't been there in the evening. We need to visit at night; it's evidently a different world.

Q: I'm with the Rockridge Community Planning Council (RCPC), have you reached out to Stu Flashman on the land use committee? If you have cards I can hand them on to him.

Dan Kalb, who was present, noted that they are asking for an extension, as White Horse Liquor is not open 24 hours. He had also heard Planning say they thought you weren't interesting in making it walkable.

A: We still have many decisions to make.

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Dan Kalb, Oakland City Council District 1

Mr. Kalb said he had no long speeches, but he tries to visit all the NCPCs on rotating basis. In last few weeks there have been several strong-arm robberies, and carjackings, and he's concerned. The police are aware of this, and Capt. Allison will increase patrols. They have arrested 1 man.

Officer Hutzol interrupted to say – 5 men! It's a gang. This is the latest development!

Mr. Kalb said he talks regularly with the OPD District 2 Captain about what's happening in North Oakland. If his staff can help, call them, although they can't always respond as fast as they'd like. He asked if anyone had questions.

Officer Hutzol: What is this walkability thing?

DK: It is ways to design neighborhoods to make them a safe and inviting place to walk. This is related to CPTED ([Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design](#)). Oakland wants to make public areas walkable and inviting.

Don Kinkead: Is there any movement on the parking permit fees?

DK: That's all done. The city decided to raise them from \$35 to \$82 for the 1st permit and \$59 for annual renewals. One day permits are now \$5, (the city wanted \$9); a 2 week permit is now \$25. More streets now have permit parking. Any street can get permit parking if the residents petition for it. The program should recover costs, but he felt \$82 was too high for renewals and pushed for the lower rate; District 1 has half the permit parking in the city.

Chris Jackson reported 2 new parking meters installed recently. We have broken meters up and down Shafter, somebody's jamming meters.

Resident: I beat a parking ticket by saying I put in a quarter which it didn't register. They checked the meter, realized I had put the quarter in, and canceled the ticket.

Officer Hutzol explained that this is a regular scam. One individual puts a piece of paper into the meter, on a fine thread, which blocks the quarters from registering. The “ripper” comes by later with a hook with adhesive and fishes the quarters out. This is said to net \$800-\$1000 per day (based on the net loss reported by the parking meters). Data drives deployment – he got an undercover team out to look for the team, but the scammers weren't out that day. If you see someone tampering with a meter, and there's no car in sight, it's probably these guys. Call it in if you can do so without attracting their attention.

Mr. Kalb reported that the city has decided to move away from the parking kiosks, installing individual state-of-art meters which take credit cards and phone payments.

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Mr. Kalb had one more comment about public safety and crime. Officers can't be everywhere, OPD is short-staffed. We're trying to identify people with a history of serious crime, and firmly invite them to move on to another life. He plans to visit 2 rehab programs at San Quentin. The violence intervention programs in Richmond are also successful; he's asked for a report on them. He's looking at what other cities do to see what Oakland can improve.

Q: I've heard that Fort Lauderdale has a one-stop "tent city" - one-stop place for shelter, police, medical aid, what have you. They do this because they have a sit-lie law.

DK: Oakland and other cities have a homeless problem. Trying to move people out of the tent cities is just musical chairs. Oakland is looking for 1 or 2 plots of land where we could allow tent cities, have sanitary services, have visits from social workers, and provide other services. We'd like to see if that could work.

Mike Ubell announced that the April meeting won't be in the library due to a scheduled remodel. We'll announce a new location when we have one, and put it on <http://rockridgencpc.com>.

NCPC Priorities for February 2016

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

12Y:

1. *NCPC Priority*: No current priority.
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*: No current priority.
2. *Crime Project*: none at present.
3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

NCPC meetings are normally the SECOND Thursday of even-numbered months.

*Next NCPC meeting is **Thursday, April 14, 2016** at 7:30 PM*

Location to be announced

See you there and stay safe!

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