

**Greater Rockridge
Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (12Y/13X) – Minutes
Thursday, April 14, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
General Public: 7:00-8:30 PM**

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC):

Michael Ubell – Chair
Jon Travis –Vice Chair
Eric Neville - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer
Officer Meeran Gichki – Community Resource Officer, beat 12Y
Officer Silvestre Triana - Community Resource Officer, beat 13X

7:00 – 7:10 PM – Introductions

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:05 PM. We had 2 representatives from Oakland PD logged into Zoom, Sergeant Alain Manguy and Lieutenant Omar Daza-Quiroz. Jared Spencer attended from County Supervisor Keith Carson’s office at Alameda County 5th Supervisorial District. Two residents logged in.

7:10 – 7:25 PM – Oakland Police Dept. (OPD) Status Reports, beats 12Y and 13X

Mike Ubell: The Community Resource Officers (CROs) are not available due to police staffing shortages. We have Sgt. Manguy, and Lt. Omar Daza-Quiroz, who will answer conditions on the beats and with NCPC priorities. Lt. Daza-Quiroz says just refer to him as “DQ.” NCPC officers and police outnumber residents at this meeting. Sgt. Manguy, can you fill in for the CROs?

Sgt. Manguy: We’re doing triple duty and addressing issues as they come up. We’re working with Chris Jackson at Rockridge District Association on a lot of homeless issues and break-ins. We’re trying to find resources for the homeless guy with the loud music and talking to business owners about him to see if there’s a crime that can be prosecuted, like disturbing their lawful business. If you have any issues, speak up.

Mike Ubell: We always have the car break-ins in the business district.

Sgt. Manguy: We’ve had overtime personnel going to business districts in Area 2 from 12PM to 10PM, sometimes in Rockridge, sometimes other business districts. They will run out of the overtime resources soon, it will be harder to get people to cover those locations. There are incidents with multiple car break-ins, we need video pictures to identify the cars, showing license plates. There seems to be less of that lately.

Karen Ivy: The vast majority of crime in Rockridge beats is property crime. We feel we’re not getting much response on property crime issues due to lack of staff. Is that overstated? We understand you’re concentrating on critical incidents.

Sgt. Manguy: We are shorthanded, and we have multiple open beats where we don’t have officers to fill patrol shifts. We respond to critical incidents but it’s hard for us devote much time to less critical incidents, especially as we are about to lose the overtime resources. I hope that answers your question.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com

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

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

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Karen Ivy: Yes, it does.

7:25 – 7:50 PM – Neighborhood discussion and Oakland Police Q and A, including new priorities

Mike Ubell: Jared, could you comment on the county's homeless issues?

Jared Spencer: Yes, the county just released some homeless counts. We've had many homeless deaths, an alarming increase over the last 2 years. Since late last year the county is dealing with cities individually because they're all different. There are legal challenges. Homelessness and homeless camps are a regional issue, which needs regional coordination. I can send us some data, and I would like to bring some people to answer questions. I'll send some immediate data.

Karen Ivy: Our next meeting will be June 9 - could you or someone from your office present to our June 9 meeting on this subject? I'll confirm this by email.

Jared Spencer: Yes, I can have someone come. I'll send some different levels of presentation. My email is in the chat, Jared.Spencer@acgov.org. I can confirm someone will do a presentation for June 9.

Mike Ubell: Yes, that would be good. Does anyone have any other questions?

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: Does anyone have any questions about OPD staffing? I can give you an update.

Mike Ubell: Yes, we would like that.

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: We're at 650 sworn officers including the chief. We were as low as 630 back when I started in 2006, and it's been up as high as 803, or at least the high 700s. We've lost a lot of people over the last few months: 8 in January, 13 in February, 10 in March, and 15 in April to date. This is resignations, terminations, and retirements. We have 20 officers in field training who will be released in the next month, but there are 20 open beats. We have 28 officers in the academy, who will graduate sometime in May, but they won't be ready to go till probably the end of September.

I'm Looking at the trends in shootings and robberies. They're changing CRO hours to 10 AM to 8 PM, for West Oakland, North Oakland, and the Lake Merritt area. On the day watch, Monday through Thursday, we have 6 open beats, which the CROs are covering. And on the swing shift (2 PM – 2 AM every other Tuesday and every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday), we have 8-9 open beats. You can see the staffing issues that causes. The CROs are trying to all that *and* do their community service jobs. We still want to try to help. Please do call in for property crime, the call creates a running log; if you never call in, it didn't happen. I deploy units where we see the patterns, with a lot of crime, even if it's not as violent.

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Sgt. Manguy: We want to keep on top as much as we can. One incident, like a burglary, probably means there will be more. Please let us know.

Karen Ivy: I've been telling people, "if you never call it in, it didn't happen," for at least 10 years.

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: Calling in creates a paper trail, and gives us a pattern (time of day, day of week). We want to do intelligence-driven policing, so we need to know where stuff is happening. Sometimes just having an officer drive by helps.

Mike Ubell: Could you park a patrol car on College Avenue? Would that help?

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: We could do that, let's move it around every so often.

Sgt. Manguy: I'll take care of it.

Resident: NextDoor has an article - today someone drove along College Ave. at 1:30 PM and a passenger was jumping out of the car and breaking into parked cars. I think someone got the license number and reported it. I feel fairly safe in this area, and I understand what the police are up against. But this was pretty brazen.

Mike Ubell: This issue has come up before - we were told only the owner of a car can report a problem with the car. If someone called in a report on a car (not their car!) doing something like this, how would it be received?

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: We could put out a BOLO (be on the lookout) on the suspect car. An officer could also put a blue card on the vehicle, saying your car was involved in a crime, please call OPD. They could only file an online report. We do get calls about cars casing neighborhoods. OPD does need to talk to the car owner. Our Burglary division only has 2 officers.

Mike Ubell: So the person who sees an incident should just call the non-emergency line to report?

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: Yes, but we have to talk to the victim. We might not create a police report until we can talk to the car owner.

Mike Ubell: Is it worth calling in to say something like, walking down the street I saw a broken car window?

Lt. Daza-Quiroz: With just that we couldn't tell if it was a burglary or just vandalism.

There were no further questions. Mike Ubell ended the meeting at about 7:25 PM.

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Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priorities for February 2022

Beat 12Y:

1. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* Car break-ins on College Ave., especially in the library parking lot.
2. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* Panhandler in a wheelchair, playing very loud music on a boom box, disturbing neighbors and businesses.

Beat 13X:

1. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* No current priority.

*Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council meetings
are normally the SECOND Thursday of even-numbered months.*

*Next meeting **Thursday, June 9, 2022** at 7:00 PM*

Zoom link is available at <https://rockridgencpc.com>, NEXT NCPC MEETING

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