

**Greater Rockridge
Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (12Y/13X) – Minutes
Thursday, December 10, 2020
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
Angela Moore – Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Officer Silvestre Triana – Community Resource Officer, beat 12Y
Officer Kristine Jurgens-Duenas - Community Resource Officer, beat 13X

Introductions

7:05 PM Mike Ubell opened the meeting. He mentioned the new Community Resource Officer (CRO) for beat 12, and introduced the NCPC officers, the Neighborhood Services Coordinator, and both Community Resource Officers. He mentioned that we have a very short agenda this evening, since we have no outside speaker, and requested the OPD reports. There were 3-4 residents present.

Oakland Police Dept. (OPD) Status Reports

Beat 12Y

Officer Sylvestre Triana introduced himself. He said he grew up in Berkeley, and wanted to be near home. He’s spent 5 years on the Oakland police force, recently serving in District 2. He lives in the neighborhood. This is his first post as a CRO.

Beat 12Y		
<i>Crimes</i>	10/9/2020 – 12/9/2020	10/9/2019 – 12/9/2019
Battery	4	6
Assault with deadly weapon	0	2
Robbery, armed and strongarm	1	16
Auto Burglary	16	144
Vehicle theft	15	7
Residential, commercial burglary	7	17

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com

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

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Beat 12Y		
<i>Crimes</i>	10/9/2020 – 12/9/2020	10/9/2019 – 12/9/2019
Grand theft	3	14
Petty theft	1	7

Karen Ivy: The drop in auto burglaries just blows me away.

Officer Triana: People are just out less.

Resident: What’s the difference between a stolen vehicle and an auto burglary?

Officer Triana: Auto burglary is when they break into the vehicle and take stuff; vehicle theft is when they take the vehicle. He also explained that catalytic converter theft is *not* auto burglary it’s just theft, possibly grand theft depending on the value of the converter. Also the vehicle has to be locked for it to be burglary, otherwise it's just theft.

Jon Travis: It seems that the drop in robberies is significant, there were some arrests last year. Did they get the guy who was doing the robberies? We don’t have that arrest data.

Officer Triana: Crimes usually are created by the same group of people. We recently arrested a group who had been shoplifting the Walgreen’s on 51st. Management says the shoplifting has now stopped.

Jon Travis: Can we get arrest data by crime for a beat, and with the charge?

Officer Triana: I’m new, I can poke around the system and see if I can find out.

Officer Jurgens: We don’t really have a system where we can look and see who’s been arrested.

Mike Ubell: With street crimes, someone may be arrested somewhere else who was also doing crimes here.

Jon Travis: It’s a good thing that OPD is now posting their “wins” on NextDoor, telling people what arrests they’ve made, what guns they’ve confiscated.

Beat 13X

Beat 13X		
<i>Crimes</i>	8/08/2020 – 10/07/2020	8/08/2019 – 10/07/2019

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Beat 13X		
Stolen vehicles	5	6
<i>Crimes</i>	8/08/2020 – 10/07/2020	8/08/2019 – 10/07/2019
Residential Burglary	3	2
Auto Burglary	4	6
Robberies	0	2

Mike Ubell: Is anyone here from beat 13X with something to report. No answer.

Neighborhood issues discussion, including new priorities

Mike Ubell: Does anyone from the neighborhood have questions?

Resident: I’ve noticed a private security SUV driving around. Does the NCPC coordinate that?

Mike Ubell: No, there are 2 private security firms, one in lower Rockridge (called *Safer Rockridge*, a nonprofit group that hires the patrol), one in upper Rockridge (I think it’s sponsored by the Upper Rockridge Neighborhood Association). Both patrols are unarmed, and will call the police if needed. You can call *Safer Rockridge* to ask for an escort home from the BART station.

Mike Ubell took a little time to discuss his recent appointment to an advisory board to the [Reimagining Public Safety task force](#). His advisory board deals with community policing engagement, to make community policing more effective. The city web site has a page for the task force. The task force goal is to provide recommendations by early spring for next year’s budget. Be aware of public listening sessions.

A resident asked Mike for his response to [the Chronicle article today](#).

Mike said he thinks the article is misleading. He knows several of the people mentioned in the article, and they haven’t changed their minds on anything. They just want their neighborhoods to be safer. They think the police are not perfect, but they don’t want to eliminate them. Crime statistics in Rockridge are exceptionally low, it’s much worse in most Oakland neighborhoods. It’s expensive to have an armed officer respond to something that doesn’t need an armed officer. The response time on 911 calls is due to the very high volume of calls.

The resident commented that the article suggested the task force was hard to manage.

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Mike said he's been disappointed, but he's only on one advisory board. The whole thing seems less directed than he hoped. It's a useful exercise, but he's not sure yet what will come out of it. They're having public listening sessions, but he hasn't attended one.

Jon Travis noted that the stated goal is just to reduce the police budget by 50%. Cost effective policing is a good goal, is this getting in the way of that?

Mike replied that the goal is a safer Oakland by reducing the amount the general fund spends on policing. He hasn't heard anyone on task force suggest eliminating the police. Fixing this situation will probably take years not months, more than one budget cycle, and the changes will cost money. OPD get a lot of non-criminal calls because nobody else is on call 24x7.

Resident: I'm on one of the advisory boards too, and people are throwing things at the wall to see what sticks.

Karen Ivy: There's a promising pilot now in East Oakland called MACRO that would have social workers and EMTs respond to mental health and homeless calls rather than the police.

Mike said that's still ramping up, it'll take time.

Karen Ivy noted that we have no priority for 13X, and the 12Y priority is still the homeless camp at 63rd and College.

Angela Moore offered a status on the homeless camp at 63rd & College. The homeless man Melvin was offered housing and assistance but has refused both. The homeless management team is still working with him. We'll retain that priority for now.

Mike Ubell closed the meeting at about 7:26 PM.

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priorities for December 2020

Beat 12Y:

1. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* Homeless camp at 63rd and College.

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, February 11, 2021** at 7:00 PM, Location TBA pending the course of the pandemic*

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