

**Greater Rockridge
Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (12Y/13X) – Minutes
Thursday, December 9, 2021
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 Aaron Johnson - Community Resource Officer, beat 13X

7:00 – 7:10 PM – Introductions

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:05 PM, there were 8 people logged in to Zoom. Mike introduced the NCPC officers and suggested that the Community Resource Officers introduce themselves.

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

Officer Meeran Gichki introduced himself and Officer Aaron Johnson. They've been on patrol so much lately they haven't been able to be on their CRO beats as much as they want. Also, they attended a funeral today for an officer recently shot in Oakland. They haven't been able to do the stats. He will put a link to [the city web site](#) on the chat for people to look themselves. [Ed. Note: I included it, left.] It shows ShotSpotter activations and other items for Area 2 (north Oakland). ShotSpotter may dispatch officers anywhere in the city. The site has numbers for 1 week at a time. Area 2 had 6 activations. ShotSpotter recent numbers (171 activations) are well up from last year (38%) but mostly in other police areas, not Area 2. The site also shows homicides, but there were none in Area 2. That's about all he had. Mike Ubell put the ShotSpotter maps up.

Karen Ivy briefly reviewed the October-November crime stats for beats 12Y and 13X from the NCPC web site, they are [available here](#). The major crime categories in that period were auto-related property crimes (thefts and burglaries) and quality of life crimes (vandalism). These are all on our web site, <https://rockridgencpc.com>.

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

Mike Ubell asked if anyone had anything to ask the officers. Officer Gichki said someone had asked something in chat.

Eric Neville has no video, but commented in chat, "I'm not going to stand in the way of anyone who puts their life on the line from attending [a funeral for] one who has fallen protecting the public." He

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also noted that there are common problems on the street with missing front license plates, obscured rear license plates (as by tinted plastic), and blindly tinted side windows. These all make identifying drivers difficult. He said he did see a photo of the car suspected re funeral death that had no front license plate.

Resident: We're so short of police, what is the process for you to go to funerals? Do you have to ask permission? Was this the funeral for the security guard who was killed?

Officer Gichki: Yes, it was, and yes, we had to get permission. We don't want to let a fallen officer have a funeral with no one in attendance, it's a matter of respect. A small number of officers went to the funeral, and that didn't affect any patrol calls on the beats..

In response to Eric Neville's chat posts about identifying drivers, yes, that is a problem, and the police have the same issues, especially with missing or obscured license plates. OPD used to stop people for that. There was a Stanford study about police usually stopping people of color. People who are stopped for equipment violations usually can't afford to get stuff fixed or get car registration in on time. People also have more time to get car registration done now because of COVID. As a department, OPD is moving away from stops for minor equipment issues and focusing on safety stops, although we might stop someone driving without lights at night.

Resident: I have a question about a recent carjacking which happened about 3 am at Glendale, Desmond, and Clifton. Also, Tuesday there was a purse snatching at Trader Joe's on College, at 2:30 in the afternoon.

Officer Gichki: Was this about the incident at Ocean View and Broadway?

Resident: No this was around 3 AM a few weeks after that. I was awakened at 3 AM, a neighbor said the suspect was running through their back yard, being chased by officers with guns out. I think he was captured.

Officer Gichki: Yes, I hear this a lot about robberies and carjackings. I always get questions about carjackings at community meetings. We warn people, be aware of your surroundings, abandon the car. I can't recall this incident but it sounds like a common pattern.

Resident: What do we do about the purse snatching at Trader Joe's at 2 in the afternoon? Do we not carry purses while shopping?

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Officer Gichki: Yes, purse snatchings happen. We're working more overtime. Officer Johnson has been staffing overtime officers, from noon to about 10 PM, in the business districts. I'll let Officer Johnson speak on that. You'll see more officers on College Ave., Piedmont Ave., Temescal, etc. because of purse snatchings and store thefts. Be mindful of your surroundings, these are usually juveniles doing this, looking for people not aware of their surroundings.

Resident: Years ago, during the Oakland Hills fire, it was mentioned that people used whistles when they saw looting. Should we all carry whistles and blow them when we see crime going down?

Officer Gichki: That would be a good idea.

Commented [K1]: 22:47 on tape

Officer Johnson: Good evening, everyone, happy holidays. Yes, I'm in charge of the high visibility project in the District 2 business areas: College, Piedmont, Temescal, Montclair. Officers will be out Tuesday through Friday, noon to 10 pm. They will get out of their cars, walk around, be visible, talk to people. We hope their presence will prevent things like purse snatchings. We can't stop all the crime. We hope to continue this through the holidays and ongoing after New Year.

Resident: About the whistles – this idea should be widely spread and announced. Maybe they should be handed out? Should we put whistles in stores? How do we get the entire city of Oakland doing it? Should the Chief of Police, or the Mayor, announce this?

Officer Johnson: It's a good idea, but I'm not sure how we do that. I've got 3 beats in 13 to manage, and I'm also doing beat 10 now. We can ask the command staff about it, but we can't get to the mayor. But you can go to city council meetings, email the mayor, and so on. If the Chief approves of it, maybe he can announce it in a press conference.

Resident: How about a neighborhood campaign, from the NCPC officers and the rest of us? We need to do this ourselves. I walk around the neighborhood, I only carry ID and phone, but I carry a whistle.

Mike Ubell: Is there anything else? Nancy, you had an issue?

Nancy Morton: I'm working with Elizabeth Woods at the Clifton House Transitional Housing Facility, to engage merchants and residents to get tax-deductible donations for people in the transitional housing. They have a 501(c)(3). We could make the neighborhood safer by reducing homelessness and supporting homeless facilities. You can contact me if you need information.

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Mike Ubell: If no one has any more issues, here's Sarah Fine from the Department of Transportation. Do you need to present something?

7:50 - 8:10 PM - Sarah Fine, Oakland DOT - present the outcomes of the 2019 Paving Plan to date and share the proposed street list for the next multi-year paving plan.

Ryan Russo: I'm Ryan Russo, director of OakDOT. I'd like to introduce Sarah Fine, who will announce the news on plans for paving in the city of Oakland. I want to let you know that you have a very dedicated team working on giving all of Oakland the paving it deserves, not just fixing potholes, but patching broken sidewalks, providing curb ramps, etc. We're doing it all with the Oakland values of equity, safety, sustainability, and trust. American cities and states have struggled to deliver infrastructure on time and on budget, but we're doing that here.

Sarah Fine shared a PowerPoint on her screen, showing the status of the last 3-year plan, which sunsets in June 2022. Her chart shows that over the last few years the percentage of major streets in good or excellent condition has increased steadily. You can find her presentation [here](#).

Sarah Fine: We prioritized the major streets, but the local streets have not kept up. In 2019 we changed the priority to focus on local streets, since we finally had funding. Local street quality is beginning to improve – fewer local streets are in poor condition than in 2018, and significantly more are in excellent condition.

We've set aggressive goals and exceeded them, which reduces maintenance costs. The trend is in the right direction. In the past we saw maybe 9-10 miles of paving per year, so we set a 30-mile goal for 2019 and we made it, and we exceeded the 40-mile paving goal for 2020 too. This also reduces maintenance costs. The 2019 plan ends in June 2022, at a cost of \$100 million over 3 years.

In the 2022 plan we plan to spend \$300 million over 5 years. We're developing a new 5-year street list and 10-year capital improvement plan. 75% of the funding will be for local streets and 25% for major streets. 4% is set aside for preventive maintenance, 5% for neighborhood bikeways and 10% for utility cost-share. Utilities that tear up the street, like EBMUD, are required to leave them in good condition, so the plan is to repave after utility work and share the cost. The preventive maintenance set-aside is similar to getting your teeth sealed to prevent cavities, and is scheduled on streets paved within the last 10 years. And there's a small set-aside for Council discretion. If you have something you'd like

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fixed that isn't on the list, go to your council member. Major streets are prioritized by street condition, traffic safety history, and an equity index.

She showed a chart of proposed local streets funding and explained how local streets are prioritized for repaving: pavement condition index, and proximity to parks.

Another chart showed the funding provided by measure KK (approved in 2016). Those funds paid for the entire 2019 3-yr plan and will pay for all of 22/23 plan and more than half of the 23/24 plan, in the next 5-year plan. OakDOT will either need a new bond measure, or an extension of measure KK, to complete the current 5-year plan. That may go to the voters after the 2022 ballot. They will go to the Public Works committee next week for approval to adopt the plan. Following that they'll discuss the list of streets, then start to bid for contracts. She showed a [draft map of streets](#) in our police beats to be paved over the next 5 years. She put the link to the plan in the chat and [to their site](#) and to the [presentation](#). The streets shown in red are identified for rehabilitation; orange streets should get preventive maintenance. She noted that Miles is scheduled for repaving; they're working on it, they had to get permission from CalTrans. Blue identifies major streets, which may need a small overlay or preventive maintenance. Their paving web site has lots of information. She offered to answer questions.

Resident: Something's going on our street, we can't tell what it is. The signs say no parking for a month, and then they don't show up for 3 weeks, what's that?

Resident: That's PG&E, it's not the city, it's gone on since June. Complain to PG&E. They've contracted out to companies to do the work.

Sarah Fine: If you're not sure who's in charge, it's always good to report it to 311, they can figure it out. I see a note in chat about Forest, between Claremont and College. That is on the plan for rehabilitation.

Ryan Russo: Please use 311 to report potholes, we do fill potholes that are reported. You are our eyes and ears.

Resident: Our street (62nd between Canning and College) is just endless potholes, for blocks. Why is it not on the list?

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Sarah Fine: We're paving a ton but we still can't get to everything. Report your problem to 311, and to our manager. Also, your council member has to review this, so let your member know that you want your street prioritized.

Resident: Back in 2019, we had to report streets that we wanted paved. Do we have to report them all again for the new 5-year plan, if they aren't paved yet?

Sarah Fine: If a street isn't in the 5-yr plan and you want it there because of huge potholes, please do use 311. You might still be able to add the street to the plan via your city council office. Council members haven't identified their paving priorities yet.

Resident: What about the signs on Claremont warning about major road work? It's hard to know if Berkeley or Oakland is doing the work.

Sarah Fine: If you're concerned about any construction in Oakland, ask 311, they know what's going on.

Mike Ubell: Any other questions? If not we'll wrap up the meeting.

Karen Ivy: Does anyone want to add any additional NCPC priorities?

No one responded. The meeting closed shortly before 8 PM.

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priorities for December 2021

Beat 12Y:

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

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 10, 2022** at 7:00 PM
Location TBA pending the course of the pandemic*

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