

**Greater Rockridge
Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (12Y/13X) - Minutes
Thursday, February 14, 2019
Rockridge Library, College and Manila
General Public: 7:30-9:00PM**

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC):

Chair - Michael Ubell
 Vice Chair – <position open>
 Treasurer - Eric Neville
 Secretary & Information Officer - Karen Ivy

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:35 PM. The NCPC still missing a vice chairman; volunteers are invited to contact us. Only one citizen attended. Both beat Community Resource Officers (CROs) were on assignment. OPD officers present included Officers Chris Meyer (district 2 patrol), Josh Bianchi (beat 12 swing shift patrol), Capt. Chris Bolton, and Patricia Rose, Neighborhood Services coordinator. Eric Neville was out sick.

OPD Status Reports

In the absence of the CROs, Captain Bolton summarized major crimes in the beats for the last 60 days compared with the same periods in 2017-2018:

Beat 12Y		
Crimes	12/15/2018 – 2/12/2019	12/15/2017 – 2/12/2018
215PC Carjacking	0	0
211PC Robbery Firearm	0	3
211PC Robbery Strongarm	1	1
459PC Residential Burglary	7	11
459PC Commercial Burglary	3	2
459PC Auto Burglary	43	16

Beat 13X		
Crimes	12/15/2018 – 2/12/2019	12/15/2017 – 2/12/2018
215PC Carjacking	0	0
211PC Robbery Firearm and Strongarm	1	0
459PC Residential Burglary	2	2
459PC Commercial Burglary	0	0
459PC Auto Burglary	6	5

Captain Bolton said that auto burglaries were the big issue over the last few weeks. There’s a serious uptick this year, especially in the business district. He’s very concerned. They seem to happen around 19:00 to 22:00. He’s

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

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been increasing the patrol presence, to try to get officers near the crimes. The CROs and CRTs are now conducting targeted operations at least once a week to try to spot the break-ins before they happen. The CROs are opening a project for each business district to try to get partnership ideas. He meets monthly with Council Member Kalb and his staff. Chris Jackson (of the Rockridge District Association) noted that the city still hasn't fixed the broken library parking lot light, which was reported weeks ago. There's been a shoplifting surge; people are stealing laptops from coffee shops. The police have made several arrests. The suspects are mostly juveniles, who are generally released from custody to reoffend. They've arrested the same handful of kids multiple times. The OPD is working with the DA's Office to examine how charging and prosecution may identify ways to decrease chances of recidivism for the benefit of the community as well as for the juvenile and their future.

Chris Jackson said they've had 5-6 auto break-ins last couple of weeks, but the business district is pretty quiet; he's very grateful that people can now walk home from BART without being mugged. It wasn't always so. Robberies in North Oakland have been reduced more than anywhere else in the city over last few months. The same people frequently rob in different areas; when CROs are hunting robbers in beat 6, they could also get the guy who robs people on College.

Mike Ubell asked about the homeless camps near Frog Park. The captain responded that it will probably take 4 days to clean up the camps at Lakeside Park. All those people will be relocated, and the area zoned for "no re-encampment." This follows a city plan, not an OPD enforcement plan. The police don't cite or arrest for homelessness. They provide outreach, advice, and cleanup. They haven't yet done this in Frog Park. At the moment, Frog Park is not a priority on the City's master schedule used by the Encampment Management Team. Neighborhood Councils should identify local priorities. Mike Ubell pointed out that the camps in Frog Park were a priority at the December meeting. Captain Bolton said that Officer Mac may have more information about what steps OPD has made to contact and problem-solve with individuals there. .

Asked about e-scooters, Captain Bolton recapped the new requirements for scooter use, including the loss of the requirement for adult users to wear helmets. Scooter companies were supposed to create educational materials. Dan Kalb's office is supposed to have a copy, Captain Bolton hasn't seen it. Mike Ubell said he told a young man riding a scooter on a sidewalk that it's against the law, and the young man got off the scooter and said he didn't know. Captain Bolton said we could build a project to address scooters – no heavy enforcement, but warnings and education. He plans to ask Officer Mac to open a project around auto burglaries in business district and will work on a plan to approach Frog Park. Citizens should call 311 and report illegal camp sites, especially if there's human waste. If there is, they will send out a biohazard team.

No new priorities this month.

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John Elissiry, Deep Sentinel

John Elissiry (johne@deepsentinel.com) introduced himself as a Sales Manager for the firm [Deep Sentinel](#). After a residential robbery in Pleasanton a few years ago, he began to do research on home security capabilities, especially cameras. He ended up at Deep Sentinel, whose motion sensitive cameras use artificial intelligence to identify genuine threats, and stream the video to a 24/7 live monitor who watches the screen, talks to the potential intruder through a speaker on the camera (at 104 decibels), and tells him to leave or the monitor will call the police.

Deep Sentinel has customers in New York City and Dallas, and is expanding nationwide. They do something no one else can: unlike many existing cameras, owners don't have to monitor these cameras. Recently in New York, the monitor saw 2 people in a client's front yard with a baseball bat; they told the intruders to leave the property, and the men ran and threw away the bat.

Q. When did you go live?

A. 3 ½ years ago. The current system went into beta about 9 months ago. They began selling it to the public 6 months ago. The manufacturer is Foxconn.

Q. Your algorithm will be trained by images from clients; what's your false negative rate?

A. We have no current number for false negatives. The cameras wake up on detecting motion. The AI filters out trees and animals in motion, and refers humans in motion to the live monitors for further evaluation. If animals are detected the camera turns off.

Q. So, the monitors can call the police and say we see a crime in progress; would OPD respond? Captain Bolton said yes, we would respond, but I never heard of Deep Sentinel. Mr. Elissiry admitted the firm has no clients in Oakland yet.

Q: What does the system cost?

A. A 3 camera set is \$299 including 4 batteries and the hub (which holds the AI system). The 4th battery is always charging on the hub, make it easy to change batteries. The 24/7 monitoring service is \$49/month. The system can't be shipped fully charged, you have to charge it up.

Mike Ubell asked how is your setup connected?

A. The battery operated cameras connect by Wi-Fi. The hub is connected by Ethernet to your Wi-Fi router. The cameras are meant to be large and obvious. A Deep Sentinel camera flashes with a ring of red LEDs when it detects motion. His personal system has been up for 6 weeks and the battery on his camera is 32%, Deep

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Sentinel cameras have the longest battery life in the industry. They recommend mounting cameras 6-8 feet high to improve images of faces.

Mr. Elissiry noted that they've been asked if they monitor commercial sites. He responded, not at the moment.

Q. Do you help with installation?

A: it's so simple you don't need help. Mounting a camera takes one screw. There's a number to call if you have problems; support is all in the U.S.

Q. What's the range of the hub inside the house?

A: Optimally 300 feet from the hub to the camera. The range is less good in older homes with thick stucco walls. There's an update coming to enable the system to work with a Wi-Fi booster.

The meeting adjourned around 8:40 PM.

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priorities for February 2019

Beat 12Y:

1. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* Bicycles and electric scooters ridden on the sidewalk on College Ave.
2. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* The homeless camp in Frog Park is getting bigger and more troublesome.

Beat 13X:

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

*Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council
normally meets on the SECOND Thursday of even-numbered months.
Next meeting **Thursday, April 11, 2019** at 7:30 PM
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See you there and stay safe!*

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