Greater Rockridge
Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (12Y/13X) Meeting – Minutes
Thursday, October 8, 2026
Rockridge Library and Virtual Meeting via Zoom
General Public: 7:00-8:30 PM

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC):
Michael Ubell – Chair
Parker Monroe - Vice Chair
Eric Neville - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

7:00 – 7:05 PM – Introductions

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:05pm. Fourteen people attended, including Capt. David Burke and seven of his officers. Five citizens also signed in.

After a few minutes while people sat down, Mike introduced the NCPC and the 2 NCPC officers present, himself as chair and Karen Ivy as secretary. He commented on the number of police present and introduced Captain David Burke, area 2 captain, asking for police comments on the area.

7:05 – 7:30 PM – Oakland Police Dept. (OPD) Status Reports, beats 12Y and 13X; Discuss neighborhood issues and problems

Capt. Burke: This is Lt. Fleming is on the second watch watch commander. Other officers introduced themselves: Sergeant Robert Smith, supervisor for NAC; Officer Jimmy Tran, beat officer for 12X/Y; Officer ?, I work with Officer Tran here; Officer ?, the beat 9 officer; Officer ? Lee, Beat 9 officer. <ask Capt. Burke>

Mike Ubell: So, do you have crime stats for us? Or questions?

Officer Tran: I don't have any crime stats, but I've been talking to people on College, and I have a lot of concerns from the College Ave. quarter. I'm aware of the people in the library parking lot, there was an arrest last week. I've been increasing my presence on College Ave., did a couple of stops with Officer Adahard here, and especially between calls, if I have paperwork to do I like to park in front of the library to discourage car break-ins. To discourage auto burglaries, we keep an eye on the freeway on/off ramps, it's the fastest way for car thieves to get away. My presence helps discourage the crimes of opportunity. And if anyone has any questions, I'd be happy to answer.

Brian Guenther: I'm Brian Guenther, I'm the manager of the library. The people in the library are aware of the people in the parking lot for some time now, what should we do about some of their behaviors?

Officer Tran: If you feel you need the cops, call the police and report. Alert us to it. We'll come and see what we can do. I have a huge beat in beat 12, I go from 40th to Telegraph to Broadway. You could just ask for additional patrols. I could swing by, but if you alert us to it, it helps us do our job.

Brian Guenther: If it's a blight issue, what can you charge on?

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Officer Tran: Blocking the sidewalk is one. But it depends on what we find when we get here. And we can do documentation. On this most recent one, I can't talk too much in depth, but it was a domestic incident, and an arrest was made right here in the parking lot.

Mike Ubell: Folks online, you can chime in if you have questions.

Sergeant Smith: Officer Tran hit it on the head, we try to be aware of what's going on and send extra resources when we need to.

Capt. Burke: Whenever you call us, make sure to give us as much detail as possible. Everyone has to certify the stats. Area 2 is West Grand to the Berkeley border and Grand to Emeryville and the Bay Bridge. We see the number of violent crimes going down, when people feel safe. So we look at crime stats, individual stats, and everything else. We still continue to see the decrease in the number of violent crimes within this geographical area. ENT will be working with the people in the parking lot – MACRO and OPD have both been out, they've been offered services. The cardboard pile is growing. We're working on a solution. (Looking at resident) Any Questions?

Brian Guenther: Not this time.

Mike Ubell: We get questions about how and whom to call. They wanted to know if they could get the phone number of the BEAT officer so they could call them when there was a problem, and I said, you know, it doesn't work that way - there isn't one BEAT officer, there are several at different times. I tell them, just call the police.

Capt. Burke: If you have a major issue, call the non-emergency number, it'll get to me and I'll take care of it.

Officer: We see how suspects operate, what they do. Be as specific as possible, we can look for patterns - you are the eyes and ears here. We follow up on small things you mention. Call us and let us deal with it. We need your help. You see folks sitting in a car or sleeping in a van. All of a sudden there's 2 cars, and there's a van and a box truck, you know, and that's how it starts. It starts by small things. And so, if you can help us to see those small things that you recognize. You've probably lived here for more than a year, right? You start seeing this trend, or this, or something that doesn't sit right in the neighborhood, right? Give us a call, let us address it. You'd be surprised, a lot of times that's how we get our robbery suspects, our burglary suspects, right? And folks just hide out in these little encampments.

Karen Ivy: Can I talk about something? We were discussing crime stats. Some of you may know that I do a monthly crime stat report, based on the city's database. I was just working on it yesterday. I noticed that the overall numbers went down, around April or May – May, really - this year. Before that date, the total for both dates came to 80 or over. After that date, the highest total for both beats has been 51 or lower. Something happened around May that meant fewer phone calls coming in. And I don't know what it is, I just know what's there, so I mentioned it.

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Capt. Burke: That really helps. It's a huge help, because that goes in line with the reduction that we're seeing across the board of violent crimes and crimes in general in this area. So that is where the numbers are trending downwards. When we have 77% reduction in burglaries, and most of the part one offenses are dropping, and it's dropping astronomically also, because when we look at what's being affected and what's taking place in in the city at large, Area 2 has the lowest crime rate in the city, the entire city. We work with people in the community. Some areas still have problems. Most of the people who did violent crimes have gone into Santa Rita or some such.

7:30 – 8:00 PM – Speakers: Inspector Zurvohn Maloof, Inspector General of the Oakland Police Commission

Mike Ubell reported the speaker at 7:20pm and most of the officers left the meeting, but Capt. Burke stayed.

Mike Ubell: Inspector General Maloof, do you want to do the slides?

Inspector General Maloof: You can do the slides. I'm the Inspector General for the city, here to talk about what the Inspector General does, and I'm here with my Deputy Inspector General, Charlotte Jones. Today is a great day – the greatest news OPD has had in 23 years - a federal judge says OPD is released from federal oversight. We haven't gotten away from the NSA, but we're free of federal oversight and seeing oversight move to the local police commission, CPRA (Community Police Review Agency) and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). I'll go with the first slide, all about me. I have over 23 years in law enforcement, mostly federal (including FEMA), and have been to law school. I have spent some time as a federal agent in several departments. My focus has been on public corruption, in DOT and the postal service. I retired from federal government and became a Deputy Inspector General at BART; then I came to work for Oakland. Tell me about yourselves.

Resident: I'm Bruce Goldberg. I live right off the block. I've been here for about 20 years. As long as I've been here, I've always known the police department's under some kind of investigation oversight, never really understood it, but I'm really glad to hear that… the news, and I'm really glad to hear that, like, you were kind of…

Resident: Hi, I'm Paul. I've lived most of my life in Berkeley. I worked as an EMT in the health care space, did political advocacy before, and I recently moved to Oakland. Trying to get more involved. I've always been involved in some sort of civic life in some respect, but getting involved with it.

Paula Hawthorn: I'm Mike's wife, I'm married to Michael. We've been here for about 30 years, something like that. I'm one of the people who helped to work for measure LL. Which was the valve measure which instituted the offices Inspector General, and then did the cleanup one, which I think was S1, since the city didn't like the way we did it the 1st time. Or the Office of Inspector General, so… I looked on the institution of the office, and I'm very happy to see someone so qualified for doing it.

Inspector Maloof: Well, thank you very much, and I appreciate all the work that you've done.

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Brian Guenther: I'm the manager here at the Rockridge Branch of the Oakland Public Library. I've been in Oakland for coming up on 14 years. I started out managing branches in the East Oakland - Martin Luther King Branch, and then 81st Avenue. I was in East Oakland for 10 years, and I've been here for the past 3 years.

Resident: My name is Mary and I'm from Rockford, Florida. I've been here for over 60 years, and I'm here because I'm interested in information for me about safety.

Captain Burke: This is my, what, 31st year here in the city of Oakland in law enforcement. Um, before that, I was in the military for a station in Alameda, but, yeah, we moved in here in Oakland, 31 years ago.

Inspector Maloof: Nice.

Mike Ubell: So - Rajni and Raquel, if you want to unmute and introduce yourself, you can. If not, we'll move on.

Charlotte Jones: I'm the Deputy Inspector General. Relatively new to California in general. I've only been here a little less than five years. I'm from Detroit, Michigan, where I've worked in civilian society for over 26 years.

Inspector Maloof: I'm a bay area native, born and raised in San Francisco, all my education was here, from San Francisco to San Jose. Measure S1 created the commission and created my position. The next slide is about constitutional policing – what is that to you? Our mission is to ensure accountability, community trust, and transparency (I like to call it CAT). We do that through our policy reviews, and our audits of OPD's various DGOs(Department General Orders), including of ICE and other groups, and we make them public on our web site, that's how we show transparency. We need to continue ensuring best practices at OPD.

Inspector Maloof: The next slide is about constitutional policing. You can read that, but I wondered, in your thoughts, what is constitutional policing to you, as a citizen? Anyone?

Capt. Burke: I'd say none of us know well enough about our rights, to be protected from harm, and to be protected from the government, and that training to policy is the way we operate as a police force. And we're going top down on training to policy officers.

Inspector Maloof: Anybody else?

Paula Hawthorn: Many of us have been handing out red cards that tell people what their rights are when stopped by ICE. I found that satisfying to do.

Inspector Maloof: I'd like to look at those cards. Right now OPD is having an ad hoc, where they're revising the policy, specifically relating to ICE. I'd like to see where the red cards fit. So, this is my definition of constitutional policing:

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"…Policing conducted within the parameters of the U.S. Constitution, state constitution(s), and federal and state court decisions… *officers respect, value, and uphold the rights and freedoms granted by the U.S. Constitution* and other legal requirements to all the people in this country."

I like to talk about not just the Fourth Amendment and so on, but several court cases governing constitutional or federal issues. One of them says that what the police do must be *objectively reasonable.* My definition is where the police are objectively reasonable – but to who?

Resident: To an average person?

Inspector Maloof: No - reasonable to *another officer in that same position*. That's how they'd qualify a decision as objectively reasonable. That's *Graham vs. O'Connor*. Another big case, *Scott V. Harris*, covered whether deadly force is excessive or not. *Tennesee vs. Gartner* also deals with deadly force. *Terry vs. Ohio* covers stop and frisk, whether the police can be allowed to stop you. In *Weeks vs. US* there's an exclusionary rule, this excludes evidence when it's obtained in violation of a person's constitutional rights. Next slide.

The first slide, covering Oversight in Oakland, is now obsolete, because the *independent federal monitor* left once OPD officially complied with the NSA. Which just happened today. Next slide.

The Oakland Police Commission acts as an umbrella. Office of Inspector General monitors policies and procedures. Then you have an investigative arm, which is civilian investigators - the Community Police Review Agency investigates misconduct or compliance, parallel with OPD's investigations. The OIG audits both OPD and the CPRA and how they handle investigations. If they agree, the chief makes a decision; if they disagree on any investigation, the decision goes to the commissioners. Next slide.

The Police Commission is composed of adult (18 or over) Oakland residents. It reviews OPD policies related to the NSA and makes the final decision on conflicting disciplinary findings.

OIG monitors misconduct investigations and processes, including Skelly hearings. A Skelly hearing is where an officer has violated rules, and the chief has assigned a discipline. At the Skelly hearing the officer can appeal – a successful appeal means the discipline can be mitigated. OIG conducts performance audits; we aren't auditing the salary issues that recently came up. The city auditor does those. In our performance audits we try to determine: were goals met? Were resources used properly? Could there be improvements? We also do investigative reviews of the CPRA. Next slide.

OIG is authorized under city charter section 604, that's our jurisdiction. We looked at DGO-01, to review how OPD handles people with mental illness. We gave several recommendations. We try to ensure that separate investigations (by OIG, by OPD, and by CPRA) are truly independent. We always give the audited entity the ability to review the recommendations. We did a policy review on DGO-I-25 on unmanned aerial system (drones), and recommended revisions to the policy (not just the drones but the Flock cameras). We also include *considerations* for issues. Once we reviewed high-speed pursuits.

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Resident: The drone stuff on the right – is that something that was just hot? Did something that happened cause it? I'm glad someone is reviewing these things before things just happen.

Inspector Maloof: Excellent question. It is why I'm here right now, because a lot of times what we do is what we go out to the community and we get suggestions. Later on today, I'm going to ask you guys if you have any concerns about any policies that OPD has. And if you have that concern, once I have my resources, we put that in consideration. I call the commissioners, we talk about it, and then we decide, okay, this is a hot topic, or this is a major concern within the community.

We're always looking at active policies and procedures. We're currently reviewing 6 NSA tasks to ensure continued compliance. Right now we're in process of reviewing a series of tasks in the NSA: tasks 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13. We started to do 34, but we decided to take 34 off the list and focus on the other tasks. So we've currently got a request for proposal for an audit firm to come in and assist us with doing this.

We'll also audit the CPRA's audit processes, on how they handle discrimination allegation closures. So we're going to be not only doing the NSA audit, but we're also auditing CPRA's investigative practices and how they're closing discrimination complaints.

Resident: What is 13?

Inspector Maloof: It's a document of a Pitchess response.

Paula Hawthorn: What's a Pitchess Response?

Captain Burke: It's based on a case. [*Ed. Note:* Under California law, a *Pitchess* motion is a request made by a criminal defendant's legal counsel to access an arresting officer's personnel file. This is typically done to see if the officer has a history of misconduct, falsifying reports, or using excessive force, which could be relevant to the defense.]

Inspector Maloof: Just to clarify, for the discrimination allegation audit that we're planning, it's also OPD's processes regarding that. It's not just CPRA, but to see how OPD and CPRA are handling discrimination. And we're auditing processes for discrimination complaints. We also use a tracker app that reviews what OPD did with OIG's recommendations. We have a new tracker app to follow up on OIG recommendations.

Inspector Maloof: We work on community engagement, it's a big thing. It's what I'm doing now. On the first Thursday of every month, people can ask for an appointment to discuss specific policies and procedures. Oakland OIG is on social media, on Instagram, Twitter [*Ed. Note:* X], LinkedIn, and Facebook. Our email address is *oig@oaklandca.gov.* We go out, we have what we call siblings and oversight, and we work with Public Ethics, the City Auditor, and the Inspector General, and coincidentally, you have the City Auditor, Michael Houston, right there. This is me right here, and this is the person that worked for Ethics. So at that point, we set a booth up, and we give information to people in Oakland – information like,

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What is the difference between the city auditor and inspector general? What's the difference between inspector general, public ethics? And we give out information. So we also have our first Thursday program, the first Thursday of every month.

[*Ed. Note:* At this point he offered a QR code for people to register for First Thursday, and mentioned that copies of his presentation were available in the back of the room.]

Inspector Maloof: That concludes my presentation.

Mike Ubell: Police staffing is always an issue; do you audit that? You know how many police officers we have. Also, I think, how they're allocated. People always have questions about that. Is that something that you might audit at some point?

Inspector Maloof: We recently did a staffing study, paid for by the city council. It mentioned how many officers OPD should have, and what should happen. That staffing study was in conjunction with PFM. Their study mentioned how many officers OPD should have and where they should be, and whether or not certain of them should be civilianized or not. It was an 80-page staffing study, I think, that was issued May of 2025.

Resident: What's PFM?

Inspector Maloof: That's the name of a firm. We did a study. FM is a consulting firm that was contracted by City Council with the OIG as overseeing the contract.

Resident: Where can I find that study?

Inspector Maloof: It is posted on our website.

Paula Hawthorn: How many people did you lose on the last budget?

Inspector Maloof: We ideally should have had 3 auditors, a policy analyst and a PIO. My auditor positions were eliminated and frozen, my PIO was transferred, and my policy review was eliminated as well. Mayor Lee has promised oversight, we hope some of the money will come to us, because right now we're "out of compliance" per the city auditor (because we have no auditors).

Paula Hawthorn: Do we have any dates? Do you just wait till next budget?

Inspector Maloof: We have no specific dates. I talked to the chair (Chair of the Oakland Police Commission), they're talking about a budget for us, which we need. So there were five letters, statements written in to the court, and all five discussed giving resources to the commissioners, specifically the Inspector General's office. Mayor Lee promised resources to oversight. So we're hoping that that oversight includes independent oversight. I think the city attorney's statement also mentioned giving resources. A lot of letters talked about giving resources. So we're optimistic that our office will receive the resources that we desperately need, so that we're in compliance with the charter, the ordinance, and the city auditor as

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well, because the city auditor did find us out of compliance, because to be in compliance we must do an audit, and because we do not do an audit because we don't have any auditors.

Resident: where does OIG report to the city structure?

Inspector Maloof: We're considered "independent." I report to all 7 Police Commissioners (who are civilians).

Resident: Crime is a problem everywhere; everything I've read is it's dropping everywhere. Lots of trained criminologists can't really figure out exactly why, blah, blah, blah, blah. But it seems like there are some things that universally seem to work everywhere that we'd like to call best practices. But why don't all big cities, and just use this one example, adopt all five best practices, whether they're prevention or this or that? It seems like everybody wants the same.

Inspector Maloof: People argue that Oakland is uniquely different, and our policies should align. We hear the same thing from officers from New Orleans. We will compare our area with "like cities." Not San Francisco? We considered Long Beach. But we want to be unique. The biggest thing right now is the ICE policy; OPD is listening.

Resident: Of course everyone's somewhat different; there's always some reason.

Inspector Maloof: Thank you all for your time.

Parker Monroe: <on Zoom> I just got back, but it sounded good.

Mike Ubell: I guess we're done.

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priorities for October 2026

Beat 12Y:

1. *Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council Priority:* Car break-ins on College Ave., especially in the library parking lot.

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, December 10, 2026** at 7:00 PM*
Rockridge Library and virtual meeting
Zoom link is available at https://rockridgencpc.com, NEXT NCPC MEETING

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