

**Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) – Minutes**  
**Thursday, December 10, 2015**  
**Rockridge Library, College & Manila**  
**General Public: 7:30-9:00PM**

**NCPC:**

Michael Ubell – Chair  
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair  
Molly Singer - Treasurer  
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:40 PM. The Community Resource Officers (CROs) were unable to attend. The NCPC vice chair and treasurer also did not attend. Mike announced that the NCPC treasurer is resigning and we need a new treasurer. We have a small amount of money in a bank account, and the city says they will fund the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils again if they can figure out the details. If you have priorities we can pass them on to the officers.

**Neighborhood Issues**

A resident of the College Point area complained about the lack of lighting on the west side of Broadway, north of the art store. Visibility is very poor, and they've had at least one mugging and some holdups. She's very concerned about the lack of lighting.

Chris Jackson of Rockridge District Association suggested she file a SeeClickFix report and the city will come out and do an analysis to see if they need to add a streetlight. They will add one if their algorithm supports it.

*Issue:* The Broadway traffic light at College Point is too short, it doesn't allow enough time for slow walking pedestrians. A resident commented that the intersection will be changed due to the Safeway rebuild, so it's unlikely the city will do much with it now.

Chris Jackson suggested we make the Frog Park area a priority. There have been multiple complaints about homeless camps around the park; there's a camper there in a tent, and there was a brawl there the night of December 9. There are new campers, there's a mentally ill person hanging out, these are all recent problems. Officer Hutzol knows about it. Mike Ubell noted the camper has been there for 3 months, and suggested this isn't a new issue. The group made no changes in the NCPC priorities.

[Ed. Note: after consideration, the NCPC board has decided to make the Frog Park homeless encampments a priority for beat 12Y.]

A resident said that businesses have called OPD for help and gotten zero response. She also noted that the Chabot Road homeless encampment is near the middle school, and the kids walk near it.

**Crime Statistics, beat 12Y**

Patricia Rose, our Neighborhood Services Coordinator, reported the crime statistics for November-December 2015, with some comparative numbers for last year. Officer Hutzol gave her the numbers as he couldn't attend.

**IMPORTANT RESOURCES:**

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com

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She also gave robbery statistics for north Oakland (area 2) and the city as a whole.

<b>Crime, beat 12Y</b>	<b>Nov. – Dec. 2015</b>	<b>Nov. – Dec. 2014</b>	<b>YTD 2015</b>	<b>YTD 2014</b>
Robberies	2	4	30	38
Burglary, Auto	16	18	172	124
Burglary, Commercial	0	2	14	24
Burglary, Residential	4	11	81	61
Motor vehicle theft	7	13	69	94

<b>Robberies</b>	<b>Nov. – Dec. 2015</b>	<b>Nov. – Dec. 2014</b>	<b>YTD 2015</b>	<b>YTD 2014</b>
Area 2 (north Oakland)	45	38	396	415
Citywide	246	379	2905	3296

### **Crime Statistics, Beat 13X**

There was no one present from beat 13X. Patricia Rose gave these numbers for the beat for 12 November 2015-10 December 2015:

- 4 Residential Burglaries
- 1 Attempted Burglary
- 2 Stolen vehicles

### **Robert Prinz, Bike East Bay**

Robert Prinz is the Education Director of [Bike East Bay](http://oaklandbikes.info), a free bike education program offered in both East Bay counties. He lives in the Santa Fe neighborhood, and volunteers on Oakland’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, as the representative from city council district 1. He regularly attends community meetings to see what people are concerned about. Commission meetings are public, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at city hall. If you’re interested in the agenda, go to <http://oaklandbikes.info>. People can sign up to get commission agendas by email; you can also email him with questions at [robert@bikeeastbay.org](mailto:robert@bikeeastbay.org). He brought several information cards and handed them around – they listed basic safety tips for bicyclists (on one side) and for drivers around bikes (on the other side). Bike East Bay offers a list of upcoming classes, all free, and all certified by the League of American Bicyclists. They work with grade school children, and also with adults, starting with adult learn-to-ride classes, and urban cycling basics. They give away reflective vests. Bike

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East Bay runs the biggest bike education program in the country. He said there will be a bike rodeo if it doesn't rain tomorrow (that would have been Friday Dec. 11).

In 2015 Bike East Bay successfully lobbied to change the state vehicle code to allow bicycle traffic school programs for people who get moving violations when riding bikes: they can either pay the fine, or get the fine reduced by taking the class. People breaking the law when riding a bike are often scared, not confident, or both; education will make them more confident and hopefully more law-abiding (details at [www.BikeEastBay.org/BikeTrafficSchool](http://www.BikeEastBay.org/BikeTrafficSchool)).

A resident complained that she sees bicycle riders on the sidewalk on College Avenue *all* the time, and she never sees them get tickets. Mr. Prinz responded that they do get tickets, but not necessarily every time.

Chris Jackson reported that a group of residents are petitioning the city to put up signage, saying no bicycles on the sidewalk. Mr. Prinz said he can put the group in touch with some people working on this. They're also working on signs warning drivers to check for incoming bicycles before opening car doors.

A resident asked if there's any way to keep people off certain streets. Telegraph at 51<sup>st</sup> is no place for a bicycle, especially one ridden by a child.

Mr. Prinz: there's no legal distinction among streets, bicyclists can legally use any street. Telegraph Avenue has a lot of destinations, so using it is more efficient, and safer at night because of better lighting than on side streets. The city is doing well with its route finding signage, pointing people to designated bike routes and alternatives to busier streets. Some streets now get more bike traffic because of this. The more bicyclists on the street, the safer everyone is.

Q: Do bike manufacturers ask for feedback from your group?

Mr. Prinz: Not very often, but they are working on testing a couple of gadgets.

Bike East Bay also works on bicycle theft prevention, in partnership with BART. They set up tables at BART stations, all over the system, advertising secure bicycle parking at BART. BART reports bicycle thefts are down 25% from 2014 to 2015, probably due to secure BART parking. But they see more bikes stolen from houses. They also talk to people about securing bikes at home. All Bike East Bay workshops can be scheduled for your local group (Neighborhood Watch, church group, or whatever), just email the organization to set it up.

Upcoming developments in Rockridge and city council District 1:

- There will be a bike route on Claremont, it's still being designed.
- Both College and Telegraph will have bike routes eventually (probably not until 2017).

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- The “Complete Streets” project will increase bike *and* pedestrian safety issues and transit.

He left handouts for people to look at and take. The plans are very confusing right now. Mayor Schaaf hopes to develop a city Dept. of Transportation to centralize management.

There are two big opportunities coming up:

This year, the city will work on its Pedestrian Master Plan, looking at what improvements need to be prioritized over the next 5 years. There will be an update on that at next Thursday’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting.

Next year, the city will do the same thing with Bicycle Master Plan.

Q: Are people in wheelchairs considered pedestrians? On garbage day the Waste Management people leave the empty cans on the sidewalks, it’s very hard for pedestrians in wheelchairs to get around them.

Mr. Prinz: Yes, they are considered pedestrians, and this needs work. There's a separate commission on People with Disabilities, he'll mention this issue to them.

### **North Oakland Restorative Justice, Malachi**

Malachi from the [North Oakland Restorative Justice Council](#) asked for time to announce a new project, which they hope to expand. There’ve been 88 homicides and 5-6 police shootings in Oakland this year, more than last year at this time. There's good work being done but we need more innovative approaches. The leading cause of death for African Americans aged 14 – 34 is homicide.

One of the North Oakland Restorative Justice Council’s goals is to reduce homicides. Most young people who are involved in crime *have* a guardian (mother, father, or other relative) at home, and they sleep at home with them. The guardian, especially the mothers, may not know how to deal with the child who has problem behaviors. Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth, and the North Oakland Restorative Justice Council, plan to hold a community forum in January, inviting the mothers of children in trouble out to talk to people from the council and community members, to offer support. They would like to create a circle of support and accountability among the parents and children, to include respected community members.

They also want to understand turf conflict, and try to resolve the conflicts, to reduce violence. There is no date for the forum yet, but Malachi will provide details as they emerge.

Q: Who is invited to the forum?

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A: Strategically, families with children with problem behaviors, *and* mentors who will be part of the circle process.

Q: Do you have a site for the forum?

A: We're working on that, we plan to talk to Dan Kalb.

### **Glen Bell, Oakland Private Industry Council**

The [Oakland Private Industry Council](#) is a one-stop career center, providing workforce development services to employers and job seekers in the City of Oakland and Alameda County. It is funded by a number of different sources, one of which is Oakland's Measure Z. OPIC serves all different kinds of job seekers including those who are dislocated workers (they have lost their jobs) and reentry folks, as well as veterans. They work with employers who lay off large groups of workers due to the economy or downsizing. They also handle large on-site-recruitments for new and established companies in Oakland such as Target.

The program operated by OPIC for Measure Z is the [Oakland Unite](#) program. Mr. Bell is the program's employment service specialist (formerly case manager). He works with the highest risk, hardest-to-serve young adults, including probationers. OPIC serves about 1 out of every 10 Oakland probationers. The program provides youth services, crisis intervention, and re-entry employment training and placement services. The wrap-around services often take the form of remediation – such as when a client needs an education component (many of the program's participants are drop-outs). The goal of the Oakland Unite program is to develop skill sets leading to long-term employment; this greatly reduces the return to crime and develops personal character. While the OPIC one-stop career center serves anyone, it has been especially effective on crime reduction.

Less than 23% of participants in PIC's reentry programs are rearrested and the percentage goes down dramatically the longer a client stays in the program. Of those who are rearrested, it is generally not for a violent crime, even if the client has a history of violent crime. Over the last program year, the Oakland Unite program placed 54 people in jobs, people who did not have great work histories. 49 of those placed maintained work for more than 30 days and a number of them maintained steady employment for 90 or 180 days, which is much better than average for reentry youth. OPIC takes a wraparound approach to reducing crime through employment training and placement. Some program clients are lost, but the majority of the participants are in some way changed and some are even "saved." The Oakland Unite website has success stories. Fortunately, OPIC has been re-funded under the Oakland Unite program for the next three years.

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**Schedule Change for 2016**

Mike Ubell announced that, starting in 2016, the Greater Rockridge NCPC will only meet in even-numbered months, still on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. With one possible exception, which we'll publicize if it happens, we'll continue to meet in the Rockridge Library conference room.

**NCPC Priorities for November 2015**

Under new OPD rules, each beat is allowed a single priority, instead of the previous 3; and new priorities must be *identifiable* and *measurable*. CROs will also work on a *Crime project* and *from time to time* (?) a *Call reduction project* for the beat. Remember that 12Y and 13X are only part of beats 12 and 13.

**12Y:**

1. *NCPC Priority*: Homeless encampments in and around Frog Park.
2. *Crime Project*: High visibility vehicle patrols on College Avenue between Broadway and Claremont
3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

**13X:**

1. *NCPC Priority*: No current priority.
2. *Crime Project*: none at present.
3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

*NCPC meetings are normally the SECOND Thursday of even-numbered months.*  
*Next NCPC meeting is **Thursday, February 11, 2016** at 7:30 PM*  
*Rockridge Library, College & Manila*  
*See you there and stay safe!*

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