

Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) - Minutes
Thursday, May 14, 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

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present were Michael Ubell, Molly Singer and Barbara Minton, officers of the NCPC; Patricia Rose, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, and Officer A. Hutzol, OPD, CRO (Community Resource Officer) for beats 12X and 12Y. Other attendees introduced themselves. Thirteen people attended.

Citizen Input to Priorities

When school is out there is a spike in petty crime. What are OPD plans to address this?

We see smashed car windows on Broadway every morning. One car got its windows smashed on Golden Gate.

Do you have any information about the burglary on Brookside?

There is some speeding in Beat 13X needs looking into.

Locksley Break-ins

Officer Hutzol responded:

The Locksley residential burglaries increased through April. Not home invaders, just burglars. We noticed Locksley had become a hot spot. I walked around on Locksley 4 or 5 blocks and tried to figure out why crime was occurring here. I noticed few burglar alarms, and lots of foliage for hiding places. I saw several iPads and MacBooks open, or charging on kitchen tables, etc. Many people here don't want to install cameras, bars, etc. We stepped up surveillance in the area. We noticed a suspicious vehicle, which turned out to be a stolen vehicle with firearms inside. We spent more time walking the beat. Now the hot spot is gone. From 4/27 to the present, 0 burglaries were reported in 12Y, but we saw a corresponding increase in crime in Temescal.

We have had to focus on violent crimes, which has resulted in the decriminalization of property crimes. Now we need to focus on the property crimes.

Several cars have had their wheels stolen recently – a Mercedes, and a car that may have been an Acura or a Honda. There's a lot of that in East Oakland, but it's fairly rare around here. Wheel locks are a must to prevent this.

Q: Do you know who these guys are?

A: There are a couple of crews, but it's also transients, who break stuff to pay for their habits.

Q: What about the transient who assaulted a resident?

A: We took him into custody. This month he was back at the same house. We arrested him again and he was remanded to custody.

OPD Reports beat 12Y

From April 9-May 14, there were 10 residential burglaries (9 on Locksley), and 33 auto burglaries. There were 3 attempted strong arm robberies, and 2 successful ones. There were 9 stolen vehicles, almost all at the new Safeway, which is open 24 hours. Almost all happened late at night.

There's been a landmark decrease in personal crime – almost a 75% decrease over last year.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RockridgeNCPC/>
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Q: Did the kill switch on iPhones have anything to do with this?

A. I'm not sure. It probably would take time to show up as an effect. They still want wallets, credit cards, IDs, etc.

Q: How about laptops?

A. Laptops are now considered grand theft. Prop. 47 almost decriminalizes shop lifting.

Stats compared to last year: Last year we had 24 residential burglaries, this year, 46. We went from 17 robberies last year to 6 this year. Some changes were for the better, some for worse.

Crimes, Beat 12Y	Latest month	This period last year
Robberies	6	17
Auto burglaries	33	14
Stolen vehicles	9	15
Residential/ Commercial burglaries	46	24

We have only 3 people in the whole city to investigate burglaries.

OPD Reports beat 13X

No report in the absence of Officer Jurgens.

Neighborhood issues

Hutzol: The cameras in Temescal parking lot are not very good. They don't help at all with prosecuting. It is an overflow parking lot for all the restaurants around there. People park and leave stuff in their cars to run in and pick up food.

Q: What about the cameras out here (pointing towards street intersection)?

A: Those were paid for by the 51 project, aimed at timing traffic signals to ease congestion.

We are trying to get Trader Joe's to put in cameras, but they have a policy against putting them in unless required by the city. Please write in and ask Trader Joe's to put cameras in. Nestle installed 18 new cameras after having 21 cars broken into in their lot.

Break-ins in the library parking lot are still going on, but there was only one this week, thanks to increased enforcement.

Hutzol: We're working on the car break-ins, but we won't be able to sustain the effort forever. Some criminals ride around on BART, get off and go "shopping," then hop back on BART and get away.

Hutzol: I've got a question. Does anyone else want those bikes to stop at stop signs?

A: Yes! Also please continue to cite bikes on sidewalks.

Q: Is *Find My iPhone* the reason iPhone thefts are down, because officers can use it to search cars?

A: It's a reasonable suspicion, but it's not probable cause to search. GPS is not accurate enough by itself. We have to look for other reasons to search a vehicle, such as smelling weed, being in a stolen car, etc.

Q: If one block doesn't want crime prevention stuff, can another block go ahead and get it? Is

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there funding for that?

A: Yes, you can have an officer come and look over your block, and tell you what you can do to make your house safer.

A resident commented that the city has put in new lights all over, but now has reduced tree trimming, so the lights are less effective. People can pay to have trees trimmed at their own expense.

Chris Jackson of Rockridge District Association noted that Public Works will trim trees if lights are blocked and the blockage can be linked to crime increase.

Priorities

There were no changes in priority in either beat for May.

Announcement

The Neighborhood Services Coordinator, Patricia Rose, announced the following events:

OPD Open House tomorrow (Friday, May 15), 4-6 PM, entertainment, food, etc.

Oakland Crime Summit, Saturday, June 6, Laney College, 9AM – 12PM. Workshops on crime in the city, Chief Whent and Mayor Schaaf's visions for Oakland, CeaseFire, etc.

Meeting adjourned.

NCPC Priorities for May 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*. PSOs 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*: No current priority.
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*: Speeding auto traffic up and down Lawton above Broadway.
2. *Crime Project*: none at present.
3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

NCPC meetings are normally the SECOND Thursday of the month.

*Next NCPC meeting is **Thursday, July 9, 2015** at 7:30 PM
Rockridge Library, College & Manila*

See you there and stay safe!

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