

Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) - Minutes
Thursday, August 14, 2014
Rockridge Library, College and Manila, Oakland
General Public: 7:00-8:30PM

NCPC:

Michael Ubell – Chair (pending formal election)
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair
Molly Singer - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

Note from the Secretary: The minutes this month are not as complete as I usually try to make them. I was bitten by a dog on my way to dinner before the monthly meeting, and the necessary trip to the emergency room made me about 20 minutes late. I found the meeting progressing with attendees standing in the library entry way and Ms. Minton trying to take notes without a surface to write on. – Karen Ivy, Secretary

Thirteen people attended the meeting. Mike Ubell and Molly Singer were unable to attend.

OPD Status Report, beat 12Y

Crimes reported for beat 12Y over the last 30 days:

<i>Crime</i>	<i>Last 30 days</i>	<i>Same period last year</i>
Robbery	6	11
Residential burglary	5	10
Vehicle theft	8	6
Auto burglary	14	12

On August 13 there was a burglary on Lawton, the residents came home and saw the suspects. They called OPD who located the suspects near the DMV offices on Claremont. One suspect is in custody, one got away.

The NCPC was recently asked to make bicyclists riding on the sidewalk an official priority. We've heard this complaint before, but this was a formal request from the Rockridge District Association. In order to gather data on the extent of the problem, the NCPC asked citizens to take time to sit and tally the number of bicyclists riding on the sidewalk, especially near the BART station and especially during commute hours. Specifically, Karen Ivy sat and observed the morning commute on Monday August 1 from 7:23 to 8:37 AM, and Barbara Minton observed the afternoon commute from 4:57 to 5:50 PM on Wednesday August 13. We also got single reports from other citizens of sidewalk riders observed during ordinary trips on College, but no report from a single trip recorded more than 2 sidewalk riders.

Two observations are not enough for a firm conclusion, but some patterns emerged: during commute hours, a large number of bicyclists ride up onto the sidewalk and on into the BART station, dismounting only when they reach either the bike racks or the staircase. In the morning, the "large number" was 42% of observed bicycle trips. In the afternoon, it was 47%. The total number of bicycle trips observed during both sessions was about the same: 77 trips in the morning, 78 in the evening, of which some number just under half were riding on the sidewalk among pedestrians. Since the morning observation was about 15 minutes longer than the evening observation but saw almost the same number of bicycle trips, we think the traffic issue is worse during the afternoon commute. If you are interested in the details of what has been reported, email secretary@rockridgencpc.org and we'll send you a copy; paper printouts were distributed at the meeting.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RockridgeNCPC/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RockridgeNeighborhoodWatchNetwork/>

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The NCPC and officers present discussed what constitutes a priority after a recent rule change. Officer Trode said that priorities can be assigned based on what the public wants, as well as what's feasible. Karen Ivy noted that the Rockridge District Association and the Rockridge Community Planning Council are collaborating to put up "no bicycle riding on the sidewalk" signs on College Avenue. Officer Trode said that OPD recently did an enforcement operation on bicycles on the sidewalk. They didn't issue tickets, but talked to people about the law. They can do more of that from time to time. Some people clearly don't understand the law. It's also understood that people ride on the sidewalk because the street isn't safe. Officer Trode pointed out that the BART station area is outside Oakland Police's jurisdiction. Bike riders just rolling across the sidewalk into the BART plaza may be in BART's jurisdiction. The NCPC decided to add bicycles riding on the sidewalk in and around the BART stations as a priority for August.

A resident asked about jurisdiction over homeless encampments: how do we know if a camp is on CalTrans property? If it's on a freeway sidewall or directly under the freeway, it's CalTrans. Karen Ivy pointed out that CalTrans has a web link where you can directly report homeless camps (as well as graffiti and other issues) on CalTrans property. The link is on our web site on the page about *Resources > Graffiti Issues*. Here is the link for reference:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/maint/msrsubmit/>

A resident asked if we have seen any of the usual spikes in crime when school is out, so far this year? Officer Trode said he hasn't noticed an increase. Enforcement has increased – there are more officers on the street. Also, community involvement is way up, especially in beat 13 – people call in incidents and suspicious persons. That helps a lot.

In a brief discussion of neighborhood safety, the officers emphasized that residents should know their neighbors, and turn their porch lights on at night.

A new resident asked what projects have been successful. Officer Trode responded that this area doesn't have the gang activity, the drug dealing, the problem bars that disturb some other parts of Oakland. Here it's mostly quality of life issues – homeless camps, noisy bars.

Neighborhood Service Coordinator Announcements

Patricia Rose announced two upcoming events:

- Oakland Creek-To-Bay Day, Saturday, September 20, 2014 – join thousands of volunteers to clean and beautify Oakland's creeks, shorelines and Lake Merritt.
www.oaklandcreektobay.org
- Meet the new chairman of the Citizens Police Review Board, Thursday, August 21, 2014.
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Allen Temple Baptist Church, 8501 International.

NCPC Priorities for August 2014

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*: Monitor bicyclists riding on sidewalks on College Avenue, especially around BART stations.
2. *Crime Project*: High visibility vehicle patrols on College Avenue between Broadway and Claremont

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3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

13X:

1. *NCPC Priority*: Traffic issues in the area around Broadway Terrace/Harbord/Clarewood, near the Village Market.
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, September 11, 2014** at 7:00 PM
Rockridge Library Community Room, College & Manila

See you there and stay safe!

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