

Crime & Safety Task Force
Monday, June 27, 2016
6pm
Whittier Alliance

Attendees: Christine Popowski, Michael Malone, Ray Perry, Paul Shanafelt, Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams, Andy Lindgren, Brian Foster, Lisa Dubbels, Kenya Weathers, Sgt. Kris Brown - MPD, Lt. Calvin Noble - Park Police

● **Sgt. Kris Brown, MPD - Whittier Bike Patrol Representative**

● Synopsis of program - maneuverability and community engagement is key. The officers keep a log and submit highlights/photos. Bike officers are approachable. Sgt. Brown has been on bike patrol for 15 years and is temporarily running the Whittier program while Lt. Anderson is away on vacation. Bike patrol funded by NRP funds.

● Q: What can we do to maximize bike patrol? A: program is unique because the officers will be here as long as there is funding from Whittier Alliance. Looking for officers who are going to be most effective.

● Q: What's the difference between beat cop and patrol cop? A: all officers have same set of skills from training. Patrol officers respond to 911 calls while beat officers interact more with a specific district in addition to responding to calls w/in district. 5th Pct. will be receiving 3 new officers from the academy.

● Q: What has the Whittier Bike Patrol seen so far? A: doing a lot of alley sweeps, business checks. Stats: 57 directed patrols, 38 business checks, and 18 alley sweeps so far. Mock tags are placed on cars leaving valuables in open.

● Patrol Location - current hotspots: Franklin & Nicollet, 24th & Nicollet, 26th to Lake between Blaisdell and Grand, Clinton Field Park area by the sound wall. Other locations recommended by group: alleys that run along Nicollet south of 26th St., Blaisdell & Lake.

● **Lt. Calvin Noble, Mpls Park Police**

● Kenya invited Lt. Noble to address concerns at Whittier parks, specifically Washburn Fair Oaks park. Kenya was interested in hiring park police bike patrol for Whittier. Kenya will draft proposal to ask WA Board to approve additional patrol from park police. Chelsea indicated that we could propose additional MPD bike patrol for parks as opposed to park police, which only offers buyback program.

Motion: The task force supports exploring a buyback agreement for extra security with Mpls Park Police to patrol Whittier parks. Motion passes 6-0-1.

● **Chelsea Adams, Crime Prevention Specialist, Minneapolis Police Department – 5th Precinct**

● Whittier crime updates (April 20-June 27)

-Chelsea went over selected reports. Detailed robbery of a mother and infant in stroller. Two males held knife to throat and pushed stroller to the ground. Victims not injured. Corner of 1st & 27th. Bike patrol helped arrest ROBPAG suspect at Washburn Fair Oaks Park at 5:10pm on 6/18. 6 of 8 noted business/dwelling burglaries were unforced entries.

● Chelsea mentioned that National Night Out is occurring on Tuesday, August 2.

- Bike with a Cop - new program starting on northside where kids 10-14 can bike around neighborhood with cops.
- Safe summer nights party - Tues, Aug 23rd. Free food and beverages.
- Problem/nuisance properties - no updates at this time. If there needs to be a focus on a particular address, send to Chelsea and new MPD nuisance property group will respond.

- **Block Leader + Group Updates**

Restorative justice & Whittier Walkers - Christine Popowski

- Christine stated that she would take over for the now-departed Heather Cram as head of Whittier Walkers (scheduling, recruiting, promotion). Walkers need more people.
- Restorative justice used for misdemeanor offenders to make plan for rehabilitation. Christine will send out more info to those interested.

- *Block Leaders*

- Lisa has handled a fireworks issue on the 2600 block of Blaisdell. She also mentioned a house near 27th & Pillsbury that is housing multiple L3 sex offenders. The lease states two L3 offenders living there currently, but Lisa has noticed more offenders coming and going. She also states offenders hang around bus stops in mornings and afternoons during kid summer camp pickup/dropoff. CPS Adams has been notified, but nothing is violating lease agreement at this time. Lisa has an issue not with them living there, but with the lack of monitoring. Chelsea suggested hosting a block meeting and inviting landlord.

Q: How many L2 and L3 sex offenders live in Whittier? A: Four L3, can't disclose info on L2.

Chelsea recommends talking to Jamie Keiffer for sex offender-related issues.

- Andy mentioned creating a Crime & Safety task force facebook page.

- **Kenya Weathers, Block Leader**

- Whittier safety survey update - tabled discussion for next meeting.

- **Action Items**

- Task Force next steps
- Next Meeting - **Monday, July 18 at 6pm.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Paul Shanafelt

