

**CITY OF FONTANA
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

TO: All attendees of Area 2 Center
FROM: Orbelio Rodriguez, Lieutenant
DATE: July 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Community Meeting Minutes of July 24, 2008

Sergeant Morris

- Introductions
- Advised Lt. Rodriguez was unable to be at the meeting because he had to leave due to an emergency, so he is filling in.
- Advised Lt. Rodriguez is currently the Area Commander for the area of Foothill to the 210 freeway. Advised the City is broken up into four beats. Beat one is everything north of the 210 freeway. Beat two is from the 210 freeway to Foothill. Beat three is from Foothill to the 10 freeway, and Beat four is everything south of the 10 freeway. Advised this area is in Beat two and if you have any problems feel free to give Lt. Rodriguez a call at 356-7142 or email him at orodriguez@fontana.org.
- Calls for Service from June 1st to July 24th there were 1603 traffic stops, 264 pedestrian checks, 221 wireless 911 calls, 211 party calls, 112 warrant arrests, 94 other arrests, and 31 vehicle burglaries.
- A lot of vehicle burglaries are occurring at 24 Hour Fitness because people leave their wallets, purses and other personal property in their vehicle while they go and work out.
- Another big problem we are having in the city is metal theft. People are breaking into A/C units and are stealing the cooper wire. The price of cooper has gone up and we are currently working with the recycling companies to get the suspects identified when they bring in stolen cooper.
- There was a problem at the Park and Ride where they were stealing catalytic converters, however that has slowed down a bit.

Paul Balbach-Engineering

- Advised the Engineering Department has got several complaints concerning there is not enough parking because of the bike lanes on Walnut. Advised Engineering has looked into the problem and has come up with a solution. The north side of Walnut will be marked no parking and the south side will be posted with no stopping. No stopping means no stopping. No parking means you can stop just as long as you stay in your vehicle. Advised if you have to go into the office at the school you will have to park somewhere else.

- We need to educate people about the changes. If you still don't have enough parking after the changes are made you can park on Hemlock, there is plenty of parking on Hemlock.
- Advised most of the cars aren't left there all day. We will contact the school district when they come back and we will meet with them.

THE ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT REFLECT ACTIONS TAKEN

Concerns of Area 2 Center residents

- Advised she noticed one of the boxes they worked on didn't have a lock on it and she is unsure if it's telephone or electric. It's on the west side of the street on Beech just south of Walnut. *Sgt. Morris advised he will check it out after the meeting.*
- Advised AT&T has been doing a lot of service in the area so it could be one of their boxes.
- Asked how they can keep up houses and make them look like they are not vacant. *Bob Crosby from Code Compliance advised with distressed properties we are having a good response from banks. Advised the banks know they can't sell the property until it meets the curb appeal standards and that would give the home the appearance that someone lives there. If you see vacant houses please call Code Compliance so they can look into them. The banks are starting to turn on the utilities and turning on the sprinklers. The city has so many vacant houses it is sometimes hard to keep up with them so make sure you call to report them.*
- Asked what the phone number is to call to report the vacant homes? *Bob Crosby advised its 909-350-7686, leave your name, the address of the problem house and you're phone number if you would like to be contacted.*
- Asked what the time frame is if the house has broken windows etc. *Bob Crosby advised usually a week to two to get the windows replaced, however to get the brown grass green again that's going to be a little longer.*
- On Moffet Ave and Earhart there are trees growing over the sidewalk. *Eric Garwick with Public Works advised trees can hang over sidewalks 8 feet and 13 feet over streets however all are required to be watered and trimmed back. Eric advised he will look into it.*
- Advised he has noticed there are a lot of commercial trucks driving on Beech trying to get to the 210. *Sgt. Morris advised it might be due to the construction in the area, however we will send our commercial enforcement officer out and if they are in violation he will get them. Starting within a month there will be some trucks on S. Highland Ave. They are connecting the California Aqueduct to carry water down here. The trucks will be carrying big pipes. There is only suppose to be a couple of trucks in the morning and in the evening. The reason they are using S. Highland is because it's the best route to take with the big pipes from Arrow and Etiwanda.*

- Asked about the noise ordinance, advised there is jack hammering being done. *Sgt. Morris advised the noise ordinance is usually just for parties and disturbances such as that. There is not much that can be done with construction just as long as they are working in their time limits then they are allowed to.*
- Asked if the city can enforce people parking in the bike lanes. *Sgt. Morris advised they have been working on that complaint.*
- Advised there is guy on the weekends at Walnut and Citrus and he has been there for at least 3 months with signs. *Officer Durmisevich advised he will check it out.*
- Asked if bike lanes are mandated. *Paul Balbach from Engineering advised we are mandated by the State to provide other means of transportation. We have these mandates because of the air quality and we are required to comply. We looked at Walnut Avenue and it was the best course to have a bike lane because it links several communities to parks and schools. The bike lane was planned before the community.*
- Asked how long the developers take to redo the resurfacing of the streets once the tracks are completed. *Paul Balbach advised it just depends 3 months, 6 months, maybe even a year. Advised they want to make sure anyone who needs to do trenching work on the street that it's completed before resurfacing is completed. If you feel the street has been forgotten please give the city a call.*
- Advised there is a manhole that is covered its right in front of 15119 Wright Court in the middle of the cul-de-sac. *Jerry Perez with Public Works advised they are currently going through the city and uncovering all the manholes, advised he will add it to his list.*
- Asked if there can be extra patrol at the park because when she was there she saw a dope buy, watched a fight and seen people smoking pot. *Sgt. Morris advised every meeting everyone wants extra patrol at the parks. Advised we have a bike team who go through the parks and we need you guys to be our eyes and ears because most of the time officers are busy. We will let our bike unit know and they will try to hit the park. Usually they go through there at night when it's dark.*
- Asked what the criteria is for a island. *Paul Balbach advised there is a hierarchy of streets. Medians are not on all major streets however we are finally putting them in. They will be on all major streets such as Baseline and Foothill. Keep in mind we have a lot of growth in traffic here is the city. The medians are for safety. Painted medians only serve the road up to a certain amount of traffic. Having medians have proven to reduce traffic accidents.*
- Advised in front of the Washington Mutual on Cherry someone dropped some asphalt and now the road is all bumpy. *Jerry Perez advised if it's on the public road we will take care of it.*

- Asked if there are any squatter and graffiti statistics. *Sgt. Morris advised it's difficult to track squatter calls. We see squatters more in times like these. We have 43 calls for trespassing and out of those 43 calls there are not a lot of squatters. Advised when he was in patrol he didn't notice a great increase of squatters. There is a large influx of grow houses. There is a trend of renting or buying a house and spending lots of money to change it into a marijuana growing location. They are making false walls where it actually looks like a room but the house is full of marijuana plants. Common signs of this are people come and go during the night. The house is usually nice because they don't want to bring attention to the house. If you suspect something like that in your neighborhood you can call our narcotics and they will check it out.*
- Asked if this is considered a safe community. *Sgt. Morris advised he would consider this a safe community advised he has noticed a decrease in crime. Officers are having a lot more time where they can make more traffic stops and pedestrian checks.*
- Advised they were solicited by a company who was saying the police department won't help them if their house is broken into asked if they are wasting their money with this company. *Sgt. Morris advised we have found we were responding to numerous alarm calls daily that were false. Only a very small amount of alarm calls were actual burglaries. We will not respond to an alarm unless it was verified by video, audio or a neighbor seeing someone suspicious around the house and calling it in. If we get an alarm call and we check to see if there has been suspicious activity there in previous days we will send an officer out. When we went to this new verified alarm policy we found out the amount of actually burglaries stayed the same. Usually residential burglaries are crime of opportunity. Crime usually goes up during the summer because school is out. Advised he don't think an alarm is a waste of money, it's another deterrent. As a neighbor you need to pay attention and call the police when you see something suspicious.*
- Asked if they would be able to look at the stats. *Sgt. Morris advised the stats will be in the meeting minutes.*
- Asked if there will also be phone numbers in the meeting minutes. *Sgt. Morris advised in the back of the room on the table there is a form called Who Ya Gonna Call, that paper has all the phone numbers you will need.*
- Asked when the bike trail on Baseline under the 15 freeway is going to be completed. *Paul Balbach from Engineering advised the city does not have the funding to complete it right now. It costs \$1 million a mile. Advised in 3 years it should be completed. Advised Young Homes is interested in partnering with us for the Foothill to Cherry part of the trail.*
- Asked if there was a curfew for children. *Sgt. Morris advised the curfew is 10pm.*

- Advised the signs which use to state vehicles over 2 tons are not allowed to park on city streets are gone and now there are big trucks parking. *Sgt. Morris advised when they are parking on the streets please call the police.*
- Asked if fireworks are not allowed in the city are they still going to have them at the high school. *Laura Van Sciver she wouldn't say it won't be there next year or that it will. The fireworks at the High School are regulated and the fire department is on hand in case anything happens.*
- Asked if the fireworks ordinance is really going to stop the fireworks. *Sgt. Morris advised it's a start.*
- Asked if our city will be going green. *Eddie from Environmental Services advised some stores have already starting to sell those bags, but as far as the city going green we are taking small steps. At the new park there is more solar power.*
- Asked if along the bike lane on Walnut if there are plans to put trash cans. *Paul Balbach from Engineering advised he will pass on that suggestion.*
- Advised the sprinklers on Cherry between Baseline and Foothill they are not spraying the grass. *Eric Garwick with Public Works advised they have a contractor in the area to check them every month and they figure out what sprinklers are broken by a computer weather station.*
- Asked if there is a certain time of the day they should be watering. *Eric advised usually it's between 10pm and 6 am. If you see something you have questions on please call Public Works.*

THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS OCTOBER 30, 2008. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT SOLORIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (15172 WALNUT) AT 6:30 PM.

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA BY OCTOBER 29, 2008 TO:

AMBER SMITH
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THE CITY OF FONTANA COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD, KFON CHANNEL 3, GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL ANNOUNCES THE COMMUNITY MEETINGS' DATE, TIME, AND PLACE DAILY.