

**CITY OF FONTANA  
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** All attendees of the Village of Heritage Community Meeting  
**FROM:** O. Rodriguez, Lieutenant  
**DATE:** November 26, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Community Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2008

**Sergeant Morris**

- Advised Lt. Rodriguez was unable to be at the meeting tonight and asked him to take over. Advised he is the Sergeant in Traffic.
- Introductions

**Officer Porch and Snyder**

- Advised there are 11 Gang Officers, 6 Bicycle Officers, and 2 Grand Theft Auto Investigators in the MET Unit (Multiple Enforcement Team Unit). All of the Officers work on specialized assignments.
- The Gang Officers wear a green polo shirt with the word "SMASH" (San Bernardino County Movement Against Street Hoodlums) on it. Fontana PD has the largest gang unit within San Bernardino County. The best way the officers get information is to stop people and talk to them. Officer Porch and Snyder handle all graffiti reports. They also respond to "graffiti in progress" calls. To report graffiti call 350-GONE or report it on the police department's website [www.fontanapd.org](http://www.fontanapd.org). The City's graffiti team works 6 days a week, and removes graffiti within 24-48 hours. If someone is in the process of putting up graffiti, do not try to stop them, call the Police Dispatch Center at 350-7700. There are two types of graffiti-"Gang and Tagging"
  - Gang Graffiti-"SUR" means Southern California 13. This gang has alliances with the Mexican Mafia gang members, and Mexican prison gang members.
    - "IE" means the territory they claim. They are showing every other gang or whoever lives in the area that they are there and it is their territory. They are a large gang with smaller cliques. They have monikers that don't change.
    - "Varrio" means hood. You will always see "V" in gang graffiti.
    - If a gang member is caught tagging, the officer asks for "gang enhancement" (extended sentencing) in his report that is sent to the District Attorney's Office.
    - When the Officers do a search warrant at gang members' homes they found their rooms usually tagged with gang graffiti (usually have gang roll call-monikers of members in their gang).
  - Tagging-Taggers usually tag by themselves or with one of two more people. Tagging is a bubbly design, large, and colorful. A tagging crew is not a gang. Most of the taggers are under 18 years of age.
  - Go to website [www.fontanapd.org](http://www.fontanapd.org) to report graffiti and tagging.

- About 20 Cities have this graffiti tracker computer program.
- The City's graffiti team has a camera with a GPS tracking system in it. They download the graffiti pictures into a program that goes to a company in Long Beach called the "Graffiti Tracker". The company link information together in a database for the 20 cities to share.
- The system has a "Gang Intelligence Report" and "Tagging Intelligence Report" tracking program that the officers use to find offenders. Can put a single moniker in the system such as "sleepy". If the tagged monikers are identical, the officers can go to court and prove it. If arrested on felony vandalism/graffiti, they get jail time.
- The program was started on August 28, 2008. Officers have made over 20 arrests since starting the program. The program has a Google map that shows where the graffiti/vandalism occurred. It has the date and time when the picture was taken. The Officers take this information to court and shows it to the judge at the suspect's hearing.
- From August 28, 2008 to October 30, 2008 the City's graffiti team responded to 4,567 graffiti clean-up requests. The City has now started charging the vandals a \$486 restitution fee for each of their graffiti incidents. The court is accepting our fee.
- Advised he arrested one guy for 68 graffiti/vandalism incidents. The City is charging him restitution fees for cleaning up his 68 vandalism incidents.
- The "Graffiti Tracker" has a map that shows where tagging is occurring within the City. Taggers usually tag in their area, and on their way to and from school. The program has a Google map on it so you can track tagging routes and it usually leads you where the taggers live. You can also see how many places they had tagged.

#### **Chuck Hays-Public Works**

- Mayor Mark Nuaimi and the members of the Fontana City Council are calling on all residents to join them at an important upcoming public participation hearing concerning the future of water rates with Fontana Water Company.
- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will be conducting two public participation meetings on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 to receive input from residents about the proposed water rate increase. This is an opportunity for all residents to share their thoughts with the CPUC about the current rate increase requested by Fontana Water Company, a privately owned company.
- The Fontana Water Company is proposing a 32% increase over the next three years.
- The estimated proposed average monthly charge for a residential property will increase from \$54.01 to \$72.33.
- The meeting will be December 3, 2008 at 2pm and 7pm at Steelworkers' Auditorium in the Lewis Library and Technology Center at 8437 Sierra Avenue.

- Advised the signage in Heritage was destroyed several months ago by a car, advised new signs were put in and asked if everyone liked the new signs.

### **Sergeant Morris**

- The Calls for service from August 21<sup>st</sup> to November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008:
  - There were 1936 calls for service in the Heritage area.
  - 20% of all the calls were proactive calls such as traffic stops and pedestrian checks, etc.
  - There 18 fraud incidents
  - 15 vandalisms
  - 14 stolen vehicles
- On July 10<sup>th</sup> the traffic unit conducted their Community Enrichment program in the area. They issued 197 parking citations, towed 40 vehicles, cited 6 moving violations and got 1 DUI arrest. The next Community Enrichment is scheduled for January.
- Advised we just received a grant for the Click it or Ticket Campaign. We received \$19,000 for officers to go out and enforce nothing but seatbelt violations. When a study was conducted before the campaign there was 96% in compliance of the seat belt law.
- Advised the big thing traffic is working on right now is our DUI Campaign, it's starting next month and we will be conducting one DUI Checkpoint each month with 20 officers and have 80 saturation patrol officers out until August.

### **Questions and Concerns of Village of Heritage residents**

#### **(THE ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT REFLECT ACTIONS TAKEN)**

- Asked what percentage of silly teenagers to real gang taggers are in our area. **Officer Snyder stated it's hard to give a percentage. Officer Porch advised we have very little legitimate gang members in the city.**
- Asked how officers would track a tagger such as "Fat Boy". **Officer Porch advised the officers track taggers by stopping and talking to them. Advised they work hand and hand with the school police department and one of our Fontana Police Department Lieutenants is actually the chief of school police. Officer Snyder advised the roll of the MET unit is to go out and contact these gang members because they do not respond to regular patrol calls. Officer Porch advised the most important thing a parent can do is to know what your kid is doing, if you see anything that might resemble tagging you can call the MET Unit.**
- Advised she is a teacher in Rialto and was wondering what resource officers are. **Officer Porch advised School Resource Officers are actually police officers who are assigned to a specific school and they interact with the kids on a daily basis.**
- Advised it was mentioned that San Francisco clothing was the choice of clothing that gang members of South Fontana wear, have such clothing

such as San Francisco and the Raiders been outlawed. **Officer Porch advised no clothing such as that has been outlawed.**

- Advised the problem in the neighborhood is speeding on Lincoln Loop and Larkin. **Officer Porch advised the bad part about that is there is nothing anyone can do. We can ask the traffic unit to go out and issue citations however you will always have people who speed. Advised most accidents are speed related.**
- Asked if speed bumps can be installed. **Sgt. Morris advised we can not put in speed bumps because of the hazards. When you see a problem with speeders please call the traffic unit and let us know. Advised they will be able to put up the speed radar sign and we can get the motors out there.**
- Asked if there is a lot of gang activity in this neighborhood. **Officer Snyder advised it varies, it has some but it is not our major area.**
- Asked if the word about the graffiti tracker has been going out to the gangs who do the majority of the tagging. **Officer Snyder advised word will get out little by little to each tagging crew or gang.**
- Asked if the taggers who are caught tagging are obligated to do community service. **Officer Porch advised yes they do, they usually also have to pay restitution fines and fees.**
- Asked what the ages of juveniles are. **Officer Porch advised its 17 years old or younger.**
- Advised the Rancho Cucamonga Valley Water charges \$35 to print out an invoice and then \$60 for water and his average water bill is \$100. **Chuck Hays with Public Works advised that price is about 2/3 less than the Fontana Water Company would charge.**
- Asked who allowed the Fontana Water Company into Fontana since it's a privately owned business. **Chuck Hays advised the Fontana Water Company has this area, the boundaries were established years ago. They are a private monopoly.**
- Asked how we would regulate the company. **Chuck Hays advised to contact the CPUC and let them know. Also you can attend the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at the Steel Workers Auditorium.**
- Advised with everything that happened with the Yorba Linda Fire and the problems with the water pumps, is the Village of Heritage in danger of the same problem. **Chuck Hays advised the Cucamonga Valley Water District probably won't have the same problem.**
- Asked if there was a reserve system. **Chuck Hays advised yes there is, they have several.**
- Asked when the fireworks issue is going back to council. **Chuck Hays advised he don't know but knows there will probably be a special election for fireworks coming up.**
- Asked if there were any updates on Verizon Fios. **Chuck Hays advised apparently Verizon needs to upgrade their main facility to supply Fios and the Rancho Cucamonga office had stopped the process to Fontana so it will be a little bit longer.**

- Asked what the new Heritage signs cost. **Chuck Hays advised they cost about \$2,500.**
- Advised his street has not been re-slurred in 22 years. He stated at the last meeting they advised it should be done the 1<sup>st</sup> part of 2009. He stated there are huge cracks in the street to the point where his son can not even skate board on it because he will get hurt. He stated if the street is not repaved the 1<sup>st</sup> part of 2009, he will file a class action law suit. **Chuck Hays advised there is a paper management system for the city and there is not a lot of money to go around at this point, the city is going based on priority.**
- Asked what the money that is collected from the residents is for then. **Chuck Hays advised the funds collected are for the landscaping and maintenance and the other money being collected is going to repay the loan which expires in 2012.**
- Advised kids in the neighborhood don't wear helmets while riding bikes and advised he has seen police officers drive right by kids with no helmets on bikes. Asked if there is a phone number to call to get an officer in the area. **Sgt. Morris advised you can call our dispatch.**
- Asked if the police talk to the local schools about the safety of helmets. **Sgt. Morris advised that is our School Resource Officer's who would speak to the students about that.**
- Asked if law enforcement is taking the cell phone law seriously. **Sgt. Morris advised yes they are, however it's not the problem with the cell phone, it's the distraction the phone call is causing.**
- Asked when the DUI Checkpoints are conducted if the officers extend that to registration and insurance checkpoint also. **Sgt. Morris advised since it is an Office of Traffic Safety grant there are things the officers can do and can not do. Sgt. Morris advised they try to incorporate that in there whenever possible but sometimes they can't, it just depends on the grant.**
- Advised she works with a substance abuse prevention program and they have received a grant to work in Fontana and focus on underage drinking and would like to do focus groups in the community. Advised if you are interested to see her after the meeting.

**THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS FEBRUARY 19, 2009. THE MEETING WILL START AT 6:30 PM AT HERITAGE COMMUNITY CENTER.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA BY FEBRUARY 18, 2009 TO:**

AMBER SMITH  
 FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
 17005 UPLAND AVENUE  
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 (909) 350-7710

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**THE CITY OF FONTANA COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD, KFON CHANNEL 3, GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL ANNOUNCES THE AREA 2 WEST COMMUNITY MEETINGS' DATE, TIME, AND PLACE DAILY.**