

**CITY OF FONTANA
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

TO: All attendees of the Central Area Community Meeting
(First Baptist Church, 17244 Randall)
FROM: Lieutenant Robert Ramsey, Central Area Commander
DATE: February 26, 2007

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2007

Lieutenant Stark

- Advised Lt. Ramsey was unable to attend tonight's meeting.
- Introductions
- Advised Lt. Ramsey is currently the area commander for the central area of Fontana, currently taking over for Lt. Stark. Lt. Ramsey is now the contact person for the police department and city for the area between Foothill and the 10 freeway. Call him at 356-7113 or e-mail him at rramsey@fontana.org with any questions or concerns.
- The reason for the Area Commander's Program is for citizens to have a point of contact whether if it be for the Police Department, Code Enforcement, or any other city department. The most important purpose of this program is to listen to what citizens have to say and to offer help of where to go when there are problems. Residents can also go to www.fontanapd.org or www.fontana.org for more information on the Area Commander Program.
- Advised these community meetings are conducted to inform residents on what is going on in the city and to hear the concerns of the residents. Advised these meetings are 90 minutes long and will cover old business and updates from the last meeting and also there will be a chance for residents to ask questions.
- Old Business- The traffic signal on Marygold and Kaiser Hospital has been fixed giving enough time for pedestrians to cross Marygold.
 - Regarding the complaints of dispatcher customer service- Lt. Stark advised he has met with the Dispatch Supervisor and in the past few weeks our dispatchers had a couple meetings and trainings, if there are anymore issues, please contact Lt. Stark or Lt. Ramsey.
 - The narcotics problem on Palmetto and San Bernardino has been given to the Narcotics Unit to handle.
- What's New – City Population is now 177,000-178,000. We currently have 181 officers with 195 approved positions. Code Compliance is now under the Police Department, soon Code Compliance will be working weekends.
- Advised the city's website has all departments, resources, and new building/improvement developments occurring within the city. Also on the city's website there is a link to Community Connections, which was produced to keep the

residents of Fontana informed of activities that are occurring or have occurred in Fontana. The city's website is www.fontana.org.

- Reminded residents Race weekend is coming up and there will be heavy traffic near the California Speedway on Cherry. So if at all possible try to avoid that area.
- Explained we are now accepting applications for the Spring 2007 Citizens Academy. The academy is designed to give citizens an overview of the Police Department's policies and procedures. Classes are taught by Police employees, Local Judges, and the District Attorney Office. It's a free nine week academy. Class Size is limited so register early. Topic's covered are:
 - Area Commanders
 - Codified Laws
 - Crime Analyst
 - Crime Scene Investigation
 - Defensive Tactics
 - Disaster Readiness
 - Dispatch
 - Gangs/Narcotics
 - Internal Affairs
 - Investigations
 - K-9 Unit
 - Legal System
 - Patrol Procedures
 - SED
 - Special Operations
 - Traffic Enforcement
 - Volunteering

For more information contact Heather Howard at (909) 350-7758 or email her at hhoward@fontana.org.

- Advised CERT classes will begin May 10, 2007, sign up now. CERT is our Community Emergency Response Team. The class is eight weeks every Thursday starting May 10th. The class will be from 7pm to 9:30pm at the Fontana Police Department. CERT helps you learn how to take care of yourself and your neighborhoods after a disaster because after a big disaster, emergency help might not be available to you right away. The class will cover:
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - Fire Safety
 - Emergency Medical Operations
 - Light Search and Rescue Operations
 - CERT Organization and Disaster Psychology
 - Terrorism
 - Disaster Simulation

If you are interested in becoming a CERT member and would like to sign up for this training course or a course in the future, please contact LT. Tronaas at (909) 350-7778.

- The Community Assistance Program is having a resource fair September 13 from 10am to 2pm. For more information contact Linda Burton (909) 463-0103 ext 198

Sergeant Stover- Traffic Unit

- Operation School Bus- Throughout the school year, the Fontana Police Department will be aggressively enforcing all traffic laws pertaining to drivers failing to obey required stops for School buses. In order to be successful the Fontana Police Department's Traffic Division will be following several buses in order to observe and cite any violators. If a driver fails to stop, in violation of CVC 22454(A), the driver will be cited for this violation which carries a fine of approximately \$500.
 - *California Vehicle Code 22454(a): The driver of any vehicle, upon meeting or overtaking, from either direction, any school bus that is stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading any school children and displays a flashing red light signal and stop signal arm, if equipped with a stop signal arm, visible from front or rear, shall bring the vehicle to a stop immediately before passing the school bus and shall not proceed past the school bus until the flashing red light signal and stop signal arm cease operation.*
 - *California Vehicle Code 22454 (b)(1): The driver of a vehicle upon a divided highway or multiple-lane highway need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus that is upon the other roadway.*
- In an effort to foster fluid communications with our citizens, the city of Fontana Police Department's website was developed. Our website contains valuable information that can be used to remain informed of community activities, the process options for obtaining RV permits and reporting certain nuisance concerns. Our website also lists the contact information for specific unit supervisors. This information is provided so that you can contact the proper unit directly, thus increasing the efficiency of our services.

You can obtain information on:

- Area Commander Program information
- Obtaining police reports
- Reporting abandoned vehicles
- Obtaining RV Permits
- Reporting abandoned shopping carts
- Reporting inoperable street lights
- Emergency information regarding earthquake/fire safety
- Road closures and detours within the City
- Crime information/statistics
- Community Meetings- dates/times/locations/previous meeting minutes
- Code Compliance
- Megan's Law
- Reporting Graffiti
- Vehicle Impound Hearings

Some quick Facts

Abandoned Vehicles can be reported on the website or by phone on the hotline (909) 356-7138

RV Permits can be obtained from the website, at Fontana Police Station, or our Summit Heights contact station. You may also call (909) 463-6103.

Impound Hearings: Drivers who have a suspended license or who have never had a license are subject to having their vehicles impounded for 30 days. You can contest the impound at a hearing. Hearings are held every Tuesday from 1pm to 3pm and every Thursday from 9am to 11am. Both the registered owner and the driver of the vehicle must be present in most cases to obtain a vehicle release.

- Cross Walk Sting-We will have officers standing by if a car drives right through the crosswalk as soon as a person enters the crosswalk they will be ticketed.
- Court House Stings are also conducted where the traffic unit targets unlicensed drivers, what will usually happen, they will drive to court and the judge will advise them they are not allowed to drive and when they leave the court house they will go to their vehicle and drive away. We have officers who will then pull them over and issue them another citation for no license and impound the vehicle for 30 days.
- The Traffic Unit has received a DUI grant from the Office of Traffic Safety and will be conducting more DUI and Driver's License check points throughout the city.
- Advised there has been a lot of complaints about speeding on Alder and have been in contact with the Engineering Department to see if they can survey the area to possibly lower the speed limit in some of the areas of Alder.

Lieutenant Stark

- Vehicle Burglaries are a problem. There has been a 356% increase from January 2006 to January 2007. Vehicle burglaries are crimes of opportunity, make sure you:
 - Lock your vehicle
 - Get an alarm
 - Don't leave valuables inside the vehicle
 - Watch for suspicious people
 - Park in your garage
- New city development
 - New regional Library scheduled to open in 2008
 - Downtown revitalization
 - New businesses- Best Buy, Mimi's Café and El Torito
 - Fontana Park
 - Hilton Gardens
- Neighborhood Clean Up- Starting in March we will start Neighborhood Clean Up Program. If you know of an area which needs cleaned up email the area commander for that area
- Advised School Police has done some reorganization and will now be servicing the public during school hours and have hired security to work nights and weekends.
- Advised Lt. Ramsey is currently working on a loud party ordinance, it will be approximately a couple more months before that will take effect.

Concerns from the last meeting

THE ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT REFLECT ACTIONS TAKEN

Concerns of Central Area #2 residents

- Advised there are still vendors on the northeast corner of Alder and Marygold. There used to be one on Alder and Merrill, however he's no longer there. Has seen a white van pull up and push a cart out and asked if they should get a license plate and call it into our dispatch. ***Lt. Stark advised we do have vendor sweeps periodically, so if you know the locations please give us a call however Alder and Marygold along with Palmetto and Marygold are still in the county area. Advised next time you see the van get a license plate number and call it in.***
- Advised there are also illegal vendors at Walnut and Mango and also at the indoor swap meet.
- Asked if those areas on Marygold are planned to be annex. ***Lt. Stark advised there are a couple more areas which might be annexed however they are in the Bloomington area.***
- Advised when you call dispatch they argues with you. She has called many times where the dispatcher will argue with them. ***Lt. Stark advised the Dispatchers were talked to and if you have continuous problems with them again to let us know, talk to the Area Commander or the Watch Commander.***
- Asked when the skate park is closed, if the skate boarders can skate near the baseball fields. ***Lt. Stark advised there has been times when we have done Skate Park Saturation Patrol and have closed the skate park. Advised people come from all over to skate there. Advised that it has to be posted that no skate boarding is allowed and then the police department can do enforcement.***
- Asked what is the law about taking trash or recyclables out of the trash cans on trash day. ***Lt. Stark advised it is illegal for someone to dig through the trash. We have officers and Community Service Officers who have been on the look out for the people who dig through the trash. If you see someone digging through trash cans let us know.***
- Asked what is considered an abandoned vehicle. ***Sergeant Stover advised anything on the street for a long period of time, any vehicle with broken windows, trash collected underneath, flat tires, cobwebs, expired registration. Also if the vehicle is a public safety issue or you think it might be stolen, don't use the website to report it as an abandoned vehicle, make sure you call our dispatch to report it.***
- Advised his neighbor parks in one place for months and he had recently moved his mailbox and now his neighbor parks in front of his mailbox and also the same neighbor as been getting a ladder and looking over the block wall into his yard. ***Lt. Stark advised it is not against the law to park in front of a mailbox.***
- Asked if large trailers are allowed to be parked in residential areas because there is a large trailer on Tamarind and Holly parked on the grass. ***Code Compliance advised it can not be parked on the dirt, it has to be parked on a paved surface.***
- Advised she didn't see the meeting posted on the internet. ***Amber Smith advised the whole schedule for the year is on the website, click the link for Community Meetings on the Police Department website (www.fontanapd.org)***
- Advised at Palmetto Elementary School around 3pm there are high school students speeding in the area and most blow the stop at Tamarind and Arrow. Advised there is a crossing guard at Palmetto however most of the time the drivers just cross over the path of the crossing guard while still in the crosswalk. Asked what is the law regarding pedestrians in crosswalks and vehicles crossing the crosswalk. ***Sgt Stover***

advised once the driver feels the safety of the pedestrian is not jeopardized it is legal for the vehicle to cross the crosswalk, even if that means the pedestrian is only half way across the street.

- Asked if there is going to be any stings on pedestrians who just cross the street without even stopping and making sure it is ok for them to cross. *Sgt Stover advised as of right now there is currently no sting set up for that issue.*
- Asked if the city has every looked into getting the red light camera's installed at intersections. *Councilmember Scaldone advised the City Engineering department has checked them out. Advised the primary function of the red light camera's was to prevent accidents however what has happened is that people are speeding up and it seems to be causing more accidents. Usually a city could make a lot of money at the beginning with the red light cameras however some city's have experienced that the city is actually owing the company of the red light camera instead of making a profit on it.*
- Advised Valley and Sierra is a constant problem with people blocking the intersection. *Officer Reed with the Traffic Unit advised the Traffic Unit tries to deal with that intersection however they have to also deal with the traffic accidents which are occurring the same time the people are blocking that intersection, however they do try to do enforcement there when they can.*
- Thanked the city and the police department for doing the best they can.
- Asked if the city had a contract with Pepe's Towing and asked if they were allowed to have sirens because a few days ago at Valley and Sierra when there was a lot of traffic a Pepe's towing truck turned on a siren and turned on the lights and went through the red light. *Advised we do have routine inspections and will check for sirens on the tow trucks.*
- Advised she lives on Grevillea and there are 2 special education students who take the bus. The bus driver use to just let them out and leave without even crossing them. Advised she called the School District to complain and the bus driver changed her route to make sure she drops the students off right directly in front of their house. Advised the other day the bus driver stopped the bus and got out and went into the house with the students for a long time and just left the bus in the street not even parked correctly. *Sgt Stover advised as of right now, Operation School bus is only geared towards the driver's who are not stopping when the red lights are flashing, however will also be working on a sting involving the actual bus and bus driver.*
- Advised thank goodness for the Graffiti Removal team but there has been an increase of graffiti in the area. *Lt. Stark advised the gang unit is continuously working on the graffiti issue and have arrested several individuals doing the graffiti in the area*
- Asked if we have ever checked local stores to make sure the spray paint is locked up properly and asked what is done when people are caught putting up graffiti. *Lt. Stark we will be having a link similar to the abandoned vehicle link where residents will be able to report graffiti and those reports will go to Public Works (who removes the graffiti) and also to the Gang Unit at the police department so it can be investigated. When a person is arrested for graffiti it is up to the judge for prosecution.*
- Asked if they should call to report it even though they removed the graffiti themselves. *Lt. Stark advised yes to let us know so we can keep track of it.*

- Advised someone set their side yard on fire and wanted to know if there have been other reports of the same thing. Advised she thinks it might have been kids playing with matches walking home from school. Advised she drove around and noticed other burn marks in the area of Arrow and Tamarind. Advised she called the police and they gave her a case number and took a report. *Lt Stark advised he has not heard of any other reports of arson.*
- Said Thank You and advised the Community Meetings are great. Advised we need more people at the meetings. *Chief Clark advised the meetings are advertised on the local access channel 3 and published in the city brochures and also signs are put out in the areas to inform people the meetings are coming up.*

THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS MAY 29, 2007 AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 17244 RANDALL (CORNER OF RANDALL/PALMETTO) AT 6:30 PM.

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA BEFORE MAY 28, 2007 TO:

Amber Smith
 Fontana Police Department
 17005 Upland Ave.
 Fontana, CA 92335
 (909) 350-7710
 E-Mail: asmith@fontana.org

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

c: Mayor and Council
 City Manager
 Chief Clark
 Captains Holderness, Newsome
 Lieutenants Faulkner, Hostetter
 Sergeant Rodriguez
 Debbie Brazill
 Don Williams
 Kevin Ryan
 David Edgar
 Curtis Aaron
 Dan Chadwick
 Chuck Hays
 Luis Villalobos
 Ted Porlas

Mike Lee
Ricardo Sandoval
Eric Lewis
Ed Tiedgen
Amy Colbrunn
Attendees of this meeting