

**CITY OF FONTANA  
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** All attendees of the Area 2 West Community Meeting

**FROM:** Lieutenant Robert Ratcliffe

**DATE:** May 5, 2014

**SUBJECT:** **AREA 2 WEST COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2014**

**Lt. Ratcliffe**

Advised the city has a translation device if anyone needs assistance with translation.

Introduction: Mayor Warren, Council member Jesse Sandoval, Community Services Victoria Reyna, Public works Sergio Quiroz, Traffic Engineering Dave Teater.

Advised this will be his last meeting because he is retiring between July and October. He is currently the watch commander from 2pm to 2:30am.

**Fontana School PD Officer Dennis Barnett**

- Primary responsibility of school police is to provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff.
- Also responsible for protecting Fontana Unified School District Property.
- The officers try to build positive relationships with students.
- Current Enrollment 43,000 students and 4,000 employees.
- 29 elementary schools, 7 middle schools, 5 high schools, and 2 alternative/adult education schools.
- The School police consists of :
  - One Chief
  - 16 sworn officers
  - 1 dispatch supervisor
  - 5 full time dispatchers and 3 part time dispatchers

- 1 Evidence Technician
  - 40 District Safety officers
  - 2 Child Welfare and Attendance Liaison
- Coordinator of the Fontana Leadership Intervention Program (FLIP).
  - Works in conjunction with the Fontana Police Department.
  - FLIP was needed in order to battle a problem with At-Risk students.
  - The goal of the program is to make life altering changes in attitude and behavior among these students.
  - The program will take any student in the city of Fontana; they do not necessarily have to go to a Fontana Unified School.
  - The students in the program are usually referred through probation, a court order, Child Welfare and attendance, through the school site, a school resource officer or a parent or self-referral.
  - The program cost \$75-\$25 will be returned to the parent once they complete the parent class, another \$25 will be returned after the student completes graduation and the other \$25 is for the uniform the students wear.
  - The course is a 16 week program, classes are held on Saturdays for 8 hours a day. The next class will begin February 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Class topics include: Gang intervention, traffic safety, financial responsibility, ethics, health and safety, drug and alcohol intervention, lifetime fitness and team work.
  - During the course the students take several field trips to the Museum of Tolerance, colleges, County Coroner's office, and West Valley Detention Center.
  - Requirements of being in the program
    - Daily Check in with SRO
    - Weekly Progress Reports
    - Weekly parent evaluations
    - Random drug and alcohol tests
    - Periodic home visits
    - Physical Fitness standards
    - Community Service projects
    - Classroom Participation
    - Attendance standards

- Respectful attitude and behavior
- Core values of the program :
  - REACT
    - R-Responsibility
    - E-Education
    - A-Attitude
    - C-Compassion
    - T-Teamwork
- Program motto: Building a shared vision through a FLIP in attitude and behavior.
- In 2012 The FLIP program won the IACP/Motorola Webber Seavey Award which is an award that is presented annually to agencies and departments worldwide in recognition for promoting a standard of excellence that exemplifies law enforcement's contribution and dedication to the quality of life in the local communities.

### **Officer Rick Bellis-Department of Fish and Game**

- The primary predator type animals in this general location are coyotes, mountain lions, and bears.
- Coyotes-
  - There are more coyotes now than there was in 1800.
  - They now live everywhere.
  - They eat livestock, poultry, trash, dog food, berries, foxes, snakes, and rodents.
  - Mainly active during the night. You will probably see them from dusk to dawn.
  - They can weigh up to 45 lbs and they have small pointed ears and are usually gray or brown in color.
  - They breed between February and March, the pups are learned not to fear people.
  - They likely associate people as an easy food source.
  - Will usually go after smaller dogs and cats unless they are in a pack then they will take on a larger dog.
- Black Bears-
  - All bears in California are black bears
  - They occupy all mountain ranges in the state.
  - Usually stand about 5 to 6 feet and can weigh up to 600 lbs.
  - Lives up to 30 years.
  - They are omnivorous and will eat anything and everything
  - They have great vision and they see in color.

- Their hearing is twice the capacity of a human.
  - Generally solitary animals unless it's a mam bear with her cubs.
  - The state wide bear population is increasing and is currently about 30,000.
  - Be bear aware-do not put trash outside, make sure you wrap food up.
  - It's a people problem not a bear problem.
  - Bears are attracted to anything smelly, such as beehives, orchards, gardens, livestock.
  - Make sure you securely close locking dumpsters.
  - If you encounter a bear:
    - Do not run
    - Give the bear plenty of room
    - Stand and face the animal
    - Look large
    - Back away slowly
- Mountain Lions-
    - When a lion kills something they will clamp on the back of the head and crush the skull.
    - Males weigh up to 165 lbs and females can weigh up to 100 lbs
    - They live up to 12 years in the wild and 30 years in captivity
    - They hunt but they also kill for the sake of killing, so if you see a freshly killed deer there is probably a mountain lion nearby.
    - Each deer requires 8 to 10 lbs of meat per day.
    - Their diet consists of deer, elk, porcupines, small mammals, livestock, and pets.
    - Avoid hiking or jogging between dusk and dawn.
    - If you encounter a mountain lion:
      - Do not run
      - Look big
      - Throw rocks at it
      - Do not turn your back to it
      - Make loud noises
      - If attacked fight back, they are not looking for a fight.
- Do not feed deer. Deer attract mountain lions.
  - Do not leave pets outside

**Questions and Concerns of the Residents of Area 2 West:**

***Is the FLIP program just for students in the Fontana School District?*** No, we have kids from Etiwanda School district and Rialto School district, it just depends on the circumstances.

***What is the age group for the FLIP Program?*** It's based off of maturity level but usually it's between 12 and 17 years old. The Fontana Unified School District Superintendent is currently looking into starting a younger program for elementary aged students.

***How is the mountain lion that was in Fontana?*** Mountain lions usually don't stay in one location for too long. There has not been any more reports of seeing the mountain lion.

***Did the dog survive the attack from the mountain lion?*** No it didn't.

***Is it illegal to shoot a mountain lion or bear.*** It is not illegal to shoot a mountain lion or bear if you can articulate that you feared for your safety.

***Thinks it's great that the Police Department does traffic control for the water of life church however requests the police not shut down the street to through traffic, it just started two weeks ago and now they have to go all the way around just to get to their house.*** Dave Teater advised the issue is if there is a huge amount of traffic leaving the Water of Life Church the officers shut the street down in order to allow a better flow of traffic. Lt. Ratcliffe advised he will have a weekend watch commander take a look at it on the weekend. Mayor Warren advised it would be a good idea to have a representative from the church do a presentation at the next community meeting.

***Thanked the city for putting up the stop signs in Heritage but asked if anything thing is going to be done with the intersection at Roanoke because there are a lot of speeders in the area.*** Dave Teater advised we can do an evaluation to determine if an all way stop is necessary. The goal of a stop sign is to control the right of way, they do not control speed. If the city over uses stop signs it can lead to driver frustration and they will eventually ignore the stop sign completely. The best tool in a speeding issue would be education and enforcement.

***The roots of the trees are making huge bumps in the road are there any plans of fixing the streets.*** Sergio with Public Works advised there is a plan to fix that issue however he currently does not have the information about the project.

***Asked if the city has considered putting in the lighted crosswalks in the areas where it's hard to see.*** Dave Teater advised we do have a couple of crosswalks in the city where there is in ground lighting for the crosswalk however that system is really expensive. They will only be put in places where there is a high amount of traffic.

***Who are they supposed to call regarding tree roots along the greenbelt.*** Sergio advised them to call public works landscaping.

***Is there any way to amend Code Enforcement codes where if someone gets complaints on their property several times Code Enforcement can issue them a citation rather than just a warning?*** Any issue with changing the municipal code has to be dealt with through city council. You can email any of your city council members your concerns.

***Why do we have an ordinance about garage sale signs when it's not even enforced?*** Code Compliance will remove the signs if they see them posted on the right of way or on a pole, we also have volunteers who will remove them.

***When their neighbor waters their grass it floods his area, what can be done.*** You can call Code Compliance however the only problem is they will have to see that it is impacting your property.