

**CITY OF FONTANA  
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** All attendees of the Area 4 Community Meeting

**FROM:** Lieutenant Escarpe, Area 4 Watch Commander

**DATE:** November 4, 2015

**SUBJECT: AREA 4 COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 29, 2015**

**Sgt. Delatore**

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- He is covering the community meeting for Lt. Escarpe, who is the area 4 Area Commander.
- Introductions: Councilwoman Lydia Wibert, Lauren Popescu, Traffic Engineering; Sergio Quiroz, Public Works; and Susana Gallardo, Community Services.

**Fontana Police Department Air Support**

- There are 3 supervisors for the Air Support Unit: Captain Ramsey, Lieutenant Escarpe, and Sergeant De La Torre
- We currently have eight part time pilots. Two are full time police officers at other agencies, three are retired officers, one is military, and two are civilian.
- Tactical Flight officers (TFO) handle radio communication and other police equipment. We currently have two full time TFOs from Fontana, one full time from Rialto and two part time officers from Fontana who fly one shift a month.
- The police department currently has 2 helicopters. One is a Robinson R-44 Raven II Helicopter and the other is a Robinson R-66 Helicopter. The R-44 was obtained from Australia.
- Fontana PD R-44 Police Helicopter:
  - 2005 year model
  - 6 cylinder 205 continuous HP
  - Helicopter is about 38 feet long and 10'9" high
  - Max gross weight is 2,500 lbs, empty weight is 1,695 lbs
  - Max speed is about 130 knots or 150 mph
  - Patrol Speed 80 knots or 92 mph
  - FLIR systems 8000 (Forward Looking Infra Red)
  - Spectra Lab 2000 (20 million candle power)
  - LoJack
- Fontana PD R-66

- Rolls-Royce RR300 Turbine engine, with 224 continuous horsepower and max 300HP
- Helicopter is about 38'3" long and 11'4" high
- Max gross weight 2700lbs, empty weight is 1280lbs.
- FLIR Systems 8000 (Forward Looking Infra Red)
- Spectra Lab 2000 (20 million candle power)
- LoJack
- Just recently West Covina were searching for a homicide suspect. The helicopter found the suspect hiding on a roof setting up to ambush the officers on the scene. The helicopter was able to save the lives of the officers on the ground that day.
- The NightSun and FLIR are commonly used to:
  - Guide ground units to a location
  - Look for a missing/suicidal subject
  - Tracking and locating a suspect
  - Search large areas in a short amount of time
  - Identify threats before ground officers are hurt
- Other equipment in the helicopter is the GPS Mapping System, LoJack system, Multi-Channel Radio System and Ipad.
- Studies have shown that constant and persistent presence of a patrolling helicopter suppresses crime.
- Street crimes such as burglaries, robbery, auto theft, etc can be significantly reduced by the presence of a police helicopter.
- Helicopter's vantage point permits observation of activities not seen by ground officers, such as rooftops and fenced in yards.
- Information provided by TFO could save an officer's life.
- Types of calls the helicopters responds to:
  - In Progress calls
  - Robbery calls
  - Shooting calls
  - Burglary calls
  - Foot pursuits
  - Vehicle pursuits
  - Lost Adult/Child
  - Injured Hiker
  - Fires
  - Basically any call we can assist on
- Calls

**Sgt. De La Torre**

• Stats for Area 4	Aug-Sept	Average	+/-
○ 459 Commercial (burglary)	7	6	+
○ 459 Residential (burglary)	13	22	-
○ Vehicle Burglary	37	30	+
○ Grand Theft Auto	65	36	+

- |                         |    |    |   |
|-------------------------|----|----|---|
| ○ 459 Vehicle(burglary) | 25 | 22 | + |
| ○ Grand Theft           | 21 | 16 | + |
| ○ 211 (robbery)         | 2  | 4  | - |
- The issue we are having are with Vehicle Thefts. We suspect it is outsiders who are coming into our city to steal vehicles because the majority of them are being recovered in Riverside area. It is an ongoing issue that we are working on.

**Questions and Concerns of the Residents of Area 4:**

***What airport does the police department use?***

Currently we are out of Ontario Airport.

***Are there any problems with Ontario Airport?***

There are some problems. When the jets come in we have to wait 3 minutes after the jet lands in order to take off.

***If Redlands is one of our partners why can't we use their airport?***

The reason we do not use their airport is because it will put us further out which means a longer response time.

***How many days does the helicopter fly?***

We fly 5 days a week. Usually noon to 10pm

***Sometimes the helicopter hangs out in a certain part of the city for a while. Is there any way the residents would be able to find out what is going on.***

Usually if there is an issue that the residents need to be made aware of the helicopter will announce it or an emergency notification will be sent out via reverse 911.

***You stated you respond to burglary calls, are burglaries on the rise?***

Residential burglaries actually decreased this past quarter.

***On Cherry Avenue people speeding is increasing. It is most noticeable around 4:30 to 5am***

Officer Huesterberg from the traffic unit will take down the information so the Traffic Unit can keep an eye on it.

**THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015 AT SOUTHRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL, 14500 LIVE OAK, FONTANA CA 92337 AT 6:30 PM.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO:**

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