



## SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

*Expanding Communication between the Police and Community*

### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 2017

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

Please share this information with your neighborhood and business organizations.

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:06 p.m. with Steve Dougherty presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: Asst. Chief Steve Wilske, SPD Patrol Operations Bureau
  - a. Staffing
    - i. There are 7 slots in the academy each month, so at full capacity, SPD can turn out 84 officer a year. It is difficult recruiting now; law enforcement is not seen as a great job. All departments in the region are competing for a shrinking pool.
    - ii. New strategy is to attract existing officers from other places (laterals). Formerly this was seen as “hiring others’ problems”, but now good officers are willing to transfer. Abbreviated training for them means they’re on the street more quickly.
    - iii. It’s hard to keep up with attrition, such as retirements.
    - iv. Deciding where to assign new officers is done by percentages. Patrols get 60%; investigations 20%; compliance 10%; special operations 10%. Which precinct to send them to is done by studying crime trends, especially violent crimes, number of 911 calls, response time, etc.
    - v. Citizens can help get officers where they’re needed by calling 911 when they see something. This adds to the data that is used to assign officers to precincts. A crime spike can mean more officers assigned.
    - vi. North Precinct has gotten 6 new officers in the last 2 years. Would like to expand Community Police Team and Bike Team. Looking forward to new Community Service Officer program.
  - b. 09 cars - these officers don’t respond to 911 calls, which gives them time to patrol proactively, looking for people doing crimes, etc. Ballard has two 09 cars, mostly working on RV crimes currently.
  - c. Navigation Team is 8 officers and a sergeant.
    - i. Team does homeless encampment cleanups. Has to follow strict rules. Tries to get homeless to accept social services. There are about 400

- encampments in Seattle.
        - ii. Call 911 if an encampment is obstructing; they can be made to move.
      - d. Community Police Teams are dealing with RV parking issues.
        - i. There are more than 400 RVs that are being lived in parking around the city.
        - ii. CPT enforces the 72 hour parking rule. There are rules around impounding RVs. In some cases they can be impounded immediately, and in others there must be 72 hour notice.
      - e. Patrol Bureau priorities
        - i. Officer safety - includes training, procuring new equipment, etc.
        - ii. Crime reduction - Moving to 2 officer cars. Officers feel safer, for one thing.
        - iii. Compliance with the DOJ settlement agreement. Want to complete 2 years in full compliance in order to be done. Compliance is going well - it's only been 4 years and almost done. LAPD took 13 years.
      - f. Body cameras pros - increases professionalism. Cons - no peripheral vision, and they fall off uniforms easily, like when running. There are rules about when cameras must be turned off, such as interviewing sexual assault victims. Victims may ask for cameras to be turned off and unless required for the situation, officer may comply. Videos are not public record, subject to public record requests.
      - g. SeaStat meetings where captains report crime statistics. Small room, but public may attend.
      - h. Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program is awaiting budget to expand to North Precinct.
2. Precinct Update: Captain Sean O'Donnell/Lt David Fitzgerald
  - a. Four of eight lieutenant promotion candidates who took the recent test were from the North Precinct. Two promotions went through.
  - b. Crime statistics
    - i. Crime is down 3% year-to-date (YTD)
    - ii. Person crimes overall up 4% YTD
      - 1. Sex offences are level
      - 2. Robbery is down 3% YTD - there were 3 arrests made this week. Holidays are approaching so be vigilant.
      - 3. Aggravated assault is up 7%. Hard area to work on. There are nightlife issues.
    - iii. Property crimes overall down 3% YTD
      - 1. Arson up 14% YTD, at 5 incidents. Other precincts are higher, but NP is watching closely for patterns, etc.
      - 2. Burglary: residential down 15% YTD; business down 12%. Currently there is a person doing small business burglaries 'power-cut burglaries' in the Northgate/Lake City area.
      - 3. Car prowls up 5% YTD; auto theft down 19%. RV encampment

density is correlated with higher car prowl rates.

- iv. Current patrol emphasis (additional overtime) areas:
    1. Aurora corridor
    2. University District
    3. Lower Balland
  - v. See a lot of bikes around RVs. Record your bike's serial number to help police identify stolen bikes and recover them. Consider registering with <https://bikeindex.org>. A white van is selling used bikes in Lower Woodland Park. SPD is aware and an officer was dispatched.
  - c. Question on bus stop loitering: KC Metro Police has a Memo of Understanding with SPD to handle bus stops, but if its small staff (with a huge territory) can't get to it, SPD is called. Call 911 for emergencies, 206-296-3311 for non-emergency dispatch.  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/police-partnerships/partners-list/metro.aspx>
  - d. Q: campus security? CPT Office Mike Lanz is working with UW, giving talks to fraternities and sororities. North Seattle College does regular drills such as responding to active shooters.
  - e. Q: UNSanctioned drug consumption sites? SPD is aware of at least one person (Shiloh) who wants to set one up since there aren't yet any sanctioned sites.
  - f. Q: Heroin epidemic in NP? It's a huge problem. SPD encounters it everyday in the NP. Goal is to eventually equip every officer with Naloxone to counteract overdoses.
3. Crime Prevention Coordinator: Mary Amberg
    - a. Mary did advanced certification in crime prevention through environmental design. She is now working with schools.
    - b. She's been going to a lot of block watch and community council meetings.
    - c. Michael, the intern, announced October 15 will be launch date for this year's public safety survey (public perceptions on crime). Data is used to develop strategies in the precincts. Results from last year will be online:  
<https://www.seattle.gov/police/community-policing/mcpp>
  4. City Attorney's Office: Meagan Westphal
    - a. Started up in September the pre-filing diversion program. It targets 18-24 year olds who did non-violent crime and have little or no criminal history. Tries to give them social services and individually tuned classes instead of filing cases because convictions can have lifelong negative effects on their lives - jobs, housing, etc. The first class went really well.
    - b. Office is focusing on prolific criminals, to ID them and to make sure they are given appropriate charges.
  5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: Danika Adams

- a. Sentenced John Carlton to 25 years in prison for murdering a woman he dated.
  - b. Familiar faces initiative IDs people with most bookings in King County jails and targets services toward them.  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/elected/executive/health-human-services-transformation/familiar-faces.aspx>
  - c. October is domestic violence awareness month. KCPA is working to get firearms out of the hands of DV offenders.
6. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
- a. This is Socktober, so remember to bring new socks to the precinct for our sock drive.
  - b. Dianne participated this week in the national ‘coffee with a cop’ program, drinking far too much coffee at Starbucks. Plans to do one at Northgate Starbucks.
  - c. Jessica Chandler, prior intern, graduates from the police academy October 26. You can attend if you want to cheer for her.
7. Committee Reports
- a. Membership: if you are a regular attendee and want to be on the sign-in sheet where you can just check your name (as opposed to signing the visitor sign-in sheet) let us know at [spd.npac@gmail.com](mailto:spd.npac@gmail.com)
8. Business, Old and New
- a. The LEAD advocacy letter approved in September will be emailed to City personnel October 5th.
9. Next Month’s Agenda
- a. Guest speakers will discuss the new Body-Worn Video Policy being rolled out.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.