



Valley Area Command Community Policing Council
MINUTES
September 27, 2018
Johnny Tapia Community Center at Wells Park
500 Mountain NW, Albuquerque, NM

- 1. Call to order – Rowan Wymark 6:02 pm**
38 attended, 9 from APD (3 civilian)
- 2. Motion to approve Agenda**
Motion to approve agenda, second and approved.
- 3. Motion to approve Minutes**
Motion to approve minutes, second and approved.
- 4. Guest Speaker: Chief Geier**
 - Our priorities at the APD are to make sure crime goes down and community involvement. We want Albuquerque to become one, we want to develop new partnerships. When it comes to community involvement, youth plays a big part, we are trying to engage with them more. APD has been doing camps around the city and police officers are interacting with the youth, we have seen good outcome out of it.
 - As of now, we are short staffed but we are working hard to try and change that.
 - We had a meeting earlier today and we did talk about homelessness and understand that nothing has changed in 24 years, but we are addressing that.
 - It has become harder to get intoxicated people of the streets but we are doing our best to keep the streets safe.
 - Crime has gone down – auto theft has decreased by 26%
 - Bernalillo County has stepped up to help us out.
 - We have a device called star chase where we can track vehicles through GPS.
 - There was about 1,000 guns stolen and they are either being sold or being used in serious crimes.
 - We try to do educational programs in the City and it seems we have started a trend, I would also like to say we have the best program in the nation.
 - Went to San Antonio to look at Haven Hope which is a shelter and they have a lot of services the offer to the homeless. We are looking to try and do that here in Albuquerque.
 - Department of Justice: the monitor will be coming out for a report in November. We have a suite of policies that are ready to be approved.
 - We are working with CNM to do programs there for public safety.
 - New cadet training takes about 28 weeks (9 month until they are on their own).

Comment: After putting puzzle pieces together with homeless, what I've seen since we made about 2,500 calls in the last 3 ½ years, we have no complains, we understand cops are busy. But the amount of citations compared to the number of calls on reappeared offenders are very low. Alcohol and substance abuse is the biggest issue with the homeless, we have had to pick up a lot from the ground.

A: We still investigate people that look suspicious but we have to be careful on how we approach due to constitutional violation.

Q: What is the progress on the downtown district?

A: There is issues with homelessness and other activities but we have some bike controls that are working day shifts and night shifts. We have opened up a station that has a commander, lieutenant, and has 8 bike patrol officers.

Q: There's been a lot of talk about graham language, is it going to be included and excluded, what is your opinion?

A: The thing with graham is we can't get away from it, it provides guidelines for our officers and under CASA it only covers some, it creates a stricter stand.

Q: Is there anything you're asking the public to do to help support the police?

A: Attending these meetings helps support us as well as volunteering with the elderly and interacting with officers and talk about any problems that are happening to so we can help out.

Q: How to prevent people from going into backyards, do ring bells really work?

A: The problem is that they set off easily. Best thing to do is you see any suspicious is call APD. I would suggest to stay inside just because you don't know the kind of threat that you're about to confront.

Q: Are they pulling someone with experience in for rape kit?

A: Yes, and we have been making progress.

Comment: During the river of lights event, crime goes up around those neighborhoods.

Chief: Lt. Sanders- Doing special hours and seeing who is available to put down there.

Comment: Car was stolen and APD was able to find it in 2 days, want to comment APD for the work they do.

Q: Real time crime, is there a way we can promote that more?

A: We have Safe Net ABQ, and we are building a terminal where we can feed the cameras, so there can be immediate access.

Q: Plans for traffic control?

A: Our traffic unit is down, traffic stops have doubled and we are stopping more people.

5. Other

October draft recommendations, we really would like your input and if you have any recommendations, please let us know.

November 15th, We will be having a Thanksgiving potluck, everyone's invited.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm