

Foothills Policing Council

Annual Report 2020

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Introduction

About CPC

The Foothills CPC (FH CPC) was established in 2014 to facilitate and improve relations between the residents of the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Police Department.

Purpose

The purpose of the Community Policing Council (Council) is to promote and maintain positive, respectful, supportive, and cooperative interactions between Members of the community and the Albuquerque Police Department to ensure reforms are established and sustained.

Membership

The FH CPC has worked to rebuild membership to achieve a robust and diverse council. At the beginning of 2020, there were only two members remaining, they are Justin Hadrych-Rozier and Mark Burton. Mark assumed the role of chair. Mark and Justin then accepted Robert Carleton as a member of the Council. In February, Mark resigned in protest over something not brought into public view and Justin resigned due to unexpected family emergencies. One other person – Don Engdahl - was admitted to the council, but he resigned in March due to the press of work related to the pandemic.

During 2020, we added a total of nine new members to the council. Six members resigned. As stated above Mark Burton and Justin Hadrych-Rozier resigned early in the year. Four others resigned later for various reasons: one left in protest because we weren't operating with one voice in total support of all police activities (she didn't approve of any critical comments); one resigned because we were inviting a person with a previous criminal conviction to join the Council (she said her religion didn't permit association with those who had ever had a criminal record), and two left due to relocation out of the area. Six members remained at the end of 2020.

Special Meetings to Select New Council Members

With the departure in January and February of the other three members of the Foothills CPC, Robert Carleton assumed the duties of Chair. He received several applications from the Albuquerque City offices and convened special meetings to interview the candidates and make selection decisions. Judith Minks, an active and especially knowledgeable member of the public, joined these meetings to provide public input for the conversations. These in-person group visits were held in the park at the Piedra Lisa trailhead. The Council was rebuilt and ended the year with seven active members representing a range of age and ethnic groups. The names of the added members are noted in each of the summary notes for the public meetings.

Foothills CPC Members as of the end of 2020:

Aundre Huyhn
Paul Sedillo
Byron Powdrell
Graham Bowkett
Judy Young
Robert Carleton

Diversity, Demographics and APD Staffing

The FH CPC continues to attract a diverse segment of the population from the Albuquerque Police Department Foothills Area Command. Because of the suspension of in-person forums, it is not possible to know how many folks actually participate in the forums. Our statistics only reflect the number of computer logins during the meetings. We do know that we have attracted more participation from neighborhood association members in the southern half of the FH Area than was reported in previous years. With the introduction of the webinar format for public forums, it was not possible to determine where individuals who attend are located. Some diversity was evident as a result of follow-on correspondence. At least two attendees self-identified as living in Colorado Springs! Others live in various parts of Albuquerque and surrounding communities. We have made a recommendation to the Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) and CPC administrator that future registration materials include a zip-code to enable collection of this information.

April was the first month of pandemic precautions, and the first month without a public meeting. The month was dedicated to gathering of geographic and demographic data for the Foothills Area Command (FAC), along with the distribution of actual police personnel in the Command. Population of the FAC is around 120,000, and it covers 23.8 square miles. The distribution of personnel in the Command is: 4 Lieutenants, 9 Sergeants, 50 field officers (2 of whom comprise a Proactive Response Team, or PRT and 3 Police Service Aides (PSAs). The top three crimes in the FAC are auto burglaries, stolen vehicles, and residential burglaries. The data for these three types of crime were summarized in graphic form for 2019 and 2020. The impact of the then-new Covid-19 pandemic on future activities was also discussed.

Getting to Work

Newsletters

When it became obvious that in-person meeting would have to be suspended for an extended time, the Foothills CPC began distributing monthly newsletters to everyone on its mailing list. The topics of these letters are summarized below. This was continued from June through the remainder of 2020 (the first edition was written and distributed at the end of May and was styled as the “May Newsletter” but after that, each issue was designated for

the month just then starting. The Commander of the Foothills Area for the APD was invited to provide additional material for these newsletters and Commander Collins did that each month. The October newsletter is attached to this report as a sample. The completed newsletters are posted on the CPC website. The contents of these newsletters are summarized just below. As the year progressed the formats of the newsletters also evolved into a consistent form. In addition, when we were able to institute regular webinars beginning in July, the FH-CPC also distributed special meeting invitations and agendas to the mailing list.

June: This first newsletter featured the collaboration of the six Albuquerque Community Policing Councils in the drafting of a city ordinance to govern Council authority and operations, and to develop mechanisms to sustain Council efforts beyond the duration of the Department of Justice's (DoJ) oversight of the Albuquerque Police Department (APD). Possible candidates for the FH-CPC were identified, with appointments likely to follow in June. Commander James Collins provided a detailed update on crime trends in the Foothills area, with auto burglaries, stolen cars and residential burglaries again topping the list. Commander Collins explained how Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) data are used to track crime trends in the Foothills Area.

July: The first "webinar meeting," was advertised. It was held on the 13th, at which time four new voting members of the panel would be introduced. (The "webinars" were created owing to the closure of public meeting facilities, caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.) The process to "register" for the webinar was explained, along with the procedures to "chat" and ask questions.

The changes to the CPC program were announced to the public, most notable of which was removing the CPCs from APD jurisdiction and placing them under the management of the Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) which is directed by Mr. Ed Harness. Funding to support CPC activities- including an administrator-was procured, and an ordinance to permanently establish the CPCs was ready to be submitted to the Albuquerque City Council under the sponsorship of Councilor Klarissa Pena.

Once again, Commander Collins presented crime trends in the FAC region. The Commander noted that weapons left in unattended automobiles represent a particular temptation to would-be burglars.

August: City Councilor Klarissa Pena introduced legislation to the Albuquerque City Council to permanently establish the CPCs under the administration of the CPOA. It was observed that each proposed ordinance needs to go through committees before being acted on by the full Council, so the process would likely take one or two months to complete. Two new (Byron Powdrell and Judy Young), and one returning (Carmon Ryals) members of the FH-CPC were announced in the newsletter. The (eventual) establishment of a new city

department to oversee community safety was announced. This department would offer responses to problems that are not adequately addressed either by APD or Albuquerque Fire and Rescue. Commander Collins presented detailed graphs, generated by CADS, that compared crime trends in 2019 and 2020 in the Foothills Area. The particular crimes were "use of force," commercial robberies, robbery of an individual, carjackings, residential burglaries, commercial burglaries, auto burglaries, stolen vehicles and "shots fired."

September: The ordinance to formally establish and regulate the CPCs under the aegis of the CPOA passed its first hurdle at the City Council when a subcommittee voted unanimously to approve it and moved it to the full Council. Also, it was observed that a serious, potentially violent incident was avoided in the Singing Arrow neighborhood. A memorial service for a well-liked employee at the Smith's grocery store at Tramway and Central was scheduled in a nearby neighborhood park. The employee had been murdered in a robbery attempt. An unstable resident attempted to disrupt the event, but Commander Collins, Lt. Garrett and an APD crisis intervention team defused the situation before any violence could occur. Members of the FH-CPC expressed their appreciation to APD for its safe and successful intervention. Commander Collins again used data from CADS to graphically compare crime trends in the Foothills Area for 2019 and 2020.

Four new members of the Foothills CPC were introduced to the public: Paul Sedillo, Cody Taboada, Aundre Huynh, and Graham Bowkett.

October: The October 12 webinar featured a presentation by Gilbert Jaramillo, the Director for the Judicial Supervision and Diversion Program at the 2nd Judicial District Court in Albuquerque. This court is the largest felony level court in the State of New Mexico, supervising about 1500 pre-trial defendants per year. He also manages the background investigations unity and jail diversion programs. In the area of outreach activities, the FH-CPC established the Wenonah-Singing Arrow subcommittee to develop a better understanding of safety issues in that area with the goal of making recommendations to APD and other agencies. This represents an effort to increase our interactions with Neighborhood Associations throughout the Foothills Area. In the previous month, Commander Cori Lowe presented a Court-Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA) progress report, that is, the extent to which APD is making improvements relative to the DoJ's metrics. Commander Collins provided his usual graphic update of crime in the Foothills Area using CADS data.

November: Commander Collins provided a graphic update, using CADS data, on crime trends in the Foothills Area. Of particular concern was the fact that 8 guns were stolen from vehicles during the reporting period. While this was an improvement from the previous month (12 guns), even one stolen gun is too many. It is very easy to take your gun into your home and lock it up. The Commander noted that for both Thanksgiving and Christmas the Foothills Area Command Swing-Shift personnel were working to identify families who

could benefit from a full, holiday turkey dinner.

December: The December 14 FH-CPC webinar will feature Community Policing Lieutenants Simmons and Garret as a "panel of two" discussing news and perspectives about how the Foothills Area Command is working to solve problems ranging from panhandling, illegal drug sales and use, rowdy parties in public spaces, gunfire, to a range of other "quality of life" issues. After consultation with neighborhood leaders, police and business owners, the Wenonah-Singing Arrow subcommittee produced nine recommendations (all discussed in the December newsletter) for consideration and policy action. Each recommendation involves public safety, quality-of-life or other issues that have a law-enforcement component, but none of them is exclusively within the purview of the police department. We all need to be aware that with the holiday season upon us, we have much to be thankful for. However, it is important to NOT introduce tragedy where only good fellowship and joy belong. When we go out, it is important that we NOT leave our "security sense" at home. We need to practice situational awareness and apply our conflict-avoidance skills.

Activities and Achievements

The FH CPC continued a program of inviting speakers and presenters at monthly meetings to further engage and educate the public. Attorneys with public interests presented as did the Chief Deputy from the Metropolitan Detention Center, representatives of the courts, the administrator responsible to organize the operation of the new Community Safety Department, and specialist members of the Albuquerque Police Department for their routine monthly activity updates and for more focused presentations. Representatives from outside agencies have also spoken on issues of community concern.

Public Meetings

FH CPC meetings were held monthly at the Holiday Park Community Center in January, February, and March. This center provides easy access and parking for visitors and is in a central location. The meetings are well attended. In-person meetings were then suspended as all Albuquerque community centers were closed as part of the pandemic precautions. Virtual meetings – webinars – were begun in July and continued each month through the end of 2020.

Announcements and invitations for each meeting are sent to more than 400 individuals from every walk of life; these folks are registered and listed on our Xcel spreadsheet. Our list has grown and now totals more than 400 unique addresses, with new names being entered each month as our meeting registration lists were processed. Our list was not in good condition at the beginning of the year, but regular maintenance and updating has meant that we no longer have any listings for inactive persons. Each month we update the list by reference to our registrations. First-time attendees are invited to add their name and contact information to our data base. Attendance at our meetings varied, with the average attendance being 35 individuals.

Public Forum Participation for 2020 by month

Meeting Month	Officials and CPC Panel Attending	Public Attendance	Average Time in Session	Median Time in Session
January	9	31	Not Available	
February	7	32	“	
March	6	34	“	
April	No Meeting			
May	“			
June	“			
July	10	69	57	65
August	12	65	73	83
September	14	72	73	87
October	11	51	82	93
November	16	60	66	71
December	11	71	75	84

Public Foothills CPC Meetings Summary 2020

The official reports of our public meetings are posted on the CPC section of the Albuquerque CPOA website. What follows is a brief summary of the topics of each of the public forums of the Foothills CPC.

January 13, 2020 6.02pm-8.00pm. Cmdr. Lowe gave IMR-10 update. Cmdr. Collins answered Q&A on Use of Force. Lt. Simmons & Lt. Garret spoke on Community Outreach. MDC Officer Hopkins and DC Richardson spoke on Metropolitan Detention Center. A recommendation regarding APD Volunteers was denied by APD and the Chief is working on getting Violent Crime Statistics (Recommendation).

February 10, 2020 6.04pm-7.40pm. Lt. Garrett gave the crime report and Q&A regarding Burglary vs. Robbery. Nicholas Sanders Q&A regarding Crimes Against Children Unit. Julie Brenning, a candidate for NM House of Representatives, is concerned about security in the Foothills and said she would like to be a resource for the Foothills. Rebecca Stair, also a candidate for State House, discussed solutions for family and youth crime.

March 9, 2020 6.07pm-7.33pm. Lt. Garrett gave the crime report and Q&A on Use of Force report. Judith Minks reminded about Tramway clean-up. Early voting 5/16/20 election 6/2/20. Active shooting drill 3/19/20 St. Luke Church with APD Officer Lehocky. Speaker A. Blair Dunn dealt with constitutional law and holding judges accountable.

July 13, 2020 6.06pm-7.06pm. Note CPCs moved from APD to CPOA with new funding. Cmdr. Collins gave the crime report. No status updates on recommendations.

Some public Q&A. Mayor's office announced a new plan to have a Community Safety Dept. FH-CPC will request a speaker regarding Community Safety.

August 10, 2020 6.05pm-7.50pm. New members introduced; Sedillo, Taboada, Huynh, Bowkett. Cmdr. Collins gave the crime report and Q&A. Speaker Mariela Ruiz-Angel with the new ABQ Community Safety Dept. talking about the Right Response at the Right Time (Power-Point) and expect the new unit to be running by April 2021.

September 14, 2020 6.04pm-7.45pm. Returning member Carmon Ryals. Deputy Chief Medina announced Chief Greier's retirement. Cmdr. Collins gave the crime report. Cmdr. Collins is now Acting Deputy Chief for Field Services and Lt. Altman will be acting Cmdr. in the Foothills. Cmdr. Lowe, Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau gave a PowerPoint presentation on CASA.

October 12, 2020 6.06pm-8.02pm. CPC term limits discussed and adopted. Singing Arrow recommendation status update. CPC outreach to Neighborhood Associations (NAs) discussed. APD gave the crime report. Guest speaker Gilbert Jaramillo, Director of the Second Judicial District Court Judicial Supervision and Diversion Programs gave a PowerPoint presentation. Q&A.

November 9, 2020 6.04pm-7.58pm. Cmdr. Collins gave the crime report. Deputy Chief Griego explained how to read the reporting. Cmdr. Sanchez and Sarah Masek reported on a new application program called 75-1. Eventually this application will be used by APD officers and the public to track community concerns and police responses.

December 14, 2020 6.00pm-7.00pm. Cmdr. Collins gave the crime report. Cmdr. Collins, Lt. Simmons and Lt. Garrett worked as a panel for a Community Policing discussion with Q&A. Singing Arrow recommendations and status were reported.

Recommendations to APD and Our City Administration

The Foothills CPC formed two committees during 2020. One was for the Singing-Arrow area and the shopping area at the intersection of Tramway Boulevard and Central Avenue. These committees met with police, city administrative officials, and neighborhood association persons. They also sought input from apartment complex management. These committees found problems both specific to these areas and with more general implications. The additional areas of concern involved both the trailhead parking area at Piedra Lisa, and the Mesa Park area at Southern and Juan Tabo. We made eight specific recommendations to the city and APD. These are listed below. We published these recommendations with our newsletter in November and presented them at our webinars. We have heard nothing at all from either the city or the police in any formal sense, but we are heartened by the fact that action has been taken to address most of these conditions. We believe that there continues to be a serious disconnect in the way recommendations are received and processed, and hope that further implementation of the CPC Ordinance and the CPC Guidelines will make this process operate more smoothly and provide two-way communications.

Following are the titles for these recommendations made in 2020:

- Improvement to street lighting needed on Wenonah and nearby residential streets and area lighting in Singing Arrow Park.
- Maintenance of Singing Arrow Park Approaches for Safety
- Manzano Mesa After Hours Disturbances
- Issues at Manzano Mesa Park (Additional issues relating to drag racing)
- Uncontrolled Late-Night Use of Piedra Lisa Trailhead
- Safety Concern, Overnight Camping in Singing Arrow Park
- Public Safety Relating to New Community Center on Wenonah
- Video Surveillance of high-problem areas Singing Arrow Neighborhood

Going Forward – Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned

The FH CPC needs to seek out more individuals from the more northern area of our Area Command. That area includes primarily single-family developments and apartment complexes where residents may feel disconnected from some community issues. The Foothills council has embarked on outreach efforts to Neighborhood Associations and other groups, and those efforts need to be continued in 2021.

The FH CPC seeks to increase outreach by distributing flyers, cards, and announcement posters to areas such as apartment complexes, businesses, and faith-based facilities. The budget under the new CPC administration ordinance includes funds for these materials, so we will work toward their creation and implementation.

In past years, it has proven difficult to recruit members for the Council who are still actively employed because the time commitments and requirement for APD Citizen Police Academy (CPA) attendance were stumbling blocks to recruitment. With the change of policy regarding CPA attendance, we have recruited and retained three members of our Council who are still working, and one is in his 20s, and another is a family man in his 30s. With the addition of new advertising materials, we feel that outreach to the Central New Mexico Community College campus near Juan Tabo and Montgomery might encourage students to become engaged.

The CPC members continue to need a method of identifying themselves to the community. This can be accomplished with business cards generally but should also include clear identification such as CPC professional name badges. Such identification would facilitate recognition and aid in outreach efforts by distinguishing CPC members from the general public, demonstrating a professional affiliation.



Foothills CPC: October 2020 Newsletter

Looking ahead to October 12, our 6:00 p.m. webinar will feature a presentation by Gilbert Jaramillo, the Division Director for the Judicial Supervision and Diversion Program at the Second Judicial District Court in Albuquerque. This Court is the largest felony level court in the state, supervising about 1500 pretrial defendants per year. In addition to pretrial supervision he also manages the background investigations unit and jail diversion programs.

Your Foothills Community Policing Council is active with both outreach activities and the development of relationships with both official public entities and with residential neighborhoods and individuals. We have embarked on the development of recommendations and are pressing for increased public safety. Our October webinar on the 12th will include preliminary comments from the recently constituted Wenonah-Singing Arrow committee. This committee, including two community members, is working to develop a better understanding of problems in this area with the goal of making recommendations during our November webinar. Separately, our committee for outreach, led by two CPC voting members, will increase our interactions with Neighborhood Associations throughout the FH area.

Looking back at September, our attendance was 75 public participants, not including 14 voting members of our Committee and officials. That is a real indication of the reach and appeal of this format. More than 2 dozen attendees asked that we make certain they are on our mailing list. Are you listed? The Council of Chairs finds similar results city-wide and intends that we continue to maintain a webinar-type presence even when it is possible to resume in-person forums.

CASA Progress Report: Commander Cori Lowe was our featured presenter in September. She promised to provide a link to the presentation graphics she used during her excellent briefing on the Court Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA program) in September and the outcomes and successes that APD is making. She has done exactly that! You can see all these documents at the APD website: <https://www.cabq.gov/police/documents-related-to-apds-settlement-agreement> .

Those who missed the webinar or who wish to view Commander Lowe's presentation again, can do so. The meeting recording is available and free to see at:

https://cabq.zoom.us/rec/share/uv-2kHDsaol9Mtnl8E_e8c1Hzn3a6m8kcAdRO9msqeO2opNI3vFi7t7azEBAsP40.QOX3v8-FII7toX0f?startTime=1600127466000

Migration of CPC matters and materials away from the APD website and to the CPOA (Citizen Police Oversight Agency) is a key feature of the recently passed city ordinance establishing the CPCs. The move hasn't happened yet, but is expected "soon." Patience is a virtue. In the meantime, you can find most things relating to CPCs by going to the APD website and following the list contents to the CPC listing. Here's a link: <https://www.cabq.gov/police/community-policing-council>.

A new bicycle patrol capability has been added to the Foothills Command. Officers are conducting patrols using bikes in both near Central Avenue and Tramway and in the Hotel Circle area.

We've heard of vandalism to some political signs in recent days. Please remember that the signs are just "stuff" and are never worth a confrontation with possible personal injury. Simply call the campaign organizer to request a replacement, and report vandalism on 242-Cops.

Expect to receive an invitation to join the October Foothills CPC webinar and the agenda in a few days. Our webinar will be October 12 at 6:00 p.m. We hope you'll bring a neighbor or friend and join us!

For the Foothills CPC,

Bob Carleton



Jeffery Cole Russell Memorial Substation
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Albuquerque, NM 87112
505-332-5240

SEPTEMBER 2020

Greetings everyone,

These months seems to be flying by rather quickly. It’s hard to believe it is October already. The new bid is coming out strong as we have some pretty good reductions in the CADS and a large increase in proactive policing across the entire area command.

Chief Medina has made the decision that he does not want to move any of the area commanders if he can possibly help it. Sometimes things do change, but the plan now is to have all area commanders stay in place. Some of you may remember Commander Donnie Olvera from the Northwest Area Command. He retired nearly a year ago and has been asked to come back in order to be the interim deputy chief of field services. This is good and DC Olvera is a valuable asset and friend of mine. I have a great amount of respect for him and he will be very helpful to all of the area commands. Once he gets settled in, I would like to invite him to speak at the next CPC (maybe November).

Use of Force:

Here are the uses of force numbers for the month of September for the Foothills. Based on the data supplied by IAFD, the call most commonly associated with using force is a family dispute of some kind. Another interesting statistic is the Foothills officers use force 1.5 times per 1000 CAD’s. APD, in the month of September, had 70 reportable uses of force.

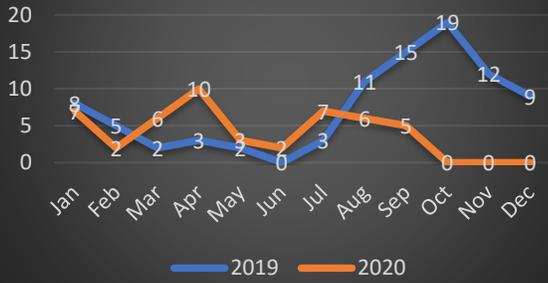
Level 1	2
Level 2	7
Level 3	0
Total	9

CADS:

Here are the updated graphs to reflect the CADS for September 2020. For these graphs, I added the number of CADS for each month to give the reader a better perspective of the frequency of the category. Orange is 2020, Blue is 2019. Please remember the disclaimer:

This information is pulled from daily Calls for Service, which reflects all calls made to APD’s 911 Emergency Communications Center. It does not reflect all crimes that police investigate, nor the final outcome of crimes investigated. To put that into perspective, APD receives about 500,000 calls for service each year. By contrast, about 120,000 police reports are generated each year, which is more reflective of actual crimes. For that reason, the information listed should not be used to determine crime trends and is for informational purposes only.

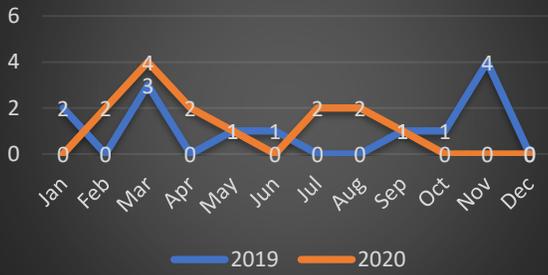
COMMERCIAL ROBBERY



ROBBERY OF INDIVIDUAL

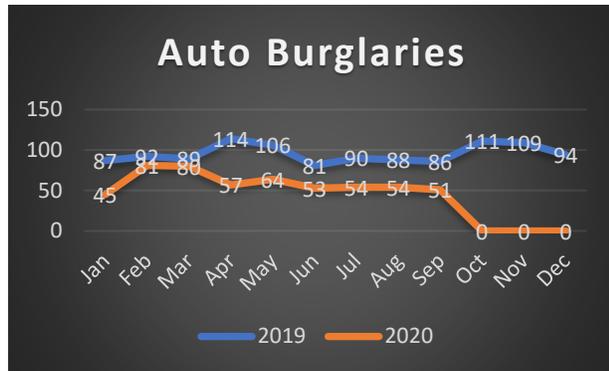


CARJACKING



Residential Burglaries





Voting:

There will be some questions that do arise about the upcoming election and I do have some concerns of some unrest happening since this is probably one of the most emotional elections that I can recall. I do not have a lot of information about APD’s plans, but I was informed the Emergency Response Teams (ERT) will be place in an on-call status a couple of weeks before and after the election in the event they are needed to respond. If we get any more information, we will do our best to provide an update.

On a final note, I will be out of town for the upcoming CPC meeting. Lieutenant Shawn Garrett will be standing in for me. Until we speak again, take care and be safe out there.

Best Wishes,
 Jimmy Collins
 Commander, Foothills Area Command