

VALLEY AREA COMMAND
COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION

DATE SUBMITTED: 10/7/16 Seven (7) business days after submission

RECEIPT DUE Twenty (20) business days after submission

APD RESPONSE DUE: Sixty (60) business days after submission

RATIONAL:

There are numerous articles supporting the benefits of police bicycle patrols.

See Police Patrol website article "Bringing Back Bicycle Patrol"

<http://www.policemag.com/channel/patrol/articles/2013/08/bringing-back-bicycle-patrol.aspx>. APD stopped utilizing bicycle patrols in 2013.

A police bicycle patrol is an extremely useful and effective form of law enforcement. An officer who rides a bicycle has unique abilities to see crime, stop crime, and/or arrest offenders in areas and ways that are more difficult in a squad car.

Some Bicycle Patrol benefits include: Mobility, maneuverability, less intimidating, stealth, increased fitness for officers, reduced automobile expenses for the department, and better possibilities to develop positive relationships with people who live and work in the communities they patrol.

RECOMMENDATION:

To promote better Community Policing, our Community Policing Council recommends APD strategically reestablish substantive Bicycle Patrols for all area commands of the city as soon as possible. Approved at 9/22/16 VACCPC Mtg.

Note: Southwest Area Commander Roger Banez has authorized Lt. Campbell to deploy two bicycle patrol officers, working four hours per shift, at strategic times and areas. They have received positive feedback from the community.

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque Police Department



Gorden E. Eden, Jr., Chief of Police

November 14, 2016

Valley Community Policing Council

Re: Bicycle Patrol for the Albuquerque Police Department

Dear Valley Community Policing Council:

We have received your recommendation to reestablish police bicycle patrol for all area commands.

The Albuquerque Police Department currently has bicycle certified officers assigned to the downtown area that patrol on their bicycles when the weather is pleasant, these officers report directly to the Valley Area Command. Having bicycle patrol officers is a great way to strengthen community policing, however, at this time our manning levels aren't quite where we need them to be to add bicycle patrol officers to each area command. With our current manning levels, we are working to ensure we communicate with our community and that we are able to provide a safe environment for the citizens of Albuquerque when responding to calls for service.

Once we have increased the number of Field Services Bureau Patrol Officers we will then be able to assess which areas our services can be increased including a review of deploying bicycle patrol officers in each area command.

Your recommendations are greatly appreciated and we thank you for your contributions to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gorden E. Eden, Jr.", written over the typed name and title.

GORDEN E. EDEN, JR.
Chief of Police

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Albuquerque

New Mexico 87102

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