

## CITY OF FONTANA FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT

**TO:** All attendees of the Area 2 West Community Meeting

**FROM:** Lieutenant Gary Aulis

**DATE:** February 19, 2015

**SUBJECT:** AREA 2 WEST COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2015

### Lt. Aulis

Has worked 25 years at the police department in numerous assignments to include bike unit, k9 handler, internal affairs and code enforcement.

As an ongoing commitment to the city and in an effort to improve law enforcement services to citizens the area commander program was created. The area commander program was designed to enhance current community-oriented policing methods. The city is broken up into four areas and each of those areas are assigned an area commander to deal with the quality of life issues. If you don't know who to call with a problem in the city you can always call your area commander and he will assist you.

Introductions- Mayor Acquanetta Warren, Councilmember Jesse Sandoval, Corporal Maddux with the Traffic Unit, Community Services Suzanna Garcia, and Public Works Sergio Quiroz.

If you haven't checked out the City of Fontana's Website lately you might want to there is lots of information on the website.

- Recently there has been a slight increase in vehicle burglaries and thefts. With Prop 47 passing, that turned many felonies into misdemeanors. Just an example of what this proposition has done, a man who stole 3 vehicles and pulled a gun on an officer only ended up being sentenced to a year in jail.
- La Fitness and 24 Hour Fitness are usually where we see the increase first to vehicle burglaries first. Do not leave anything in your vehicle that is of value. Make sure to keep your vehicle locked and set the alarm if you have one. Even on hot days make sure you keep the windows up all the way. If you go at night park under a light or at the entrance of the business.

### **Mayor Acquanetta Warren**

- She is currently working with a group of young people who are going around completing a survey in the area. If they come knocking on your door please participate.
- If you see something in the common area such as problems with the landscaping please call and report it (909) 428-PARK. If there is graffiti in the area call (909) 350-GONE.
- Thanked everyone for coming to the community meeting.

### **Corporal Ernes-Inland Valley Swat**

- Been with the police department for 17 years.
- Things have changed within those 17 years, we as a police department have to evolve with the changes.
- We take threats very seriously.
- People look at law enforcement when we put on all our gear but they don't realize we do that for our safety as well as the safety of the people we have to deal with.
- The Inland Valley Swat team is comprised of officers from Fontana, Rialto, and Colton Police Department.
- As part of the IVS Team we have acquired an armored vehicle called the BearCat. This is a rescue vehicle, there are two trauma kits inside and a backboard and the officer train with them regularly. The BeatCat is to provide a service to the city of Fontana not only in SWAT issues but also in an emergency situation.
- The BeatCat has the ballistic capabilities to sustain 50 caliber rounds.
- Each agency, Colton, Rialto and now Fontana each have their own. We are currently in discussion to obtain a 2<sup>nd</sup> another one.
- Within the IVS team we also work with Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and they provide us with a Trauma Surgeon who trains with the team often.

### **Questions and Concerns of the Residents of Area 2 West:**

***What percentage of vehicle burglaries and theft are in the neighborhoods?*** Lt. Aulis advised he is not sure of the exact percentage but the majority of stolen vehicles from neighborhoods are mostly Hondas.

***Do residents have to wash out the cans when they are recycled?*** Sharon advised Burtec does ask you give them a quick rinse to get any food waste off them.

***Can the bags the newspapers come in be recycled?*** Sharon advised Burrtec recommend saving those and taking them into Wal-Mart or a grocery store where they have a recycle bin specifically for plastic bags.

***When the trash cans are placed at the curb are they now the city's property.*** Sharon advised yes once they are placed at the curb they are now the property of the city and Burrtec.

**How do you train a dog to sniff drugs? Do you give him the drugs so he craves it?** Lt. Aulis advised no we do not. Any amount of drugs given to a dog could kill him. We train them with a toy so they can associate the smell with a reward being his toy.

**If it is raining does that effect the dog's sense of smell?** It could hinder it a little bit but they will eventually find it.

**Do the officers get to take the dog home?** Yes they do, the dog is like a part of the family.

**Where do the dogs go when they retire?** They stay with their current handler. The handler does about 6 or 7 years in this assignment. We have to have handlers with the best judgment

**How would someone get their neighborhood watch signs replaced if they are faded?** You would need to contact the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Amber Smith at (909) 356-7171 or at [asmith@fontana.org](mailto:asmith@fontana.org)

**There has been a rash of egg throwing and breaking of car windows between 2am and 6am.** Lt. Aulis advised he will have to pull the calls for service to see if there is a trend but sometimes people do not report those types of things to us. We have coplink where you can now file a report online. There is even a kiosk in the Police department lobby which allows you to report a crime.

**Do you ever use the k9's to find missing children.** We can use them for that but the Sheriff's department actually have a blood hound we would use if we needed to utilize a dog for that matter.

**At Foothill and Mulberry they recently changed the traffic pattern however no signed was put up notifying right turn only lane.** Traffic Engineering Dave Teater advised he is not sure why that happened but he will check on it.

**When their neighbor waters their grass it floods his area, what can be done.** You can call Code Compliance however the only problem is they will have to see that it is impacting your property.

**On Foothill and East there is that really pretty waterfall fountain however if you are going east you cannot see it. What can be done to increase visibility?** The other side of the street is Rancho Cucamonga. We will have to see what we can do to increase visibility.

**On the trail at Foothill and East sometimes there is broken glass on the sidewalk for weeks.** Sergio Quiroz with Public Works stated the landscapers are supposed to be picking up broken glass. He will make sure they address that issue.

***There are about 8 or 9 dead trees on East Liberty from Banana to Roanoke. Also the sprinklers are watering the street instead of the parkway.*** You can call 428-PARK to report the issues so they can be taken care of.

***Lives on Bennington Court and a No Outlet sign was installed was wondering why that was?***  
Dave Teater with Traffic Engineering advised it was probably because it was requested and due to the traffic going into the area.

***He has a cat problem. Cats are getting into this garden.*** Lt. Aulis advised ASO does not trap cats but we do have an agreement with San Bernardino Shelter that you can drop any cats you trap for free.

***People now days don't even do a California stop, they just blow right through the stop sign.***  
Lt. Aulis advised if there is a specific intersection and time this is occurring at please email him the information and he can get traffic out at the location.

***Can anyone visit the K9 training center.*** Lt. Aulis advised of course they can.