

MINUTES

Area 4 Community Meeting

January 24, 2019 6:30pm | *Southridge Middle School* Area Commander Lt. Ron Koval

In Attendance

Councilmember John Roberts, Code Compliance Peggy Fonseca, , Public Works Martin Celio, Public Works Sergio Quiroz, Public Works Mike Springer, Traffic Engineering Jeff Kim, Animal Services Officer Andrew Canedo, Community Services Noemi Clara

Lt. Ron Koval

- Welcomed everyone.
- Asked everyone to make sure they sign in on the sign in sheet at the back of the room to get reminders of the meetings.
- The Community Meetings are held 3 times a year to provide the community with:
 - The proper way to identify problems
 - Exchange information with the police department and other city departments.
 - Identifying effective long term solutions to issues within the area.
 - Also an opportunity to disseminate information regarding upcoming events.
- Crime rates for November and December has remained pretty steady.
 - Everything is average except 2 areas:
 - Commercial Vehicle Burglaries are up 32%
 - Stolen Vehicles are up 26%
 - Suspects are stealing tires and batteries
 - The top call for service is transient calls along the Sierra Corridor.
 - The last meeting we talked about the rise in theft at Home Depot, those have gone down.

Upcoming Events

- February 5th-Planning Commission Meeting
- February 12th-City Council Meeting
- Citizen's Academy starts on April 4th. For more information please visit:
<https://www.fontana.org/511/Citizen-Academy>

Tips to prevent vehicle theft

- Never leave your car running unattended.
- Don't leave your keys in the ignition, in a key box, or inside your garage.
- Do not leave valuable in your vehicle.
- Lock your car and roll up the windows.
- Use your garage when possible.
- Install a mechanical device that locks steering wheel.
- Make sure you have your license plate number and VIN written down somewhere accessible and not in the vehicle.

- Buy a vehicle security system.
- Park in a well-lit area with many people as possible around.
- Install a vehicle tracking device.
- Have VIN of the vehicle etched on windows and other major parts of your vehicle.
- Get to know your neighbors. Start a Neighborhood Watch Group.
- Install surveillance cameras that cover your vehicle when it is parked in front of your house.
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Questions

- **Where is the Sierra Corridor?** Lt. Koval advised all up and down Sierra Avenue.
- **Are certain types of vehicles being targeted?** Lt. Koval advised they are stealing pretty much everything however the most common ones are late model Hondas.
- **What are the normal staffing levels for the area?** Lt. Koval advised it really depends on the day and time. We usually have a minimum of 2 officers but on average 3 officers. On Saturday night we could have 4 officers.
- **Is the police department short staffed?** Right now we have 2 openings, however we have 68 patrol officers when we are slotted for 72. We have some officers out on light duty, 7 officers in training, 6 currently in the academy.
- **Does the police department have a lot of retirements coming up?** We had one who just retired today and Lt. Koval will be retiring in 2 months.
- **What is the sound of the modified exhaust that is supposed to be enforced in the State of California?** Police officers can now use their own judgment to determine if your exhaust noise is over the legal limit. Most factory-installed exhaust systems even on powerful sports cars do not exceed 75 decibels. Modified exhaust in California is only illegal only if noise emitted is over 95 decibels.
- **How often do police officers perform traffic stops?** Lt. Koval advised it really depends. When an officer has free time they will do traffic stops.
- **He lives on Live Oak and Cherry and hears accidents all the time. Advised he would like to request extra patrol for the area.**
- **Since you are retiring, who is going to be your replacement?** Lt. Koval advised it will probably be Lt. Koval but it depends on who will be promoted from Sergeant.
- **Just wanted to say thank you because at the last meeting she brought up at the base of the hill how there was a pile of weeds along the fence, it has been taken care of and appreciates it.**
- **Is there a stop light going in at Banana and Cherry?** Traffic Engineering Jeff Kim advised he will have to double check on that.
- **Suggested for the next meeting maybe having someone out there to do fingerprinting for children that way more parents will get involved and show up to the meeting.**

Next Meeting

May 23rd @ 6:30 pm, at Citrus High School (10760 Cypress Avenue)