

MINUTES

Area 3 Community Meeting

August 7, 2023 6:30 PM | *Cypress Elementary School* Area Commander Lt. Chris Tusant

In Attendance

Lt. Chris Tusant, Utilities & Streets Supervisor Rob Rigby, Landscape Technician Jose Orozco, Traffic Engineering Dave Teater, Traffic Engineering Ruben Hovanesian, Community Policing Technician Amber Smith, Community Services Celeste Sanchez, Officer Seins, Code Compliance Cynthia Gil, Code Compliance Supervisor Jason Barber, Engineering Shawn Matejcek, Victims Advocate Sharleen Omade-Large, Councilmember Sandoval, Councilmember Roberts and Mayor Warren.

Lt. Chris Tusant

- Welcomed and thanked everyone to the Area 3 Community Meeting.
- He is the Area 3 Commander.
- What can you expect from him as your Area 3 Commander:
 - He is proactive.
 - He is transparent.
 - He welcomes insight.
 - He is a big believer in results.
 - All of us working together is a partnership we need to work towards.
- We are always open for feedback, let us know when we are doing good and let us know when we have done something wrong.
- Issues that were worked on since the last meeting:
 - Fontana Library: Transient Issue
 - 20-50 transients were setting up camp around the library
 - We have made over 20 arrests and 100 advisal.
 - We have worked with the library to turn off their Wi-Fi when they are closed, which has helped the transient population around the library to find somewhere else to go.
 - Officers have done over 200 extra patrols in the area as well.
 - 17300-17400 blk of Anastasia and Merrill: Transient Issue, Heavy pedestrian and bike traffic with drug usage and stealing of items throughout the neighborhood.
 - Over 30 arrests for warrants, drug possession, weapons and stolen property.
 - Over 150 extra patrols in the area.
 - 9800 blk of Tangelo: Narcotics type trafficking
 - We worked with a resident in the area, and they were great and very helpful to work with.
 - Put our Narcotics unit on it and they watched the area for patterns and when they were able to, they served a search warrant.
 - Since the search warrant the odor in the neighborhood has gone away and traffic to the location has subsided.

- Stats for the month of June

	January	February	March	April	May	June
Calls for Service	4193	3868	4363	4684	4840	4663
Priority 1 Response Time	4:52	4:26	4:12	4:01	3:44	3:53
<u>Group A offenses</u>	331	309	309	275	344	325
<u>Crime Against Person</u>	84	81	82	79	103	80
<u>Crimes Against Property</u>	140	122	125	144	170	134
<u>Crimes Against Society</u>	107	106	102	52	71	111
Reports Taken	776	683	722	648	761	735
Arrests	281	253	297	158	234	254
Traffic Collisions	125	110	125	108	115	101
Injury	24	28	30	24	24	36
Non-injury	101	82	95	84	91	65

- During the summer months it is common that we see an uptick of certain crime such as grand theft auto.
- We did have 2 arson calls; they were both transient related.
- Crime against society are usually victimless crimes such as drug possession and possession of weapons. We have been getting a lot of weapons off the street. We are having an issue with Ghost guns which are hard to trace because they are put together with parts that have no serial numbers.
- Top 10 calls for service for June:
 - 415 Transient calls: 390
 - 415 subject calls: 291
 - Suspicious circs: 150
 - Animal Calls: 128
 - Area checks: 112
 - 415 Domestic (fights inside the home): 105
 - Advisal: 104
 - 415 Noise Calls: 82
 - Fireworks: 75
 - Suspicious subject: 70
- The important number to pay attention to is the response time. In January the response time was 4:52 and we have been consistently reducing that time and now in June we are at 3 minutes and 53 seconds.
- Upcoming Events:
 - 8/8-Community Center Open House at Don Day Center 5:30pm to 6:30pm
 - 8/8-Community Center Open House at Cypress Center 5:30pm to 6:30pm
 - 8/9-Community Center Open House at Jessie Turner Center 5:30pm to 6:30pm
 - 8/10-Farmers Market at Don Day Park 4pm to 7:30pm
 - 8/10-Community Center Open House at Heritage Center 5:30pm to 6:30pm
 - 8/11-Artist Workshop at Art Depot Gallery 4:30pm
 - 8/12-Fontana Walks! 6th year anniversary at Miller Park Amphitheater 7am to 8pm
 - 8/12-Fontana Expanded learning Program Hiring Event at Fontana Senior Center 9am to 2pm
 - 8/12-Family Fun Night at Oak Grove Park 6pm to 9:30pm
 - 8/13-Farmers Market at Fontana Park 10am to 3pm

- 8/17-Farmers Market at Don Day Park 4pm to 7:30pm
- 8/17-Annie Jr Auditions at Steelworkers' Auditorium 4pm to 8pm
- 8/20-Farmers Market at Fontana Park 10am to 3pm
- 8/24-Farmers Market at Don Day Park 4pm to 7:30pm
- 8/27-Farmers Market at Fontana Park 10am to 3pm
- 8/31-Farmers Market at Don Day Park 4pm to 7:30pm

Questions

- **With the 311 App you are able to turn in abandoned vehicles, however he has turned in several cars and they just sit there for months, and nothing is ever done with them.** Officer Sein advised the traffic unit has a folder with all the abandoned vehicle reports in it. One of our four CSO's usually goes out and marks the vehicle then we have to wait 72 hours to go back out and check to see if it has moved. He recently checked the folder and it seemed like they were up to date as there were no outstanding abandoned vehicle reports. Advised the resident to get with him after the meeting so he can get the information and he will check out the abandoned vehicle himself.
- **On the 311 App when you get out of the app and you go back into report something the system makes you either log back in or completely fill out the guest information. It is very time consuming whereas the other app you use to just go back into the app and it keeps you logged in.** Rob Rigby advised the 311 system is fairly new, so each department is continually working out the bugs. This concern was forwarded to our IT department, and they are currently looking into a solution for this problem.
- **What can be done with the cars that are abandoned however when the officers go and tag it they only move it up like an inch or two?** Unfortunately, there isn't' much that can be done if they move it a couple of inches. If it continues to sit there, please let us know and we will go back out and mark it again.
- **Thanked the officers who tagged and got rid of the golf cart that was left abandoned on the street in their neighborhood but wanted to know if the officers could have done something with the bolt cutters and the sledgehammer that was left on the seat of the golf cart because it did make several of the neighbors uneasy.** Lt. Tusant advised he does understand the concern of the sledgehammer and the bolt cutters, however, if our officers would have taken it and the owners came back it would have caused a problem because why did we confiscate their belongings.
- **Thanked all the staff for being at the meeting and advised he goes to church in the area, and they have been having a transient problem at their church, what guidance can be given to their congregation regarding the homeless population?** Lt. Tusant advised he would like to meet with him and take some officers to the church to actually see what the issues they are having. Requested he give his information to Lt. Tusant after the meeting so a meeting can be set up with the police department and the church.
- **Wanted to thank the police department for helping the homeless lady who is at San Bernardino Avenue and Alder, advised she constantly sees someone checking on her.** Our COAST Team has been out there numerous times providing resources to her.
- **The southeast corner of Motel 6 there was a fire, what was that about?** It was a transient arson fire. Mayor Warren advised the city is working hard on the homeless issue. We are close to getting our own shelter. The county recently adopted Laura's Law so we are looking to get some funding for that. Our rental situation not only in Fontana but the county and state as well is so bad, rent is so expensive. There has to be a pathway for young people to purchase homes in our area and we are working on several things to help with that.
- **Thanked the Mayor for all her efforts in working with the state and the federal government.**

- **Is Lt. Fileto no longer the Area Commander?** Lt. Tusant advised Lt. Fileto is now in charge of our Special Operations Unit, so Lt. Tusant works closely with Lt. Fileto. Lt. Tusant advised he came from Special Operations, and he likes to catch the bad guys so if there are any issues, please do not hesitate to contact Lt. Tusant either by email or phone. He can be reached at (909) 350-7706 or ctusant@fontanaca.gov.
- **Noticed the police department has a black jeep, did you get that to go up in the hills?** Lt. Tusant advised no it isn't for that, it is assigned to our COPE Unit, but we are working on an off-road program because the hills have been an issue for years.
- **Their church was going to have the fire department come and wet the kids however the day of the event they called and cancelled and said it was too hot.** Lt. Tusant advised our COPE Unit does tons of events for kids, they just had a Play Date at the park so keep an eye on our social media for those types of events and let your congregation know when they are occurring.

Next Meeting

December 4th at 6:30 PM at Cypress Neighborhood Center (8380 Cypress Avenue)