

MINUTES

Area 4 Community Meeting

August 21, 2023 6:30pm | Southridge Middle School Area Commander Lt. Tracy Dills

In Attendance

Traffic Engineering Dave Teater, Engineering Shawn Matejcek, Landscaping Technician Luis Torres, Officer Bagley, Sgt. Schlotterbeck, Code Enforcement Officer J. Pina, Code Compliance Supervisor Jason Barber, Community Policing Technician Amber Smith, Mayor Warren, Councilmember Jesse Sandoval, Victims Advocate Sharleen Omande-Large, Sgt. Gonzales, Sgt. Vogelsang, Lt. Tracy Dills.

Lt. Tracy Dills

- Welcomed everyone.
- He is currently the new Area Commander for Area 4. He currently works weekends and Monday. If you need to get a hold of him, you can reach him via email at Tdills@fontana.org. Email is the best way to contact him.
- The Area Commander Program was developed as a commitment to the Fontana Community in an effort to provide a more effective and intensive police response to specific community needs. The city is broken up in 4 areas. Area 1 is everything north of the 210 freeway, Area 2 is from the 210 freeway to Foothill Blvd., Area 3 is Foothill Blvd to the 10 freeway and everything south of the 10 freeway is Area 4.
- City staff introduced themselves.
- Crime Stats-

| Type | 2023 | 2022 | Change |
|-------------------------|------|------|--------|
| Calls for Service | 1941 | 1610 | 21% |
| Response Time | 5:17 | 7:02 | -25% |
| Group A Offenses | 121 | 161 | -25% |
| Crimes against Persons | 21 | 28 | -25% |
| Crimes against Property | 83 | 96 | -14% |
| Crimes against Society | 17 | 37 | -54% |
| Total Reports Taken | 242 | 297 | -19% |
| Arrests | 70 | 114 | -39% |
| Traffic Accidents | 45 | 41 | 10% |
| Injury Accidents | 13 | 6 | 117% |
| Non-Injury Accidents | 32 | 35 | -9% |

- Enhanced Traffic Enforcement -On 08/09/23 the Traffic Unit conducted a community enrichment detail in Area 4. The detail consisted of enforcement for speed infractions, commercial citations and abandoned vehicles follow ups, between the hours of 0700 and 1100. Below are the stats from that detail:
 - Citations: 51 for infractions and commercial violations

- Parking Cites: 66 commercial and abandoned vehicles.
- Tows: 16
- Arrests: 1 commercial driver used his brother's information when he was pulled over.
- Live 911 System-Officers can now hear 911 calls as they happen. It allows officers to start to the area of the call before it is even dispatched out to officers. Officers get real time information.
 - April 21-23-The city of Fontana's Community Services Department is inviting the community to the Spring Production of Disney & Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins, Jr. The show is a fun adventure for the whole family. Cost is \$15 a person at the Steelworkers' Auditorium.
 - Summer Camp-Registration begins April 1st for more information visit sumercamps.fontana.org or call (909) 349-6900.
 - There are more events listed on the city website.

Inland Valley SWAT- Sgt. Gonzales and Sgt. Vogelsang

- Sgt. Gonzales advised he has been with the police department for 22 years. He lateralled over from LAPD. Along with his duties on Inland Valley SWAT, he is also assigned to the patrol division, and he has been on SWAT for the last 18 years and is currently a Team Leader.
- Sgt. Vogelsang has been with the police department for 19 years but has a total of 25 years in law Enforcement. He lateralled over from Colton PD.
- Prior to 2012, the Fontana Police Department use to have their own SWAT team and in 2012 we ended up Regionalizing SWAT with Colton and Rialto.
- Our Inland Valley SWAT team consists of 51 members ranging from the 3-city collaboration with Fontana, Colton and Rialto. Fontana Police department makes up the bulk of the team because we are the larger agency.
- SWAT is then broken up into specialized teams:
 - Black Team-Specialized equipment team
 - Green Team-Entry Team
 - Silver Team- Entry Team
 - Red Team-Snipers
 - Hostage and Negotiations team
 - Which includes 3 dispatchers
 - Tactical Medic Team
 - 4 paramedics all from San Bernardino County Fire.
- To get on the SWAT Team there is a selection process.
 - Physical fitness test
 - Shooting test
 - Interview process
- Current equipment:
 - 4 Bearcats, Colton recently purchased a new one. These offer full armored protection.
 - A rook which is a tactical armored tractor.
 - Weapons include Colt 6946 Carbine and Remington 700
 - Less Lethal options such as sponge rounds.
 - Diversionary devices such as flash bangs
 - Chemical agents CN and CS gas
 - Robots-all of which have cameras and it saves officers from going in, most of these robots can also deploy gas.

- Type of calls SWAT responds to:
 - High Risk Search Warrants
 - Barricaded subject calls outs
 - Hostage situations
 - Riot Control
 - Mutual Aid-We actually went out on the Donner incident and the San Bernardino Shooting.

Questions

- **Landscaping along Jurupa in the medians, he was told it would happen when new development comes in, however along Foothill Blvd the medians are getting all new landscaping without any new development. What is the difference between Foothill Blvd and South Fontana?** Dave Teater with Traffic Engineering advised Mulberry to Hemlock along Jurupa will be getting all new landscaping it is already in the works, it should be getting started within the next couple of months. When we create projects, we try to concentrate in the areas that need the most attention
- **Advised the signs that use to go out to announce the meetings might be good in order to get more people to attend the meetings. There are some people who do not get on social media or haven't attended one of these meetings to get the reminders.** Community Policing Technician Amber Smith advised a request for the signs is always submitted for the meetings, however if something more important is happening within the city those signs might be pulled for those events. Lt. Dills advised here in Fontana we work with all departments.
- **Can anything be done with the RV's parking overnight in the park or in the shopping centers on Banana?** Lt. Dills advised if you see that give us a call. All parks close at 10pm and no one should be in there after that time. If they are in parking lots of shopping centers, we wouldn't be able to ask them to leave unless the business or property owner request that we do that, so it would depend on the businesses to call us.
- **They have the same problem of RV's parking overnight at the end of Canyon Crest.** You can call (909) 350-7700, to have an officer go out.
- **Are ATVs allowed in the hills?** Lt. Dills advised no they are not allowed; the best thing is to call our dispatch when it is happening.
- **There use to be a gate, but it was removed along Canyon Crest and never replaced.** Lt. Dills advised to send him an email with the information and he will look into who the right contact is to get that reinstalled.
- **How many calls is SWAT usually going to each year?** Sgt. Gonzales advised they tend to go to about 10-12 calls each year between all three cities.
- **How does the police department get all the equipment that the SWAT team uses?** Sgt. Vogelsang advised it varies sometimes it is grants but most of the time it is by what is called asset forfeiture, it is the money we have confiscated from these drug dealers and illegal activities, and it does not usually impact taxpayers in order to get the equipment.
- **Does the police department have drones?** Sgt. Gonzales advised yes and we do launch them every often.
- **Mayor Warren thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and advised our officers are second to none. We have our challenges, but we will get through them.**

Next Meeting

December 18th @ 6:30 pm, at Mary Vagle Nature Center 11501 Cypress Ave.