

# *Southwest Seattle Crime Prevention Council - Southwest Weed & Seed*

## Meeting Notes from Wednesday, September 6, 2006

**Call to order:** 7:02pm by Mariana Quarnstrom with 43 in attendance

### **Announcements**

- Precinct Picnic, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at SE Precinct N-4pm
- Concerts in Othello, Sept. 10, 17, 24, and Oct. 1 – 1-6pm in Othello Park
- Community Renewal Forum, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>
- Gang Prevention in Refugee Communities, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> – 9am-2:30p or 6-9:00pm at Doubletree Hotel, 18740 International Boulevard, Seattle, WA 98188

### **Chief Kerlikowske – follow-up from February meeting**

The chief opened with general comments about major incidents that have happened in Seattle since his last visit.

Sunday morning [9/3/06] Ted Jacobs died of cancer after 30 years on the police force.

October 20<sup>th</sup> – SPD Awards Banquet – officers James Parnell and Jacob Haynes will be honored.

Hiring process – currently there are four more officers than authorized string. This has been the highest recruiting process since the budget strain. Clear Channel has donated outdoor signs for recruitment.

*How many officers will be allotted to SE?* Southeast Seattle is currently five under the authorized string. On Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> meeting with the precincts. By November Homeland Security will be asked to return Patrol officers.

*Are officers still allotted to precincts by 911 calls?* No, it's a systematic process so that one precinct should have a long response to 911 calls. Right now the average response time is 6:41 minutes. The chief is entering negotiations with SPD guild for a new deployment scheme (definitely needed). *How receptive is the guild?* It's mandatory subject of negotiation, but the guild can't completely say, "No."

The chief got okay to hire 7-8 additional officers because it's a 9month hiring process.

**Action:** Petition City Council members for more uniform officers in precinct for taking dispatch calls in communities.

Crime overall in city down 15%, but up in SE due to youth violence and burglaries. Violent crime went up 25% last year including: people shot at and missed, people with guns pointed at them.

*Is it true gangs are moving up from Tacoma?* Sure, like shining a light on roaches (they scatter). Tacoma PD use to have a gang unit, and got rid of it. Now they've brought it back. Is true everywhere. There have been times when known gang members from LA have temporarily relocated to Seattle, because the heat was on them.

Homicide has been relatively low. *Is it due to bad aim?* 1) people not a good shot. 2) people are receiving good medical response on scene and at the hospital.

Gang Relation to violent crimes? Gang unit use to be 25 people. Now the unit is 6. The rest are spread to the 5 precincts, because the precinct captains know the city better than anyone.

*Is increase in shootings due to gangs?* Partially. Shooters are missing. Robberies are up. Not necessarily gang related.

*Gangs in Tacoma moving up to Seattle?* Tacoma did a way with their Gang Unit and now it's back. Like shining a light on roaches. They scatter until the heats off.

AFIS (Automatic Fingerprint Identification System) levy will be on the ballot. AFIS takes different fingerprints and runs through all prints in city. Example: On man was arrested on a misdemeanor and gave a false name, but when his prints were ran, they found that under his real name, he had a warrant for a felony. Sue Rahr and Norm Maleng wrote the description in the voter's pamphlet.

The Chief will attend a Violence Summit in Washington, DC.

President Bush has eliminated all grant funding that goes to public funds. He took the national money and applied it to the Iraq War and Anti-terrorism. Cities have to start taking responsibility for crime, (Homeland Security and Weed & Seed)

*There has been an increase of homeless people in the parks in the last 8-10 months. How will the Alcohol Impact Area effect this?* *The nearest place to buy liquor will be in Holly Park.* [The chief mention] "Wet Housing" – where people can drink inside the facility, but it keeps people off the street. [But his final answer is] "Don't know." It's too early to tell.

Gun control- Most shootings not don't by guns purchased at gun shows. Washington - produces our own guns. If recovered gun from crime, it was most likely was purchased here.

Feds investigate if you buy more than one gun in a 1week period from same establishment.

*Gun Policy?* A lot of people think if you buy assault weapons if you buy at a gun show, you should go through same process.

*Where does the policy state?* State legislature - only lost by 1 vote last year (5-4). Not like a lot of crime guns are from.

### **SPD Reports**

This & That Arcade – 9509 Rainier Ave S (57<sup>th</sup> & Rainier) - Successfully shutdown with SPD, the Community, and City Agencies all working together.

Break-ins – 50% of break-ins this week are because the homes were open or left unsecured.

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Lake Washington Apts - has had a significant increase in violent crime. Officers feel unsafe there. SPD and the City are going on walk-a-rounds with the property owners.

Franklin High School (FHS) - This summer there were problems due to poor communication about summer school programs and a lot of rivals. The School District is moving toward eliminated use of school buses. This year with the start of school, Franklin and Ballard High School are piloting the program, moving all bussing students to Metro. Because of the high volumes of students on the major street and inter-sections, a lot of officers will be put down there. SPD is worried about kids with idle time, while waiting for the bus for a half-hour and drivers looking for trouble. The officers deliver the message: 'There will be no problems today.' and 'No troublemaking.' SPD has done a lot of work with the Schools and they are building a good relationship. The School District and Laid Law are meeting in 3 weeks to review. Police will show flag [strong presence] for the rest of the week.

**Action:** Call school if kids causing trouble. Call Schools & Metro about getting more buses.

Praise was given to SPD for being proactive with the bussing situation at Franklin High School.

Football Game at Rainier Beach - Significant incident at Friday night. (opinion - GHS shouldn't have been brought down to Rainier Beach for game) players were paraded to the street to get to the bus. Angry spectators started rocking the bus and becoming violent. Every officer in the precinct was called to handle incident.

**A Message from Mark Solomon:** There are two times a year when we advertise our stuff for the taking – 1) at Christmas when all the recycle is on the front lawn in the morning, and 2) in the summer when we leave our windows and doors wide open. LOCK UP AFTER YOURSELF. If you're not home or in the room, lock the windows and doors. Remodeling is also a time when we advertise. Stuff may not yet be installed (like electric stoves), or may not be secured because of lack of walls/lockable doors (like televisions and computers). BE CAREFUL. Tools are often stolen from constructions sites because they are left out unsecured. Be wary of suspicious activity.

#### **Weed & Seed**

Rainier & Othello Businesses CPTED Follow-up - Ofc. McRae, Ofc. Alphin, Tuere Sala, Sarah Valenta, Veronica & Barb reached out to several businesses in the Rainier & Othello St. quadrant. Our intent was to: Involve businesses in neighborhood safety & beautification efforts already underway through ROSA/ ONA & others; Inform businesses about CPTED and potential to impact of safety & marketability; and Inform businesses of opportunity to apply for W&S façade grants. We sold 14 No Trespass signs and Barb will be working with manager of the Fontanelle on a W&S façade grant application for landscaping improvements.

Concerts in the Park – Randy Wiger, Othello Park Events Coord. There will be a four concert series on Sundays, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and October 1<sup>st</sup> from ~1-6:00pm in Othello Park. Part of the funding will come from W&S. Reason for concerts is to promote positive usage of the park.

(RFI) Request For Investment's are due in November.

East African Community Safety Forum – On August 26<sup>th</sup> forum was held at Aki Kurose. Great turn out, great discussions, Great food. 4 interpreted languages, 100 adult participants and 60 youth participants.

Lake Washington Apts. - (Pat, an ACORN representative, was present) – doing a walk through with police tomorrow. Steps in progress include: locking gate on Henderson St. (makes difference on the north side); putting up a guard shack; and issuing notices to tenants.

*Who manages the apartments?* There are many owner, but AF Evans(big company form California, but has a presence in Seattle) manages the apartments.

**Action:** Pat will talk to Terry Hirata about SHA contract with city.

**Action:** Administration come at night to see problem.

#### **Community Concerns**

Lake Washington Apartments – A letter from SSCPC was written to SEED asking them to address neighbors concerns about the Lake Washington Apartments. The response from SEED was passed around at the meeting.

Budweiser (and other alcohol) signs up all over the Valley, especially during SeaFair. Signs are allowed up 2 weeks per year, but never where alcohol is sold. Vendors get discounts and money for putting them up. It was suggested that KNL Distributing does the Budweiser distributing. Lakewood/Seward Park have been trying to work with them during SeaFair.

**Action:** take pictures of offenses and report it.

Speeding down Rainier at over 50 mph starting from Graham Street on south. People continuing to use turn lanes to speed pass traffic.

**Action:** Work with Rainier Valley Traffic Safety Project to notify them of spots that need focus. There will be "Your speed is" signs at the 9500 block and McClellan & MLK way. Leslie Miller, Sarah Valenta, and Dawn Trybjorn are on the committee.

**Action:** If it's on city streets call (206) 684-ROAD (7623), then press #00# to get traffic enforcement voicemail.

Leave a number for them to call you back.

Prostitution on Austin Street. Area is poorly lit.

Robberies on Rose St. – 15-20 robberies on the same street. May be related to prostitution, drug use & dealing in bus stop. (witnessed at 6am, 3:45pm, 5pm)

***Southeast Seattle Crime Prevention Council - Southeast Weed & Seed***  
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**Action:** Get group together to adopt problem. (There use to be a group, but the group disbanded – one frustration was with no immediate response because calls are answered on a triage basis. Police staffing hasn't grown in 15years.)

**Community Renewal Area (CRA)**

State law allows for a community, if it meets a certain amount of criteria, to be declared a Community Renewal Area. This allows a committee to buy and sale goods, and allows for eminent domain (thus the controversy). The reason it is being discussed now is because it is in the SE Action Agenda as a possible strategy for Physical Development. The Southeast District Council (SEDC) has not taken a position. But because SEDC follows-up on the SE Action Agenda, they have taken the initiative to do outreach. What SEDC wants/needs is feedback about parts we like and what parts we don't like. If the response from the community is "No", the Community Renewal Area won't happen.

**Adjournment:** 8:40pm