

*Southeast Seattle Crime Prevention Council - Southeast Weed & Seed
Meeting Notes from Wednesday, March 7, 2007*

Call to order: 7:07 pm by Mariana Quarnstrom, with **45** in attendance.

Night Watch/09 Cars – Lt. Pierre Davis

09 is a proactive strike team. This concept was tried in the 80's in response to gang activity. There were only had five officers in the gang unit. They trained patrol officers about what to look for, and the 09 Concept was developed. The 09 Concept includes: bicycles, foot-beat, and plain-clothed officers. When in uniform they are in black battle dress uniforms (BDU). You won't know if they are in plain clothes.

09 Cars have been put out since the beginning of the year, and work in partnership with ACT, DOC, and NCI. Increase in staff allows proactive police. Driven by citizen contact and information Captain Byers has received, 09 Officers have racked up several good arrests. You will see them walking in your neighborhood, in areas you don't usually see cars patrol. **Action:** Give officers wave and information about what's going on in your area. Crimes targeted are: gang banging, prostitution, and alley violence in Rainier Beach and along the whole Rainier Corridor. This includes the libraries and sometimes Skyway. The smallest type of infraction will get attention. If you don't see a change, let the captain know. 09 officers share information with other units (SWAT, DOC, etc.) to deal with long-range situations. They are looking to get high impact and re-offenders off the street.

Currently, the 09 Concept is only being implemented during 3rd watch (7:00p-4:00a). The goal is to fund 2-3 teams a night.

Skyway Bowl Update – Capt. DJ Nesel, King County Sheriff

In King County there are two deputies on duty 24-7, and one storefront officer. King County boundaries include: City of Burien, City of SeaTac, Federal Way, the water front, Seattle, Skyway, N. Highline, White Center, all unincorporated areas, and most of Skyway Hill to I-5. Seattle and King County are working together. They have the same complaints and same issues. Skyway is in unincorporated King County. In two years, Skyway will most likely go to Renton or Seattle.

Capt. Nesel received a letter from SSCPC, as well as others, written to skyway bowl about problems the business was having. It was good timing for letter. Notoriety stemmed from plans to incorporate helped the King County Sheriff get a meeting with the Skyway Bowl manager and the partnership began. The intent was not to shut the business. The goal was to make it safe and viable. At the time officers didn't even feel safe entering the facility. King County and Skyway Bowl came up with an agreement. So far each of the deal items have been addressed.

At recommendation of Metro KC, the security director was fired, and they brought in a new security director that is pro family-oriented business. Skyway Bowl also hired a Marketing Manager and PR person. New to the facility is a casino, so part of the agreement is to hire four off duty deputies. KC will bring in an undercover deputy. Patrons include a non-problematic, predominately Asian, crowd that comes to the casino for gambling, and a local crowd of people that live in area who are not a problem. The nuisance tends to come from people who live in the area, go other places to start drinking, then head back to Skyway Bowl and get drunk. Therefore, no more lobby drinking is allowed. The bar closes at midnight. Security will reduce to two off-duty deputies when drinking goes down. When officers feel it's under control, they will reduce to one.

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Deputy service is also contingent on an alcohol service code of conduct. Skyway is responding heard loud & clear. Dave Gutierrez, of liquor control, advises citizens to **report incidents**. King County needs to know what's going on. Don't be afraid to report. Cases stick better when criminal and administrative are done tandem. Rules will not bend for money. A no tolerance policy is in effect, and code of conduct is being strictly enforced. The business finds that it's working, because revenue is going up. A correlation can be made, because the shooting at the bowling alley occurred around the same time revenue hit bottom. Skyway Bowl is addressing the loitering problem with a no tolerance policy? They have cameras that survey the whole parking lot. It's assumed that people hanging out in a car for more than 15 minutes are selling or using dope. **Action:** call 911 to help generate statistics. A new trespass file is in effect, such that they're on, employees know who has been 86ed. Captain Nesel will send updates to Mariana Quarnstrom.

Weed & Seed Hot Spot Areas – Barb Biondo & Sarah Valenta

Notes were passed out. Sarah & Barb conducted a PowerPoint presentation. Rose Street has a high crime density, but no community visibility. **Is anything happening?** Notify Barb or other Weed & Seed reps about what's going on. barb@sngi.org.

SPD Reports by Captain Byers:

Home invasions have occurred, but it's not an epidemic. There have been a total of four this year. The first one was in Mt. Baker. The second incident was on S. Burns on Beacon Hill near Benefit Park. One patrol officer for the area was very lucky. While he was riding the district, he pulled over someone on a traffic violation. After he handed out the ticket and let the person go, the officer heard the home invasion call over the radio and realized he just had the perpetrator. The third incident happened last Friday. It was a burglary. No one was home, but **alert citizens called in**. Someone was robbing a grow house. Arrests were made. Home invasions or robberies take place by force or fear while you're home. The fourth incident happened on Monday, three blocks away from the previous incident. These home invasions are thought to be connected due to similarities, but it's not clear. Police think invaders may have hit the wrong house, as there was a clear motive to rip off a grow operation. It is hard to say if these incidents are gang related. Captain Byers will ask Mark Solomon to do a newsletter about home invasions. Mark Solomon's newsletters are receiving good write-ups in the newspapers, because they are informative and help prevent crime.

General crime stats are as follows (these numbers are not specific): SE has seen a 16% reduction in major crime since the beginning of year. Home burglaries are down 27%, probably because homes are being secured and have better surveillance. However, this is still an area of improvement for SE. All numbers are down except for armed robbery/home invasion. It may be because of too many guns. 09 Cars recover five to six guns a week on 3rd watch. Aggravated assault is down 22%.

The new Geo-Policing policy has been renamed Neighborhood Policing Plan. In April, there will be a big community meeting with the mayor and police officers to discuss it. The purpose of the new policy is to make the Seattle Police Department more effect in

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answering 911 call and proactive in crime prevention. Currently shift changes occur when the highest call volumes occur. South precinct will increase staff on busiest days and be on the street when calls occur. Patrol districts that have a high volume of calls will become smaller area with more officers. Districts with a low call volume will be larger with fewer officers. Through 2012 an additional 154 staff will be hired - 49 new officers a year above and beyond retirement.

No death resulted from the boat ramp shooting. It was not random. The victim knows who shot him and why. He doesn't want to give up info.

The officers involved in the car accident on 42nd & Rainier is not okay, but will survive. The officer is very banged up. The accident was the result of the officer responding to an arrest for the home invasion on S. Terry St.

Community Concerns

*Alleged drug sale, aggressive panhandling, and drunkenness are reported to be taking place in the parking lot of the Rainier Beach Safeway. Sometimes incidents occur in the daytime. The parking lot is dark. District offenders are being looked into. **Action:** Report incidents. If things go unreported police can't build stats or build nexus to act on. There was a mugging near the Rainier Beach Safeway between 6:30-7pm. Two patrol cars and the fire department were on site. Two guys jumped a man. It is not know if the incident occurred at Safeway or elsewhere. Because of limited officer, the Captain won't shift officers, incident to incident. However, more resources have put been in Rainier Beach than anywhere else in the Valley.*

Ron Momoda offered this Rainier Beach Library update: Cameras were installed 2 weeks ago, and the bike rack was installed with better visibility.

*Saar's parking lot music continues to be a problem for residents. How can they be required to lower the music level? Residents call 911 on a regular basis. People hanging out in the parking lot respond to Saar's music by bumping theirs louder at 2:00am. Contact the City Attorney Liaison John "Mac" McGoodwin and setup up a meeting with him, the residents and Saar's manger. **Continue to call 911 during incidents.***

A resident was subpoenaed to testify about a shooting between two neighbors on S. Dunlap off of MLK way. How does one find out the results of the trial without seeing those people? 99.9% likely to be in KC Superior Court, because it's a felony. The subpoena has # or contact paralegal on it.

Is camera on Orcas still there? The lights haven't been flashing. Yes the camera is still there. There may be a maintenance problem. Contact Lt. Nolan.

Dan Fink updated on Hillman City Market at 5701 Rainier Ave S.: Mac has been helpful in the process of stopping the store getting its liquor license. The comment period extended to March 25th. Liquor Control has already received 20 letters. Dan has a form letter, or contact info for you to send your own. It's easier to object to the store getting a license, than to take it away.

Residents report prostitution on Rainier & Mead, possibly centered around POCAAN. On Rainier & Orcas last Saturday morning a prostitute was allegedly witnessed with an officer from DOC. Hotspots are said to be along Rainier Avenue and MLK Way from Hudson-Mead Streets during 1st watch hours. CPT Jones responded: tremendous prostitution doesn't exist in Rainier Valley. There maybe six in the area. Officers can

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name them. The CPT unit has done several stings lately. Many arrests have been made. More stings are planned.

On Rainer & Mead sale drugs are reported and dealers always scatter when police come, but they come back later. Prostitution and drugs will always be a problem, but police will keep up their efforts.

Prostitution action is reported to be taking place along side the road next to Mt. Baker Park.

What is the plan for summer when school is out? The same plan as last summer. More cops will be on foot. SPD is collaborating with King County Sheriff. There are places King County can go that SPD can't (like shelters and bus stops). There will be a no tolerance policy for walking of curves.

David Wilkins suggested get 9-14yr kids hanging around Henderson St. interested in becoming officers, because other parts of the world where they could be in jail. Organize young people. Get little kids involved with blockwatch. They will caution drug dealers. His grandson is eager to meet police officers. SPD does have an Explorers option, but youth have to be a certain age. A school liaison is also in place. Parents should echo the behavior they want their kids to follow.

How are offenders getting guns? What typically happens with felons in possession of a weapon? DOC responded: Just because someone is a felon, doesn't mean they can't own a firearm. The crime must have been a violent crime. The law is based on criminal history or if the crime range will put in them jail. The biggest emphasis is on federal laws. DOC puts a big emphasis on felons with guns, and applies enhanced sentences laws. There is a lot of PR around office on the topic, but felons do what they want. If they do a crime, hopefully it will stick in court. Enhanced sentences are 5-10 years. The more they do, the more the sentence is enhanced. If there is room felons can be jailed. Jails are over crowded because NCI is doing its job.

Where it's illegal to have firearm, is it illegal to sale? Yes, usually illegal sales are of stolen guns.

Motion made by Grover Hayes to accept new bylaws. The motion was seconded. A vocal vote was taken. All approved, with no opposition.

Adjournment: 8:50 pm

Next meeting April 4, 2007 at SE Senior Center.