

***Southeast Seattle Crime Prevention Council - Southeast Weed & Seed
Meeting Notes from Wednesday, May 2, 2007***

Call to order: 7:07 pm by Mariana Quarnstrom, with **38** in attendance.

Announcements

Barack Obama will be in Seattle June 1st. There will be a public event TBA, and a private event at the Westin. Contact Marj Raunig for more info.

911 Communications – Captain Dick Reed

Captain Reed has been with SPD for over 22 years. Six months ago he was promoted to captain and assigned to the 911 Center.

In Seattle vast majority of funding comes from general fund.

872,000 calls were received in 2006. 29% were transferred. 10% calls for Fire (~87,000/yr.). And around 250,000 calls get dispatched to officers. Reports can be taken over the phone Monday-Friday, 7am-11pm. The call center at the West Precinct is the primary answering point for the Seattle area from landlines or cell phones. Once they figure out what kind of call it is, they will transfer you to, or conference you in with the appropriate center. Calls from I-5 or that require WA State Patrol follow the same procedure. University of Washington receives its own 911 calls, but sometimes cell users on campus may end up calling the main call center.

Before can operators can transfer a call they need to know what is the problem and where. The goal is to answer every call within 10 seconds (3-4 rings). But because of surge of call or spikes, this goal may not always be made. If waiting for longer than 15 seconds, you will hear a recorded voice saying, "Please stay on the line."

Action: Do stay on the line.

Operator/dispatcher/call takers job is to screen call within 60 seconds, because calls may be a life or death emergency. While figuring out where to get people to go, operators may screen, put on you hold to talk to secondary operator, or transfer you. 911 receives 2000 calls a day. Operators may appear abrupt to caller, may come off like not listening, or in a hurry. While they are talking to you 911 operators are running dispatch console where they type up the call on a computer-generated console that is sent to an officer. Rena, from the Training Department, is a community resource. She can schedule an hour+ to go into depth about 911. Rena (206) 684-8635 – leave voicemail. Rena is a Senior Dispatcher – D3 (senior trainer). There was a request made that Rena come out in October.

When do I decide to make 911 and what should I be prepared to tell them?

Be prepared to describe the who, what, when, and where. What's happening? What do see? What's criminal? What's suspicious? What do you want police to do? They may interrupt to figure out what's emergent about the situation. If isn't emergency, call the non-emergency line (206) 625-5011. If you go to www.seattle.gov/police in the right margin it describes when to dial 911 and how to get a hold of the police.

At point of dispatch there has to be a paper trail so people can follow up. How do get back a report? The Technology department has developed CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch. Call takers will type up event and the dispatcher makes the discretionary decision to dispatch an officer, which generates an event #. Usually officers are dispatched. If case is pursued the event number becomes the case number. If the event is cleared, it stays an event number. The last four digits of the event number, date, time, and locations of phone number are needed to pull up an event. If you want verification

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ask for an event number. Every a call is made its recorded. If have the phone number from which the call came, they can find a call. However it is made difficult to fine if you don't have the date, time, and location of the call. If you call 911 from cell and want to a make complaint with no event, verification is difficult. The problem is within the system itself.

When a call comes in does call it automatically get an event number? No. You have to ask for it. Not every call generates an event number.

When I call to complain about gunfire I get asked, "How do you know"? They have to ask. It is part of training and protocol. It's about verification. Which direction did it come from? The first question makes usually makes people think of that.

How get criteria with level 1,2,3 calls working in the new electrical system? Generally the goal is to respond to #1 priority calls in seven minutes or less. Other calls may take a little longer. Priority calls can be classified by the following criteria:

#1 – the situation is in progress, and usually against another person. Domestic Violence cases are usually a #1 because suspects are there.

#2 – include crimes against property that just occurred or serious crimes from the past.

#3 – is a report call that happened, but the suspect is not there now. It also includes accident reports and auto thefts.

Can we get a breakdown of response time, by priority (not just ones, but twos and threes as well)? Basic statistical information is available in the annual report.

Do police ever do TV Spots to tell this to the public? It would be good to get out (around 8:30p). There use to be a show called to have "Beyond the Badge". There have been various TV spots, but not 911 specific. Police have tried media outreach.

Is effort made to recruit operators from 98118? 911 is currently hiring www.seattlepolicejobs.com. The 911 Communication Center is on the 2nd floor of the West Precinct. Employees walk, bus and drive to work.

Weed & Seed Hot Spot Areas – Barb Biondo

Weed & Seed is a Department of Justice Program that brings more resources into surround crime hotspot areas. Weed & Seed update flyer was shared.

Auto Fitness Carwash & Grubbs Grill (Rainer & Garden): Police, the City Attorney, and other agencies have been working on the issues. John McGoodwin said there have been no resent reports or problems out of south precinct. They don't have their final permit yet, but are allowed to wash one car at a time.

Boyd Properties: Barb Biondo has been encouraging them to make external and lighting improvements. They have also been working with CJ. Cars parked in right-of-way are still an issue, but owners are working with Mike Alphin to get cars (used for prostitution) towed. There is a community push to get defined sidewalks and eventually curves.

Managers signed up for LLT.

Lake Washington Apts: Priscilla Call, from SEED, reports fence work has been started. The will begin implementation from Mapes Creek and going down hill to the trees. Last weekend people were noticed, at night, looking at the gate leading to Safeway. A few days later that gate was tied to truck and broken off. It is unknown if Safeway's security cameras captured the event.

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DPD approved the guard shelter unit today. Work should start before end of May. Once started should take three weeks. Once guard unit goes up, then Burdex cameras will be installed and monitored.

The youth initiative may provide an opportunity for working with the community. One of the service projects could take place at the Apartments. Ideally it will be less than 30 youth. They are looking at the potential of it being held in one of the vacant units. The mayor's office will provide additional security during program hours. There will be an Arts Program. Community movie nights have been stopped because they haven't had a manager to run them. They are looking for a manager with social work experience. In the interim, Brandon, the Regional Manager for AF Evans is at Lake Washington Apartments 2-3 days a week. There is also a floating manager, just not in the office. Depending on the weather, the exterior will be painted by end of month. Other Capital improvements should be done by end of month.

Additional questions were raised about the security system, communication with police, and the timeliness of the entire process.

SPD Reports by Captain Byers

- Captain will check with Safeway about camera on gate. And will follow up with officers
- Captain Byers commented on methods of pursuing a shooter: Methods used in the past were to contain and negotiate, but that has changed since Columbine. Since then, once a year there has been a similar situation. Now they use rapid intervention. South precinct police received information about an active shooter on Charleston St. A 911 call-in dispatched officers to a Domestic Violence disturbance. They said they heard gunshots (which makes it a priority). When police got there they heard shots going on. One woman came out of house said, "the guy just shot a gun." Two rifle officers formed a combat team and were able to take the guy by surprise. The shot heard was a test, but officers saved the life of the intended. Not all cars have a rifle team. There is only one rifle program per squad.
- General crime stats (Jan-April) as compared to previous quarter: Total offences are down 10%. Armed robbery is alarmingly up. They are not so business robberies, as from the street (cars-jacking and the like.) Aggravated assault is down significantly. Home break-ins/Burglaries are up a little. Auto theft is down over 21%. Captain Byers gave kudos to his staff for the good job they have done.
- Mt. Baker started a safe neighborhood committee. A new lead from the group helped police catch and an arrested a Franklin HS student linked to 4 out of six break-ins.
- Officers responded to suspicious, but not criminal behavior. Is that because officers were available to be dispatched? A Suspicious person that appears to have criminal intent warrants a police response - "note Mark Solomon's newsletter." The report said "kids walking across property and looking in windows, during school hours."
- On Sunday, 2am, police responded to a 'friendly argument' that resulted in a shooting on the 7100 block of 44th Ave S. Captain Byers was there. Guys got in an argument one man got shoot with a low caliber in the foot. No arrests have been made at this point. But whenever a gunshot occurs detectives have to follow-up.
- Don Jones reported: 31st Ave S - Anna Brown is having task force meeting tonight, suggesting get redesigned traffic circles. Rainier has slowed down with one lane.

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106 school zone tickets have been issued. The Lydar laser can pick out any car. There was no update on the traffic camera.

- John McGoodwin is doing a great job, especially being pro-active with alcohol incidents.

Community Concerns

DESC: Ray Akers remarked that large block of funding has been approved and it appears they will get all of their funding. The facility won't be bigger than fifty 300square foot units with a shared kitchen. There will be security and cameras. There some community support for the facility, but Ray believes the population served should not be housed in this community. References were made to the neighborhood plan from Graham St. – Chubby&Tubby on MLK and the hill above Columbia City. Ray would like to take provisions in plan. F2C, F2B, and F2A to the Executive Committee, so they can take to SEDC. Ray said there are three DESC projects currently on the drawing board. One of the locations is unknown. He encouraged a re-visitation of the neighborhood plans and announced a workshop with Councilmember Clark on May 19th in City Hall from 9am - noon.

Traffic: Grover Haynes voiced concerns that SDOT is still looking at reducing lanes from Orcas to Alaska streets, because Darigold is moving HQ to Spokane. They will have 18-wheelers trying to get through the area and is worried about cars. Ron Momoda commented that lane reduction from 57th down Rainier Ave towards Renton is good, but bad in city. Denise Gloster agrees with the lane limits, as its good for pedestrian traffic. She is all for slowing down traffic in Business District. Changes won't be implemented until after light rail completion.

Adjournment: 8:40 pm

Next meeting June 6, 2007 at SE Senior Center.