

Rampart Community Police Advisory Board

Minutes for the meeting of October 5, 2021

Location of Board Meeting: 1401 W 6th Street LA, 90017

Individuals in Attendance: 22

Members:

Cochran, Sandi
Zapanta, Sonny
Reynolds, Ronda

LAPD:

Captain Lopez, A
Captain Mota, M
Sgt Garcia, M
SLO Solorio, R
SLO Zeigler, M
SLO Nguyen, R
SLO Garcia, Danny
Officer Ulloa, Hector
Detective Smith, Albert

Guest:

Castañeda, Vilma
Ling, Hua
Corona, Aurora
Medina, Francisco
Sandoval, Zeke
Mendoza, Reyna Lopez
Knecht, Kurt
Corona, Andy

Attendees Roll Call taken:

Chair Person Bertha Woolridge call the meeting to order. Attendance taken.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:19 PM, by Chair Person Bertha Woolridge.

Minutes Approved:

Approval of meeting minutes is required. Sandi Cochran approved minutes at 6:20PM.

- Introduction of attendees.
- Captain Lopez opened with salutations and expressed gratitude for all in attendance.
- Captain Lopez provided divisional update.

*Captain Lopez talked about walking in Echo Park and the revisualization of Echo Park as well as anti-revisualization. There was approx 300-400 people enjoying the park (community members and first comers). There were a lot of great comments and positive things said by community members. It was the right choice to close down the park in March, 2021, clean it up, and give it back to the public. The

support of Councilman Mitch O'Farrell worked out real well.

The reason Captain Lopez brought this up is because we are going to go back to Mac Arthur Park. CPAB Co-Chair Woolridge will conduct the vote to find a president of that of Mac Arthur Park sub-committee tonight.

Last week, the notice went out to homeless individuals in the park and to the general public as well as it has been covered in the news media outlets/ social media. Mac Arthur Park will close on October 15th, 2021 at 10:30PM. There have been multiple homeless outreach efforts . The city is looking at what's going in the park, damage to the park, looking to return the park back to the public, and they are looking at the violence that is hiding amongst the homeless people living in the park. Mac Arthur Park generated 13% of our violent crime in Rampart area for the past five (5) years. There are three (3) major gangs that cover that park and the violence from those gangs is increasing. Therefore, the move to rehabilitate and retake the park is prudent for the safety of all.

They started installing fence posts on Monday (Oct 4), the following Monday (Oct 11), they will start fencing off the park but they won't close park until Friday (Oct 15th).

This afternoon (October 5th), we met with a couple of activist groups, LA-CAN and Ground Game-LA , two (2) very distinct groups. They are very pleased at all the outreach that our city partners have done over the last nine (9) months. Since January, 2021, they have housed over 166 people. That number is changing every day, they housed four (4) people yesterday. It has been done by LAHSA and PATH. They are giving the homeless housing, resources, and things they need to have done. It's inhumane to have living on the streets and in tents. LAHSA and PATH are doing a great job.

LASAN (LA City Sanitation Dept) is also cleaning in and around the park more often, three (3) cleanups a week that have been going on the last three (3) weeks in the area of Mac Arthur Park, and in and around the surrounding area.

They are going to repair all the grass, sprinklers, lighting, trim down all the trees, there will be additional lighting, and they will re-look at the lake and attempt to make the water much cleaner (they may not drain the lake). There will be a lot of cosmetic work done to the south side of Mac Arthur Park for the next ten (10) weeks and then they will move to the north side. Capt Lopez highlighted that they may not have to fence off the whole north side. They do not want to fence off new playground that opened up two (2) weeks ago and they do not want to fence off soccer field because that's where kids play soccer and there are adult leagues there as well. The area along Alvarado (by restrooms) might need to be fenced off. We have a lot of support from the community. We have to increase community input into the park, repurpose it, and refocus it and that's what we need from all of our partners. We need continuous outreach. If homeless people return, we need to get those people resources/ housing immediately.

* Capt Mota provided crime update. Capt Mota highlighted that last homicide in Ramp was on 7-17-21, was the 13th homicide. Capt Mota indicated that we had one (1) last night but County DA is reviewing it as justifiable, so it won't count against us. Homicides YTD vs last year YTD we had 17, so we have

24% reduction. We are down on rapes, we are down on robberies 3% YTD 2021 vs last year YTD 2020, 20 crimes fewer than last year, but still though we have 378 robbery victims. We are struggling and are up on aggravated assaults. We are up 65 aggravated assaults YTD 2021 vs YTD 2020, most of those aggravated assaults happened in and around Mac Arthur Park. Weapon of choice is physical force, knives, and machetes . We have less violent crime with handgun use.

When it comes to shots being fired, we have 11% reduction YTD 2021 vs YTD 2020. Actual victims shot YTD 2021 is 21 vs 41 YTD 2020. We have gone weeks without having a shots fired incident. Last week, we had five (5) straight days of evidence of shots fired, no victims hit, and then we followed up with one (1) incident on Sunday, two (2) on Monday. Unfortunately, we are starting bad. Even though that happened, not doing bad on violent crime in an overall sense.

When it comes to property crime, we have struggled in this area all year long. GTA's specifically. Last month, we had a catalytic converter theft prevention event at Temple/ Beaudry. We have another one next week at 4666 Santa Monica Bl at the AM/PM from 9AM-1PM. We had a license plate theft prevention event wherein we install anti-theft screws on cars at Bellevue Park. SLO's disseminate information on social media apps to garner community support/ attendance.

Capt Mota highlighted the Violent Crime Task Force at Mac Arthur Park to reduce incidents of violent crime. There has been approx thirty (30) task forces at the park. Violent crime started to spread out of the park so task force parameters were increased, Hoover to the west and Union to the east. There has been two (2) guns recovered from those operations, 13 felony arrests, 91 misdemeanor arrests, and 456 Release From Custody's (drinking in public, etc). Overall, 177 citations. Central Traffic Motors helped out in that area as well. The unfortunate effect is that crime moved east toward 110 freeway and also from 3rd St to James M Wood Bl so we have shifted our resources. We constantly strategize on car deployment regarding violent crime and property crime. We are ranked 10 out of 21 in the whole city in violent crime but for property crime we are at 15 out of 21. Total Part 1 Crime, we are ranked 16. We will get better together, we are working on improvement.

- In light of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Guest Speaker Albert Smith, Rampart Domestic Violence Detective provided CPAB overview of what Domestic Violence is, what it entails, signs of what to look for, community outlook/ views of violence by a highly immigrant community group,

particularly in Rampart. Detective Smith elaborated on power and control, but did indicate that detectives have made outreach to the community to educate and empower victims to stand up to the violence for themselves. Detective Smith provided information so he can be invited to outreach with community groups.

- Guest Speaker Reyna Lopez Mendoza works at Rampart Station and is a Victim Service Representative Advocate for LA County DA's Office. Speaker Mendoza detailed what services she provide. Victim Service Representative provide help to assist and connect victims to services. Whether it's how to get restraining orders, navigate criminal justice system, or assist victim's on how to get shelter, or how to apply to victim's compensation program to get funds to help offset expenses incurred as a result of whatever crime they are a victim from. Guest Speaker explained how they get referral from officers. Guest Speaker Mendoza provided information on how to get in contact with her.

Traffic Report provided by Sonny Zapanta

(comparisons between August 2021 and September 2021)

Primary Collision Factor:

21456(a) VC- Failure to yield to vehicle in crosswalk

21235 VC- Prohibited or restricted acts on scooter

Primary collision for Fatal collision:

Ped in roadway and Unsafe entering from stop sign

Severe Traffic Collisions:

2 vs. 5, we are down 60%

Total Fatal Collision:

0 vs 0, no change, 3 YTD

DUI Related:

6 vs. 10, we are down 40%

Felony Hit and Runs:

12 vs 18, we are down 33%

Felony Hit and Runs A-Injury

0 vs. 2

Vehicle Vs Ped:

1 vs. 2, down 50%

Bicycle Involved T/C:

0 vs 1, down 100 %

Bicycle Involved K T/C:

1 vs. 0

Officer Ulloa provided summary of what he does. Safety Safe Routes to school in the morning, followed by traffic enforcement regarding bicycles, and scooters. Ulloa explained laws regarding scooters.

- *Youth Committee Update provided by Officer Carlos Diaz
- CPAB Mac Arthur Park Sub-Committee vote. Co-Chairperson Sandi Cochran elected.

- Sgt Garcia provided Community Events updates
 - * Tip-A-Cop (Special Olympics Fundraiser) 10-9-21 at 1100-1400; Langer's Restaurant, 10-20-21
at The Habit Grill on Sunset Bl
 - * OCB; 11-03-21 Special Olympics Run it incorporates officers/ community
 - * Gun Violence Summit; 10-20-21
 - * Hispanic Heritage Unity Walk and Celebration; 10-10-21
 - * Fall Festival and Resource Fair; 10-28-21

Meeting Adjourned : 7:27 PM