

**Devonshire Area
Community Police Advisory Board Meeting
August 21, 2024**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Visitor(s):

Maggie Elliot, Southern California Preparedness Foundation

Guest Speaker:

Vanessa Willis, Senior Management Analyst with the City of Los Angeles, Office of the City Administrative Officer, Program Manager for Unarmed Model of Crisis Response Team (UMCR)

- UMCR is a 911 diversion program created to ensure that appropriate response is being sent out to all calls for service
All calls are accepted via the 911 or non-emergency 1-877- ASK-LAPD line for low level, non-violent, non-urgent calls
UMCR sends the calls to mental health, substance abuse and community outreach specialists
Aim to use the lowest level of intervention to resolve incidents
- Exclusionary Criteria for UMCR Team are:
 - Violent crime in progress
 - Requires immediate medical attention
 - If the person requiring assistance is confirmed to be under 18 years of age (can assist if a parent requires help and there is a child present with the adult)
 - 3 or more people needing assistance

The exclusionary measures were developed by communicating closely with LAPD as safety measures as for the responders who are clinicians, social workers, RN's, former EMT's, to keep them safe

- Calls handled by UMCR
 - Well-Being Check -- When there is a concern of quality of life of an individual
 - Disturbances – Majority of the cases fall under Disturbances
 - Intoxication – seemingly under the influence or using narcotics but not in or operating a moving vehicle
 - Indecent Exposure – when individuals are not adequately clothed or are not capable of covering themselves and not engaged in lewd contact
 - Mental Health Crisis -- if someone is suspected of or diagnosed with a mental health crisis (SMART Team handles cases when weapons/violence are involved)
- UMCR response cannot be made directly
All calls are diverted through the Communications Division (9-1-1) where the Call Center is trained to determine which calls are appropriate for the UMCR to handle
- Patrol Officers in the field can request UMCR directly if they feel that the case they have been called to can be best handled by UMCR or request to follow up with the individuals because of the

resources available to the UMCR such as transporting clients to shelters, transitioning housing, etc., immediately

- Since the launch of this program in March 12, 2024 in the 3 LAPD Divisions, there has been a total of 1, 919 calls
- Call of Service Stats by LAPD Area
 - Devonshire Division – 301 Calls
 - Southeast Division -- 243 Calls
 - Wilshire Division -- 446 Calls
- Breakdown By Call Type
 - Disturbances are the highest in call types, followed by mental illness, and well-being checks
- Response Time by LAPD Area
 - Devonshire Division -- 26:16 minutes
 - Southeast Division -- 16:50 minutes
 - Wilshire Division -- 31:02 minutes
 - Total -- 24:43 minutes

One of the objectives of the UMCR is to lessen the burden on law enforcement so they can respond to higher acuity calls efficiently and quickly, currently averaging under 25 minutes

- Example of a UMCR in Devonshire Division which was successful --
A call came for an individual who refused to leave someone's private property and scattered his items all over. The responding UMCR Team spent time building a rapport and the Individual felt comfortable to share what he was going through as well as his experiences and in the end accepted the external services for homelessness and was transported to a shelter

Q&A:

- What percentage of the calls are with people experiencing homelessness?
At the last check, 10% of the clients were people experiencing homelessness. There is a great need for this service and the UMCR team respond to calls regardless of a person's housing status. There are so many mental health issues out there but not all cases are homeless related
- Are officers standing by when you respond to calls which involve mental illness or under the influence of substance because some situations can turn violent?
UMCR has the ability to send back the case to law enforcement should the team feel it is necessary – this happens infrequently
Out of the 2000 cases UMCR has responded to, only 5% have been returned to LAPD to handle
- What are the hours of service provided and how many people are on the team?
UMCR is available 24/7, 365 days/year including Holidays
There are at least 2 teams available around the clock in all divisions, each team consists of one vehicle with 2 responders
When there are no calls, the responders are waiting.
These group of responders are very passionate and want this program to succeed.
They see the need up close and would like to receive more calls
- With a lot of calls involving minors coming in, will the program expand to include youth under the age of 18?
This is a pilot program and will be looking into expansion in a number of areas
The limitations on minors was under the recommendation by the City Attorney's office for legal reasons

- Do you get many repeat calls to the same location?
UMCR tracks repeat callers and repeat locations
The pilot program is to learn the best way to do this job for the City of Los Angeles, so the calls are tracked and are regularly reported to City Council with metrics of our performance
- When calls are of services are diverted to the UMCR from dispatch, once that intervention is completed, the disposition of that call is reported to LAPD
- Sgt. Torres has asked to connect with UMCR to learn more about their program and how they can work efficiently out in the field
- What is the difference between UMCR and the Circle Program?
Circle Program operates in different LAPD divisions and they only target the homeless population and will only respond to the unhoused whereas UMCR responds regardless of housing status, in both public and private locations. UMCR is a little broader than the Circle program.
- What happened to the Crisis Response Team?
That is a county program

State of Devonshire – Capt. Burns

- All the Basic Car positions have now been filled
- There was a shooting on Tuesday at the gas station on Parthenia St. and Tampa Ave.
The victim was shot with a BB Gun and did not sustain serious injuries
Based on the officers' quick work, video from the gas station and distinct tattoo marks, the suspect was in custody a few hours later
This was a random unprovoked attack
- Violent crimes are down by about 18% YTD
Burglaries are down by 16% which is about 100 burglaries less compared to this time last year
A few arrests have been made but please continue to be vigilant and harden the target
Grand Theft Auto (GTA) is still up YTD, over a 30% increase compared to last year which is about a difference in about 150 cars
- Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) Update –the ALPR's are scheduled to be installed starting the first week of September
CD 12 will most likely hold a press conference once all 100 are installed and working as this is a pilot program for the City

Senior Lead Reports:

17A23 SLO Efen Corral

- Residential burglaries were up in gated communities north of the 118 Freeway and west of Tampa Ave., but by utilizing the volunteer community patrol, extra patrols and adding visibility, the numbers have come down
- Have increased extra uniform patrols around the Chatsworth Station and this has also helped in bringing down the numbers in this area
- Officer Corral is now back full time from medical leave

17A35 SLO John Parker

- Burglary numbers are down but they are still going on
- Grand Theft Auto and Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle is an issue – advising the community to place tracking devices in the vehicle for faster recovery

Auto-related thefts are still high especially catalytic converter thefts. Suggesting a chain hooked on to the vehicle to or a shield is placed over the catalytic converter to make it harder to access

17A49 Acting Senior Lead Officer Anthony Sigston

- Been working on the area of Devonshire St. and Balboa Blvd as well as around Petit Park with homeless issues and have been working on reducing crimes in the area

17A67 SLO Sandra Zamora

- There has been an increase in encampments by Vanalden Park and have asked the Sheriff's HOST team to clean up the area along the channel
- Working with CD 12 to beautify the hill on the east side of Reseda Blvd., and Parthenia St.
- Holding a Business Watch meeting with businesses along Reseda Ave, South of Parthenia on 9/5 Working on the flyer
- Next Basic Car Meeting is September 25 with the American Red Cross doing a Stop the Bleed Training

A81/A95 SLO Sean Taylor

- There is a new director and assistant director of security at the Northridge Fashion Center
- Looking at strategies to curtail thefts in and around the mall
Gang and Vice Unit was working detail at the mall when there was a theft at JC Penney. The suspects were taken into custody. Would like to deploy the gang/vice unit again to these high crime areas
- Cleaned up an encampment by the tracks at Mason Ave. and Prairie St.
- Auto theft stats – in 2024, 60% of catalytic converter thefts were from Toyota Corollas and 20 % Toyota Prius where as in 2023, the stats were the other way around
Other vehicles targeted for catalytic converters have ben Toyota Tacomas, Toyota Tundras and Honda Accords
Grand Theft Auto – Targeted vehicles have been Chevy Silverados, Honda Civics, Nissan Frontiers and all models of Hyundai's and Kias

Sgt. Jose Torres

- Announcement/Introduction of new Officers to the Community Relations/Senior Lead Office:
 - Sgt. Barragan is the new Sergeant for the Community Relations Office
Sgt. Barragan served as the Senior Lead Officer at the Office of Chief of Police
 - 2 open Senior Lead Officer positions have been filled.
Starting soon for 17A49 is SLO Greg Andrachick and for 17A81 is SLO Anthony Sigston
Updated Basic Car/Senior Lead Info sheet is being prepared
- Please share the upcoming fundraisers that are coming up in Devonshire
 - CPK Fundraiser on 9/5
 - S.O.L.I.D. All You Can Eat Pasta Dinner 9/27
Devonshire PALS Bingo Night 9/27
 - Devonshire PALS Golf Tournament in November 11

C-PAB Reports/Updates

- OVB Reserve Officer/Volunteer Appreciation Lunch
- Next meeting is In-Person on September 18, 2024 at 7PM

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51PM