C-PAB meeting notes September 20, 2023
Called to order at 12:05 PM

Welcome Betty Ley
Pledge of Allegiance by Bonnie
Prior to starting Betty explained that desperately needed someone to take minutes. Tom reluctantly offered to do so for this month only.
Meeting Minutes Motion to Accept: Motioned by Bonney - 2nd by Jerry. Minutes approved.

Captain Townsend Mission Update:

Violent crimes are down for the year. Homicides are down 77%. We currently have 2 year to date and last year we had 9. We also have good news in that we have a new Captain I starting here in mid-October. Captain Lisa Ruvalcaba. She has been working at Office of Operations for some time, has worked in the Valley and will be a welcome addition to our Area.

Q &A
A question was posed about a recent death and Captain Townsend explained that it was an accidental discharge, not a gang related shooting.

SLO’s Reports:

SLO Carter: YTD crime is down 21%, violent is down about 15%. Yesterday I and SLO Crawford worked with the Council Office, DOT and Sanitation on RVs near Juvenile Hall. This Saturday we have an event, MoveYourWayLA running SF Road from Van Nuys to Bledsoe and then to Lakeside Park. Come on out and see us.

SLO Crawford: Overall 22.5% down, Also working RVs near Maclay and with the grocery stores on shoplifting. Recovering numerous Hyundai and Kia stolen cars but will leave that the for Auto Theft Det.

SLO Ruiz: Crime was -21% is no down 17.9% - also GTA is a sore spot particularly near Laurel Cyn and near SF High. Violent is down 32%. Rapes are up but all are relationship related. Survey coming up about Sepulveda Blvd changes. Neighborhood watch meeting are back in person.

SLO Cuellar: Overall stats are down. North Hill working encampments, housing and cleaning.

SLO Smith: Robberies and burglaries are up. Robberies are often shoplifts ending in bodily force. Back doing cleanups at the park. Will be citing after sunset.

SLO Martin: Mostly down but Agg Assaults are up which were mostly related to DV which is hard to combat with the density of the area. Walmart and Food4Less walk outs are down. Part 1 is down 11%. Developing relationships with new CD6 folks.
**Presentation by Detective Jeff Case – Mission Auto Desk**

I have been in charge of the Auto Desk since January. We convey anything from vandalism to GTA. Roughly 300-400 cases per month. We are down 11% on GTA but still cannot give every case the attention we would like to. In the end of May zero bail took effect. We were averaging 70 GTA/month. Since July we are at 130 per month. Last week we arrested four people for GTA and all had prior GTA arrests. Three of the four were released on zero bail. Mission is #1 with 640 vehicles stolen this year. We are doing very well in recovering about 61% which ranks us #2 in the city.

The rise is being led by Hyundai and Kia using the USB cord method made popular on TikTok. The recall and software update is not perfect. June 1 to the end of August – 151 of those were stolen. We are holding EVERY one for prints to try to figure out if we have a ring of thieves.

Newest trend is tailgates. One tip would be to slip an air-tag or other tracking device in the tailgate.

Other tips would include take your keys out of the car and don’t leave valuables in the vehicle. Also, do NOT leave a pink slip or title in the glove compartment. A recent case involved the thief signing the title to themselves after finding it in the car. GPS trackers are also helpful. A recent victim heard the glass shatter, tracked her car and called the police. Tracker started to beep as it moved the thieves stopped to find it. Before they did the police where on the scene. In another case a pair of air-pods in a stolen auto led police to a hotel where they did a probation search and found property from eight victims.

Some Clubs are available today. If you have a Hyundai and Kia please take one. Park in a garage if at all possible.

We were having 7-8 catalytic theft per week we are now down to 2-3. The draw is the precious metals in the device. Because of the volume it is now taking much longer to find replacements. We are offering etching to permanently label the converter to help police prosecute cases. If you have a targeted vehicle you need to take extra care. Consider shields, cage or cable. Etch or paint the device with bright paint (Hi-temp paint!) Cameras, etc. Also, Ring has just released a camera that work in a car using the ODB service plug. It also allows two-way communication. Not cheap at $250 plus a monthly fee.

If you see a car slowly driving the area at 2 am call the non-emergency line. They may be looking for Catalytic converters to steal.

Q&A proved that this was very thorough presentation.
Quality of life:
Dave Brown provided an update.

Additional Comments:
Next C-PAB meeting October 18, 2023, in-person masks are not required.

Announcements:
If you’re available to help obtain donors for OAD request fun flyers and request letters are on the sign-in table.
We need help with a Secretary and on lunch/snacks for meetings. Please volunteer.

Adjourned 12:55 PM