Announcement:
Long time C-PAB member Tom Williams passed away during his road trip to Alaska
Services are scheduled for September 29, 2023 – the information has been sent out to C-PAB members

Guest Speaker: Sgt. Juan Escobar, Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD)
- Sergeant in the North District of LA Unified which encompasses the entire Valley
  - Currently in the Valley, there are 6 Supervisors, 1 Lieutenant and appx. 45 officers including the officers who are contracted with the Charter Schools and the officers at the Police Magnet on an instructional-based partnership
  - Budget reduction during Covid led to a resolution of no school police on campus
    - In Devonshire Division, other than Granada Hills Charter HS which has 2 officers on Campus, the other campuses are all patrol-based
    - LASPD will respond when a request is made by the school
    - Before the budget cut, there were about 60 to 70 officers in the Valley
    - LASPD is currently trying to rebuild and is hiring constantly as the number of officers were down coming out of Covid and the budget cuts
  - There were many threats made during Covid and LASPD are continuing to deal with threats
    - There is LASPD presence on campus when someone a request has been made as a result of property crimes or thefts
      - Patrols around the schools in the morning, during the day and during after school hours including traffic enforcement or when there is an uptick in crime such as robberies and gang tensions
  - When officers are assigned on campus as a result of increase in crimes, the request is made by the school to the district operations and then to the school board for approval
    - As to how LASPD is responding, they are doing what they can with the resources that they have
    - LASPD loses relationship-building for not being on campus however not being on campus has helped with response times as they are more patrol-based
      - When in need of additional response, LASPD reaches out to local agencies for resources
  - Staffing is M-F, 6 AM to 11 PM and weekends and graveyard shift are filled by an on-call team
    - Some other responses are taken by local agencies

Questions/comments:
- How many LASPD officers are there in the Valley?
  - East of the 405, there are about 14 officers, 2 detective and 3 supervisors
  - West of the 405, there are 10 patrol officers, 6 officers assigned to charter, 3 officers for police magnet, 3 supervisors, a detective and a lieutenant
    - There are 13 high schools, 24 middle schools and 80 elementary schools and child care centers plus adult schools
  - How are you dealing with the many traffic issues before and after school?
    - Started implementing the Valley Program again – designated drop off and pick up areas working better at elementary school, than at middle schools and high schools
If big increase in traffic violations certain schools, will move resources there for a week or so with education and then citation

- What about having cameras around the schools to catch license plates around the schools?
  Have done it before with parking enforcement by capturing the license plate and sending citations, but it takes a week or so for the citations to go out so it takes some time for the drivers to correct themselves
- Does CHP still patrol around the schools partnering with LASPD?
  It was very effective before but haven't seen that recently
- Do you get requests from students to increase police presence on campus?
  Requests are made by principals, students and parents
  Each school has an anonymous tip line
  There is also new phone APP
  LASAR phone APP – anonymous reporting that goes on dispatch mostly on narcotics and weapons
  For drug overdose, district wide, schools and officers are now issued NARCAN
  Biggest problem is trying to control fentanyl and edibles laced with THC
  All cars are equipped with AED’s
  Each officer carries 2 boxes each of Narcan which is equal to 4
- With the defunding and restrictions of staying off campus, how has that affected your response to calls from campus, esp. when responding to calls that are violent or more of a serious nature?
  Seeing an increase in violent crimes – stabbings, weapon recovery, assaults, gang exchanges
  LASPD uses the diversion program for a lot of the juveniles instead of a citation
  This program works because it also holds the parents accountable and they have to attend together
  If the crime is more of a serious nature, the officers will arrest, book and send the case to the DA for consideration
  The laws are so lenient now that it is like a rotating door
  For e.g., Arrested one student 5 times over the past two weeks
- How can the community help?
  If anything related to LASPD, please contact the office if anything looks suspicious or call 911 if there is a crime in progress.
  Also download the LASAR APP and use that to report

Captain Burns – State of Devonshire

- Sad announcement from Devonshire Station -- Officer Joe Gonzalez assigned to the Detective desk passed away suddenly on Monday morning
- In Devonshire Division, Burglaries are at over 800 YTD...increase in 170 compared to last year
- On Friday night, a burglary crew was taken into custody with many stolen merchandise
  A car that was first seen in Devonshire but was chased off by a neighbor, then went to North Hollywood Division area to burglarize homes -- an air tag was in one of the high-end items that was stolen which led law enforcement to the suspects
  One of the recovered items was a couple of guns that was stolen in Devonshire Division
  Out of the 3 suspects that were taken into custody, 2 are being held (one was on parole and the other on probation), but the 3rd suspect has been released
  There is another crew working in Devonshire Area as another car was seen that same night
- New Patrol Captain Eric Epplito will be coming to Devonshire next month from Internal Affairs

Questions

- Are the cars used in the burglaries stolen or owned by the suspects?
  Most of them are stolen or rented. They may be using stolen license plates if they are using their own car

Senior Lead Officers Reports/Updates

Sgt. Torres – Some of the SLO’s are helping Narcotics serve a warrant today and are finishing up
A67 -- SLO Sandra Zamora
- Search warrant on RV’s were issued and impounding them as evidence on Crebbs/Prairie area
  - Some of the Reseda business have been impacted by burglaries
    A vacant business was broken into by squatters – property owner has been contacted and the property was cleaned up
    If you know of any vacant homes/businesses, please let the SLO’s know so that they can reach out to the owner of the property and can address issues that may come up, such as starting to look messy or look attractive to those who should not be there
- Opened up a SARA Project at Parthenia Place/Darby
  - Officers are making arrests
- For events:
  - September 25th is the Grand Opening of the Wilkinson Senior Center at Vanalden Park under a new group
  - October 2 is the PALS Golf Tournament
  - There is a Halloween event at the PALS Center at the end of October
- Basic car A67 In-person Meeting is on Wednesday, September 27, 6 pm at Calahan Elementary
  - Josh Yaeger from CD 12 will be attending

A81 -- SLO Sean Taylor
- 6 individuals at Macy’s smash and grab fragrances on September 10
  - Organized Retail Theft Task force took over the investigation – have some leads and believe that some of these suspects are possibly related to the high profile smash and grabs throughout the City
  - Conducting multiple details at the mall throughout the week with various available resources including Devonshire’s VCP and Valley Traffic
- City Council passed a motion to add a 3rd day to the clean ups by Sanitation
  - Currently there are 2 Care Plus extensive clean ups…should start in a few weeks on a Saturday
- All Devonshire Retailers Monthly meeting is October 17
- Next Basic Car 17A81 Meeting is with A95 on zoom on September 27 at 6 PM – guest speaker is from Communications

A95 -- SLO Jerome Knopp
- Up 123% in arrests
  - Violent and Property crimes are down in A95
    - The small uptick in assaults are being worked on
- Thank you for coming out to the Coffee with the Captain today
- Please join us for the next A95 zoom meeting with A81 on September 27

A35 -- Officer Sigston covering for Officer Parker
- Was out serving the warrants in A67
  - Took the big RV and 6 people were arrested
- Detectives want to get the word out about using air tags and trackers for valuables/high-end items

Sgt. Torres:
- There was a special request from Starbucks District manager to have a Coffee with a Cop at that location this month as there were a few incidents at that location
- Senior Lead Office together with patrol and detectives is running details at the mall and surrounding businesses with emphasis on prevention and focusing on good exchange of intel
  - We have great communication with all those involved including the monthly retailers meeting and with Northridge Fashion Center management/security
- Thanks to Councilmember John Lee who has provided additional funding for Devonshire for homeless outreach and enforcement within the Division
- Deployment this month, there were 12 officers that left and 5 officers who came into the Division
  - Every month it becomes challenging for patrol to meet its minimum, etc.
Questions
  o With the increase in Smash and Grabs, can Mall Security do something when they see a number of cars roll up – for example like place a tracker on to one of the vehicles?
    Because these crews are hitting so many places, there are a high number of leads coming from the security team tying them to other incidences City-wide
    And as the Task Force gathers all the leads, they are filing robbery charges, hoping it will dissuade individuals from continuing this activity
    These smash and grab crews are well organized
    They come with getaway drivers who enter from one side of the mall and exit from another location, may remove their license plates before they roll up to the mall, so it would be difficult to get any license plates and often times they are communicating with each other through radio
  o What happened at Shirley and Plummer -- the Bomb Threat?
    Transient walked into the Bank with a note saying he wanted to speak to the Police/FBI, because he knew that the Vice President was going to do something terrible. The bomb squad was called in to clear his backpack and the building. All was declared safe and he was taken into custody.
  o Re: organized crime at the mall – if they are using radios to communicate, perhaps someone can monitor frequencies to see if they can find the channel they are using or maybe jam them. Or grab cell tower records and work from that angle
    It may be difficult to pinpoint which frequency is being used as these things happen really fast and who will be monitoring the frequencies
  o Where do they sell the stolen items online?
    Often times the stolen items are sold using platforms such as Facebook Market Place
    Organized Retail Theft Task Force are monitoring using undercover accounts to locate/identify stolen items on sale

C-PAB Updates:
  o Please check out and sign up for the upcoming outreach events
  o Please report your weekly hours
  o Attendance is important – 3 absences per year are allowed per our Bylaws except for medical reasons( please let us know)
  o Officer in charge of the LAPD Devonshire APP is out on medical and some items have not been fixed
  o The Devonshire APP is not available at the i-tunes store for now – the Station is aware and looking into it

Other Comments:
  o Catalytic converter theft mitigation tip—spray paint your catalytic converter with high temperature paint as a way to describe the part if stolen
  o Thank you to interim senior lead officer Kristin Dimich for stepping into SLO Corral’s position and working with the HOA communities in Porter Ranch
  o C-PAB member Becky Leveque is the new president for Porter Ranch NC
  o Reminder that CERT Battalion community meetings are in-person — please sign up with the CERT Battalion 15 coordinators to be on their email list
  o Correction – SOLID’s Pasta Dinner is on October 6…not October 8 as was listed on the agenda

Please sign up for the outreach tables at:
  Granada Hills Street Faire – Saturday, October 21, 2023. 10 AM to 4 PM
  Sherwood Forest HOA Neighborhood Block Party -- Sunday, November 5, 2023. 11 AM to 3 PM

Next Meeting: October 18, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM