

Memorandum



DATE: September 3, 2010

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: **Crime Watch Organizations**

Attached is briefing material on the "Crime Watch Organizations" to be presented to the Members of the Public Safety Committee on Tuesday, September 7, 2010.



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

CC: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council

Mary K. Suhm, City Manager

Deborah Watkins, City Secretary

Tom Perkins, City Attorney

Craig Kinton, City Auditor

C. Victor Lander, Administrative Municipal Judge

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager

A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager

Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager

Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer

Helena Stevens-Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager Mayor/City Council



Crime Watch Organizations

Public Safety Committee

September 7, 2010



Objectives

- Sustainable safe communities through:
 - Identifying those areas that are in need of community organization.
 - Organizing those communities.

Objectives

- Improve communications between community groups and the police department, especially in the area of intelligence sharing.
- Using social/media outlets to get information to and from the community faster.
- Work with police department's Office of Community Affairs to increase the 10/70/20 program.

Identifying Communities

- The police department has mapped out the areas of the city that currently have active crime watch groups.
- The maps have crime data overlaid to help prioritize those areas that are in need of community organization or don't have a crime watch group.

Crime Watches City Wide by Patrol Division 393 Groups

- Central - 32
- Southeast - 49
- Northwest - 22
- Northeast - 43
- Southwest - 83
- North Central - 120
- South Central - 44

Organizing Communities

- A needs assessment will be done of those communities to determine what the neighborhood's concerns are.
 - This will be done through a community survey.
- Assist those communities interested in starting a crime watch.



Dallas Police Department Community Survey



The purpose of this survey is to ascertain your views about crime in your community, the strengths and weaknesses in security and services and to identify areas for improvements. It will also help establish a discussion between you the resident and the Dallas Police Department. When completing this survey you may remain anonymous and if you choose not to, be assured that your information will be handled confidentiality.

CITIZEN'S INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANONYMOUS
Date:		
Name:	Address:	
Dallas Texas	Zip:	Phone:
E-Mail:		

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Very Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know/NA</u>
1. How do you rate where you live?	5	4	3	2	1	0
2. How do you rate the sense of "community" in your neighborhood?	5	4	3	2	1	0
3. Overall appearance of your neighborhood?	5	4	3	2	1	0
4. Do you feel a sense of community in your neighborhood?	5	4	3	2	1	0
5. Is there a violent crime problem in your neighborhood?	5	4	3	2	1	0
6. Are property crimes a problem in your neighborhood?	5	4	3	2	1	0

Organizing Communities (cont'd)

- Neighborhood Police Officers (NPO's) will undergo updated training on community organization / crime watch formation.
- Each crime watch group will have an assigned NPO as a contact.
- NPOs will provide regular feedback to the division commander on community concerns.

Organizing Communities (cont'd)

- Assess active crime watch groups:
 - Survey active crime watch groups.
 - Currently to be an active crime watch group it requires that only one (1) meeting be held a year.
 - The police department is proposing the change in the definition of “active crime watch” to mean having one (1) meeting a quarter.

Intelligence Sharing

- Members of the community see more than the police. They take ownership of information provided.
- Every meeting with the police will have intelligence sharing aspect:
 - Community will give the police actionable information.
 - The police department acts on that information.
 - Follows up with the community on actions taken.
 - Repeat the cycle.

Social Media

- Currently the police department utilizes Dallaspolice.net, individual division websites, Facebook, Twitter, Nixle, and email blast to communicate crime alerts, crime prevention information, and general information.
- A program is being developed for citizens to provide crime information to the police via email, text, social media, and phone.

Questions?