

ACONA Meeting Notes November 4, 2014

Following introductions, the following topics were covered.

Update on the fatal shooting at Fair Oaks and Calaveras on October 30. Deputy Michael Spina from the Altadena Sheriff's Station, Natalie Salazar of Crime Stoppers
Because this is an ongoing investigation, Dty. Spina wasn't able to talk about the specifics of the October 30 shooting. This was the only homicide shooting this year. There was a second "shots fired" incident, but with no victims and evidently no specific target.

Questions submitted by ACONA members:

- Was the shooting gang related? The shooting victim was an active gang member but it's unknown whether the shooting was actually gang related.
- Should we expect retaliation? No; there has been no increase in gang activity. Deputies were on the scene within three minutes of the shooting.
- Should we prepare for additional gang violence? No.
- What should we as Block Captains be doing? Block captains should do what they've always done: See something, say something.
- What should citizens do if they happen to be near a shooting when it occurs? Get out of the way, call 911.

Sheriff's department has its own homicide bureau that handles homicides county wide.

Additionally: during the holiday season there's often an increase in property crimes, so be vigilant.

Problems around liquor stores on Fair Oaks: there are several people who hang around the liquor store and drink. They get cited for drinking in public, or being under the influence, sometimes taken into custody.

Natalie Salazar provided information and a flyer on the Crime Stoppers organization, an anonymous tip line to report crime. Tip line: 800-222-TIPS (8477) or text TIPLA plus your tip to 274637 or go to <http://lacrimestoppers.org> and click on the Submit a Tip link.

Fire season. Stephanie English, Community Services Liaison, LA County Fire Department Ready! Set! Go! video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=feMlaars9kc>) gives tips for how to be ready for a fire including building a safety zone around your house and preparing an evacuation kit.

Ready! Set! Go! Program information for residents: <http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/RSG-Booklet.pdf>

Answers to questions:

- Some fire retardant products work, others don't; it's more effective to use the department's "house hardening" program to help protect your house. (<http://ucanr.edu/sites/SAFElandscapes/files/79452.pdf>)
- Fire shelters not a very good idea - evacuation is more practical.
- Fire safes work and are recommended to keep your important documents safe.
- Mandatory evacuation: no one will arrest you if you don't leave, but you will be risking your life if you don't observe the evacuation order. Even experienced firefighters have perished in fires.
- Using a garden hose to spray your house won't do anything if the fire is close. Note that this doesn't reduce the water pressure for fire fighters.

The drought. Shan Kwan, Assistant General Manager, Pasadena Water & Power, and Jennifer Guess, Public Information Coordinator, Pasadena Water & Power, Pasadena allows three days a week of watering in the summer (Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday), one day in the winter (beginning November 1). Must water before 9AM and after 6PM, but there's no restriction on how long you can water.

Pasadena has declared a Level 1 water shortage. There are four levels in all, Level 1 is the most moderate. As the City Council declares higher levels, restrictions increase.

Pasadena has a hotline to report water waste. Reports are way up since the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1).

Violations: First report: warning letter. Second: \$100 fine. Third, \$200. Fourth, \$500.

Rebate program for water conservation measures. (www.pwpweb.com/Rebates) Turf removal now at \$2/square foot.

PWP gets water 60% from Metropolitan Water District (sourced from northern California — which is not supplying any water to the system right now because of the drought — and the Colorado River), 40% groundwater. MWD is thinking of going into allocation mode; any usage over the allotment is very expensive and is passed along to customers. Raymond Basin is the local aquifer, which supplies Pasadena and Altadena. Groundwater pumping is down because the aquifer is becoming depleted. Water levels have dropped about 200 feet in the past few years, 60 feet in the last two years in the west end of the aquifer where three of Pasadena's 16 wells are. Water is below the level of the pumps. Pasadena has a recycled water plan that will use recycled water for irrigation and water features - non-potable water. Distribution needs to be completely separate from the potable water system. There are spreading fields in the Devil's Gate Dam area. Working to build a pipeline from there to Eaton Canyon spreading field. Swimming pools are not covered in the Pasadena ordinance re water conservation. But fountains must have recirculating systems. But pools are not allowed to be refilled.

New developments must use water conserving plants and cannot use more water than the previous occupants of that property.

Pasadena doesn't have any regulations on greywater.

Pasadena offers landscape classes to teach citizens about good types of plants and lawns and how to water them.

Violations can be reported via phone or website; there's also an app.

socialwatersmart.com MWD program for drought resistant landscaping, which Pasadena is now using.

Jennifer passed out a flyer showing Pasadena's rebates.

Next meeting: January 27, 2015