



**Community Policing Advisory Board  
Meeting Agenda  
July 6th, 2016**

Oakland Police Department, Eastmont Substation  
2651 73rd Avenue, Oakland CA 94601

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**Committee Membership:** Chairperson Jay Ashford (M), Cathy Leonard (Dist. 1) John Garvey (Dist. 2), Ravinder Singh (Dist. 4), Sal Gomez (District 5), Colleen Brown (Dist. 6), Emily Rogers-Pharr (At Large), Angela Haller (NW), Nancy Sidebotham (NW), Don Link (M), Sheryl Walton (M), and Renia Webb (OHA).

**Vacancies:** District 3, District 7, and OUSD.

**Staff:** Joe DeVries

**Appointee Notes:** Dist. = District; M = Mayoral; NW = Neighborhood Watch; OHA = Oakland Housing Authority; OUSD = Oakland Unified School District

**CPAB Website/Newsletter:** <http://oaklandcommunitypolicing.org>

 **Twitter Handle:** @oaklandcpab

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*Each person wishing to speak on items must fill out a speaker's card. Persons addressing the Community Policing Advisory Board shall state their names and the organization they are representing, if any.*

1. **Open Forum:** (6:00 – 6:10)
2. **Minutes:** Approval of June 2016 minutes (Joe, Board) – (6:10 – 6:15)
3. **Membership Updates:** Discuss any applicable membership updates (Joe, Jay) – (6:15 – 6:20)
4. **Discussion with A.C. Downing** (A.C Downing, Board) – (6:20 – 7:00)
  - a. **Outcome:** Dialog on current command staff changes and departmental priorities
5. **CPAB Committee Updates** (Board) – (7:00 – 7:20)
  - a. **Outcome:** CPAB to provide brief updates to the Board on meetings, initiatives, progress.
  - b. **Fund Development Committee:** (Don L) – 5 mins
  - c. **NCPC Resource Committee:** (Colleen B) – 5 mins
  - d. **Communications-Marketing Committee:** (Sheryl W) – 5 mins
6. **Applicable Updates Regarding NCPC Funds Process:** Updates by NSS on status of Funds Disbursement Process (Joe D.) - (7:20 – 7:30)
7. **Staff Report:** (Joe) – (7:30 – 7:40)
8. **Agenda Building:** (Board) – (7:40 – 7:45)

**Next Meeting:** August 3rd, City Hall



## Community Policing Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland City Hall  
City Council Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Oakland City Hall

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**Committee Membership:** Chairperson Jay Ashford (M), Cathy Leonard (Dist. 1) John Garvey (Dist. 2), Ravinder Singh (Dist. 4), Sal Gomez (District 5), Colleen Brown (Dist. 6), Emily Rogers-Pharr (At-Large), Angela Haller (NW), Don Link (M), Sheryl Walton (M), and Renia Webb (OHA), Nancy Sidebotham (NW).

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**Members Present:** Chairperson Jay Ashford, John Garvey, Ravinder Singh, Sal Gomez, Don Link, Sherry Walton and Renia Webb.

**Members Absent:** Colleen Brown, Emily Rogers-Pharr and Angela Haller

### 1. Open Forum

*Carolyn Burgess raised concern about the number of cars with temporary "dealer" plates instead of actual license plates that are involved in home burglaries and robberies and the fact that the network of surveillance cameras in her area that neighbors have installed are rendered useless in catching these individuals. She believes OPD should be stopping (and if appropriate) ticketing these cars to reduce their usage in burglaries.*

*Mary Vale from the Glenview Beat 16y NCPC spoke briefly in favor of a Police Commission for the City.*

### 2. Membership Updates

*Joe DeVries noted that there was someone being considered for the District 3 position.*

### 3. Approval of May Minutes

*The May Minutes were approved unanimously.*

### 4. Presentation by Neighbors for Racial Justice on Racial Profiling and Listserv Crime Reporting

*Joan Lohman and Shakira Porter presented the (attached) PowerPoint and led a discussion regarding their efforts (that started in the Dimond and Glenview Neighborhoods) around social media use and how important it is to educate people on how they report activity in their neighborhoods. They also work with a group called Oakland Neighbors Inspiring Trust and that looks at the trauma around racial profiling and works to build trust among communities to reduce that trauma.*

*Several Board Members expressed interest in having the presentation made at their own NCPCs and it was also asked if the group has had the opportunity to outreach to youth yet. Although the group is relatively new, they would like to continue to take their presentation to a larger audience, including youth organizations. Member Walton noted that the presentation really expands the conversation around police-neighborhood relations.*

*Chairperson Ashford asked if they knew whether neighbors “police” each other’s comments on Next Door and Allene Warren (from the audience) noted that in her area the moderators do good job of looking at posts and filtering them. Member Singh noted that part of the initial effort was to ask Next Door to do more to encourage their moderators to be informed and help to avoid posts that only describe people’s race when posting about activity in their Neighborhood. It was suggested that the presentation could be used by the NCPC Resource Committee as an education piece for NCPCs since it really speaks to the accuracy of how people report activity in their neighborhood. Accurate reporting of activity that is truly “suspicious” is helpful to other neighbors and the police. Vague reporting that only describes someone’s race (and not any other facts) is unhelpful to neighbors and police and can perpetuate racial profiling and mistrust.*

#### **5. Re-Cap of May 24 Presentation to Public Safety**

*Chairperson Ashford gave an overview of the presentation and stated that it was generally well received and he thanked Members Walton, Leonard, and Vice Chair Webb for being there. Joe DeVries noted that Chairperson Ashford and Vice Chair Webb did a great job co-presenting and in co-answering the questions that were posed to them.*

*Chairperson Ashford also elaborated on comments from CM Desley Brooks that were made at the end of the presentation and the concerns it raised for him. CM Brooks said that she heard from some board members who did not come to the meeting that they felt the board was “staff-driven” and that at times staff allows things to occur that should not such as continuing to meet without a quorum and hearing items that the board should not consider. Both Member Leonard and Vice-Chair Webb felt the comments were unwarranted and inaccurate and the Chair agreed to prepare a letter to CM Brooks asking for clarification moving forward. Member Walton said that she thought the presentation was tight, short, and good but in the future thinks the report should only cover one year (which will be the case if done annually). Member Garvey thought it notable that the Council Members (Brooks) was giving the Board recommendations as opposed to the other way around which is how it’s supposed to work. Member Singh asked if the comments are an indicator that the board should evaluate how it is doing at meeting its goals and objectives.*

#### **6. Committee Updates**

- a. Fundraising Committee – no meeting yet but the committee is waiting on the final letter from the Neighborhood Services Section regarding NCPC expenditures and then will want to track how those funds are spent on an ongoing basis.*
- b. NCPC Resource Committee – Although absent from the meeting due to illness, Member Brown provided the report attached. Also, Member Leonard noted she was not planning on being on that committee (as the minutes had reflected) but went on to point out that right now the NCPCs are having challenges with attendance because they are not well staffed by the City. She complained that more NSCs are needed and the CROs need to attend more regularly, otherwise, neighbors view the NCPCs as powerless. Member Singh agreed with that concern noting he sees the same problem with the CROs not being in the beat and not actually focusing on the neighborhood priorities. Member Gomez concurred, stating that when OPD does show up they give more of a “Dog and Pony Show. Allene Warren commented from the*

*public that the Board Members need to individually raise these issues with the person who appointed them. Member Leonard said that the Board should use its letterhead and send letters throughout the year to the City airing these ongoing concerns (and not just do so in an annual report).*

*c. Marketing-Outreach Committee – No Report.*

**7. Applicable Updates to NCPC Funding Process –**

*Joe DeVries reported that the City would be issuing the credit cards for NSCs to use to purchase items for NCPCS within the next two weeks.*

**8. Staff Report – Nothing additional to report.**

**Next Meeting:** Next Meeting: July 6<sup>th</sup>, Eastmont Police Station

## **Resource Committee Meeting-23 May 2016**

Colleen Brown, Angela Haller, and Nancy Sidebotham in attendance.

### **Discussion of 2016/2017 Resource Committee General Tasks**

As this was the first meeting, we reviewed the tasks of the resource committee as described in the CPAB Bylaws and that the data collection would be folded into the tasks for this committee.

At the next meeting, we will discuss what our goals should be for the coming year and beyond. How do we go about helping and strengthening NCPCs? What should be done? How can the CPAB/Resource Committee help accomplish this goal? What can the City do to help?

### **NCPC Recertification**

We reviewed the recertification of Beat NCPC and recommended that it be forwarded to the CPAB for formal recertification.

### **Election of Chairperson**

Colleen Brown was elected NCPC Resource Committee Chairperson.

**NEXT RESORCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date & Time TBD**

# Racial Profiling and Listserve Crime Reporting

***NEIGHBORS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE  
(N4RJ)***

[neighborsforracialjustice.org](http://neighborsforracialjustice.org)

# **What we all want as neighbors**

- To feel welcomed**
- To be respected**
- To be accepted**
- To be included**
- To have and create safety**

# DEFINITIONS

## RACIAL PROFILING

Results from implicit bias. It refers to the discriminatory practice by law enforcement, private security patrols, and community members using an individual's race or skin color alone to make on-the-spot assumptions of possible criminal behavior.

## USELESS/HARMFUL LISTSERV CRIME REPORTING

Uses only the person's skin color or perceived race as descriptors, *which casts a wide net that encompasses innocent neighbors, family members, friends, and visitors of that same skin color or race.*

# **Racial Profiling Undermines Community Safety**

**Undermines human dignity through lack of social inclusion.**

**Polarizes the community out of mistrust/alienation/outrage.**

**Brings harassment/degradation and possible emotional/physical/legal harm to our innocent neighbors of color.**

**Deepens and perpetuates negative racial stereotypes, discrimination, racism.**

**Is useless in that noticing only race takes attention off of behavior and focuses on appearance - predicting nothing.**

**Is inefficient by diverting and misusing scarce law enforcement resources.**

**Destroys relationships between local law enforcement and the communities they serve.**



# How does racial profiling show up in neighborhoods?

Surveillance and suspicion of neighborhood or visiting teenagers of color, specifically black teenagers.

Listserv “alerts” target not behavior against persons or property but rather black and brown skin color alone- *e.g. Black male driving by slowly.*

Neighbors of color are watched, questioned and stopped by police, private patrols, or community members while on their own property or jogging or taking a walk.

Neighbors of color gathering in cultural rituals at popular community spots are harassed and attacked.

Visiting people of color, who are engaged in no wrongdoing, must endure the burden of proving their innocence to suspicious neighbors, police or private patrols.

Nextdoor Post in Crime & Safety

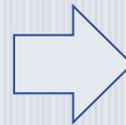
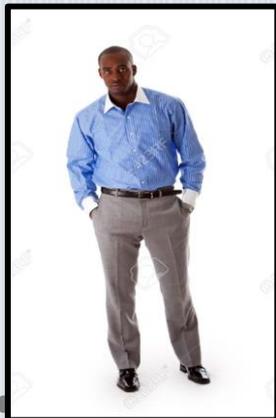
NAVY (DARK) BLUE – VOLVO

12 May 14 C from Oakmore

My boyfriend just noticed two AA Men in a Dark Blue Volvo driving around Tiffin & Whittle - They pulled a U-Turn right in front of him and then drove up and pulled over on Tiffin. They seem to be looking around - just thought Id bring more attention to them , just in case. Shared with Oakmore + 13 nearby neighborhoods in NEXTDOOR



**Innocent Black man arrested**



- Damage to**
- Personal life**
- Work life**
- Name**
- Dignity**
- Reputation**
- Psychological well being**

# Harmful and Useless Listserv Reporting

[Nextdoor Post in Crime & Safety](#)

[Attempted Robbery](#) 21h ago [A R](#) from Glenview

Watch out for a 1997 to 2000 Dark Green 4 doors Honda Accura, LICENSE Last 3 digits ; XXX.

On 13th Ave between Park Blvd and Excelsior at 9:30 pm as I was unloading groceries, this automobile suddenly pulled over, the passenger jumped out and began pretending to talk to me, then I ran shouting I'll call the police ! Then they sped away towards Park Blvd.

Both were between 19 and 23 years old, African American. OPD has a complete description of them.

Who are we looking for?



# A Safe and Useful Crime Post

Begins with a detailed description of a crime against person or property

Includes *several* identifying descriptors which avoids casting a *wide* net over innocent people

Does *not* use perceived race/ethnicity as the only physical descriptor

Does include vehicle information, number of offenders, identifying characteristics including height, weight, age, identifying marks and tattoo, clothing, perceived gender/race/ethnicity

*Suspicious Black Male in Hoodie or Three Black Teenagers*

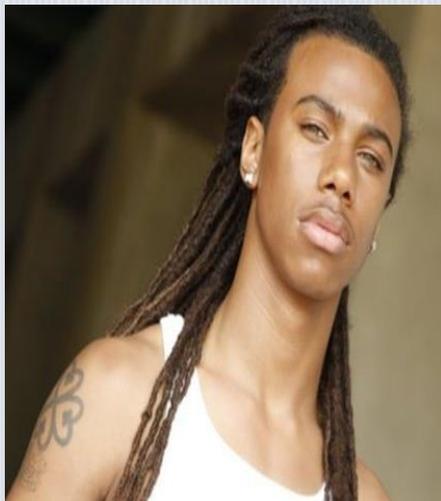
is not a crime description or a useful post.

# Clear Example of Useful Reporting

On the corner of Lyman and Waterhouse, about 15 minutes ago, I watched a man peer into the window of 5 or 6 vehicles on my street. He also tried pulling on the door handles. Last seen he was headed toward Waterhouse Rd.

He is approx. 5'10 short fade haircut, wearing a white t-shirt with cut off sleeves, dark blue cuffed jeans, red and white checkered slip on shoes. He has a goatee and is carrying gray duffle bag. He appears to be in his 30's. Perceived race, African American.

**NOW WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?**



# Clear Example of Useful Reporting

## Nextdoor-Post in Crime & Safety

**Assault and attempted mugging 8 Jan AP from Oakmore Neighbors-** Last night around 6:45pm I was walking home (after getting off of the “V” TransBay bus on Park) along Leimert Blvd. Immediately after crossing the bridge and as I started walking past the parking lot next to Rocky’s, several teenagers (girls) ran out of the shadows and started to pull my hair. I panicked and shouted for help ...that was enough to make them run off back to their getaway car...I did not see any weapons, but honestly, I could barely see what was going on because they jumped from behind.

- No descriptors were posted because she was not able to give a useful or complete description.
- Time, location, possible crime trend, how suspects committed the crime is useful in creating community awareness.

# Implicit Bias

**Implicit Bias** refers to unconscious attitudes and beliefs that when triggered cause fast, inaccurate assumptions about people and situations.

These biases are influenced by our cultural conditioning which negatively influences our responses to people based on characteristics such as race, ethnicity, age and appearance.

Willingness to examine how our unconscious biases negatively impact our actions and decisions is an important step in challenging the roots of racism in our society.



# How can we examine our implicit biases?

**Question your unconscious bias before reporting:**

- **Does this person's appearance make you more likely to call the police or send a post? Why?**
- **Would this behavior be suspicious if the perceived race was the same as your own?**
- **Is the action or observation related to a criminal offense OR was the person's perceived race a factor in what initially caused awareness, suspicion or concern?**

# Systemic Roots of Racial Profiling

There is a historical system of embedded policies, procedures, and operations in place that alienate, marginalize, ignore, silence and harm peoples of color.

This system churns out racial inequities, discrimination and brutality as is seen in acts of Racial Profiling and Police Brutality.

There is not one 'bad neighbor' who profiled and killed a Black youth carrying a bag of skittles.

There is not one 'bad cop' who violently slammed a Black student from her desk.

There is not an 'isolated incident' where people of color drumming in public spaces are questioned, harassed and dehumanized.

Change does not come from tossing out 'one bad apple' but rather from disrupting a system of violence as Black Lives Matter is doing, as the Ella Baker Center is doing, as former activists have done, as our ancestors have done.



**Working together as neighbors  
to challenge racial profiling,  
we can begin to mend divisions  
among our diverse communities and  
create greater safety  
for peoples of color, which in turn  
creates safety for all.**

# For studies, facts, and more information on Racial Profiling

[www.civilrights.org](http://www.civilrights.org)

[www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)

[www.ellabakercenter.org](http://www.ellabakercenter.org)

(Keyword: Racial Profiling)



[www.neighborsforracialjustice.org](http://www.neighborsforracialjustice.org)

~NEIGHBORS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE~