

CITY OF BLUE LAKE ANNUAL PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015
Small Group Discussion Output

Public Safety **STRENGTHS** as you perceive them:

- Neighborhood preparedness PODS (listed 3x).
- Neighborhood Watch; (listed 3x).
- Next Door website. (listed 3x).
- Contract with HCSD:
 - 24/7 call service (listed 2x)
 - Assigned officers, personable, good match for City, available to talk to, approachable, well-trained, dedicated.
- Security at Casino.
- CERT.
- Cohesive community that cares; tight-knit community.
- Volunteer groups.
- Some parts of town are well-lit.
- Reverse 911.
- John (City Manager), and Council.
- Fire Department.

Public Safety **WEAKNESSES** as you perceive them:

- Limited time [that] HCSD is on duty in town; knowing / not knowing deputy hours.
- Realignment pushes law breakers out of Eureka; same perpetrators reported repeatedly.
- Lack of communication: no follow-up actions [taken] against perpetrators.
- Unnamed suspects.
- Problem families and individuals.
- Isolation: some residents have no neighbors.
- Disconnection of citizens to Sheriff.
- We hear what *cannot* be done, instead of what *can* be done.
- Public notification of crime.
- Drugs.
- Homeless / transients/ established homeless at river.
- Community communication kiosk [by Post Office] needs control.
- Poor illumination in areas.
- Traffic control.
- All-volunteer Fire Department.
- Rural.
- Promote city website; Google.

Public Safety **OPPORTUNITIES** as you perceive them:

- Next Door, get more people on it
- Outreach: door-to-door; provide information.
- Offer information: spread the word.
- Motion sensor lights [for individual homes].
- Surveillance cameras ? (Personal cost [of such devices]).
- Frequent contact with problem individuals.
- Youth activities, work, treatment, and community service.
- Citizen patrols.

Public Safety OPPORTUNITIES as you perceive them: (continued)

- Encourage citizens to call about suspicious activity.
- Mental health / homeless services.
- Involve school in planning [and] implementation.
- More lighting
- Have a Blue Lake mascot / slogan to help make safety issues popular.
- Utilize instructors.
- Better use [of] "people that care": get them involved.
- Integrate [with] security at the Casino.
- Measure Z funding.
- Show support for Fire Department and Police Department [HCSD].
- Teach / tell people how to report crimes.
- Digital suggestion box.
- Citizens [able to] post descriptions [of perpetrators].

Questionnaire

Please help us understand how we can improve communications regarding public safety by taking a moment to complete this brief survey. You can leave it at the end of the meeting or turn it in to City Hall.

1. WHAT information do you feel it is important to know ?

- All that directly affects health and safety.
- How to report crimes.
- How to join/establish Neighborhood Watch or disaster preparedness Pods.
- What is being reported re crimes and potential crimes in town.
- Crime trends, where, when, what time – give us the info to 'fight crime'.
- Community tools to work independently and with Sheriff.
- General information about crime in our area.
- What is the EPA citation against Blue Lake Power?
- Suspicious activity – location, description
- Crime prevention tips and alerts.
- Significant crime events or things we should be watching for.

2. HOW would you like to receive that information ? What METHODS of communicating information to the community would work for you ?

Summary

Most Preferred: Post at Post Office (8)
Post on NextDoor (7)

Least Preferred: Post at City Hall (6)
Read on City Website (5)

Other ways in which I would like to be informed / Other comments:

- [Posting at Post Office] then everyone will see it.
- I don't call Sheriff because I don't feel we are in partnership.
- I hear what they can't do; I'm not sure what they CAN do.

** Note: This information is citizen input taken at the City's Annual Public Safety Meeting with the community (January 21, 2015). It does not represent the opinion of the City of Blue Lake City Council or its commissions. **