



DATE: April 9, 2008  
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
FROM: Neighborhood Services Department  
SUBJECT: **OCEANSIDE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP  
STEERING COMMITTEE QUARTERLY UPDATE**

**SYNOPSIS**

Staff recommends that the City Council review the quarterly update from the Oceanside Community Safety Partnership Steering Committee as an information-only item.

**BACKGROUND**

At its August 15, 2007 meeting, the City Council directed staff to take a leadership role to facilitate public and private organizations and individuals to address community safety concerns related to at-risk youth. Meetings were held on October 4, 2007, and November 19, 2007, with representatives from a wide cross-section of the community, including neighborhood residents and public and private youth-serving agencies to form the Oceanside Community Safety Partnership (OCSP).

The top five issues identified in those meetings and associated surveys were:

- Improving communication and teamwork among communities, service providers, and public and private agencies;
- Increasing law enforcement presence with strong community policing efforts and strong city government leadership;
- Investigating all prevention and intervention programs taking place in Oceanside or available to Oceanside residents in schools, agencies, churches, and city government in order to create a Web-based, bilingual directory of Healthy Youth, Family, and Community Programs that is easily accessible;
- Developing services that are lacking with an emphasis on after school programs, truancy expulsion problems, school retention, job training and placement, recreation and drop-in centers, counseling, life skills development, mentoring and peer leadership, and parent education specific to gang awareness and prevention for youth;
- Seeking funding to facilitate the success of these issues.

The partnership structure was discussed at the November 19, 2007 OCSP meeting and it was decided that OCSP should be open to all interested parties but that a steering committee should be created in order to have a manageable-sized working group. The steering committee will focus on needs related to youth, with membership representing each segment of the community, including Neighborhood Associations, Business, Education, Faith-Based Organizations, Youth-Serving Organizations, Parks and Recreation, Neighborhood Services, and Public Safety/Law Enforcement. This structure was supported by City Council at its December 19, 2007 meeting.

## **ANALYSIS**

The third Oceanside Community Safety Partnership meeting was held on January 17, 2008. At this meeting members of the Oceanside Community Safety Partnership Steering Committee were introduced. Each has made a one-year commitment to participation on the committee. Others who had volunteered were also recognized at this meeting. The OCSP top five issues were reviewed and all participants were informed that the committee would need their assistance in working on these issues both through continuing the good work going on in existing programs and identifying and addressing areas in which programs are lacking.

The frequency of OCSP Steering Committee meetings was discussed and it was felt that meetings should take place on a monthly basis.

Current OCSP Steering Committee members are:

Youth-Serving Organizations: Deborah Shriver – Director of Youth Services; North County Lifeline (Deborah replaced Kirby Wohlander who was an initial member before leaving Lifeline for a position in San Diego)

Law Enforcement – Lt. Shawn Murray – Oceanside Police Department, Neighborhood Policing Team

Business – Vernon R. Pertelle – Senior Director; Assistant Vice President, Tri-City Medical Center

Education – Tim Ware, School Intervention Manager – Oceanside Unified School District

Faith-Based – Save Our Streets group – Wayne Godinet; Pastor David Escovedo – Victory Outreach

Community/Neighborhood Groups – Jose Jimenez – President, Crown Heights Residents Association

City – Neighborhood Services, Parks and Recreation Division - Eileen Turk, Division Manager.

City - Neighborhood Services, Housing Division - Brendan Mangan - Management Analyst, Community Resource Centers Manager

The OCSP Steering Committee first met on January 30, 2008. Though the initial intent was to hold monthly meetings, the committee felt it important to meet more regularly at the onset and has been meeting weekly. The majority of the meetings have been held at Oceanside Police Department, with one meeting being held at Tri-City Medical Center and two at the Neighborhood Services Department. A timeline for 2008 was established and is attached (Attachment 1)

The OCSP Steering Committee developed the following Mission Statement:

***To positively impact the lives of our youth and create an environment that is safe and fosters accountability, education, prevention and intervention.***

Six Values and Principles that Support the Mission.

The committee in fulfilling its mission will:

1. Focus on our youth as our most precious asset for a positive future and collaborate in a united forum to meet the essential needs that support a safe community and support ongoing efforts of individuals and organizations that have been effective at the grassroots level.
2. Engage community leaders, school district representatives, business owners, healthcare and community organizations, government, law enforcement and families to support the mission.
3. Facilitate the development of programs that offer "second-chance" opportunities to redirect youth who are at risk towards a more positive path in life. Develop programs that create proactive intervention and prevention of at-risk behavior and identify gaps where programs do not exist.
4. Support the creation of an environment for positive development of our youth through mentor programs, job training, family and sibling support; and funding to develop and/or continue programs that are supportive of the mission.
5. Continuously evaluate programs for effectiveness and viability and make recommendations for the development of programs and services that support the mission.
6. Proactively communicate among stakeholders and serve as a conduit for key contacts on information regarding resources, programs and their capacity to meet the needs in support of the mission.

The OCSP Steering Committee created a list of youth-serving programs and activities that address needs for youth aged 0 to 24 years. Information was obtained from existing lists, additional information received from OCSP meeting participants, and from other partnering agencies. This list, though lacking in detail, contains 140 programs and activities. The current plan is to refine this list to add detail and specific program

information and then to classify the services in Prevention, Intervention and Suppression areas. A part-time Oceanside Police Department Student Intern from CalState San Marcos has begun the task of contacting each program/agency where detailed information has not been obtained previously, to clarify the services they actually provide and the clients served. This is being done first by e-mail and then with a follow up phone call when needed. He is also recording the information in a format which will enable use for printing and development of a Web-based list of resources. An additional intern is being sought to speed up this process.

In addressing the issues identified by the OCSP group, the Steering Committee recognizes that a long-term approach is required. Collaboration is key in maintaining current effective programs and expanding/adding needed programs for youth. The goal is to have the OCSP Steering Committee in a central hub which links to resources under the various groups – Education, Youth-Serving Agencies, Business, City (Neighborhood Services), Law Enforcement, Faith-Based, etc. Subcommittees will be created among those groups to update information as it changes. If a needed resource is not available it will become a priority of the committee to find a way to provide it.

At a time when national and local funding is limited, it is encouraging that two of the OCSP nonprofit partners in Oceanside, North County Lifeline and Interfaith Community Services, have recently received new grants to work with at-risk youth. North County Lifeline received a CalGRIP grant for outreach/prevention/intervention with at-risk youth targeting the Mesa Margarita and Crown Heights neighborhoods. Interfaith received a Gang Prevention Initiative Project grant (Workforce Investment Act) through the San Diego Workforce Partnership for a school-based youth workforce development program for at-risk youth at Oceanside High School. Both of these activities fit with the top five issues identified by the OCSP group as needed activities and are good additions to address these concerns. Both agencies have committed to collaborate with each other on these grants. If youth are identified who do not qualify for services with one agency they will be referred to the other when appropriate. The City has committed to providing support for grant activities, including providing summer youth employment opportunities in collaboration with the Interfaith grant. Wages/stipends will be paid through the grant and the City will provide the summer job placement opportunities for youth when they are ready to work.

Oceanside Police Department and the Neighborhood Services Department/Community Resource Centers have been working alongside the faith-based “Save Our Streets” organization to improve communication and develop cooperation at a grassroots level in our neighborhoods most impacted by gangs. Through outreaches and individual contacts, this collaboration has been successful in establishing monthly community meetings at the San Luis Rey Valley Community Resource Center, and increasing resident participation in the meetings. Residents are now working to form a neighborhood watch group to work with the City to increase safety and neighborhood conditions. The volunteer-run Saturday evening drop-in sports and mentoring program at Melba Bishop Recreation Center is also thriving, attracting up to 100 youth for positive activities.

Other collaborative efforts continue to grow in Oceanside and North County. The San Diego County Office of Education is offering a Gang Awareness and Prevention Strategies training in San Marcos on April 9 which will include a free "training of trainers" session. Staff from the Community Resource Centers, Parks and Recreation and OPD Crime Prevention will attend this free training which they can bring back to our communities. North County Cares Program has similar goals to the OCSP and is proposing services for families in Eastside and other selected North County areas as part of their 2008/2009 program. Staff will be meeting with them prior to their next meeting on April 22, 2008, to discuss collaborative opportunities. The North County Gang Prevention/Intervention Committee meets every second month to share program information and promote collaboration among area agencies. Staff and many of the local service providers attend that meeting.

The second quarterly update will be held in July 2008.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Does not apply. At this time, there is no funding identified for the OCSP or for its staffing.

**COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT**

Does not apply.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS**

Does not apply.

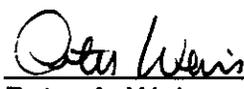
**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council review the quarterly update from the Oceanside Community Safety Partnership Steering Committee as an information-only item.

PREPARED BY:

SUBMITTED BY:

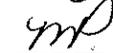
  
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Brendan Mangan  
Management Analyst

  
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Peter A. Weiss  
City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Michelle Skaggs Lawrence, Deputy City Manager

Margery M. Pierce, Neighborhood Services Director

Attachment 1: Timeline

Attachment 1

Oceanside Community Safety Partnership Steering Committee

TIMELINE - 2008

Item	Date	Details
Develop Mission and Values Statement	January – February	Six- (6) item values statement developed along with Mission Statement.
Identify Programs and Stratify by Suppression, Prevention, Intervention. Develop list of programs their capacity and available resources	February – June	Programs identified. Need to be streamlined in a concise format then separate into three (3) categories: Suppression, Prevention, Intervention
Meet with City Council and Report Progress	April	Date to be determined by OCSP committee.
Develop Plan and Stratify by Focus Areas and Responsible Person (s)	April – May	Coordinate with stakeholders and program coordinators
Implement Action Plan with responsible People	May	The deadline is May 31 <sup>st</sup>
Report Progress to Press and Stakeholders	Mid May	Coordinate with City Council
Engage Public and Businesses	May – June	Identify Opportunities to develop and implement the "hub & spoke" model in various communities; include business owners as appropriate
Implement Plans	June	Stepwise approach in each community
Monitor Progress and make recommendations for changes	June – August	Follow up meetings with committee and stakeholder forum
Meet with City Council and Report Progress	July	Date to be determined by OCSP committee
Communicate Progress	Mid-July	Press release, etc.
Identify Opportunities/Gaps	August – September	Review plans and makes revisions, changes as appropriate