



COMMUNITY POLICE COLLABORATIVE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 21st, 2022 – 7:30 PM
Virtual WebEx Meeting

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call Meeting to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM

2. Roll Call

Chair Lawson-Muhamad
Vice-Chair Wakefield
Recording Secretary Gioello
Member Maini
Member Stephen-Bell
Trustee Brown
Chief Morillo
Lieutenant Acevedo

3. Approval of Minutes

The March CPC meeting minutes were approved by all present CPC members.

4. Topics

- The Chair took a moment to welcome Chief Morillo into his new role as Chief of the South Orange Police Department.
- Police Department Update
 - Currently, SOPD staffing is eight officers below target. This is due to a combination of attrition, retirements, the hiring process (i.e., onboarding), and COVID-19. While this deficiency is currently mended through increased over time, the Chief is proactively addressing future staffing stability. This approach includes awareness around cohorts of retirees, expanded recruitment efforts, and leveraging Governor Murphy's order on PD hiring within NJ PDs.
 - The PD has applied and awaiting a grant that would support a youth mentorship program aimed at helping youth who may have had past encounters with the criminal justice system.
 - Upcoming events include the South Orange Juneteenth celebration and National Night Out. PD is looking forward to working with the CPC on this.



- Chief Morillo noted that the annual "Click it or Ticket" campaign was underway in NJ. South Orange is participating in this year's event, including checkpoints to assess driver safety (e.g., seatbelt use, inspections, etc.). There were several comments regarding the campaign and its effectiveness, as well as its impact on those drivers stopped. Chief Morillo acknowledged these concerns but confirmed that traffic safety continues to be a pressing issue he hears about from citizens. Chief Morillo further noted that the program, while focused initially on seatbelts, includes overall driver safety and may result in summonses for outdated inspections, failing to yield for pedestrians, and other unlawful actions. The chief emphasized that the officers of SOPD are trained to interact with the public in a professional and empathetic manner. Further, the campaign has strict guidelines about how stops can be conducted (e.g., randomization, location, etc.). Lastly, the Chief noted that there is a large mass and social media advertising campaign around click it or ticket that reminds the public of the importance of safe driving.
- Open discussion with Chief Morillo
 - CPC Engagement and Priorities
 - The Chief formally introduced himself to the CPC and laid out his mission for the department. Chief Morillo noted the importance of fostering a strong bond between SOPD and CPC and, by extension, the entire SO community.
 - Each of the CPC subcommittee chairs outlined how they hoped to collaborate with the PD in the future. Community Engagement noted its continued support throughout the rest of 2022 in broadcasting SOPD-related events through CPCs communication channels. Operations noted its desire to work hand and hand with PD in reviewing and supporting effective policies. CC&J hoped to collaborate with CCJ/SOPD on the overall PD culture.

5. New Business

None

6. Public Comments

None

7. Executive Session

None

8. Adjournment



The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Next Meeting Date:

May 12, 2022
Virtual WebEx Meeting