

Pleasanton Police Department
Community Advisory Board
Tuesday January 24, 2023
Briefing Room

Department Attendees: Chief David Swing, Captain Kurt Schlehuber, Captain Larry Cox, Lt. Brandon Stocking, Sgt. Rob Shuffield, Administrative Assistant Kim Monfort

CAB Members in Attendance: Tonya Bass, Gary Davila, Jennifer DeGroat-Penney, Bill Foley, Erica Gallegos, Puneet Pamma, Raffiq Rajabali, Melanie Sadek, Sylvia Tian, Soraya Villasenor

Absent: Tim Barley, Gene Litvinoff, Ediambolo Lokoto, Pinky Mukherjee

I. Chief's Welcome

Chief Swing welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced special guests, Criminal Investigations Unit Sergeant Rob Shuffield and Lt. Matt Farruggia from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, both of whom will be giving presentations later in the meeting.

II. Police Department Update.

a. Officer Involved Shooting Report.

Chief Swing called the group's attention to the Policing in Pleasanton website which was created in response to the community listening sessions following the George Floyd incident. The site includes a department overview, critical incident investigations, department policies, programs etc. Critical Incident Video of Case #22-05639 has been released and is now on the site. The incident took place at 4899 Willow Road, on Feb. 17, 2022. The District Attorney cleared involved officers of criminal liability and the associated Administrative Investigation cleared officers of any policy violations.

b. Alternate Response Update

Chief Swing advised that the Alternate Response Unit is fully operational. Two clinicians were hired through Bonita House and have been working in the field with the unit. The team is scheduled to attend Crisis Negotiation school next week.

III. Old Business

No issues were raised.

IV. New Business – Police and Technology

Police and Technology was identified as a priority by both CAB and department staff.

a. Current Technology in Use by PPD

- **Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) Program**

Sgt. Shuffield provided an overview of the ALPR program to include how it came to be and how it's used. He shared that the city currently has forty one ALPR cameras deployed primarily at freeway exits and entrances to town. The department utilizes two different camera systems: Vigilant (37) and Flock (4). The cameras scan license plates which are then compared to stolen vehicles, vehicles associated with crimes, and wanted vehicles or people. To provide some background, the department began using mobile ALPR's in 2012. As of 2016 75% of suspects arrested in Part 1 crimes were not Pleasanton residents. 50% of crime is associated with a vehicle.

In 2019 the department deployed a pilot program around Stoneridge Mall to evaluate the effectiveness of fixed ALPR. The system was and continues to be extremely successful. In 2020, the City deployed a citywide ALPR system, which is also very successful. In 2022, the City expanded its ALPR system at Stoneridge Mall with new technology. Here is some data for the two camera systems:

Vigilant System YTD (37 cameras)

- 39 million individual license plate scans
- 767 wanted vehicle alerts
- 58 felony warrant alerts
- 14,000 stolen license plate alerts

Flock System MTD (4 cameras)

- 286,000 individual license plate scans
- 104 stolen license plate alerts

ALPR is utilized by patrol officers for proactive enforcement contacts and to prevent crime before it occurs. It is also used by the department's Investigations Unit to identify suspect vehicles and suspects after a crime has occurred, as well as to address crime trends.

Sgt. Shuffield shared two recent examples of ALPR technology in action. One resulted in suspects being charged with possession of a stolen vehicle, drugs, drug paraphernalia and three felony warrants, three misdemeanor warrants, and possession of tear gas. The second resulted in recovery of a stolen vehicle, stolen personal identifying information, a master USPS key, indicia of catalytic converter thefts and controlled substances.

The department has full control over who has access to ALPR scan data. Data is restricted to local allied agencies and is not shared with immigration enforcement agencies. Data is automatically destroyed when the retention period is reached; 2 years for Vigilant and 30 days for Flock. Officers, dispatchers, and other professional staff receive training on relevant policy and sign acknowledgements

prior to being granted access to the system. All access to the system is logged and audited.

Chief Swing opened the meeting to CAB members for questions, concerns, and comments. Questions raised included why there are not more cameras throughout the city. Chief Swing advised the cameras are expensive. In addition, other groups including HOA's have installed approximately thirty cameras throughout the city, and they share information with the department. Overall, CAB supported the use of ALPR's and encouraged the department to highlight the program's successes on social media and other avenues.

b. Current Technology in Use by others

- **Drones**

Lt. Stocking spoke about the use of Drone technology. He showed the group drone footage of a critical incident that took place on Shotwell Court in 2022. The drone kept officers out of harm's way and gave them eyes into the residence and the location of the suspect. The Pleasanton Police Department does not have any drones; they rely on the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for that technology. The ACSO Drone Team has been called out for missing persons cases, critical incidents, and traffic collisions where it can fly over the accident scene, take measurements and provide evidence collection. Drones are very easy to use, and the cost is relatively inexpensive, \$400 and up.

CAB inquired as to why PPD does not have their own drone team. Until recently, there hasn't been a huge need. ACSO has been phenomenal in loaning us their drones. However, ACSO is being inundated by requests from lots of agencies for their drones. Sometimes, they are not available when needed in Pleasanton. Pleasanton Police Department would like to be self-reliant and is now looking at this technology for Pleasanton. The cost isn't in the equipment, rather the personnel needed for the team. Minimally two people are needed to operate the drone, a pilot and an observer. For the Shotwell Court incident, two teams of two were initially brought in and when the robot was deployed, an additional six to eight people were needed. Ideally the department would like a robot to help with entry and clearing houses in critical incidents and several drones.

The group discussed policies and regulations relative to drone usage. Capt. Cox shared that drones and robots create space between officers and suspects, allowing them to communicate from afar and keeping officers from forcing potential violent confrontations.

- **Situational Awareness Cameras**

Lt. Farruggia advised that he is currently assigned to Dublin Police Services. DPS contracts with ACSO for public safety services. Lt. Farruggia spoke about Dublin's Situational Awareness Program. He shared that Dublin began their ALPR program in 2016. They utilize both Vigilant and Flock camera systems. They also have a

residential security camera registration program. Currently, about 200 cameras are registered throughout Dublin. These cameras are used to investigate residential crime. In addition, between 2016-2018, DPS began deploying Situational Awareness Cameras (SACs), which are basically like traffic cameras. They too are used for investigative purposes.

Officers are provided maps which show the location of all cameras and are trained in how to use the system. SACs record 24/7. Most cameras store data for 30 days, while cameras at some of the more heavily trafficked intersections like Dougherty and Dublin Blvd, store data for 7 days. Residential security cameras are used in conjunction with ALPR's. For example, residential cameras may be used which can identify a vehicle used by someone committing a crime. It is then put through the ALPR system to identify who the vehicle is registered to and hopefully lead to an arrest.

In 2018, the camera costs including installation and three years of support were \$650,000. In 2021 (year 4), costs were around \$40,000. 2022 was year five and support costs were approximately \$60,000. The cameras are located at all busy intersections and shopping centers in Dublin. Cameras can pan, tilt and zoom. ALPR data is shared with other agencies.

Capt. Schlehuber shared that Pleasanton has a residential security camera registration program as well. The registration link is: http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/police/prevention/surveillance_camera_registry.asp Currently about 70 cameras are registered. Capt. Cox stated that SACs would be a great asset for Pleasanton and could be utilized for the Hometown Holiday Parade, Weekends on Main Street, etc. and offer officers the opportunity to zoom in when something doesn't look right.

Chief Swing hosted a discussion on bringing SAC technology to Pleasanton and asked if the community is ready for that. CAB questioned why the traffic cameras around town don't record as it could help with traffic violations. Chief Swing advised that when the technology was installed roughly 20 years ago, the community had concerns about privacy. The group talked through this issue with CAB suggesting that those issues may not be as strong as they were then and agreeing that it should be considered. CAB stressed the importance of ensuring policy was in place to outline how the technology could be used. Capt. Schlehuber advised that with such a large investment, the department would want to work collaboratively with the community. A video management system would need to be purchased. Livermore Police Department just acquired one for use in their Real-Time Crime Center.

Chief Swing shared information relative to the survey on policing in Pleasanton. The department is working with Godbe Research to assess the feelings of safety and levels of community trust from Pleasanton residents, business owners, and visitors. The survey began on Monday, Jan. 23 and will run for approximately 10 days. The

results will be shared with City Council and used to inform strategies to strengthen any identified deficits in feelings of safety and trust.

c. Technology Ideas from CAB

CAB expressed concern and frustration about stop sign violations, red light violations, speeding, especially in residential and school areas in town.

V. Next Steps

The next CAB meeting will be held Tuesday, March 28, 2023; Topic - TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.