

Community Engagement Quarterly Report

Quarter 4, 2016

Within 240 days of the Effective Date, NOPD agrees to develop measurements to assess the effectiveness of its community partnerships and problem-solving strategies, including the effectiveness of the Community Coordinating Sergeant program. NOPD agrees to prepare a publicly available report on at least a quarterly basis detailing its community policing efforts in each District, including developing community partnerships and participating in public meetings, and its problem-solving activities, including specific problems addressed and steps taken by NOPD and the community toward their resolution. This report also shall identify obstacles faced and recommendations for future improvement. At least annually, NOPD agrees to issue a publicly available report that summarizes these problem-solving and community policing activities. [Consent Decree ¶228]

The purpose of this report is to assess the effectiveness of NOPD's community partnership and problem-solving strategies in accordance with Consent Decree paragraph 228.

Key Definitions

New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) — The New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council meetings occur monthly and are attended by the District Commander and other district personnel. The meetings facilitate conversations regarding neighborhood crime concerns and crime prevention strategies.

Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) — Each District is assisted by a Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB). The PCAB consists of seven citizen volunteers from their respective police Districts. PCAB members serve a two-year term and meet quarterly to address crime and quality of life issues.

Community Partnerships — Collaborative problem-solving activities and engagement activities between the Department and the individuals and organizations the Department serves to develop solutions to problems and increase trust in police.

Findings

NOPD Community and Youth Engagements Partnerships and Events

Per Consent Decree ¶448(c), the Department shall provide collection and analysis of community engagement including the number and variety of community partnerships, including particular partnerships with youth.

In the fourth quarter of 2016, the NOPD participated in 27 partnerships. NOPD partnership participants include city agencies, civic groups, neighborhood associations, and many more. The purpose of NOPD partnerships are to engage with the community and youth, and to problem-solve with the community to address crime. Many of the partnership activities listed below can be reviewed on Nopdnews.com, NOPD's YouTube page, or NOPD's District Facebook pages.

The partnerships and events are listed below.

1. The New Orleans Pelicans Organization and Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) Community Discussion on Policing: On October 24, 2016, Superintendent Michael Harrison and NOPD patrol officers joined Pelicans players and area law enforcement agencies for a community discussion on policing with youth from across New Orleans. The Pelicans organization hosted the event. YEP facilitated the discussion which focused on ideas for solutions to existing challenges regarding crime and policing in New Orleans. NOPD participated in a follow-up event in 2017.
2. 911 Children's Day: On October, 7, 2016, the NOPD joined other area law enforcement agencies and outreach organizations for the Orleans Parish Communications District's Second Annual 9-1-1 Children's Day. 9-1-1 Children's Day was developed to teach children the importance of knowing when and how to dial 9-1-1 using a hands-on, interactive approach.
3. Halloween Candy Giveaway: NOPD hosted its annual Halloween candy giveaway. Officers handed out more than 600 trick-or treat bags filled with candy to New Orleans area students at four locations including, KIPP Leadership Primary, Edward Hynes Charter School, Homer Plessy Community School, and the Youth Empowerment Project.
4. Walgreens and New Orleans Police & Justice Foundation Candy Giveaway: More than 20 local Walgreens stores donated candy which was packed in reflective trick-or-treat bags donated by the New Orleans Police & Justice Foundation. Officers also gave the students Halloween safety tips as well as some general ways to stay safe every day.
5. Arnaud's Third Annual Teddy Bear Drive: Arnaud's Restaurant, in partnership with the New Orleans Police & Justice Foundation (NOPJF), hosted its third annual Teddy Bear Program, benefiting the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD), Baton Rouge Police Department

(BRPD), and local communities. Since its inception in 2014, the program has raised more than 2,000 teddy bears for officers to hand out to children encountered while on duty.

6. Block Party: On October 16, 2016, the Central Carrollton Association hosted a block party with approximately 75 attendees. NOPD Second District representatives attended the event.
7. Night Out Against Crime: On October 18, 2016 hundreds of New Orleanians joined NOPD at A.L. Davis Park in Central City for the National Night Out Against Crime. Mayor Mitch Landrieu, NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison and City officials kicked off the event, which included a job fair, family-friendly activities and resources from dozens of community organizations. Hundreds of other Night Out Against Crime events took place in neighborhoods throughout the city.
8. Kipp Central City- NOPD Basketball Game: On October 5, 2016 five officers participated in a basketball game with students at KIPP Central City Academy (KCCA) The event occurred in conjunction with National Community Policing Week. NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison and U.S. Attorney Kenneth Polite kicked off the game thanking students from coming up with their own idea to engage with police officers in a fun and interactive way.
9. Interfaith Committee Meeting: Chief Michael Harrison meets quarterly with a group of local pastors to discuss policing issues and community relations.
10. Joseph S. Clark High School Youth Dialogue: From Oct. 17-20, 2016, Community Mediation Services along with St. Peter Claver and the First District hosted a youth dialogue with Joseph S. Clark High School. A facilitator led a “restorative circle” utilizing trust building exercised with the students and officers. NOPD officers and youth were also able to engage in meaningful dialogue.
11. Trick or Treat: NOPD Second District officers participated in Halloween trick-or-treat fun with citizens.
12. Annual Toy Drive: On December 16, 2016, Second District officers helped Santa Claus deliver toys to more than 200 pre-K, kindergarten and first grade students at Lafayette Academy. The toys were collected during the district’s annual toy drive, which featured participation by the Soul Rebels Brass Band and Second District music mainstay Le Bon Temps Roule.
13. Trick or Treat Safety: NOPD Third District representatives visited Edward Hynes Charter School on Monday to hand out candy in special reflective trick-or-treat bags to students, while also talking to the students about how to be safe when trick or treating in their neighborhoods

14. Toy Giveaway: Officers from the Fourth District spread some holiday cheer at Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School as they handed out toys and games to more than 50 students in pre-K, kindergarten and first grade. The students were the recipients of items collected during the Fourth District's annual toy drive.
15. NOPD and Police and Justice Foundation Candy Giveaway: NOPD officers attended Homer Plessy School's Halloween event. NOPD partnered with the Police and Justice Foundation to purchase candy for the students.
16. PlantForPeaceNOLA: On October 24, 2016, Fourth District officers assigned to patrol in the Fifth District joined local community groups to plant trees for peace. The initiative brought dozens of volunteers together to plant trees in the Seventh Ward neighborhood to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.
17. God's Little Angels Daycare: On Oct. 13, 2016, NOPD Seventh District Officers visited God's Little Angels Daycare in New Orleans East. The day's lessons centered on the community and on police officers. After engaging the group, Officer Ambrose presented each child with junior police badges.
18. Annual Bike Giveaway: The Sixth District hosts an annual bike giveaway every year in partnership with local businesses. Teachers from area schools select the students who are treated to a free meal, a visit with Santa and a free bicycle and Christmas toy.
19. Second Annual Fall Fest: On October 31, 2016 the NOPD's Seventh District hosted trick-or-treaters on Halloween as part of the district's Second Annual Fall Fest. Officers decorated the station for the occasion, which included Halloween-themed music for trick-or-treaters to enjoy. Officers were also in costume, and food and other giveaway items were available.
20. Toy Giveaway: NOPD Seventh District officers collected more than 200 toys distributed them to first graders attending school in the Seventh District. Officers worked with schools in the district to identify kids who have shown the most improvement over the year.
21. Mid-Autumn Celebration: On Oct. 7, 2016, Seventh District officers attended Mary Queen of Vietnam Church's Mid-Autumn Celebration. Mid-Autumn Festival is held on the 15th day of the eighth month of the Chinese calendar, which is in September or early October in the Gregorian calendar. On the 15th day of the lunar calendar each month, the moon is at its roundest and brightest, symbolizing togetherness and reunion in Chinese culture. Families get together to express their familial love by eating dinner together, appreciating the moon, eating mooncakes, etc.

22. Youth Dialogue: In the last quarter of 2016, Eighth District Officers participated in a youth and police dialogue mini-series at the International High School, consisting of seven individual sessions.
23. Second line and tree decoration event: The Eighth District held a second line and tree decorating party with students from KIPP McDonogh 15.

NOPD Collaborative Problem-Solving Partnerships

The information below highlights NOPD's problem-solving activities, including specific problems addressed and steps taken by NOPD and the community toward their resolution [Consent Decree ¶228].

1. Community Engagement Night Out: On October 13, 2016, NOPD hosted its first-ever Community Engagement Night Out. The Night Out was a district-specific collaborative partnership with the community. The purpose of the event was to identify and prioritize public safety concerns voiced by the community members present. NOPD invited well-respected community leaders to facilitate each event in each District. Each District's facilitator asked the community 6 questions and the community members wrote down their responses. The questions were:
 1. In your opinion, what are the greatest problems in your District and how can the police department help? Please provide specific examples.
 2. How can the community collaborate with the police department to address these issues?
 3. What does the police department do well in terms of community engagement?
 4. What could the police department do better in terms of community engagement? Please provide specific examples.
 5. What activities should the Department undertake to improve relationships with youth?
 6. How can we reach out to individuals not present to engage them in improving the police department?

At the end of the Night Out, the community members were told that Each District would address at least two of the community's priorities and report NOPD's efforts monthly. The community and NOPD will collaboratively reassess the priorities after three to six months to determine if new priorities should be addressed.

The community responses were utilized to draft each District's Community Outreach and Public Information Plans.

2. Community Outreach and Public Information Plans: Districts were tasked with drafting a Community Outreach and Public Information Plan based on the priorities collected at the Community Engagement Night Out. Each District will report any problem-solving strategies utilized to address the community's concerns at every monthly New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) meeting.

The Community Outreach and Public Information Plans are set to be implemented in 2017 and can be reviewed at each District station, on each District's Facebook page, and on Nopdnews.com.

3. New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) Meetings: Each District is assisted by a New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC). The NONPACC meets monthly, facilitating conversation and a forum for residents to voice their concerns directly to the District Commander and other key NOPD personnel. In particular, the District Commander presents key activities and information related to crime prevention and community policing in order to receive feedback and additional information from the community.
4. Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) Meetings: Each District is assisted by a Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB). The PCAB consists of seven members who are citizen volunteers from their respective police districts. PCAB members serve a two-year term and meet quarterly to address crime and quality of life issues. In 2016, the PCABs continued to host quarterly meetings to problem-solve with NOPD leaders. PCABs provide written recommendations to NOPD Commanders.
5. NOPD-Liberty United Partnership: NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison announced a new partnership on October 19, 2016 with Liberty United, a New York-based social enterprise that transforms illegal guns and bullets into handcrafted jewelry with the goal of ending gun violence and protecting at-risk kids across the country. New Orleans is the fifth city U.S. city to partner with Liberty United, which donates proceeds from sales to non-profit organizations in its partner communities. Through this partnership, at least 20 percent of the proceeds from sales of Liberty United jewelry will benefit NOLA for Life a program that supports local non-profit groups dedicated to protecting kids and fighting gun violence in the greater New Orleans area.

Obstacles and Recommendations

NOPD is working to develop additional tracking mechanisms for documenting community policing activities more consistently and thoroughly. Improving the collection of community engagement and policing data, reporting on this data in internal and external meetings, and utilizing this data to improve our community engagement and policing are critical goals for NOPD in 2016 as we strive to improve our partnerships with the community and our community engagement efforts.