

Safety and Security Committee Report
October 23, 2018

Coffee with a Cop was held on October 16 at The Meeting House.

There are 7 Outreach Officers in Columbia that are assigned to specific villages, but also collaborate and work as a team. The 4 Officers that attended this meeting were from Long Reach, Owen Brown, Wilde Lake, and Harpers Choice.

Concern

- Loitering on the footpaths behind Sam's Mart. These footpaths are defined as public property by the county making it harder to ban or restrict traffic there. Those that are loitering know where the CA property ends, and the public areas begin.

Recommendations

- Install signs along the paths stating "No Loitering at Any Time" would need to be installed.
- CA is working with the Police to have the signs installed
- Be able to identify and ban some of the individuals on the pathway.

Concerns

- Speeding on Kilimanjaro and Stevens Forest Roads threaten the safety of children walking to and from school. Children's safety should be our first priority.
- Speeding and loud noise 24/7 along Kilimanjaro Road.
- Drivers ignore crosswalks in front of Oakland Mills Middle and High Schools, even though, pedestrians have the right of way.
- Those crossing at the islands, can't continue to cross as drivers do not stop.
- Residents can't exit their driveways safely due to speeders.
- Speed Enforcement Surveys have been conducted, but are limited from 6am-8pm as it is being conducted in front of Maryland schools due to the Maryland Law and Howard County Code.
- Speed humps can't be installed because this area is a camera zone.
- These are old concerns which have been discussed before.

Recommendations

- Begin Speed Enforcement Survey again the next few weeks. (Officer to initiate)
- Request the traffic unit and patrols be contacted to study these issues (Officer to initiate)
- Request a crossing guard for Oakland Mills Middle School (Officer to initiate)
- Instruct children that in order to be safe, they may have to yield to cars (ignoring pedestrians have the right of walk at crosswalks and islands rule).
- Have the Oakland Mills Village BOD contact the County and the Police (Letter sent by BOD and

Sandy Cederbaum - Village

Manager)

- Have the Safety and Security Committee draft a letter to be reviewed by those who attended the meeting and the BOD with additional pertinent comments added before being sent out.
- Have the community send individual emails to the HCPD traffic unit, BOE, and public works listing concerns. (Officer's suggestion)
- Revisit the installation of speed humps
- Have a community meeting with including the Oakland Mills Outreach Officer and the traffic unit.

Concerns

- Students loitering in front of residences
- Students walking through private property

Recommendations

- Administrators at Stevens Forest Elementary School, Oakland Mills Middle and High Schools have been contacted. They have sent out newsletters concerning these issues. (Contact made by Chair of OMCA)
- Contact the individual schools
- Define if the students are on private property or on County property
- Be able to identify who these students are
- The police must see these individuals causing problems

Concern

- Increase in theft of and from vehicles

Recommendations by Outreach Officers

- Lock your car and try to park it in a lit area
- DO NOT leave any items in view
- Call 410-313 2200 if you see anything/one suspicious
- Be able to give a detailed description

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