

Wagga Wagga Local Command
Community Safety Precinct Committee Action Minute
Report to Crime Prevention Partnership June - 2010

Participating Agencies/Community members

Phil PINYON – Wagga Wagga City Council – General Manager
Kerry PASCOE – Wagga Wagga City Council – Mayor
Sue WILSON – Wagga Wagga City Council
Paul FERNON – NSW Dept of Housing, Wagga Wagga
Paul McFADYEN – ICC Indigenous Community Council
Supt David SIMMONS – NSW Police, Commander Wagga Wagga
Det/Insp Rod SMITH – NSW Police, Crime Manager Wagga Wagga
Sgt John AICHINGER – NSW Police, Highway Patrol
S/C Steve JOHNSON – NSW Police, Crime Prevention Wagga Wagga

Apologies:

Michelle BRAY – Wagga Wagga City Council
Kendal CLARKE – ICC Indigenous Community Council
Paul HARDING – NSW Dept of Housing Wagga Wagga
Darryl MAGUIRE – Member of Murrumbidgee

Previous minutes & outstanding business:

Minutes accepted by Paul FERNON and seconded by Det/Insp SMITH.
No outstanding business.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Crime Issues 2. Traffic Management 3. Lighting Issues 4. CBD Violence

Local Crime Type Priorities

Must relate to the extended CPP targets

Informed by analysis of the attached Trend, Operational Performance Crime Review and Alcohol Related Crime Overview Reports

Eg. reduce alcohol related assaults

Det/Insp SMITH gave an overview as follows:

- Wagga Wagga LAC is performing well in majority of the crime categories.
- Assault (Non DV) decreased 7.5%, Robbery increased by 1 incident, Sexual Assault decreased 14%, Break and Enter Dwelling (residential) decreased 1.5%, Stolen Motor Vehicle decreased 23%, Alcohol Related Assaults decreased 1.2%, Assault (Domestic Violence) increased 9% which is positive in the fact that victims are reporting the incidents, Break and Enter (non dwelling – Business, etc) decreased 38%, Drug Supply increased 9%, Drug Possession decreased 12%, Fraud decreased 18.5%, Malicious Damage decreased 16%, Steal From Motor Vehicle decreased 0.3%, Stealing decreased 1.5%, Injury/Fatal Crash decreased 10.%%, Person Searches increased 4.3%, Move On directions increased 33.5%, Traffic Incidents increased 22.4%.
- In recent times Wagga Wagga LAC has been experiencing shortage of staff, which impacts on the number of pro-active measures (person searches, move ons, etc) that are utilised to have a positive affect on crime. Further staff are arriving to the LAC over the next couple of months.

Hot Spots:

- **Tolland Public Housing** area influences all crime categories. There seems to be a number of people living in the area that are transient. Majority of people come from Bourke to visit relatives and end up staying.
- Inmates from Junee Gaol are infiltrated back into the community.
- **Wagga Wagga Marketplace** is having problems with groups of youths congregating in the area, particularly Thursday night. Police have spoken with security about their involvement in addressing the problem. Police will also be increasing foot & mobile patrols of the area. Powers such as Move Ons will be used if justified.

- **Skate Park** continues to attract its share of youths that are out to cause trouble. On Friday 18/6/10 Mayor PASCOE witnessed a car doing burn outs in the car park, with about 30 people looking on. The Police were notified and attended.
- Lighting needs to be addressed. Mayor PASCOE said that the back lighting is blocked by shrubs and lighting is intermittent at the moment. Discussion amongst members suggested that the lighting should switch off at 7pm.

ACTION: WWCC TO ADDRESS LIGHTING

- Mayor PASCOE also said that there seems to be a number of vehicles attending the area and handing out alcohol from the cars.
- Det/Insp SMITH stated that the area invites unsavoury youth to the area, who congregate and use it as a meeting point before venturing over to the Marketplace. There are problems with cars parking on the dirt area.
- Sgt AICHINGER explained that with the lights being turned off it will reduce excuse making by offenders and allow Police to move people on from the area.
- WWCC is drafting plans for Bolton Park Complex which includes the improvement of lighting and rubbish collection.

ACTION: WWCC TO ADDRESS LIGHTING AND PARKING.

POLICE TO INCREASE FOOT PATROLS.

Traffic Forum

- Greatest contributing factor to serious crashes is Speed & Alcohol.
 - Top 3 roads are; Sturt Hwy East, Sturt Hwy West & Olympic Way.
- PCA - Prescribed Concentration of Alcohol
- 60% were either High or Mid range
 - Time of day is equally distributed although 3am – 6am is slightly highest at 20%
 - Generally there is good compliance, however offenders who stay out late & drink are more likely to record a High reading.
 - A lot of driver's are detected the following morning for Low range.
 - 82% of offenders were male.

- 54% were aged between 16 & 29 (highest 20-24 at 28%)
- Of female driver's (18%), 44 % were aged between 20 & 29.
- 22% of offenders were linked to Romanos Hotel.
- 18% of offenders were linked to Home Hotel.
- 18% of offenders were linked to Victoria Hotel.

SPEEDING

- 64% of speeding detections were male
- 35% were female
- Most prominent age range in both genders is 20-24.

SEATBELTS

- 66% male offenders
- 34% female offenders
- Most prominent age range 19-25 in both genders

EQUX TRAFFIC

- On the weekends there is an incredible large amount of traffic due to netball and rugby league being held.
- Mayor PASCOE said that the area is an on going problem for WWCC.
- Sgt AICHINGER said that the Traffic Committee recently discussed improving the access & exit areas of the grounds. It is proposed that further signage would be erected directing traffic to access at one entry and vehicles would be able to exit at the other in both directions.
- Mayor PASCOE suggested that the Traffic Committee should reconsider their plans and made the following suggestion; an island should be constructed to make all traffic exits to the left. This will prevent vehicles trying to enter the wrong location and will allow continuous flow of traffic out of the complex.

ACTION: SGT AICHINGER TO RAISE SUGGESTION WITH TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

BOLTON PARK TRAFFIC

- Saturday mornings there is a significant increase in traffic due to the junior soccer being held at Bolton Park. A large number of vehicles park illegally along Tarcutta Street. There is plenty of parking available in the carpark next to the Skate Park.
- Sgt AICHINGER attended the location and issued several infringement notices, however spent the next week being consumed by representations by community members. WWCC rangers might be going to start working weekends? If they do they will be asked to attend to this location.
- Sue WILSON spoke about providing information to respective junior soccer clubs, netball clubs & rugby league clubs about pedestrian safety and parking compliance. The clubs will be able to relay the information in their newsletters and respective coaches.

ACTION: WWCC TO CREATE INFORMATION FLYER & DISTRIBUTE

ACTION: SGT AICHINGER TO ADVISE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Phil PINYON asked about the detection of mobile phones whilst driving and the correlation to motor vehicle accidents. Sgt AICHINGER advised that WW LAC has the 2nd highest detection of mobiles in the state (were #1).

ICC – Paul informed the meeting that an application concerning Aboriginal Transient Hostel had been submitted in January 2010 and are waiting for a reply. The Hostel is aimed at providing temporary accommodation to Aboriginal people whilst in Wagga Wagga.

- New ICC Manager, Laga Van Beck starts on Monday 28/6/10.

ACTION: PAUL (ICC) TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON APPLICATION.

LIGHTING/CCTV:

WWCC has planned for lighting upgrade at the intersection of Baylis/Morgan St & Baylis/Forsyth St during the 2nd half of 2010. Lighting at the Taxi Ranks is still a key focus for WWCC and they are possibly going to be upgraded.

A number of retail outlets have approached council about installing their own CCTV out the front of their respective business under the awning. WWCC knocked back their applications, as council wishes to ensure that there is adequate lighting and that legality are adhered to.

Midcity Security Services, managed by Dennis SHEAN has approached WWCC about his business installing CCTV at the Taxi rank in Station PI, Wagga Wagga at his own expense. WWC and Dennis are working together in effort to resolve an outcome of this proposal by Dennis.

ACTION: WWCC TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON LIGHTING & CCTV AT TAXI RANK.

ALCOHOL ISSUES:

“LAST DRINKS” campaign is being jointly run by the Police Association, Ambulance Service and relevant medical agencies. This is a state wide campaign aimed at getting the government to change licensing conditions so that all licensed establishments have the same conditions. Each agency is able to highlight the actual time & cost spent dealing with alcohol related crime.

At the latest Liquor Accord meeting, police put forward a proposal that all licensed establishments introduce a 12am lock out. This was not received well! Licensees think that there is not an alcohol problem, rather it is a drug problem. WWCC have made numerous attempts to show that it is an alcohol problem. ‘KEEPOURCOPS.OR.AU’ has good information in regards to the campaign.

DEPT OF HOUSING:

Bruce Street Store is back on the market. Enquiries being made into the use of the store.
AG's initiative "Design Out Crime" combined with UTS University Technology Sydney where urban design is used to address crime issues. One meeting was held with UTS in Wagga Wagga where options are being developed to address problems identified.

ACTION: PAUL TO GIVE UPDATE

Meeting closed 2.20PM

Next meeting 13/10/10