

**Winchester Orchard Neighborhood Association (WONA) General Meeting
on Safety and Security**

**Monday, March 15, 2021 at 7:00
Virtual on Zoom**

Meeting Facilitator - Daphna Woolfe

Chat Monitor - Joan Johnsen

Meeting - Monitor - Bill Cope

Meeting start 7PM

- **WONA Board** present – Daphna Woolfe, Chris Scanlon, Bill Cope, Chris Giangreco, Barbara Emerson, Dave Johnsen, Joan Johnsen

- **Invited Guests**
 - **Federal Realty - Seth Bland**
 - **Pulte Homes – Bill Sadler**
 - **Westfield – not present**
 - **San Jose City**
 - **SJ District 1 – Chappie Jones, Cassidy Kohl, David Gomez**
 - **SJ Police Department - Western Division Captain (1+ years) – Captain Paul Joseph**

GOAL

Our goal is to make sure that the WONA community feels safe and secure in the current and future environment.

The questions below were generated by the community. They outline the concerns and/or deficiencies that need to be addressed. They were brought to the forefront so that the entire community/city can understand the issues.

Chappie Jones' Message: "My #1 job is to keep people safe. Cassidy Kohl is helping to address issues. Report and incidents/issues to the City as well as to the Police. The City cannot hold the Police accountable if they don't know about the issues."

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION

1. How will we secure the area in the future? What will happen with parking garages at night, open space at night and on the weekends? (Federal Realty, Pulte, Westfield)

Federal Realty/Seth Bland: There is a security patrol covering Santana Row and this garage. The 5th floor is gated and will have access by card key and have a detection system built in. That should prevent a homeless problem.

2. Can the Paseo behind the Maplewood houses be gated on both ends from sundown to sunup? (This area has been an illegal drug area for years). (Federal Realty)

Federal Realty/Seth Bland: We are obligated to maintain an open area for pedestrians and bikes in this area. Cameras and lighting are being installed. Making it gated is negotiable, but up to the SJ Planning Department.

ACTION: Cassidy Kohl: Will check with the Planning department.

- Federal Realty is using off duty SJ Police for security in the construction area. If there are issues – speak up – Report to police and tell Federal
- Question (Q)- With the new build – will there be lights? There will be low level light – 8’ above grade. There will also be cameras.
- Q - Once the project is done – how much activity do we expect in the Paseo? Also is it reasonable to assume that we could monitor the space for a while? Maybe even have low level motion detectors – and check in with police, residents, etc. Can we start with a conservative view, but closely monitor and do more if needed?
- The other concern is the Santana West parking garage – What will be done to make sure it does not become a homeless hotel. The parking lots will have gates. So far, the Hatton garage is OK. There are 1400 spaces with card key only at the beginning. Federal will control it often.
- Q – Is the current lighting how it will be once construction is complete? Today, there is construction lighting. Normal operation will have lower lighting. There will be a gate on floor four to stop access to floor five. With that, they can bring the light level down sooner. There is some lighting required for safety etc.
- Q – Question regarding the Sidewalk on Maplewood and Olin. **ACTION** - Reach out direct to Seth with the questions

3. What security will be provided by Pulte? 24/7 during construction? (Pulte)

Pulte/Bill Sadler: Right now, Pulte is just managing the Park. Pulte is not the legal owner. There is Security from dusk to dawn. They want to close the Winchester Blvd entrance. Surveillance cameras will be onsite when escrow closes ~April 1. Once the new build is available, the area will be maintained by an HOA and HOA management firm.

- Pulte is not yet the owner. They are working with owner on homeless issues
- There is currently a live security guard from dark till sunrise. Surveillance cameras may be considered in future. As they move forward – they will beef up services.
- As the site is cleared, they will close off areas.
- One question is whether Winchester entrance can be closed to deter homeless coming in.
- Escrow close is the beginning of April. Once people move to the back of the property, Pulte will assess what is needed.
- Q - After construction is done, what security will there be?

- The development will be maintained by an HOA. They will try to set up committees.
- If things progress negatively, then Pulte will sit on the HOA board and have a seat or two. If security is an issue, they will address it.
- Meeting to be held 3/22 Monday – To give community update on critical items – ingress/egress – 46 mobile homes need access in/out S. Henry and Rosewood.

4. We understand the homeless issue as it relates to motorhomes being illegally parked. Our issue comes when the motorhomes have broken down, do not move and are running illegal activities out of them. This is also happening with cars as well. What is our recourse? If they are not operational how long do they stay? (Law Enforcement, DOT)

A motorhome has been on Maplewood for 8 months. We have called it in multiple times and Parking Enforcement – send plate # and location to Captain Joseph. The Police will look at it tomorrow

5. What can we do about the homeless issue with breaking into cars and homes? (Law Enforcement)

The Police are not avoiding homeless issues. But it is NOT the police's job to move the homeless.

- As an example – Boise Idaho had a homeless issue. They cannot arrest people on public property unless they can offer them shelter. Because of that decision, there is a process to go through to make a change. The land next to the Winchester/280 exit is public property.
- To move someone, they must hire a private company to find everything 'of value' and store it for 90 days.
- All the above actions are on hold right now.
- There have been no abatements of homeless camps in the last year
- Once COVID is under control, there will be regular abatement.

6. Many neighborhoods throughout the city have become dumping grounds for abandoned vehicles. What can be done about this? During Covid, there has been non-responsiveness surrounding this issue. Will this change any time soon? (DOT, parking enforcement)

- Removal of abandoned vehicles – Vehicles with expired tags can be ticketed by DOT (parking enforcement), if they are expired more than a year they can be towed. Note: this is not a City law, it is a State law. If the vehicle is clearly not operational – it might be towable. Abandoned is another issue
- The car can be marked for a 72-hour check. Mark the tire, put a sticker on the car then check again

7. Why are citations not being issued and when they are why are the vehicles allowed to stay? How long should we anticipate waiting for cars to be cited and removed?

- There is Illegal parking going on from Car dealerships near Round Table. Maybe 12 independent operators – they are using street to park their cars and with out-of-date

registration. >72-hour parking. Will the D1 office work with us and DoT to get reasonable effort. ChrisG to write letter with examples.

8. What police presence can we expect going forward during construction and after construction is complete?

Types of crimes they are handling in WONA:

- Aggravated assault – 0 in WONA
- Burglary (auto, residential, commercial) – 2 auto, 1 commercial in WONA
- Robbery – 0 in WONA

Urban villages are presenting new parking issues

9. Issues that the City has not yet seen. What is the plan to make sure that there is adequate parking and that the surrounding neighborhoods are not inundated with overflow vehicles? Additionally, the WONA neighborhood has had significant problems for 30 years with people from the malls parking in our driveways and parking illegally in permit parking. As we continue to grow, how do we assure current residents that they can access their driveways and can park in front of their own homes. (DOT)

- There are not enough police to patrol SJ.
- DoT is almost back to full responsibility – AI – Who do we call if vehicle has been there a month? - can call 311 app. Police will deal with problematic cars.
- There have been 3 cars near Cypress Center broken into in the last few weeks – there is glass on the ground where they have been broken into
- City Council will be taking up Police Staffing. Captain Joseph has been in enforcement since ~1994. Need to be able to show city council there are statistics
- Polls say we have the lowest # of police per population – they have a very hard job.
 - Solve rate on murder and robberies and heavy crime they stop very well.
 - With a little more help could work on the neighborhood issues
- Chappie is an AWESOME representative – better than other districts
- Grace, Cassidy, David –

ADDITIONAL NOTES & QUESTIONS

- San Jose has the lowest ratio of Police to population.
- The City does NOT monitor the Next Door app. The City does not have access to Next Door website.
- How to report crimes:
 - Call 911 if it is an emergency or if the crime is currently in progress
 - If you are not sure who to call – call 911
 - If you see a crime issue, do not just put it on Next Door. The City and Police do not have access to Next Door – Please report it on 311 and tell the District 1 office.

- 311 is now a # to be used for general, non-emergency issues. It changed at the start of COVID. Non-emergency phone number for SJPD: 408-277-8900 or 311
 - 311 App info - <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/customer-service/san-jose-311>
 - You can take pictures and suggest exactly what needs to be done.
- 311 Examples
 - If it is after a crime is over and it is not an emergency, call (408)277-8900 or 311 (e.g., your car was broken into overnight, and the thief is no longer present)
 - Mental issues – Call 311 unless it is an emergency
 - Defecating on the sidewalk is not generally an emergency. It is also not necessarily a mental issue. Call 311
 - Need to be careful about doing on psychiatric hold. The situation must meet 3 criteria. -- Danger to yourself, danger to others, cannot meet their own needs
 - A mentally ill person may not be a danger to others. Especially if they can feed themselves. Note: There is a new Mental Unit –
- Q – Is there a Gun Shot Detection program? Yes, this is being piloted in the Cadillac/Winchester Neighborhood.
- Q – Who responds to blocked driveways? (Police? DoT?)
 - Call 311 – they will route the request
- Q – What type of Violations do Community Service officers enforce? Community Service Officers do not issue parking citations. The Parking Enforcement Unit is part of the Department of Transportation (DoT). They can cite and impound vehicles for all the same violations as the police can.
- Q – Street Diverters next Santana West?

There will be a diverter on Olin near Hanson – probably in the Fall. Plan was to wait until the building is complete and starting to fill
- The temporary circle at Hanson and Spar will become permanent.
- Matt Cammann/ Division for Seneca Family of Agencies – Behavioral Health Services. youth and Foster care. The organization has moved to Olin. They are intended for overnight stays while the child is being placed.