

Notes from Lex-Ham Neighborhood Safety Meeting

June 25 at 6 PM

Guests: Patty Lammers, Crime Prevention Specialist) and Sgt. Traci

- Regular community safety meetings will resume in July at the Western District on the 3rd Tuesdays of each month (July 21st) at 9:30 am and 6:30 pm. Keep in mind:
 - Practicing social distancing (we may have to limit the number of people at each meeting)-please send one person per household.
 - Masks will be required
 - If weather allows, the meeting may be in the visitor parking lot.
- Robberies and shots fired are up across the district, this is what prompted the meeting
- 50 incidents across the metro in the last month related to this trend
- 30 robberies in St. Paul that involved youth ages 10-18, distracted the victim with a question (can you give me directions to...), many involved assault and threat or use of a weapon (some using a gun), most during midday hours
- 3 arrests have been made, one 16 yo and 2 juveniles; believe there are multiple groups still active

Patty Lammers, Crime Prevention Specialist shared the following information:

- Don't hesitate to call 911 to report crime
- Describe the behavior in detail and call back if things change
- You can request a follow up call back on an incident when you make a 911 call or contact the District to ask for more information
- Keep in mind you are reaching the Ramsey County Emergency Communications Center, it is not specific to St. Paul, and so they will ask what city you are in
- Western District has 14 cops on at a time
- Recommend a personal safety alarm that puts out very loud noise rather than pepper spray
- Limit your valuables when walking (no bag or purse) and carry amount of cash you are willing to part with
- Give them your purse/wallet rather than fight in order to avoid being hurt
- Shared multiple proactive programs for youth and community relationship building that the Western District offers
- Responded to questions about de-escalation:
 - All officers in St Paul are trained in behavior-based approach to reduce the need for aggressive responses
 - On crisis intervention calls, social workers accompany officers; tip - mention to the 911 dispatcher if you believe mental health is a concern

- It is always ok to videotape an officer from a safe distance away if you believe their behavior is inappropriate, call 911 and ask for a supervisor
- Citizen App is not recommended due to inaccuracy, listen to police scanners directly at broadcastify.com or look at posts on the “Saint Paul Police and Fire Scanner Followers” group on Facebook