Table of Content

1. ASR - 2021 Survey Data & Community Meeting Report
3. C.O.P.A - Meeting Notes & Power Point
4. GreatBlue Research - Community Wide Survey Results
5. City of Watsonville - Police Department Annual Report
ASR
2021 Survey Data & Community Meeting Report
CITY OF WATSONVILLE
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
POLICING AND SOCIAL EQUITY

2021 Survey Data and
Community Meeting Report
INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................................................................................................................ 3
METHODOLOGY ........................................................................................................................................................................................................ 4
INFORMATION ON PARTICIPANTS ..................................................................................................................................................................... 6
AD HOC SURVEY PARTICIPANTS ..................................................................................................................................................................... 6
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANTS .......................................................................................................................................... 8
FINDINGS .............................................................................................................................................................................................................. 9
QUESTION AREA 1: PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT WOULD BENEFIT WATSONVILLE RESIDENTS .......................................................... 10
AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS ........................................................................................................................................................................ 10
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESULTS ....................................................................................................................................... 11
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARY ....................................................................................................................... 12
SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES ........................................................................................................................................... 12
QUESTION AREA 2: MAKING WATSONVILLE A SAFER COMMUNITY ........................................................................................................ 13
AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS ........................................................................................................................................................................ 13
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESULTS ....................................................................................................................................... 15
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARIES ....................................................................................................................... 16
SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES ........................................................................................................................................... 17
QUESTION AREA 3: OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE COMMUNITY POLICING MORE EFFECTIVE ...................................................................... 19
AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS ........................................................................................................................................................................ 19
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESULTS ....................................................................................................................................... 21
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARY ....................................................................................................................... 22
SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES ........................................................................................................................................... 23
QUESTION AREA 4: RESIDENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE WATSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT .......................................................... 24
AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS ........................................................................................................................................................................ 24
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESULTS ....................................................................................................................................... 31
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARY ....................................................................................................................... 32
SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES ........................................................................................................................................... 33
FEEDBACK FROM AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETINGS ................................................................................................................................. 34
ADVICE FROM AD HOC SURVEY PARTICIPANTS AND AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANTS .............................................. 34
CONCLUSION ........................................................................................................................................................................................................ 36
KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 1: PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT WOULD BENEFIT WATSONVILLE RESIDENTS .......................................................... 36
KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 2: MAKING WATSONVILLE A SAFER COMMUNITY ...................................................................... 36
KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 3: OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE COMMUNITY POLICING MORE EFFECTIVE .............................................. 36
KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 4: RESIDENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE WATSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT (WPD) .......................................................... 37
IN SUMMARY ....................................................................................................................................................................................................... 37
ATTACHMENT 1: METHODOLOGY .................................................................................................................................................................. 38
AD HOC COMMUNITY SURVEY .................................................................................................................................................................. 38
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETINGS .................................................................................................................................................................. 38
PARTICIPANT PROTECTIONS ........................................................................................................................................................................ 39
LIMITATIONS ....................................................................................................................................................................................................... 39
LIST OF APPENDICES .................................................................................................................................................................................................. 40
APPENDIX A: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS [ENGLISH AND SPANISH] .................................................................................................................. 40
APPENDIX B: SUPPORTING DATA SOURCES ..................................................................................................................................................... 40
INTRODUCTION

In September 2020, the City of Watsonville formed the Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity to develop recommendations about the future of policing and community services in Watsonville. The committee is composed of twelve community members selected through an application process, as well as city council members, Watsonville Police Department (WPD) representatives, the city manager, and city staff.

In May 2021, the City of Watsonville engaged Applied Survey Research (ASR) to assist with data collection and to compile a report of findings and relevant secondary data. A data gathering process was developed to help inform the Ad Hoc Committee with primary data about resident perspectives on policing and equity.

The Ad Hoc Committee determined that they wanted community input and perspectives in the following question areas:

1. Programs or services that would benefit Watsonville residents
2. Making Watsonville a safer community
3. Opportunities to make community policing more effective
4. Resident experience with the Watsonville Police Department

This report shares the findings from the primary and secondary data collection process that took place in spring and early summer 2021.

“Thank you for providing space for us as key partners to law enforcement.”

(Ad Hoc community meeting participant)
METHODOLOGY

To maximize inclusion and diversity in perspectives, primary data was collected via a mailed-out paper survey and online and in-person community meetings. Questions related to the four areas listed above were compiled using a combination of newly developed questions and questions sourced from other assessments, including the Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project (CAP).

The City of Watsonville mailed paper surveys to 13,765 residential addresses within city limits. Watsonville Police Department also mailed 1,034 surveys to residents who reside in City of Watsonville neighborhoods that record a high volume of 911 calls. City of Watsonville staff and volunteers attended three Friday Farmer's Markets and solicited survey participation from an additional 99 people.

FIGURE 1. NUMBER AND TYPE OF RETURNED SURVEYS

Community meetings were conducted during May and June of 2021. One in-person and nine on-line meetings were held. Community meetings utilized a combination of verbal discussion and polling questions. Community meetings engaged Ad Hoc home groups, downtown business representative, local community-based organizations leaders, and community members from each district. The City of
Watsonville staff, city leaders and Ad Hoc Committee members recruited participants for the community meetings.

Neutral, skilled, bi-lingual facilitators and scribes were employed by the city to conduct each of the community meetings. Individuals could participate just once to maximize the number of participants and ensure data integrity.

The data collection methodology and protocol were the result of a collaboration between the City of Watsonville, the Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity, and ASR. The final methodology was reviewed by the Ad Hoc Committee prior to implementation to provide the opportunity for questions and revisions. (See Attachment 1 for more information on methodology)
INFORMATION ON PARTICIPANTS

AD HOC SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

Ad Hoc survey respondents were predominantly over the age of 45 (81%) and female (62%).

FIGURE 2. AGE OF AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS

n=458.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

FIGURE 3. GENDER IDENTITY OF AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS

n=461.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
Forty-four percent (44%) of Ad Hoc survey respondents identified as Hispanic or Latino/Latinx and 41% as White.

FIGURE 4. **RACE/ETHNICITY OF AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

- **White**: 41%
- **Hispanic or Latino/Latinx**: 44%
- **Black or African American**: 1%
- **Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander**: 5%
- **American Indian or Alaskan Native**: 1%
- **Multi-racial**: 5%
- **Other**: 3%

n=463.  
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

The majority of Ad Hoc survey respondents were homeowners (65%).

FIGURE 5. **HOUSING STATUS OF AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

- **Homeowner**: 65%
- **Renter**: 33%
- **Other**: 2%

n=460.  
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

The annual income of Ad Hoc survey respondents was evenly distributed: Approximately a third for each of the three response options.

FIGURE 6. **ANNUAL INCOME OF AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

- **$34,999 or less**: 32%
- **$35,000 to $74,999**: 29%
- **$75,000 or more**: 33%
- **Don’t know**: 6%

n=446.  
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Demographic information for Ad Hoc community meeting participants was not collected. Below is the information about when and with whom the community meetings were held:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAY 18</td>
<td>Ad Hoc Committee Members</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 24</td>
<td>Ad Hoc Member Invited Community Members</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 26</td>
<td>Ad Hoc Member Invited Community Members</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 8</td>
<td>Community-Based Organization Leaders</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 9</td>
<td>Downtown Business Representatives - English</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 10</td>
<td>Downtown Business Representatives - Spanish</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 14</td>
<td>Districts 5 &amp; 6 Residents</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 16</td>
<td>Districts 3 &amp; 4 Residents</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 17</td>
<td>Districts 1 &amp; 2 Residents (In-Person)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 18</td>
<td>District 7 Residents (Seniors)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total # of Community Participants:</strong></td>
<td><strong>86</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ad Hoc community meeting participants were asked to share one word that describes what they value or love about Watsonville. The most frequently chosen word was “community”.

FIGURE 7. **ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES WHAT AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANTS VALUE OR LOVE ABOUT WATSONVILLE:**

n=79.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.
FINDINGS

At the beginning of the data collection process, the Ad Hoc Committee determined that they wanted community input and perspectives in the following areas:

1. Programs or services that would benefit Watsonville residents
2. Making Watsonville a safer community
3. Opportunities to make community policing more effective
4. Resident experience with the Watsonville Police Department

Data was collected and is shared in this report using that framework. For each section, there are four kinds of data:

- AD HOC COMMUNITY SURVEY SECTION
  - AD HOC SURVEY QUESTIONS

- AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL SECTION
  - AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL QUESTIONS

- AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SECTION
  - AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION QUESTION SUMMARIES

- DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES SECTION
  - DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES TO SUPPLEMENT AD HOC DATA FINDINGS
QUESTION AREA 1: PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT WOULD BENEFIT WATSONVILLE RESIDENTS

The Ad Hoc Committee was interested to find out generally what programs or services are needed in the community, and what groups of residents need additional support.

AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS

“Cost of living/housing” was the top choice for “what takes away from your quality of life and well-being?” for Ad Hoc survey respondents at 41%.

FIGURE 8. WHAT TAKES AWAY FROM YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE AND WELL-BEING? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS: TOP 2 RESPONSES]

- Cost of living/housing: 41%
- Crime: 37%

n=461 respondents offering 880 responses to a close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey. Note: In the Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey the question was asked “What TWO things take away from your quality of life and well-being?”

Ad Hoc survey respondents thought “seniors” (40%) and “youth” (34%) were the top two groups that would benefit from more programs or services.

FIGURE 9. OUR COMMUNITY WOULD BENEFIT FROM MORE PROGRAMS OR SERVICES FOR WHICH GROUPS OF PEOPLE? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS: TOP 2 RESPONSES]

- Seniors: 40%
- Youth: 34%

n=463 respondents offering 943 responses to a close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey. Note: In the Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey the question was asked “Which TWO groups of people in our community would benefit from more programs or services?”

“Check out the Cahoots program to address community issues! An effective alternative to police non-violent crisis calls.”

(Ad Hoc survey respondent)
“Cost of living/housing” was the top choice for “what takes away from your quality of life and well-being?” for Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents at 69%.

**FIGURE 10. WHAT TAKES AWAY FROM YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE AND WELL-BEING?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of living/housing</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of opportunity for youth</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=81 respondents offering 226 responses to a close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.

Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents thought “youth” (66%) and “children and families” (54%) were the top two groups that would benefit from more programs or services.

**FIGURE 11. OUR COMMUNITY WOULD BENEFIT FROM MORE PROGRAMS OR SERVICES FOR WHICH GROUPS OF PEOPLE?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &amp; Families</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=82 respondents offering 246 responses to a close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.
Ad Hoc community meeting participants discussed which services they thought could improve the quality of life for residents, and their discussion netted the three themes outlined below.

**FIGURE 12.** WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT SERVICES THAT COULD IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR WATSONVILLE RESIDENTS, WHAT SERVICES DO YOU THINK ARE NEEDED? [AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING VERBAL DISCUSSION AND WRITTEN CHAT]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Discussion Themes</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs and Housing</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community programs for youth, children, and families</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in infrastructure</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPECIFIC IDEAS RAISED IN DISCUSSION**

- Affordable housing, jobs, job training (including vocational), internships for youth
- Creative outlets and outdoor programs for youth (including parks/rec programs), childcare
- Improving downtown, safe transportation

n=98 total responses.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat.
Note: Open-ended responses were aggregated, coded, and themed. Themes with 15 or more coded responses are included here. Key themes may not add up to 100%. Specific Ideas are pulled directly from the community discussion.

**SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES**

Eighty-four percent (84%) of respondents in a 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey reported being “very satisfied” or "somewhat satisfied" with how the City of Watsonville is serving the community.

**FIGURE 13.** OVERALL, HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH HOW THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE IS CURRENTLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction Level</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat satisfied</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very satisfied</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all satisfied</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/Unsure</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=770.
Source: 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey.
QUESTION AREA 2: MAKING WATSONVILLE A SAFER COMMUNITY

The Ad Hoc Committee solicited community input on how safe residents feel in Watsonville, their top safety concerns and opinions about the level of police presence in the community.

AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS

Eighty percent (80%) of Ad Hoc survey respondents reported feeling “very safe” or “somewhat safe” in the community.

FIGURE 14. HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL IN OUR COMMUNITY? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS]

- Very safe: 26%
- Somewhat safe: 54%
- Neither safe or unsafe: 10%
- Somewhat unsafe: 9%
- Very unsafe: 2%

n=459. Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
Ad Hoc survey respondents were asked how much police presence is needed to make the community safer. The majority (96%) felt there should be “more” or “about the same police” presence.

**FIGURE 15. TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY SAFER, DO YOU FEEL THERE NEEDS TO BE MORE POLICE PRESENCE, ABOUT THE SAME, LESS POLICE PRESENCE OR NO POLICE PRESENCE? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS]**

![Bar chart showing responses to the survey question.](chart)

n=454. Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

When broken down by race/ethnicity, 63% of Hispanic or Latino/Latinx Ad Hoc survey respondents felt there should be “more police presence” compared to 49% for both White respondents and respondents identifying as “Other”.

**FIGURE 16. TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY SAFER, DO YOU FEEL THERE NEEDS TO BE: [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS, BY RACE/ETHNICITY]**

![Stacked bar chart showing race/ethnicity breakdown of survey responses.](chart)

White n=185; Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=196; Other n=70. Close-ended question.
* Indicates statistical significance.
**Other includes Black/African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Multi-racial, and those that selected ‘Other’.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
Seventy-one percent (71%) of Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents responded “yes” when asked if they feel safe in the community.

To make the community safer, 64% of Ad Hoc community meeting respondents felt that there should be “more police presence” or “about the same police presence”.

n=78. Close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll. Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

n=80. Close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll. Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
Ad Hoc Community Meeting Discussion Summaries

A third of safety-concern discussion comments from Ad Hoc community meeting participants related to their experience with crime or violence, including gangs. Slightly less than a third of the comments related to police behavior or police presence in the community.

**Figure 19. What is your top safety concern? [Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat]**

**Key Discussion Themes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>Personal safety and all types of crime</td>
<td>n=33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>Community and law enforcement engagement/relationships</td>
<td>n=27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Basic needs</td>
<td>n=25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Specific Ideas Raised in Discussion**

- Property crime, violence, gun violence, gangs, safe/unsafe spaces
- Police behavior (over-policing, not equipped to handle mental health crises, profiling), police presence (as a positive and negative)
- Mental health/trauma, housing, homelessness

n=99 total responses.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat.
Note: Open-ended responses were aggregated, coded, and themed. The themes with 15 or more coded responses are included here. Key themes may not add up to 100%. Specific ideas are pulled directly from the community discussion.

A majority of suggestions from Ad Hoc community meeting participants on how to address safety concerns related to where community investments should be made and shifting funding.

**Figure 20. What is needed to address your safety concerns? [Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat]**

**Key Discussion Themes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>Budget/shifts in community investment</td>
<td>n=46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>Policies, procedures &amp; practices of local law enforcement</td>
<td>n=28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Specific Ideas Raised in Discussion**

- Economic development, invest in root causes, road safety, shift funds from police to community support
- Strengthen community-law enforcement relationships (including community policing and downtown officers), community policing

n=74 total responses.
Source: Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Verbal Meeting Discussion and Written Chat.
Note: Open-ended responses were aggregated, coded, and themed. The themes with 15 or more coded responses are included here. Key themes may not add up to 100%. Specific ideas are pulled directly from the community discussion.
**FIGURE 21. CITY OF WATSONVILLE CAP RESPONDENTS ‘VERY CONCERNED’ ABOUT THE FOLLOWING IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Type</th>
<th>Concerned Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cyber Crime</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Crime</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gangs</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Crime</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2019 Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project.
Note: Questions were asked separately: “How concerned are you about...?”. N’s refer to how many responded to each question.

The total number of crimes in the City of Watsonville decreased from 1,545 in 2013 to 1,299 in 2019.

**FIGURE 22. NUMBER OF CRIMES, CITY OF WATSONVILLE**

The total number of arrests in the City of Watsonville decreased from 2,364 in 2015 to 1,547 in 2020.

**FIGURE 23. ARRESTS, CITY OF WATSONVILLE**


Eighty-three percent (83%) of respondents in a 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey reported being “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the efforts of the Watsonville Police Department to reduce crime in Watsonville.

**FIGURE 24. HOW SATISFIED WOULD YOU SAY YOU ARE WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT’S EFFORTS TO REDUCE CRIME IN THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE?**

n=770.
Source: 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey.
QUESTION AREA 3: OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE COMMUNITY POLICING MORE EFFECTIVE

The Ad Hoc Committee sought to gain feedback from residents about how the Watsonville Police Department (WPD) could improve their community policing efforts.

AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS

Generally, more than half of Ad Hoc survey respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” with statements about WPD being held accountable and treating residents fairly and without bias.

FIGURE 25. PLEASE INDICATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS ANSWERING ‘AGREE’ OR ‘STRONGLY AGREE’]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers respect the rights of individuals and treat people fairly</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I believe that the officers within WPD are generally unbiased</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers treat people of different races and ethnicities equally</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD holds officers accountable for wrong or inappropriate conduct in the community</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Policing is the concept that trust and mutual respect between police and the communities they serve is critical to public safety. It is a law enforcement strategy that emphasizes the systematic use of community engagement, partnerships, and problem-solving techniques to proactively address conditions that cultivate crime and social disorder.
When broken down by race/ethnicity, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx Ad Hoc survey respondents were less likely than White respondents to “agree” or “strongly agree” with statements about WPD being held accountable and treating residents fairly and without bias.

**FIGURE 26. PLEASE INDICATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS ANSWERING ‘AGREE’ OR ‘STRONGLY AGREE’, BY RACE/ETHNICITY]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>White (n=184)</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino/Latinx (n=196)</th>
<th>Other** (n=68)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WPD holds officers accountable for wrong or inappropriate conduct in the community</td>
<td>54%*</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>73%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers respect the rights of individuals and treat people fairly</td>
<td>54%*</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I believe that the officers within WPD are generally unbiased</td>
<td>50%*</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers treat people of different races and ethnicities equally</td>
<td>47%*</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD holds officers accountable for wrong or inappropriate conduct in the community</td>
<td>54%*</td>
<td>50%*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WPD holds officers accountable for wrong or inappropriate conduct in the community – White n=184, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=196, Other n=68; I believe that the officers within WPD are generally unbiased – White n=187, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=197, Other n=69; WPD officers respect the rights of individuals and treat people fairly – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=200, Other n=69; WPD officers treat people of different races and ethnicities equally – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=100, Other n=69. Close-ended question.

*Indicates statistical significance.

**Other includes Black/African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Multi-racial, and those that selected ‘Other’.

Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESULTS

Although 57% of Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that they and the police want the same things for the community, fewer than 50% “agree” or “strongly agree” with all other statements about WPD being responsive and working with the community, being held accountable, and treating residents fairly and without bias.

**FIGURE 27. PLEASE INDICATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS [AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESPONDENTS ANSWERING ‘AGREE’ OR ‘STRONGLY AGREE’]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The police and I want the same things for our community (n=79)</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The police department is responsive to community concerns (n=80)</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I think that WPD does a good job working with the community to solve local problems (n=80)</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers respect the rights of individuals and treat people fairly (n=78)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I believe that the officers within WPD are generally unbiased (n=80)</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers treat people of different races and ethnicities equally (n=77)</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD holds officers accountable for wrong or inappropriate conduct in the community (n=75)</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The police department prioritizes problems that are most important to our community (n=79)</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.
Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.

“Hacen muy buen trabajo. Gracias por preocuparse de la comunidad.”
("They do a very good job. Thanks for caring about the community.")

(Ad Hoc survey respondent)
AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARY

A third of responses from Ad Hoc community meeting participants on how WPD can improve relationships in the community related to changing or improving WPD policies and practices.

FIGURE 28. WHAT CAN WPD DO TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY? [AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING VERBAL DISCUSSION AND WRITTEN CHAT]

KEY DISCUSSION THEMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33% Policies, Procedures &amp; Practices of Local Law Enforcement</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33 responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25% Community Engagement and Outreach</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25 responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19% Ways of Working to Address Community Needs</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19 responses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIFIC IDEAS RAISED IN DISCUSSION

- Neighborhood policing (including an officer downtown), training for officers
- More and varied opportunities for community interaction and input, including with youth
- Bilingual/bicultural officers and leadership, better WPD collaboration with city as well as CBOs

n=99 total responses.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat.
Note: Open-ended responses were aggregated, coded, and themed. The themes with 15 or more coded responses are included here. Key themes may not add up to 100%. Specific ideas are pulled directly from the community discussion.

“Expand interactions between WPD and community. I realized from this survey that I really don’t know the WPD. Neighborhood meetings would be a good step.”

(Ad Hoc survey respondent)
SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES

Sixty-two percent (62%) of respondents in a 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey reported feeling that WPD was “excellent” or “good” at responding to community concerns.

**FIGURE 29. HOW WELL WOULD YOU SAY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT PERFORMS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS? – RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/Unsure</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=770.  
Source: 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey.  
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Sixty-six percent (66%) of respondents in a 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey reported feeling that WPD was “excellent” or “good” at engaging in community events.

**FIGURE 30. HOW WELL WOULD YOU SAY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT PERFORMS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS? – ENGAGING IN COMMUNITY EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/Unsure</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=770.  
Source: 2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey.
QUESTION AREA 4: RESIDENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE WATSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Ad Hoc Committee sought to gather feedback from residents about their experience with local law enforcement, particularly their trust in the Watsonville Police Department (WPD), their experience and types of contact, and opinions about the department.

AD HOC SURVEY RESULTS

Ad Hoc survey respondents were asked to describe their general level of trust with local law enforcement. Less than half responded, “very trustworthy” (44%) and more than a third responded “somewhat trustworthy” (38%).

FIGURE 31. DESCRIBE YOUR GENERAL LEVEL OF TRUST WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Trust</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very trustworthy</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat trustworthy</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat untrustworthy</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know / unsure</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untrustworthy</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=461. Close-ended question. Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey. Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

“Neighborhood services worked – bring it back”
(Ad Hoc community meeting participant)
When broken down by race/ethnicity, just over half (55%) of White Ad Hoc survey respondents felt local law enforcement is “very trustworthy” compared to a third (33%) of Hispanic or Latino/Latinx survey respondents.

**FIGURE 32. DESCRIBE YOUR GENERAL LEVEL OF TRUST WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS, BY RACE/ETHNICITY]

Ad Hoc survey respondents were asked to describe their experience with WPD. Less than half responded, “very positive” (41%). Seventy-two percent (72%) described their experience as either “very positive” or “somewhat positive”.

**FIGURE 33. WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH WPD? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS]

n=460. Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
When broken down by race/ethnicity, less than a third (29%) of Hispanic or Latino/Latinx Ad Hoc survey respondents responded that their experience had been “very positive”, compared to more than half (54%) of White survey respondents.

**FIGURE 34. WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH WPD? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS, BY RACE/ETHNICITY]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience Level</th>
<th>White n=187</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=198</th>
<th>Other n=72</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very positive</td>
<td>54%*</td>
<td>29%*</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat positive</td>
<td>22%*</td>
<td>40%*</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat negative</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very negative</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I've never had</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closed-ended question.

White n=187; Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=198; Other n=72.

*Indicates statistical significance.

**Other includes Black/African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Multi-racial, and those that selected ‘Other’.

Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
A majority (62%) of Ad Hoc survey respondents reported having contact with WPD in the last five years.

**FIGURE 35. HAVE YOU HAD CONTACT WITH THE WPD WITHIN THE LAST 5 YEARS?**
[AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS]

![Pie chart showing contact with WPD within the last 5 years.

n=459. Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.]

When broken down by race/ethnicity, less than half (47%) of Hispanic or Latino/Latinx Ad Hoc survey respondents reported having contact with WPD in the last five years, compared to nearly three quarters (74%) of White respondents reporting recent contact.

**FIGURE 36. HAVE YOU HAD CONTACT WITH WPD WITHIN THE LAST 5 YEARS?**
[AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS ANSWERING "YES", BY RACE/ETHNICITY]

![Bar chart showing contact by race/ethnicity.

White n=137; Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=92; Other n=55. Close-ended question.
*Indicates statistical significance.
**Other includes Black/African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Multi-racial, and those that selected ‘Other’.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.]
When asked what shaped their opinion of WPD, 61% of Ad Hoc survey respondents indicated “personal non-emergency interactions” followed by “community events/activities” (33%).

**FIGURE 37. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING HAS SHAPED YOUR OPINION ABOUT WPD? [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal non-emergency interaction(s)</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community events/activities</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal emergency interaction(s)</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend or family member’s personal experience</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.

Less than a quarter of Ad Hoc survey respondents reported that they “agree” or “strongly agree” with statements indicating that WPD treats people with bias.

**FIGURE 38. EXTENT THAT YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS ANSWERING ‘AGREE’ OR ‘STRONGLY AGREE’]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers will treat you differently because of your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers will judge you based on your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The WPD officers act based on personal prejudices or biases</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Something you do might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>due to your race/ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Something you say might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>due to your race/ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD suspect you of being a criminal because of your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.
Approximately a third (32%) of Hispanic or Latino/Latinx Ad Hoc survey respondents responded “agree” or “strongly agree” to all statements related to WPD treating people differently based on race or ethnicity.

**Figure 39: Extent that you agree or disagree with the following statements: [Ad Hoc survey respondents answering ‘agree’ or ‘strongly agree’, by race/ethnicity]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino/Latinx</th>
<th>Other**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers will treat you differently because of your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>11%*</td>
<td>21%*</td>
<td>32%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD officers will judge you based on your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>11%*</td>
<td>18%*</td>
<td>34%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The WPD officers act based on personal prejudices or biases</td>
<td>10%*</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>31%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Something you say might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD due to your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>7%*</td>
<td>16%*</td>
<td>31%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Something you do might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD due to your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>7%*</td>
<td>16%*</td>
<td>33%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPD suspect you of being a criminal because of your race/ethnicity</td>
<td>5%*</td>
<td>15%*</td>
<td>28%*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WPD officers will treat you differently because of your race/ethnicity – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=196, Other n=71; WPD officers will judge you based on your race/ethnicity – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=198, Other n=71; The WPD officers act based on personal prejudices or biases – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=193, Other n=71; Something you say might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD due to your race/ethnicity – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=195, Other n=70; Something you do might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD due to your race/ethnicity – White n=186, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=196, Other n=70; WPD suspect you of being a criminal because of your race/ethnicity – White n=185, Hispanic or Latino/Latinx n=192, Other n=68. Close-ended question.

*Indicates statistical significance.

**Other includes Black/African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Multi-racial, and those that selected ‘Other’.

Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.

Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.
Among Ad Hoc survey respondents, there was a high degree of reported willingness to partner with WPD.

**FIGURE 40. HOW LIKELY WOULD YOU BE TO PARTNER WITH WPD ON THE FOLLOWING: [AD HOC SURVEY RESPONDENTS ANSWERING ‘LIKELY’ OR ‘VERY LIKELY’]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call the police to report a crime (n=450)</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report suspicious activity near your home to the police (n=457)</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide information to the police to help find a suspect (n=456)</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a community meeting with the police to discuss crime in your neighborhood (n=454)</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer your time to help the police solve a crime or find a suspect (n=455)</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrol the streets as part of an organized community group (n=453)</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Survey.
Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.
Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents were asked to describe their general level of trust with local law enforcement. Thirty percent (30%) responded “very trustworthy” and a third responded “somewhat trustworthy” (33%).

Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents were asked to describe their experience with WPD. Close to a third responded, “very positive” (35%). Fifty-four percent (54%) described their experience as either “very positive” or “somewhat positive”.

n=86. Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

n=84. Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
Ad Hoc community meeting poll respondents were asked what had shaped their opinion about WPD and the majority indicated “personal non-emergency contact” (77%) followed by “community events/activities” (54%).

**FIGURE 43. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING HAS SHAPED YOUR OPINION ABOUT WPD? [AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL RESPONDENTS]**

- Personal non-emergency interaction(s) (n=64) 77%
- Community events/activities (n=45) 54%
- Friend or family member’s personal experience (n=34) 41%

Close-ended question.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll.
Note: Respondents did not respond to every statement. N’s refer to how many responded to each statement.

**AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING DISCUSSION SUMMARY**

Of the Ad Hoc community meeting discussion responses about being stopped by WPD (29 total responses), 41% (12 responses) believed it was primarily due to profiling because of their appearance or assumptions made by the officer(s).

**FIGURE 44. DO YOU BELIEVE YOU’VE BEEN STOPPED BY WPD PRIMARILY DUE TO ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: YOUR RACE, ETHNICITY, RELIGION, AGE, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, OR IMMIGRATION STATUS? WHAT ABOUT THE INCIDENT SPECIFICALLY MADE YOU FEEL THIS WAY? [AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING VERBAL DISCUSSION AND WRITTEN CHAT]**

n=29 total responses.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat.
Note: Open-ended responses were aggregated, coded, and themed. The themes with 15 or more coded responses are included here. Key themes may not add up to 100. Specific ideas are pulled directly from the community discussion.

**KEY DISCUSSION THEME**

- **41% PROFILING BY APPEARANCE AND ASSUMPTION**
  n=12 responses
  Told they ‘fit the description’ (including because of clothing or age)
SUPPORTING DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES

Eighty-nine percent (89%) of City of Watsonville Community Assessment Project respondents described their general level of trust in local law enforcement as “very trustworthy” or “somewhat trustworthy”.

FIGURE 45. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR GENERAL LEVEL OF TRUST WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT [DATA FROM CITY OF WATSONVILLE RESIDENTS ONLY]

n=190.
Source: 2019 Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project.
Note: This question was not specific to Watsonville Police Department.
FEEDBACK FROM AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETINGS

At the end of the Ad Hoc community meeting, participants were asked to give general feedback about what they found meaningful about the process.

FIGURE 46. IN ONE SENTENCE, SHARE WHAT WAS MOST MEANINGFUL OR VALUABLE TO YOU IN THIS CONVERSATION? [AD HOC COMMUNITY VERBAL DISCUSSION AND WRITTEN CHAT]

n=60 total responses.
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Verbal Discussion and Written Chat.
Note: Open-ended responses were aggregated, coded, themed, and then summarized. Key themes may not add up to 100%. The themes with 15 or more coded responses are included here.

ADVICE FROM AD HOC SURVEY PARTICIPANTS AND AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANTS

At the end of the Ad Hoc survey and community meetings, participants were asked what advice they had for the Ad Hoc Committee itself. The responses fell into three broad categories:

1. Suggestions or feedback to the City of Watsonville about engagement and/or the Ad Hoc process,
2. Direct feedback to or comments about the Watsonville Police Department, and
3. Suggestions to the City of Watsonville about community services/programs and the allocation of funding.

The following is a summary of the high-level themes.
**FIGURE 47. WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE?** [HIGH-LEVEL THEMES FOR AD HOC COMMITTEE FROM AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETING POLL AND SURVEY RESPONDENTS]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADVICE TO AD HOC CATEGORIES</th>
<th>SELECTED HIGH-LEVEL THEMES FROM AD HOC SURVEY AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City/Ad Hoc Engagement</td>
<td>• Be data-driven&lt;br&gt;• Make sure the committee represents the community equally, open up meetings and allow community input. Improve recruitment and ensure community meetings are open and grounded in values of community and relationship building&lt;br&gt;• Share results with the community, community meeting to discuss survey results, follow-up meeting on specific issues, organizar mas reuniones con los vecindarios, comunicación (organize more meetings with the neighborhoods, communication)&lt;br&gt;• Improve civic participation training/awareness&lt;br&gt;• Prevent inequity, inequity is a larger systemic issue not just in WPD&lt;br&gt;• Be bold and think out of the box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonville Police Department</td>
<td>• Stop illegal fireworks, stop speeding/drag-racing and excessive noise, more police patrol on streets and at night, need more traffic officers&lt;br&gt;• Address homelessness, enforce municipal codes&lt;br&gt;• Let WPD do their jobs, support local police, do not undermine them, mas vigilancia (more vigilance), me gustaría mas patrullaje (I would like more patrolling)&lt;br&gt;• Walk the beat, get to know neighbors, bring back coffee with a cop, expand interactions between WPD and community&lt;br&gt;• Hire officers that represent the community&lt;br&gt;• Support WPD. Shift from community policing to community collaboration, more connection to and between WPD and CBOs&lt;br&gt;• Police need better training on how to interact with the community and bias, more police training on cultural sensitivity&lt;br&gt;• More resident engagement/oversight with police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Watsonville Services/Programs</td>
<td>• Separate funding for public services and police funding&lt;br&gt;• Re-allocate funds and invest in our community. Change/clarify role of WPD and shift funding, reallocate police funding to agencies addressing root causes, consider defunding policy entirely&lt;br&gt;• Do not ever consider defunding police, do everything possible to train police and not to defund&lt;br&gt;• Address homelessness and activities for youth. Focus on youth and their input&lt;br&gt;• Neighborhood services worked – bring it back&lt;br&gt;• Increase social services for individuals with mental health issues, we need 24/7 mental health services, mental health problems be handled by mental health professionals and not the police, officer mental health training, pairing an officer with a mental health worker for certain types of calls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ad Hoc Survey n= 288; Ad Hoc Community Meeting n=62.  
Source: 2021 Watsonville Ad Hoc Community Meeting Poll and Ad Hoc Survey
CONCLUSION

ASR was asked to recommended processes that encouraged community members to give feedback about city services/programs and policing. Embedded in the process was a commitment to protect participants by ensuring that it was an informed and transparent process. Care and attention were given in gathering feedback on these critical issues, and the community responded by showing up and offering thoughtful and varied perspectives.

In general, the survey yielded a good response rate and the community meetings produced rich and meaningful discussions. A range of public opinions were gathered, and data showed a diversity of experiences, perspectives, and advice.

KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 1: PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT WOULD BENEFIT WATSONVILLE RESIDENTS

- “Cost of living/housing” was a top response to what takes away from quality of life in Watsonville. Programs related to access to jobs and housing, and services for youth, children and families were raised as ways to improve the quality of life in the city.
- Youth, children and families, and seniors were highlighted as groups needing more programs and services.

KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 2: MAKING WATSONVILLE A SAFER COMMUNITY

- Most participants reported feeling safe in Watsonville, although crime was raised often as a concern.
- Most participants felt that the amount of police presence should not decrease.
- Participants felt that shifts in community investment that would redirect funds to the root causes of problems could address their safety concerns.

KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 3: OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE COMMUNITY POLICING MORE EFFECTIVE

- More quality interactions with community and varied programs would improve the effectiveness of WPD’s community policing.
- Participants expressed a strong desire for community-level policing ("neighborhood policing") where officers and residents get to know each other and build relationships and trust.
KEY TAKEAWAYS QUESTION AREA 4: RESIDENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE WATSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT (WPD)

- A majority of participants reported that they feel WPD is trustworthy.
- Hispanic or Latino/Latinx participants, and participants included in the “Other” racial/ethnic category, expressed less trust in law enforcement than White respondents.
- There is a high degree of reported willingness to partner with WPD on community policing activities.

IN SUMMARY

- Participants felt that community programs and support services should receive more funding.
- Participants expressed concerns about safety.
- Participants expressed that they would like more and ongoing opportunities for meaningful dialogue with both WPD and city officials.
ATTACHMENT 1: METHODOLOGY

To maximize inclusion and diversity in perspectives, primary data was collected via a mailed-out paper survey and online and in-person community meetings. Questions related to the four areas listed above were compiled using a combination of newly developed questions and questions sourced from other assessments, including the Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project (CAP).

AD HOC COMMUNITY SURVEY

The paper survey (“Ad Hoc survey”) was provided in English and Spanish and distributed in the following three ways: mailed to all residences across the City of Watsonville, mailed to residents who live in neighborhoods that record a high volume of calls to 911, and distributed by hand at the Farmer’s Market in Watsonville. Participants were asked to share their initials and date of birth for the purpose of deduplicating the surveys. Basic demographic data was collected, but no identifying information was requested to ensure anonymity and promote honest participation. Completed surveys were collected in the following ways: dropped off at City of Watsonville offices or the library, mailed to City of Watsonville offices, or emailed (via scan or photo) to the City of Watsonville. Survey distribution started on May 18th and collection ended on June 9th, 2021.

The City of Watsonville mailed paper surveys to 13,765 residential addresses inside Watsonville city limits (zip codes 95076 & 95077). On May 21st, the Watsonville Police Department (WPD) also mailed 1,034 surveys to residents who reside in City of Watsonville neighborhoods that record a high volume of 911 calls. However, only a small number of these targeted surveys were returned (11). For data analysis purposes, responses from the WPD-targeted surveys are included with the general mailing. City of Watsonville staff and volunteers attended three Friday Farmer’s Markets between May 21st - June 4th and solicited survey participation from an additional 99 people. These survey responses are also combined with the general mailing responses.

AD HOC COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Community engagement meetings (“Ad Hoc community meetings”) were conducted during May and June of 2021. One in-person and nine on-line community meetings were held. Community meetings engaged Ad Hoc home groups, downtown business representative, local community-based organizations leaders, and community members from each district. The City of Watsonville staff, city leaders and Ad Hoc Committee members recruited participants for the community meetings.

During online meetings, questions were shared using a combination of online polls (“Ad Hoc community meeting poll”), and verbal discussion and written chat (“Ad Hoc verbal discussion and written chat”). Online meetings were conducted via Zoom and polling was conducted with Mentimeter, an online polling tool. The in-person community meetings utilized a paper worksheet and verbal discussion to engage participants and document responses.
PARTICIPANT PROTECTIONS

A number of steps were taken to ensure that participants were informed, supported, and protected when they participated, including:

- The utilization of informed consent/assent forms prior to participation.
- The purpose of the sessions, the goals of the Ad Hoc Committee, and next steps, were shared in the sessions so that participants were informed about what they were contributing to.
- Knowing that the topics of safety, policing, and equity are deeply personal and can be polarizing, each group began by adopting conversation agreements that uplifted the values of respect and privacy.
- All identifying information was removed from the reporting of findings.

Neutral, skilled, bi-lingual facilitators and scribes were employed by the city to conduct each of the community meetings. Individuals were allowed to participate once to maximize the number of participants and ensure data integrity.

A data collection document was developed for the facilitators to use in compiling community meeting verbal and written feedback. All data were submitted to Applied Survey Research (ASR) for analysis.

The data collection methodology and protocol are the result of a collaboration between the City of Watsonville, the Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity, and ASR. The final methodology was reviewed by the Ad Hoc Committee prior to implementation to provide the opportunity for questions and revisions.

LIMITATIONS

Because the data gathering methodology was different for the Ad Hoc survey and the Ad Hoc community meetings, results are unique data sets and should not be compared. Additional limitations include:

- Demographic data was not collected from participants in the Ad Hoc community meetings.
- Participants for the Ad Hoc community meetings included targeted outreach based on recommendations from the City of Watsonville staff.
- Responses to the survey were completely voluntary and thus, the survey results reflect the opinions of those that went through the process of completing and returning a survey.
- Questions included in the Ad Hoc survey and the Ad Hoc community meetings were limited to the question areas identified by the Ad Hoc Committee.
- Data are not generalizable to city-wide sub-groups.
- Accessible only in English and Spanish languages. Participation mostly from English-speaking community members.
- Participation may have been impacted by the potentially sensitive nature of the topic areas.
LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (ENGLISH AND SPANISH)
APPENDIX B: SUPPORTING DATA SOURCES
APPENDIX A: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (ENGLISH AND SPANISH)

WATSONVILLE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON POLICING AND SOCIAL EQUITY

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City of Watsonville has formed an Ad Hoc Committee to examine safety, policing, and racial equity in Watsonville. The committee is seeking community input that will inform their recommendations to the city about the future of policing and community services in Watsonville. This survey is an important step in engaging community members in these important discussions. YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED AND VALUED.

Information collected in this survey is completely anonymous. You will not be asked any identifying Information. Once the surveys are completed, Applied Survey Research will compile the community’s recommendations on government policies, structures, and services related to policing, community services and equity in our diverse community.

Please return this survey no later than Wednesday, June 9th.

IMPORTANT: Please fill in the circles like this → ●

A. What are your initials?  
First  Middle  Last

B. What is your birth date?  
Month  Day  Year

1. Which of the following age groups are you in?  
- 18 to 24 years  
- 25 to 44 years  
- 45 to 64 years  
- 65 years and over

2. Which of the following best describes your gender identity?  
- Male  
- Female  
- Non-binary  
- Transgender  
- Prefer not to say

3. Which of the following racial groups do you identify with most?  
- White  
- Hispanic or Latino/Latina  
- Black or African American  
- Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander  
- American Indian or Alaskan Native  
- Multiracial  
- Other (please specify):  

4. What housing status currently applies to you?  
- Homeowner  
- Renter  
- Other (please specify):  

5. Please indicate your household’s annual income from all sources before taxes:  
- $34,999 or less  
- $35,000 to $74,999  
- $75,000 or more

6. What TWO things take away from your quality of life and well-being? (Choose 2)  
- Transportation/transportation safety concerns  
- Drugs  
- Crime  
- Cost of living/housing  
- Lack of job/employment opportunities  
- Homelessness  
- Access to healthy foods  
- Access to health care  
- Lack of opportunities for youth  
- Discriminatory experience  
- Fears around immigration issues  
- Other (please specify):  

7. Which of the following groups in our community would benefit from more programs or services? (Choose 2)  
- Banks  
- Adults  
- Youth  
- Children & families  
- Non-English speakers  
- People experiencing homelessness  
- Individuals who were formerly incarcerated  
- People with disabilities (mental or physical)  
- Victims of crime  
- Immigrants  
- Veterans  
- LGBT+  
- Other (please specify):  

8. How safe do you feel in our community?  
- Very safe  
- Somewhat safe  
- Neither safe or unsafe  
- Somewhat unsafe  
- Very unsafe

9. To make our community safer, do you feel there needs to be:  
- More police presence  
- About the same police presence  
- Less police presence  
- No police presence

10. Have you had contact with the Watsonville Police Department (WPD) within the last 5 years? (citation, warning, traffic stop, 911 call, non-emergency call, community meeting, or talked to an officer on patrol, or other interaction)  
- Yes  
- No  
- Not sure

11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements (Scale: strongly disagree[SD], disagree[D], neutral[N], agree[A], strongly agree[SA]):  
- I think that the WPD does a good job working with the community to solve local problems
- The police department is responsive to community concerns
- WPD holds officers accountable for wrong or inappropriate conduct in the community
- The police and I want the same things for our community
- The police department prioritizes problems that are most important to our community
- I believe that the officers within WPD are generally unbiased
- WPD officers respect the rights of individuals and treat people fairly
- WPD officers treat people of different races and ethnicities equally

12. Describe your general level of trust with local law enforcement:  
- Very trustworthy  
- Somewhat trustworthy  
- Somewhat untrustworthy  
- Untrustworthy  
- Don’t know/no answer

13. What has been your experience with the Watsonville Police Department (WPD)?  
- Very positive  
- Somewhat positive  
- Neutral  
- Somewhat negative  
- Very negative  
- I’ve never had experience with WPD

14. Which of the following has shaped your opinion about WPD on all that apply?  
- Personal non-emergency interaction(s)  
- Personal emergency interaction(s)  
- Interaction as a suspect  
- Friend or family member’s personal experience  
- Friend or family member witnessed part of WPD  
- Witness/bystander to a crime  
- Media stories (including social media)  
- Traffic stop(s)  
- Community events/activities  
- Other (please specify):  

15. Please indicate how likely you would be to partner with WPD on the following things: (Scale: very unlikely[VI], unlikely[U], neutral[N], likely[L], very likely[VL])  
- Patrol the streets as part of an organized community group  
- Volunteer your time to help the police solve a crime or find a suspect  
- Attend a community meeting with the police to discuss crime in your neighborhood  
- Provide information to the police to help find a suspect  
- Report suspicious activity near your home to the police  
- Call the police to report a crime

16. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements (Scale: strongly disagree[SD], disagree[D], neutral[N], agree[A], strongly agree[SA]):  
- WPD officers will treat you differently because of your race/ethnicity
- WPD officers will judge you based on your race/ethnicity
- The WPD officers act based on personal prejudices or biases
- Something you say might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD due to your race/ethnicity
- Something you do might be misinterpreted as criminal by the WPD due to your race/ethnicity
- WPD suspects you of being a criminal because of your race/ethnicity

17. What advice do you have for the Ad Hoc Committee?  

18. 8754583796

Thank you so much for your time and input. If you have any questions about this survey or the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, please contact the city manager’s office at 531 760 3010.
La ciudad de Watsonville ha formado un Comité Ad Hoc para examinar la seguridad, la vigilancia y la equidad racial en Watsonville. El comité está solicitando la opinión de la comunidad para informar sus recomendaciones a la ciudad sobre el futuro de los servicios policiales y comunitarios en Watsonville. Esta encuesta es un paso importante para involucrar a los miembros de la comunidad en esta importante discusión. SU OPINIÓN ES NECESARIA Y VALORADA.
La información recopilada en esta encuesta es completamente anónima, no se le pedirá ninguna información de identificación. Una vez que se complete la encuesta, Applied Survey Research recopilará los comentarios de la comunidad y desarrollará un informe. Este informe se utilizará para informar y ahorrar recomendaciones del comité sobre las políticas sobre la vigilancia policial, los servicios comunitarios y la equidad en nuestra diversa comunidad.

Por favor, devuélva esta encuesta antes del Miércoles, 9 de Junio.

**WATSONVILLE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON POLICING AND SOCIAL EQUITY**

**ENCUESTA COMUNITARIA**

La ciudad de Watsonville ha formado un Comité Ad Hoc para examinar la seguridad, la vigilancia y la equidad racial en Watsonville. El comité está solicitando la opinión de la comunidad para informar sus recomendaciones a la ciudad sobre el futuro de los servicios policiales y comunitarios en Watsonville. Esta encuesta es un paso importante para involucrar a los miembros de la comunidad en esta importante discusión. SU OPINIÓN ES NECESARIA Y VALORADA.

La información recopilada en esta encuesta es completamente anónima, no se le pedirá ninguna información de identificación. Una vez que se complete la encuesta, Applied Survey Research recopilará los comentarios de la comunidad y desarrollará un informe. Este informe se utilizará para informar y ahorrar recomendaciones del comité sobre las políticas sobre la vigilancia policial, los servicios comunitarios y la equidad en nuestra diversa comunidad.

Por favor, devuélva esta encuesta antes del Miércoles, 9 de Junio.

**A. ¿Cuáles son sus iniciales?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primer Nombre</th>
<th>Segundo Nombre</th>
<th>Apellido</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**B. ¿Cuál es su fecha de nacimiento?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mes</th>
<th>Día</th>
<th>Año</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. ¿En cuál de los siguientes grupos de edad se encuentra?

- [ ] 0 a 24 años
- [ ] 25 a 44 años
- [ ] 45 a 64 años
- [ ] 65 años o más

2. ¿Cuál de los siguientes opciones describe mejor su identidad de género?

- [ ] Masculino
- [ ] Femenino
- [ ] No binario
- [ ] Transgénero
- [ ] Prefiero no decir

3. ¿Con cuál de los siguientes grupos raciales se identifica más?

- [ ] Blanco
- [ ] Hispano o Latino/Latina
- [ ] Negro o Afroamericano
- [ ] Asiático, Nativo de Hawai o de las Islas del Pacífico
- [ ] Indio Americano o Nativo de Alaska
- [ ] Multirracial
- [ ] Otro (por favor, especifique):

4. ¿De qué estatus de vivienda se corresponde actualmente?

- [ ] Propietario de vivienda
- [ ] Inquilino
- [ ] Otro (por favor, especifique):

5. Por favor, indique los ingresos anuales de su hogar de todas las fuentes antes de impuestos:

- [ ] $34,999 o menos
- [ ] $35,000 a $74,999
- [ ] $75,000 o más

6. ¿Qué cosas le reducen su calidad de vida y bienestar?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preocupaciones de seguridad en el transporte/transporte</th>
<th>Pandillas</th>
<th>Crime</th>
<th>Costo de vida/vivienda</th>
<th>Falta de trabajos/involucrados en empleo</th>
<th>Personas sin hogar</th>
<th>Acceso a alimentos saludables</th>
<th>Acceso a la atención médica</th>
<th>Falta de oportunidades para los jóvenes</th>
<th>Experiencia discriminatoria</th>
<th>Temores en torno a cuestiones de inmigración</th>
<th>Otro (por favor, especifique):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
- [ ] Nadie me quitó la calidad de vida

7. ¿Qué grupos de personas de nuestra comunidad se beneficiarían de tener más programas o servicios? (Elija 2)

- [ ] Personas mayores
- [ ] Adultos
- [ ] Jóvenes
- [ ] Niños y familias
- [ ] Personas que no hablan inglés
- [ ] Personas sin hogar
- [ ] Personas que estuvieron anteriormente encarceladas
- [ ] Personas con discapacidades (mentales o físicas)
- [ ] Víctimas de delitos
- [ ] Inmigrantes
- [ ] Veteranos
- [ ] LGBTA+
- [ ] Otro (por favor, especifique): |

8. ¿Tan seguro se siente en nuestra comunidad?

- [ ] Muy seguro
- [ ] Algo seguro
- [ ] Ni seguro ni inseguro
- [ ] Algo inseguro
- [ ] Muy inseguro

9. Para que nuestra comunidad sea más segura, cree que es necesario hacer lo siguiente:

- [ ] Más presencia policíal
- [ ] La misma presencia policíal
- [ ] Menos presencia policíal
- [ ] Ninguna presencia policíal

10. ¿Le ha tocado hablar con el Departamento de Policía de Watsonville (WPD) por su seguridad en los últimos 5 años? (si) (sí, odió, parada de tráfico, llamada al 911, llamado que no es de emergencia, reunión con la comunidad, o hablar con un oficial o patrulla, u otra interacción)

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No
- [ ] No estoy seguro

11. **IMPORTEANTE**: Por favor marque los círculos así ->

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MD</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>MA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

a. Creo que WPD hace un buen trabajo con la comunidad para resolver los problemas locales

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

b. El departamento de policía es receptivo a las preocupaciones de la comunidad

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

c. WPD responsabiliza a los oficiales por conductas inmoralas o inapropiadas en la comunidad

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

d. La policía y yo queremos las mismas cosas para nuestra comunidad

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

e. El departamento de policía prioriza los problemas que son más importantes para nuestra comunidad

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

f. Creo que los oficiales dentro del WPD son generalmente imparciales

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

g. Los oficiales de WPD respetan los derechos de las personas y hablan a las personas de manera justa

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

h. Los oficiales de WPD tratan a las personas de diferentes razas y grupos étnicos por igual

- [ ] Sí
- [ ] No

12. Describa su nivel general de confianza con la policía local:

- [ ] Muy confiable
- [ ] Algo digno de confianza
- [ ] Muy confiable
- [ ] No confiable
- [ ] No se/a ninguna respuesta

13. ¿Cuál ha sido su experiencia con el Departamento de Policía de Watsonville (WPD)?

- [ ] Muy positiva
- [ ] Algo positiva
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Algo negativa
- [ ] Muy negativa

- [ ] Nunca he tenido experiencia con WPD

14. ¿Cuál de los siguientes ha dado forma a su opinión sobre WPD? (Elija todas las que correspondan)

- [ ] Interacción (esi personal) de no emergencia
- [ ] Interacción (esi personal) de emergencia
- [ ] Interacción como sospechoso
- [ ] Experiencia personal de un amigo o familiar
- [ ] Amigo o familiar que es parte del WPD
- [ ] Testigo/representador de un crimen
- [ ] Historias de los medios (incluidas las redes sociales)
- [ ] Parada (s) de tráfico
- [ ] Eventos/actividades de la comunidad
- [ ] Otro (por favor, especifique):

15. Por favor, indique qué tan probable sería asociarse con WPD en los siguientes aspectos: (escala: muy improbable(MI), improbable(I), neutral(N), probable(P), muy probable(MP))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patrullar las calles como parte de un grupo comunitario organizado</th>
<th>Otro</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>IN</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>VP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

a. Creo que WPD hace un buen trabajo con la comunidad para resolver los problemas locales

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

b. El departamento de policía es receptivo a las preocupaciones de la comunidad

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

c. WPD responsabiliza a los oficiales por conductas inmoralas o inapropiadas en la comunidad

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

d. La policía y yo queremos las mismas cosas para nuestra comunidad

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

e. El departamento de policía prioriza los problemas que son más importantes para nuestra comunidad

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

f. Creo que los oficiales dentro del WPD son generalmente imparciales

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

g. Los oficiales de WPD respetan los derechos de las personas y hablan a las personas de manera justa

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

h. Los oficiales de WPD tratan a las personas de diferentes razas y grupos étnicos por igual

- [ ] Muy improbable
- [ ] Inprobable
- [ ] Neutral
- [ ] Probable
- [ ] Muy probable

17. ¿Qué consejos tiene para el Comité Ad Hoc?

Mujeres gracias por su tiempo y opiniones. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre esta encuesta o si el trabajo del Comité Ad Hoc, por favor comuníquese con la oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad al 631-768-3010.
APPENDIX B: SUPPORTING DATA SOURCES

1. **2020 City of Watsonville Resident Survey Frequency Tables**
   received from City of Watsonville staff (Figures 13, 24, 29, 30)

2. **2019 Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project**
   (Figures 21, 45)

3. **California Department of Justice. 2013-2019 Open Justice**
   (From Watsonville Police Department Annual Report) (Figure 22)

4. **2020 Watsonville Police Department Annual Report**
   (Figure 23)
The Community Corrections Partnering Community Education and Engagement Workgroup, Santa Cruz County Youth Action Network, United Way’s United 4 Youth, and others partnered with COPA to host two April Watsonville Shared Safety Community Dialogues (or as COPA refers to them, House Meetings).

Twenty youth and 20 adults participated. Specific outreach was done to engage *survivors of crime. All participants were provided with a $50 gift card incentive for their participation. The youth were provided with an optional prep/rehearsal session the week prior to the Dialogue, as well as an optional debrief the week after the Dialogue. Both youth and adults who requested 1:1 conversations prior to the Dialogues were provided those as well.

The following organizations participated in Dialogues, as either co-chairs, facilitators, or notetakers:

- Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc.
- Conflict Resolution Center of Santa Cruz County
- Living Evolution
- Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance
- Santa Cruz County Administrative Office
- Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office
- Santa Cruz County Office of Education
- Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County
- Walnut Avenue Family & Women’s Center
- Youth NOW

Additionally, the Dialogues had representation from the following, who played the role of an official/ systems leader, listening to what the community had to say:

- Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley
- Santa Cruz County Children’s Behavioral Health
- Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office
- Santa Cruz County Office of Education
- Watsonville Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity
- Watsonville City Council
- Watsonville City Parks and Recreation
- Watsonville Police Department

Conversations centered around the lived experiences of community members on the issue of safety [or lack of]. As was mentioned in the Dialogues, “Storytelling is a powerful tool that no one can take away from us.” Stories told were heartbreaking at times, other times inspiring. The information gathered will be combined with the eight other circles that COPA supported, then presented to Watsonville’s Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity, as well as the Watsonville City Council.
April 12, 2021 - Youth Shared Safety Dialogue Themes

**Note:** **Bold** wording indicates themes heard multiple times

**Questions posed:** Is there a time you felt safe/unsafe? What do youth need in order to feel safe?

### Night

- **Sense of feeling unsafe at night**
- **Parking lots and garages don’t feel safe; dim lighting or lack of lighting**

### Issues of:

- Increased **crime and violence** in community; witnessing **shootings/stabbings**; being in the **cross-fire**; having **guns pulled on them**
- **Human trafficking**
- **Substance use** issues
- Impacts of the **un-housed population**
- Impacts of those with **mental health issues**
- **Pedestrian Safety**; especially when walking to school; Speeding cars (Green Valley Rd., Main St.)

### Gender themes

- **Girls feeling unsafe; being followed; harassed**
- **Boys being “hit up”**; being asked “Who you bang with?”; having to be mindful about the clothing (color & type); feeling like they have to carry a knife for protection

### Law Enforcement

- Examples of **aggressive policing**
- Examples of **community-based policing**
- Once something is reported to law enforcement, **lack of communication/follow-up**; sense of “nothing happened”
- **Want alternatives to calling 911** and requesting law enforcement

### Different experiences due to race: Latinx experiences vs. white experiences

One youth indicated that they “feel safe all the time”

### Lack of mentors/adults that youth can confide in

**Ideas/Strategies for increasing a sense of safety**

- Walking with other youth
- Safe ride hotline (transportation for youth)
- **Self-defense classes** – provide in the schools
- Pepper spray
- **Address speeding cars; more speed bumps; bike lanes**
- Increasing youth - adult partnerships; **mentoring**
- Increasing mental health resources (reduce $ barriers)
- Environment:
  - **More green space; more parks**
  - **Revitalization of Watsonville** (painting, clean up trash)

---

During the Youth Debrief Session, youth expressed appreciation for the prep session; how empowering the story telling experience was, and the advantages of hearing other youth’s stories and experiences. They also expressed a call for action – for taking what was expressed during the actual Dialogues and ensuring that City decision-makers do something with the information and suggestions that were provided.
April 14, 2021 - Adult Shared Safety Dialogue Themes

During the Youth Debrief Session, youth expressed appreciation for the prep session; how empowering the story telling experience was, and the advantages of hearing other youth’s stories and experiences. They also expressed a call for action – for taking what was expressed during the actual Dialogues and ensuring that City decision-makers do something with the information and suggestions.

**Note:** **Bold** wording indicates themes heard multiple times

**Questions posed:** Is there a time you felt safe/unsafe? Please share your experience. What resources would make you feel safer in the community?

---

**Overall sense of decreased safety in Watsonville**
- Increased property crimes & shootings
- Sense that violence used to be concentrated to certain areas, now a feeling of it being more widespread

**A few indicated they feel safe in the community**

**Night**
- Sense of feeling unsafe at night
- Parking lots and garages don’t feel safe; dim lighting or lack of lighting

**Services**
- Supportive non-profit organizations
- Feeling that County services are not welcoming

**Issues of:**
- Substance use issues
- Impacts of the un-housed population
- Impacts of those with mental health issues
- Domestic violence

**Gender themes**
- Women feeling unsafe; being followed; harassed
- Men being “hit up”; having to be mindful about the clothing (color & type); having guns pulled on them

**Law Enforcement**
- Reporting and not feeling like they are being taken seriously
- Long response times; “I would not depend on the police”
- **Examples of community-oriented policing**
- **Examples of recent traumatic experiences with law enforcement; aggressive policing**; lack of solution/relationship-based communication
  - Historical traumatic experiences with law enforcement witnessed as a child, still impacts adults; stories passed down

- Want alternatives to calling 911 and requesting law enforcement
Business Owner reflections: Downtown Business owner spoke about downtown not feeling safe; Main St. business owners having to keep doors locked during business hours due to impacts of those experiencing mental health issues: “We’re not equipped or trained for how to handle mental health issues”; shoplifting has increased; says businesses use a reporting line, but never hear back. He does appreciate Chief Honda & how he is community oriented.

**Different experiences due to race:**
- Sense of safety varied with Latinx experiences vs. white experiences
- Verbal racism toward Black community members

**Parent reflections**
- Need more meaningful activities for their children, especially during the evening; youth-centered spaces
- Youth engagement
- Don’t let children out after dark
- More mentoring opportunities

**Ideas/Strategies for increasing a sense of safety**
- Connecting with neighbors
- **Community events that bring people together** – both in planning and during the actual events; paint night events.
- Increase public open spaces (parks); arts; safe walking trails
- More after-school and evening programs for their youth
- Law Enforcement
  - Alternatives to calling law enforcement; reallocation of funds to alternative responses, prevention and intervention
  - Request for more police visibility; community-oriented policing; foot patrols
  - Opportunities for law enforcement to increase positive relationships with community; more collaborative problem solving
  - Community healing and reconciliation with police

**More lighting**

Downtown Business Owner: Trainings for business owners for how to handle those that come into their shops that have mental health issues; neighborhood watch
Watsonville
Shared Safety
Community Dialogues

Sarah Emmert, United Way of Santa Cruz County
Andrea Magdaleno, Jovenes SANOS

June 17, 2021
Overview

- Shared Safety
- Community Dialogues
- Youth & Family Themes
Shared Safety: Survivors at the Center

- Shared Safety
- Making the System Work
- Shifting to a Public Health Frame
- Wellbeing is Safety
- Breaking the Cycle of Harm
- Crime Survivors at the Center
Dialogues
Co-Chairs, Facilitators & Notetakers

- Community Action Board
- Conflict Resolution Center
- Living Evolution
- Pajaro Valley Prevention & Student Assistance
- Santa Cruz County Administrative Office
- Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office
- Santa Cruz County Office of Education
- Volunteer Center
- Walnut Ave. Family & Women’s Center
Dialogue Officials/Systems Leaders

- Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley
- Santa Cruz County Children’s Behavioral Health
- Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office
- Santa Cruz County Office of Education
- Watsonville Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity
- Watsonville City Council
- Watsonville City Parks and Recreation
- Watsonville Police Department
Participants Engaged

- 20 Youth
- 20 Adults/Family Members
- Survivors/Victims of Crime

Process:
- 1:1 Youth Prep Session
- Youth Debrief Session
- Report sent out to confirm themes
Questions Posed

Is there a time you felt safe/unsafe?

What do youth need in order to feel safe?

What resources would make you feel safer in the community?

What would increase a sense of community-connectedness?
Themes

- Overall sense of decreased safety in Watsonville; fear
- Sense of feeling unsafe at night; Lack of lighting
- Youth: Increased crime and violence in community; witnessing shootings/stabbings; being in the cross-fire; having guns pulled on them
- Gender & racial differences
- Impacts on community from those experiencing substance use & mental health issues, especially from unhoused population
- Lack of pedestrian safety
- Community-oriented efforts to create a sense of safety & community connectedness
- Role of non-profit service providers & youth programs
Themes: Perceptions & Experiences with Law Enforcement

- Aggressive policing
- Unresponsive policing
- Community-based policing
- Historical traumatic experiences: still held onto and/or stories passed down
Dialogues: Solutions Posed

- Community events
- Alternatives to calling 911 or law enforcement
- More community-oriented policing
- More lighting
- Meaningful activities for youth; youth centered spaces; mentoring
- More parks; green spaces; arts
- Community restoration/ revitalization projects
- Increase access to mental health resources
- Trainings:
  - Youth: Self-defense
  - Business Owners: Engaging with those who have SUD/ Mental Health Issues
- Pedestrian Safety
Thank you!

Andrea Magdaleno, Jovenes SANOS

Sarah Emmert, United Way of Santa Cruz County
semmert@unitedwaysc.org
COPA HOUSE MEETINGS

**Timeframe:** Mid-August to October 2020 | February - April 2021

**What:** COPA organized 10 house meetings (listening sessions) with Chief Honda, top officers, police union leadership and other elected officials to listen to the stories/concerns of the community regarding police and safety issues.

**Who:** Hosted by community-based institutions and attended by members of these institutions or their surrounding neighborhoods. Participants were invited to share their stories and experiences based on their lived experience in Watsonville. After those 10 house meetings, COPA leaders will evaluate and make recommendations on policy changes to which the WPD/Union and or the City will respond.

---

Small group conversations where leaders dig deeper into their institutions by listening to others’ stories, discerning common issues, and finding new leaders. It is through the house meetings that the potential for action on issues begins to emerge.

**Organizing Tool**

- Small groups of 6-10 participants

**Trained Leaders**

- All group facilitators/notetakers received training

**Power of Storytelling**

- Regain power by telling one’s own experience/story
## MEETING NOTES

New blinking traffic lights on Main Street are not respected by drivers. WPD should enforce traffic violations more efficiently.

There used to be responsible areas (RA) in neighborhoods around town that helped neighbors build community and feel safer. Officer B mentioned there used to be about 40 RA’s in town in the early 2000’s, but due to lack of funding they slowly disappeared.

A participant was under the impression that WPD does not respond to collision accidents, but officer Bailey said they do. People involved in minor collisions are encouraged to exchange information to submit a claim with their insurance, but that WPD does respond to collisions.

Two participants in the group did not share a story or experience and just wanted to know what the meeting was about, but did say that they felt WPD was doing a good job overall in the community with room for improvement.

Participant shared a story that happened to him 18 years ago. He was working in the field and during his lunch walked to the Esperanza Market in Pajaro to buy a water bottle. A traffic accident had just occurred nearby, and as he was walking up to the grocery store a Sheriff officer stopped him and told him to get in the car. He was confused and asked why. The officer told him he fit the description of the person that had just been involved in the accident and they had to ask him some questions. Jose told the officer he was on his lunch break and had not been involved in any accident. The officer did not speak Spanish, so participant had to wait until another officer showed up to help translate. While they were waiting Jose said he was constantly intimidated by the officer to admit he had been involved in the accident. Jose never admitted he did and after about 30-45 minutes he was eventually released.

Participant also shared another recent experience he had with WPD in the indoor soccer complex at Ramsey Park. He was standing near the bleachers watching a soccer game when a WPD officer approached him and asked him to step outside. He asked why and was told he fit the description of someone they were looking for who had just stolen a car. Participant showed the officer his keys and the car he was driving, but the officer still took his information and photo.

Office B reaction to both of participant’s story was that it was hard to say why participant was treated the way he was without all the information of what was going on at the moment.

### TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUR OF THIS CONVERSATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall positive</th>
<th>Traffic lights in Main Street</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential Watch?</td>
<td>Stopped for no reason / appear a “suspect”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MEETING NOTES

Participant shared a story of how officers treated the people that were doing bad stuff at her church with respect regardless of what they were doing. Has a positive experience with the WPD. Only complaint was that she has been charged for false alarm incidents, she thinks people are actually getting into the church but police are getting there late when people trying to get in are gone so she ends up with a bill for having a “false alarm”.

Participant shared story about her friend’s domestic violence case.

Participant has positive experience with WPD. However, many people come into her office to look for next steps or advise on domestic violence cases. Many people don’t know what to do when they are victims of domestic violence and how to follow up on cases.

Participant had not good or bad experiences.

Participant has had no bad experiences with the WPD but has had bad experiences in the past while living in bigger city for simply being Latino and fitting a certain stereotype.

Participant shared story while living in LA she had an African American friend visiting her home and the neighbors called the police because they saw him coming into her home. Immediately police showed up with guns drawn and she had to go outside and de-escalate the situation and explain who she was and who her friend was.

Participant shared childhood story of him and his friend being patted down and searched by cops because they were acting “suspicious” He says it surprises him to hear people have positive experiences with the police because you are either “a victim of a crime, a witness to a crime or a suspect of a crime” and usually people are exposed to bad experiences when dealing with the police.

Participant talked about homelessness and people with mental health. Who is responsible for dealing with this social issue in the community of Watsonville? Is it the WPD’s responsibility or should a Doctor or medical professional be responsible for these cases?

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUR OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Domestic violence resources through WPD & Community Org.
Homelessness in Watsonville
WPD arriving late at scenes
MEETING NOTES

Participant shared a positive experience about attending a PAL summer camp put on by the police department. He and his sister were expecting something that might be boring, but actually really enjoyed the experience and would consider returning for another summer. He attends a private school in Watsonville.

Participant’s son was in front of Target when an incident involving other people happened. The police pulled him over to give a statement about his observations. When telling his mom what had happened, she was naturally worried and upset about her son being questioned by the police. She really appreciated a call from the police department later that evening when an officer explained what had happened and thanked her and her son for helping them with their investigation.

Participant reported a positive experience during a scary time when a relative’s son was missing and the police helped out. Thankfully the child was found. She also reported a negative experience of being pulled over while driving with her husband for no obvious reason by the police. They were asked to get out of the car, she was separated from her husband, who was asked if he was on parole, which he was not. She felt angry and that it was just an excuse for being pulled over. She didn’t mention if the officers were white or not. She also shared that when she was younger she was part of a cadet program with the police, as she was considering a career as a police officer. She described the experience as being a positive one and says she still know some of the participants who went on to become officers.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUR OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Positive experiences of police officers reaching out to the community make a strong impression and can go a long way in increasing trust in the police.

Actions by the police toward community members without apparent reason can destroy people’s trust in the police and cause resentment. Taking the time to explain what they are doing and why make a much more positive impression on citizens.

Positive experiences with the police when a child, leave a lasting impression that can inform attitudes towards police in their adult lives. PAL PROGRAM
MEETING NOTES

Participant shared that some people were going inside the church at night. She contacted police department, they arrived quickly, she explained the situation to them, and they suggested for her to create a neighborhood watch. Up to now the neighborhood watch has been working great and is thankful for the fast response of police officers. Another situation that she experienced with police was when she called the non-emergency number because there were a few men gather in a parking lot and she wasn’t sure what they were up to. The dispatcher told her that she shouldn’t be calling for that but she did it because she was afraid that they were up to something.

Participant shared his brother unfortunately is into drugs. One weekend he came to visit his family in a stolen car, the car had GPS and police knew that car was in the city. Police went to his property to look for his brother and the stolen car, his brother had gone out before police got there. He was cooperating because he knew his brother was in a lot of trouble and didn’t want him there because there were children in the house. He suggested to police to wait in the neighborhood for a while and wait for his brother to get back so they could catch him. His brother never returned, police went back to the property and suspected that he was trying to cover his brother. Police was starting to get desperate and kept insisting that his brother was inside the property. Police asked if they could look around that property and he agreed but told them not to go inside the house as there were children inside and they were going to get scared. Officers were looking around and one of them went inside the house. Participant noticed and told one of the officers that his partner had gone inside without permission. The officer went to get his partner and told him that participant hadn’t given them permission to go inside. The officer that went inside the house told participant that he could get a warrant and search the house. Participant explained to him that he knew the process and he just wanted to collaborate with them as his brother had stolen from them previously. In the end, his brother never went back to the property and the stolen car was towed away. Participant was collaborating with police even though they were getting desperate and suspected that he might be covering with brother.

Participant was a Target manager and there were times where he dealt with robbery or people who would go into the store under the influence and would cause trouble. He would call the police and they were very quick to respond and were very friendly when dealing with the case.

She personally didn’t have any experience with police, but her husband did. They were coming back from work as usual. They would drive carefully to avoid being stopped by police. She noticed police nearby and warned her husband to be extra careful. A few blocks later, the police stopped them. As usual the police asked her husband if he knew why he had stopped them. Her husband told them that he wasn’t sure why, but he was cooperating with them. She provided them with all the paperwork, and everything was in order. However, the police seemed to be looking for an excuse to give them a ticket. The officer told her husband that the paperwork that he had was incorrect. After a few minutes, the officer told him that they were good to go as the officers had received a call and they needed to go. However, the officers parked a few blocks from their home and stayed there for about 10 minutes. A few days later, Cecilia’s husband went to the
DMV to ask about his registration and explained to them his recent situation with the police. The DMV workers assured him that all his paperwork was in order and weren’t sure why the police had told him otherwise.

Years ago, she had a positive experience with the police. One night her neighbor’s dog jumped her fence and attacked her cat. She didn’t wake up at night, but her son did, unfortunately the cat was torn into pieces but was still alive after the attack. The cat didn’t make it the next morning. The next day she received a sympathy card from the police. She was grateful for that as losing her cat was difficult and was also grateful because the police took some time to send out the card.

**TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUR OF THIS CONVERSATION:**

Positive/Friendly experience with police

Neighborhood watch/Fast response from police

Unjustified traffic stops
**Date:** August 26, 2020  
**Format:** Virtual House Meeting | Group 3  
**Participants:** 7

### MEETING NOTES

Driving and get a bit nervous when a PD is behind me as fear of getting pulled over. I know they are to help and keep my community safe but there’s always the fear of getting a ticket. Learned that Salinas is working with Mental Health Dept to serve people who have a mental health issue and will be better served by having a mental health professional.

BUS – person was yelling & PD came in to deescalate the situation. PD more about the community. Like about Chief about not locking kids. Sheriffs – come like the cowboys & a bit aggressive.

We respect the PD, we need them esp. when you need help.

No experience, only a cell ticket which was understood. My experience is with the homeless. Homeless needs to be treated from mental health. Hope PD has the needed training to be able to respond properly.

Mental Health – people do need help. Be able to give sandwiches.

Same feeling about not getting a ticket. I know we be better and room for improvement. More communication, understand Hispanic culture. Portuguese. Brazilian, difficult being a person from Brazil in understanding.

Homeless person asked mom for money. Mom gave food and security. Mad to security person so that homeless person would not.

Moving to Wats from Rio de Janeiro: moved to US due to violence. Wats, safe place. I feel safe, my kids feel safe. I don’t think they are. Make it better: Walkable community, it has a small town vibe, not many mayor issues, its not utopia. Compassion with bathroom for the homeless, Issues: gang issues. Growing up the Norteño had more of a presence; I see the difference, a place where people can go to eat.


Fords, Concert in the plaza, stores open where people could walk up and down. Downtown revitalized. Imagine a person in crisis who is triggered by a person of power (PD officer) and is being helped and how great it would be to have someone who looks like you to be helped. IDEA: PD & Social worker serving a call when a person with mental health needs.

### TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUR OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Create a fervent downtown for all cultures that represent the community of Wats. Concerts in the Downtown area.

Support the homeless and mental health by providing professional staff to a PD when they are called to help.

Watsonville is still a safe place and is still a walkable community. We know the PD is working on it as we see less gang activity.

Learn from other cities, what they are doing to duplicate and help improve the well-being in Watsonville.
MEETING NOTES

Unspoken that they’re not there to help you, telling the kids “stop or I’m going to call the police,” affects how you see police later in life. Has had a couple not positive experiences, but hopes to learn more and foster relationships, especially in this climate, works with youth trying to divert from probation, youth have shared unpleasant interactions with police but not same comments about probation officers, better relationships with probation officers than police, perhaps bc of different training/approach

Participant has never had bad experiences, but husband has, because of how he looks, been stopped for no apparent reason. Has worked for PVUSD for 23 years, got pulled over when she was with him, for no reason, common name so legally they press him for middle name when they question him, “you’re mexcian, you’re supposed to have a middle name,” felt scared once night on Green Valley, they were in early 20s, separated them for questioning, to vouch for his identity, how she knew him, husband was on his knees, officer searched car, didn’t ask anything about her, then they let them go without citing them for anything, scary

been living there since 1989 but haven’t had bad experience, mostly nice, once stopped and pulled over, didn’t like the way the police looked at grocery bag next to her, and said something that offended her, but part of their way, the way he talked to her, so she talked back and she got a ticket

Need more resources for the youth, especially now where they’re getting behind in school. PAL has a program, farmworker community may need more info and may not be able to pay, maybe they should lower costs, could help kids at home, has 5 kids and she can be home to help, but feels bad about other parents who work in the fields all day, and can’t help their kids, many parents may not be able to pay, she was trying to put her boys in sports to help them, but the prices were too high to afford for 2 or 3 kids, but she knows it was a good program, just couldn’t afford, through Parks and Rec, Jaime story- went to talk to police, wasn’t getting response, was it because gay or undocumented or why not getting help he needed, scheduled meeting and were able to get some help, could feel judgement, was stressful for her, made her understand why some people don’t go to get help

Interactions are limited to meeting them in meetings set up by COPA, police chief came to speak, went on black lives matter march “silence in the face of injustice is white privilege” here to listen, in UK, not armed, all white society, ran away from home at 4 or 5, police officer came to lecture perhaps with parents’ blessing, only time she’s been stopped,

Participant is here to listen, 19 driving cars, xmas, pulled over randomly because officers parked there, had plate of cookies to give, car plate was called up by officers, but she was doing something good. National night out, interact with communities in their community, goes on police ride-alongs, has seen their role and experiences, putting task force team together to get community info and want cross-section of community, so officers can learn to have more empathy

“last name” stereotyped from family members’ reputations/choices, if family members haven’t made good choices, then harder for when we do need help, we need trust, problem when people are worried about calling police because they’re not sure if the police will really help,
### MEETING NOTES

Date: October 1, 2020  
Format: House Meeting | Group 1  
Participants: 8

Positive experience overall until 2-months ago. Brother is an addict and had stolen a new car and had taken it to his family home and left shortly. Police showed up and attempted to enter property without consent. Officer became agitated and threatened to get a warrant. Participant had to point out his rights and was made to feel that if he did not know his rights, they would have been violated by the officers.

Husband was a well-known gang member and addict. Called WPD for assistance on multiple occasions and yet never felt supported. Made to feel that she was being profiled as an addict due to her husband. Due to no support, she became homeless and had to stay in her car with her 3 daughters. She reached out instead to Salinas Sheriff Department and they were able to help by connecting her with a shelter. She felt unsupported by her own community.

Has heard many positive stories from clients about WPD.

Recently released from 10 years of confinement. In 2010, WPD served a search warrant. Destroyed the apartment during the search. Sister was arrested for attempting to go to work. Participant was not resisting arrest, yet the officers shoved him down and he had his head stepped on. During his jail time, officers continued to harass his family due to the shared last name.

Officers are always there when needed. Incidents with family have happened where they are being profiled. A particular incident was when she was pulled over driving without reason and had her partner being questioned for gang affiliation even though he was just a passenger. They were threatened with arrest if they did not "comply". Has led to her family having to change how they dress so they are not profiled.

Experienced a lot of negative interaction with WPD until recently. Profiled due to last name and family affiliation. WPD were unprofessional and immediately her due to being constantly questioned about family members and their whereabouts. Immigrant communities fearful of police. At times, police do not show up when needed and if they do, it is unannounced/requested and in groups.

Areas of concern to her: speeding in downtown Watsonville; youth programs; resources and programs available to youth and what are the costs in accessing them, especially for low-income families.

Change is needed, yet police is slow at change. Would like to expand services to adult programs and continue to grow youth services. He is a firm believer of restorative justice and feels that these stories are needed. As professionals, police need to remember they are dealing with people and not just arresting.

Has not experience much interaction with WPD, yet have handled incidents well.

Has noticed positive interaction of WPD with children and youth. National Night Out, Selfies with kids and giving out stickers. Children seem to have a different approach with police officers now.

He strongly believes that the arrest rehabilitated him, and he thanks his arrest for where he is now as he is continuing his education and has become a paralegal.

Yet, he still feels the arrest experience was demeaning and embarrassing to have experienced especially for his family.
Now he uses his experience as a driving factor to create positive change and help others create a new path.

**TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:**

**Profiling**
- Family last name
- Substance Abuse/Gang Affiliation
- Stereotyped by appearance

**Violation of Rights/ Intimidating Tactics**

**Police Violence Usage**
MEETING NOTES

Police Officer encounter was interested in Community Resources

Positive Interaction with WPD. They do the best to communicate helped daughter when house was broken in. Loved seeing the interaction with communication and interaction with Youth of color- heart felt.

Positive Interaction- loves that WPD participates in National Night Out. Loves seeing chief of police interact with community members during the National Night Out.

WPD uses Abuse of Power- Profile people- Has been pulled over for just having a rosario (rosary)- Don’t feel safe with WPD. Severe car accident and accused of being intoxicated. Always gets pulled over. No youth programs- all money goes to WPD.

Not many interactions with WPD- but no Youth funding and should have more in the community.

Feels similar to E- has had bad encounters with her dad. There is a language gap with police and makes self and others feel scared. Sees her students not feeling safe. Doesn’t have any positive stories.

Acknowledges his seat- For Youth Programs- He was in the Penny Club back in his youthful days- low investment paid to the program- Gave investment to the community.

Interactions many times- Give resources to homeless no communication with donations from police, wants/hopes to one day have that collaboration.

Was part of Penny Club. Sees the importance in programs and how it helped Youth and families. Concerned with Youth riding bikes safely, and feels that more advocacy should be done with helmets. These conversations allow opportunity to continue the love for the Watsonville Community.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Positive Efforts with communication to the community.

Positive engagement with the community and providing resources.

Abuse of power/profileing and not feeling safe. Places fear in youth (Criminalization, lack of response and wanting to keep communication)

Lack of youth programs Concerns with safety on riding bikes.
Participant shared a personal story about being an interpreter for a car accident. Personally, participant felt like she had to interpret due to a language barrier. Participant is bilingual and was trying to interpret what the Watsonville Police Officer was trying to convey to the women who got stopped. She was asked to leave even though no officer was able to speak Spanish.

As a child, participant was taught to avoid the police. His parents told him “if the police talked to you, you’re in trouble.” Now, he encourages his children to engage in a conversation with patrolling officers. Participant thinks it is important for children to establish a relationship with law enforcement because eventually we all have some type of interaction.

I was part of the Watsonville Police Cadet and learned a lot through WPD. I was able to see both the law enforcement and civilian view. Homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health have been a public issue for many years and want to know how officers deal with these types of calls.

Participant has lived in SC for about 12-13 years. For 24 years he had many encounters with police but has changed his life. Participant is now a Pastor. Recently, participant’s daughter called WPD because her dad’s home was being broken into. He feels like WPD did a great job in responding quickly and detained the man who broke into his home.

Participant works in collaboration with the Police Department. She is the Director of a non-profit for youth. She feels like both officers and youth give off mutual respect.

Participant is from the Youth Advisory Board. He mentioned having interactions with law enforcement over the years. No story in specific but does have questions in regards to funding and how it’s distributed.

Participant is with the Watsonville Police Department. He has had both good and bad experiences with Law Enforcement. Eventually he became a Watsonville Police Officer.

Participant mentioned a positive experience. Her son, who was in high school, was told he could not be part of a criminal justice class because he had a troubled sibling. She brought it up to the school and eventually an officer addressed this issue.

**TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:**

**Positives:**
- Watsonville Cadet
- Fast Response to crime scene

**Cultural Incompetence**
- Language Barrier from officers to community (Spanish)
- Intimidation (Families growing up inferior fearing police)

**Homelessness/Substance/Mental Health**
### MEETING NOTES

No mucha experiencia mal o buena, en la Main donde era la happy burro antes, música Ruidoso y llamaron a la policía, la persona encargada no sabía mucho español pero con fuerza trato de decir las cosas y lo dijo en una manera Buena, con respecto, fue muy bien hasta la familia le ofrece comida.

Alguien de su familia usó su nombre sin permiso, fueron parados por la policía, Erika fue un día el departamento de policía para revisar una aplicación y le dijeron que tenía un orden de arresto, y ella les dijo que no era ella y tuvo que resolver ese problema ella misma en vez que la policía hubiera hecho su trabajo desde el principio.

Mal experiencia personal con ex novio, de violencia doméstica, puso un orden de restricción y el ex novio violo el orden de restricción 6 veces, la policía sola mente hablaron con el ex novio no más y nunca lo arrestaron, la policía no más dijo que se tenía que cambiar su número de teléfono.

Ninguna experiencia nada que decir.

Violencia doméstica, traumatizada, estaba asustada, pero la policía ayudó.

A única experiencia ha sido que mis hijos están participando en el programa PAL y ha sido una buena experiencia para ellos

No tengo una experiencia, pero quiero saber de programas para su hijo? Quería apuntar a su hijo para el programa de los Cadets, pero no pudo participar o no se pudo informar bien.

Cuando yo era joven la policía le preguntaba por sus hermanos, una vez preguntaron por su hermano más joven le preguntaron dónde estaba su hermano, en ese tiempo su hermano estaba en la cárcel, era discriminación de la policía por su apellido de ella, la policía trata a uno diferente por otros familiares que la policía conocen

Cuando tuvo su experiencia domestica con el primer oficial no se sentía confortable para decirle todo, pero gracias a otro policía que llego ella se siente mejor el ayudo más y empezó a tomar fotos de lo que paso.

Oct.6 National Night Out (NNO) drive through event, fue muy bien y los oficiales hablaron bien con todos.

### TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discriminacion</th>
<th>Positivas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• LGBTQ</td>
<td>• ayudaron, respondieron rápido, sentir confortable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Apellidos</td>
<td>• PAL Programa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Night Out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Date: October 23, 2020
Format: House Meeting | Group 2
Participants: 12

MEETING NOTES

National Night Out (NNO) positive experience with officers.

Domestic violence call, police responded quickly, Spanish speaking, very pleasant interaction, U-Visa help through WPD.

House burglary, called police and came quickly, pleasant to interact with, felt comfortable with them, they treated her and family fairly and respectfully.

Called police and came quickly, felt safe.

Had experience with drunk neighbors, called WPD, everything was handled well.

No good or bad experiences.

Member of her program was a victim of domestic violence recently, she had to report incident, woman officer came but the officer was not equipped to give assistance to victim, no resources were given to victim. Bad communication skills, was hesitant to speak to Sandra about case # or resources for victim. It was a traumatic experience for both Sandra and victim. Sandra had to help victim herself and find resources for her.

Incident where kids came into church to hide because they were scared of a helicopter. Kids thought helicopter was ICE and they might be seen. Scared of immigration status. Pastor assured kids that Watsonville is a safe sanctuary city. Police needs to emphasize this more.

National Night Out good experience

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Domestic Violence (more resources needed)

Immigration / Safe Sanctuary City (more advertisement)

NNO (great experience with WPD & Fire Dept.)
MEETING NOTES

Location above river, homeless system (maybe police can patrol area that are where homeless stay?) Police responses have been ok, we’ve made several calls because of break ins, wondering if police keep track of call records from same location with frequency calls, meantime no one response, is there some way to flag the area?, so police can patrol area frequently, when they are called, there’s no follow up. (Referring to Lutheran Church)

Yes, we do keep records, we will take in consideration about homeless problem and if the officers have time, they can then set up some sort of patrol of hot spot areas.

Homeless is an issue, what is happening to train police officers to deal with homeless and their issues? Homelessness, mental health and drug issues and helping them in general?

Helpful, program was there, do not know where

Negative experience, Brown Berets Community, organizer-every time had march, police officers were aggressive when dealing with us, charged with illegally organizing march. Counseling, officer approach daily personal, written 3 tickets at Watsonville high for students, 3 times more then, W.P.D. deployed at Watsonville. Stationed officers at Watsonville high before P.V. High, none at Aptos, 1997 WPD officer-youth detention, 83% at Watsonville are student of color. (High presence of police officers at schools (profiling), as part of organizing negative interactions)

I arrived at church one evening, light was left on in the pastors office, no one had been there but her that morning, she was unsure if it was a break in, felt scared to enter because in the passed the church had a break in the pastors office and alarm didn’t go off so it concerned her to not go inside, she called the police so they can come inspect and look around.

Community member, followed by an officer multiple times with the lights off, police officer turned on lights as she was pulling into the driveway, would give her a scolding and let her go, she felt guilty, she would ask the officer How & Why?, she was traumatized, and now as a mother she’s made huge effort to leave her fear behind, now she’s more involved with WPD and supports them, with everything going on in Oakland with the police it breaks her heart and wants to know if our police department here will be getting sent over there? If we protest now will get actions as Oakland, mutual aide, some sort of mutual WPD, will they be supportive? (Concern of police accountability and getting sent to Oakland and Racial Profiling)

Thank you, mutual need has an agreement, to support each other, after we found out we were there. Did discuss it, decided will not be deployed there again, without timing and preparation. In line with sheriff and not giving there.

positive story, at Cabrillo college, a community officer helped, daughter was driving her car and it broke down, was an accident at Cabrillo college.

ARE program, is working with program, it’s a school program. Moved here from Fresno, someone renting his house, renting his house that he was selling, frustrated him about officers

works at PV High counselor, very involved, experiences positive & negative, as a counselor personal, experienced worked at Rolling Hills felt appreciated, officer Angel great
MEETING NOTES

S.R.D. Aptos High not there because its in City, Sheriff not there
Calls from school started at school response, not by police officer

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Homelessness which includes Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Racial Profiling with youth
Police Accountability with mutual aid to other counties (Oakland)
Positive Community Officer
MEETING NOTES

Her experience while working in downtown Watsonville, is due to the location of her work next to a busy street there are a lot of traffic accidents. Given how she and her coworkers tend to see a lot of the accidents she calls the police multiple times but the police officers are not helpful. They treat them as suspects, they are not friendly and are not pleasant. She says there is some distance from the police and is not creating a sense of community. (Police response or lack of response)

Experience is a very emotional and intense interaction with police but not from here in town. Their daughter is a victim of domestic violence and a difficult divorce. Jeanne and her husband had to go to rescue her from that violence and the police provided a lot of support and tried to help any way possible. One way they tried to help is to suggest the husband not go to the house in order to prevent an escalation of the situation. Thankfully they were able to save their daughter and the children from that situation. With the help of the police and after a hard 5 years they were able to obtain a restraining order on the ex-husband. (Positive outside police exp)

She lives in Eastlake and when she was on her way out of the house she saw a man breaking the window of her car. She called the police to report it and they responded immediately. The police searched the area but could not find the suspect, given it was so dark Mireya could not give the police much information on the suspect clothes or anything. They made her feel safe. On the other hand, with her work, she wants to know more information on police, she did not know how to direct people to the police. What are the resources, there needs to be better awareness of what police can help with and what they can’t. (Positive response, and awareness of police services)

Is of Indian descent and was having a family party before covid. One of their family members, a young father went running out of the house and there was a cop car sitting in their neighborhood. They stopped and the young man started asking for his ID and information. Participant went to assist him, and tried to talk to the police officers. She informed them that they are being watched by participant’s children and they need to handle this situation better. IF they want the children not to be afraid of police officers in the future. Participant did feel very upset and hurt, he felt judged by the police officer by the way he looked with his long hair and camo outfit and his accent. But she definitely turned the situation around by talking to them and making sure the kids felt safe with police officers in the future. (Racial profiling and then positive de-escalation)

Has not had a personal experience with police officers but did read of a situation that happened on the news. There was a 14 year old kid with special needs who was having an episode and the parents called the police to try and get some assistance. The police did not help but rather escalated the situation and ended up shooting the kid. Participant believed there needs to be better training for handling people with special needs and disabilities and now with the growing population of homeless.
MEETING NOTES

She had had good interaction with police, when she called them to come and help her with her older parents. They’ve been helpful and always come when she needs them.

She hasn’t really had an interaction with police officers. She was here on the first meeting and came to the understanding that she has privilege and did not want to take too much time and wanted to leave it open for someone else to share.

He grew up here in Watsonville and growing up in his neighborhood there were rival gangs and there was some violence. He joined the cadet program and he loved it, becoming a police officer has always been his childhood dream.

He used to work at the BMW dealership here in town and there have been multiple break ins at the dealership. He called the police and they were always helpful, showed up, took notes and never really had a bad interaction. He became a police officer because all his family are part of the law enforcement and he joined because he wants to provide a positive impact. With his family they have worked in Marina, Santa Cruz Monterey and Watsonville.

He has lived all his life in Santa Cruz and there was a moment when he was off duty and he was driving downtown and saw a woman who was running and he saw signs of distress and stopped his car to check up on her. She said a man had stopped her with a knife and he immediately called Santa Cruz PD. Two big bystanders saw what was going on and came to help. They offered to stay with them in case they needed assistance and when police came they were very helpful. What impacted him was how everyone around saw there was something wrong and they chose to help, he saw a community coming together.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

- Police Response (positive and negative)
- Racial Profiling
- Homelessness and Mental Health
Date:  
Format: Break Out Group 2  
Participants: 14

MEETING NOTES

Could hardly speak he was so emotional. He was so anxious his heart was pounding in the presence of WPD, he works with kids and their families and has no good stories of WPD only bad. Trauma of police, and now with daughter who has also had negative interactions with WPD.

Had generally good experiences with WPD including their response to an accident in front of his house and a boy scout tour of the police department.

Was made to feel somehow responsible when her home near downtown was broken into. Response time was also very long despite the fact she had notified WPD that her house was being watched. She has had adult clients with conditions on the autism spectrum to have problems with WPD. She makes sure she is out of town by 5 pm to avoid problems with transients, was assaulted once.

Family profiled by WPD because of her last name and previous experiences between her older brothers and WPD.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

TRAUMA. Once you are a young person in the judicial system, your stories and your families are most likely to be negative.

Public safety issue with the homeless/transient population, both as victims and perpetrators of crime.

Mental health issues and lack of communication b/w police
Youth participant shared the story of attending AHS and walking to the bus stop daily for the City Bus. On this occasion walking with a “friend” towards Sids BBQ and across crosswalk a car with 2 guys in pulled up alongside with windows down. Participant had earphones in but took them out to hear what they were asking his friend. The 2 guys were asking “What set we claimed?” “Who you bang”. The youth were in plain color clothes with no discerning colors or markers however both Mexican and thus identified as in a gang perhaps he said. They kept saying they didn’t claim a set but tension was getting higher. Participant was unaware his friend had a knife and was surprised when he pulled up to show it in his waist band which as soon as he showed it participant said that was when he heard the passenger cock a gun. Participant’s fear level grew and “my heart began to race - I knew I’d have to run” At that time the car sped off ahead and stopped at the bus stop. The 2 guys both got out and went to open “popped” the trunk. He was aware of them starting to run towards him and his friend. Participant and friend turned to go in the other direction away from bus stop. A car with a lady in slowed and stopped and said she had seen and asked if they wanted her to call the cops. Participant did not answer not knowing and his friend said “Do what you think is right” They kept walking away and the 2 guys left.

In response youth says" I don’t know what I would do in that situation or about that”
Felt she was experiencing many second hand emotions in response to hearing the story.

Do you think there’s something that could have helped or changed the situation”

When schools let out more police patrols or presence - it is less common at AHS but he knows that PV High and other schools experience similar situations and having more safety at the end or beginning of day. This escalated fast.

Told how her friend told her a story of walking home after school and saw an altercation and one of the guys got stabbed and he went to help stop the bleeding. “He had never told me this before but when I said I was coming to this meeting is when he shared this”

"This takes me back to being a youth” He witnessed lots of gang violence - Jessica and Jorge Cortez - classmate - remembers the sound of whistling that bullets make. - Remembers as a kid at 11 years old holding and then needing to hide a “38”. SADDENED THAT VIOLENCE IS STILL IN THE COMMUNITY. He has a 12 year old himself now.

Remembers the Cortez incident vividly and knew people/family etc on both sides - the perpetrators and the victims. He remembers something that did make him safe. It was in the time after Cesar Chavez passed away. He had a mentor Samuel. Participant wanted to have a great job and was
MEETING NOTES

waiting for that when his mentor “put me in check” He felt he was guiding him when he said to put his ego in check even if it meant lowering his expectations. “He was a mentor, He saw my stress” and it was a powerful teaching moment to go get work.

“I do know that mentorship plays a big part”, “Parks and Rec provides positive role models to work with youth” Wonders if the question should be addressed “as adults can we do better providing mentors”

Participant in response to being asked about mentors in his life: “Some are...depends on who I talk to” He acknowledges two other participants as his mentors but says he doesn't have others.

She has many mentors but they are all family such as her mom and grandmother. She said though she was very active in clubs and activities she does not ultimately feel she had mentors outside of her family.

“I feel very privileged as no one is coming up to me asking who I claim. I feel safe. I live in Watsonville. My husband however experiences as a Mexican a difference in safety. He doesn't want to be misidentified and takes care with what he wears and what is in his closet. There's a difference in our feelings about safety.” She in her work had to go to a 19 year old homicide call/death near her home. “You look back at this young life - its hard to see such a young life gone and with different choices that could have been made. It was hard to see this body on South Green Valley road”

Resonates with all the stories and on hearing them he can't help but go to thinking of the systemic level - it is economic violence and shows how unjust and inequitable the economic system is. “we must work on a local level to address it”

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Safety in the after school time - walking home
Gangs are still an issue in the feelings of not being safe
Mentorship gives a sense of safety
Date: March 19, 2021
Format: House Meeting Group 1
Participants: 8
Question: Notes about stories shared... what are the experiences with public safety? (Please include relevant details) / Apuntes sobre las historias compartidas...cualés son las experiencias con la seguridad publica? (Por favor incluya detalles relevantes).

MEETING NOTES

Mencionó que le gustaría más seguridad en las calles. Necesitamos más luces para los peatones. ¡Las calles son muy oscuras!

La seguridad es tener el apoyo de la policía y sentirse seguros. Magdalena ha tenido problemas en su hogar ya que se han metido a robar a su casa.

La seguridad es sentirse segura en cualquier lugar de la ciudad junto con su familia. Yurithzy mencionó que le gustaría ver más programas que se enfocuen en el medio ambiente por ejemplo cómo reciclar y reducir el plástico y la basura.

La seguridad es sentirse seguro cuando salga de su casa con su familia. Jose tuvo una experiencia donde fue acusado por unos policías de haber golpeado a una luz con su carro cuando estaba en el Indoor Soccer pero él no había hecho nada. El les aseguro que no había hecho nada y que él no era el culpable pero de todos modos tomaron su información.

mencionó que ella siempre se siente nerviosa cuando mira algún policía.

mencionó que debe haber más apoyo entre la comunidad. Necesitamos más empleo, más casas, más deportes para los jóvenes, más empleos con buena paga. El platico sobre una experiencia positiva que tuvo cuando fue en un “Ride Along”. Dijo que los policías fueron muy amables con él y él pudo ver como es la rutina de un policía. El aprecia más el trabajo de los policías desde que tuvo esta experiencia.

Compartió su historia de que ella no se siente segura y se preocupa por la seguridad de su hijo que hace tres días tuvo una experiencia donde su vida estuvo en peligro. Mientras su hijo estaba trabajando, llegó un carro y fue amenazado con una pistola. Su hijo hizo un reporte a la policía pero Ella siente que corre peligro ya que la persona que lo amenazó con la pistola no ha sido encontrada. Ella quiere saber qué recursos hay en la comunidad para poder proteger a su hijo.

le dio su número para poder ayudarla y buscar recursos para su familia.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Más seguridad de tráfico y luces en la ciudad

Necesitamos más programas para los jóvenes

Recursos para hacer reportes anónimos
Hablamos de las diferentes áreas del departamento de policía.

Como compartió que ha cambiado mucho la ciudad de Watsonville, porque ya no se ha visto mucha violencia. Y la familia está a salvo porque la violencia disminuyó.

compartió que es muy importante para los ciudadanos de Watsonville en general. Porque mantienen el lugar seguro. Y no hay tantos crímenes en la ciudad también tratan de ayudar a las personas cuando sufren algún caso de seguridad. Como por ejemplo tuvo un incidente en el cual se sintió muy afortunado de que lo pudieran ayudar. Está muy agradecido de cómo se portaron los oficiales con ellos para resolver su caso.

También estaba en la junta pero dijo que a ella le daba miedo compartir.

La pastora compartió lo que ha pasado con el edificio de la iglesia.
MEETING NOTES

All members mentioned that they had both positive and negative interactions with police. Biggest concern was often assumptions made by law enforcement: generalizing that all homeless are the same, drug addicts etc. Assuming that if dressed a certain way you must be a gang member. Hanging out with the wrong crowd could be perceived as you being a criminal.

Negative incidents or fears mentioned: Fear of being pulled over by police, not being listened to by police during an incident, fear of injury to relative when he failed to follow police office instructions, fear of being labeled by police.

Positive interactions: Organizing and participating on national night out with policy, police officers willing to listen one on one when you issue, police officers’ ability to resolve problems to avoid escalation, a dramatic change in culture in a positive way noticed by both community members and longtime officers within the department.

Safety concerns: lack of opportunities for youth, pedestrians, want increased efforts in restorative justice. Although gang violence is down, concerns about the drug use epidemic in the community; meth & opioids.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:
Perception of homeless by some police needs to improve

Continue work on community events such as national night out to strengthen relationships between community & police;

Opportunities for homeless and youth need to be provided in the community.
MEETING NOTES

Feels WPD could probably do better at investigating.

From Santa Cruz

She said we need a safe open space

Lives in Gilroy does not feel safe when she needs to come to Watsonville

Shared stories at the Vets good and bad working with WPD
  - Positive with police and nonemergency
  - Recommend having strategic communication techniques for police, community, and nonprofits to talk to unhoused folks
  - One incident with a resident smoking and let go, once police was called only two options given – arrest person for trespassing or leave them there. (Not helpful!)

She feels save she shared a story when she was small and one of her brothers had drug issues, cops came and had to battle to take him in to custody and grabbed the broom and was hitting brother to calm him down she feels cops did the right thing. However, she has had to endure the childhood trauma.

Police Officer

Supervisor - Feels Vets Hall is doing a great job. He said a security was hired for Vets Hall from 10pm to 6am

Feels that WPD needs to see homeless as they are humans, and they have the same rights

I saw two police officer approaching a vehicle on Pennsylvania telling her she needed to move. Never did they hand out resources. As officer were approaching my side I asked if they had given her resources or how were they helping her. Male officer was upset and said they had told her many times. I asked to see what resources they had offer. He handed me a City flyer. I approached the homeless person to offer her assistance and asked her to please move the car and she did. I feel we have too much mental issues and we need more support.
Date: April 12, 2021  
Format: House Meeting Group 2  
Participants: 8

MEETING NOTES

When an individual came up to her when she was in the parking lot at CAB. Reminded her that there needs to be more lights or have someone walk her car

A lot of homeless folks trying to find shelter in the building at CAB and makes her feel unsafe.  
She feels safe all the time  
I sometimes feel unsafe when I’m walking in the streets or thru alleyways

Police were arresting someone by the city council building. She needed to go fast and take the path by where the person was being arrested. The man turned to look at her and the chill went through her. Never felt so scared in her life. Never experienced anything else like that. Worried feeling about looking around. Being a woman, you fear for protection. Doesn’t feel comfortable when men stare at her and don’t like coming home late at night.

- ideas: walking with a friend. Self-defense classes, a program in the school system, pepper spray

Walks to school in the morning. There are a lot of cars that are speeding and don’t stop. Cars would just pass her and not let her go. Very big problem. Green Valley and Main Street.

- ideas: more speed bumps across the street

When she was with her friends and on her way home, on her street. There was a car casually driving by them and they witnessed a drive-by shooting. Looked by her side and noticed a youth who got shot, then he got up. When they passed, they were caught in the crossfire. This was around the corner from her house. So shocking and during daylight.

- Ideas: Doesn’t know

Does not feel safe as a woman, some girls don’t know how to identify when they are in a bad situation. also sharing how it’s hard to cross the street when working at the YMCA.

- Ideas: education, pepper spray, need more than just self-defense classes

Typically feel safe in the community. She feels more cautious about her surroundings and the time she is walking through different areas. When she went to Safeway on Freedom, when someone asked if they would like to wash her windshield and she said no thank you in a polite way. This triggered him and he got angry and yelled at her. Had that been in the evening she would feel very intimidated and more unsafe

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Youth Feeling Unsafe when they are walking in town or to school  
Witnessing violence/shootings in neighborhoods  
Women/girls feeling unsafe and looking for more resources for self-defense classes
Date: April 12, 2021  
Format: House Meeting Group 1  
Participants: 10

MEETING NOTES

Cieba Prep- Senior

- **Followed by a car** and was unsure what to do with the license plate number  
- Made her feel uneasy and anxious  
- **German Shepard** running loose in her neighborhood  
- The dog attacked her dog and also bit her hand  
- Nothing has happened in regards to submitting a report

CAB- ALCANCE

- Has been followed by an older man in a market  
- Knows other young girls who have been followed and they do not feel comfortable reporting it or do not know what to do  
- We need to find a way to help these girls

Native Watsonville- City Council

- Did not feel comfortable walking to her car in the evening because of the increase in gang activity  
- There was human trafficking taking place in the community  
- Shooting have increased in our community

Pacific Coast Charter- Sophomore

Pajaro Valley High School- Junior

- Was almost hit by a car in the pedestrian crossing zone  
- Does not feel safe walking on Green Valley Blvd and Main Street  
Cars drive too fast

Pajaro Valley High School

- Got into an altercation at school  
- Police officer put handcuffs on too tight  
- Police officer was very aggressive toward him

United Way Intern- Watsonville resident

- Brothers struggled with substance abuse  
- Home was burglarized a lot due to brothers’ acquaintances  
- Some police brutality, but there were also kind police  
- Need of better understanding of substance abuse from a community view (police, neighbors, etc.)

Sequoia High School/COE

- Becoming closer with police, government workers, and community organizations has changed his views  
- Humanizes people in authority positions such as police officers  
- Has created a better line of communication

CAB

- People **speeding** in Watsonville on Main Street near Watsonville High School  
- Feeling unsafe **walking** at night

The Volunteer Center

- Feeling unsafe walking around my old office on Main Street
MEETING NOTES

- Parking garage had dim lighting
- Drug users or individuals with severe mental illnesses were often in the parking garage or in the alley next to our office

**TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:**

Law enforcement relationship with the community

Dangerous traffic

Unsafe walking conditions for women (e.g. being followed, harassed, etc.)
MEETING NOTES
When you get to know people your perception changes!

Appreciates the positive experience he had with law enforcement

Student: Bad experience with Police, got into a fight at school, was put on cuffs a little too tight in the office.

On Christmas, while walking her dog, her dog was attacked by another dog. Her dog had to get stitches, in another incident Ketzali was attacked by the same dog. A neighborhood dog is out on the loose attacking her family. Feels sad about the incident. Grateful for being alive.
**Date:** April 13, 2021  
**Format:** Youth Shared Story  
**Participants:** 1

---

**MEETING NOTES**

**Question:** Is there a time you felt safe/unsafe? What do youth need in order to feel safe?

A. Times that she felt unsafe:

1. Live on a busy road and always passing by really fast. No one lets their pets out. Always scared to cross the road. Speed bumps would be helpful. How would we get this done and who would be in contact.

2. Feels forgotten being outside of the city limits

3. Roads are really bumpy on Paulson Rd where she lives.

   a. Hard to ride her bike. Bikes on the sidewalk even though she isn’t supposed to, the roads are really unsafe. There are bike lanes but they aren’t everywhere.

**Ideas for making the community safer:**

1. Speed Bumps

2. Reconstructing the road to be even

3. Bike lanes and fixing up the lines (very faded and hard to know where they are supposed to be)


5. Having more green space and trails - that would diminish crime

   - Would show that Watsonville is being taken care of
   - Sign that it is a community is heard
   - Watsonville Lacks the tree canopy → more trees planted in the city
   - Safe for health
   - Would help during summer when it gets hot

6. Safety of our health → less fast foods

   - Want to diminish unhealthy restaurants
   - Misses Jamba juice
   - Creating more green spaces

7. Pay more attention to the outskirts - seen a lot of crashes and death

8. Really create Watsonville as a town - walk into Watsonville and feel at home. Not for gentrification. Local businesses

9. More places to be repainted, make Watsonville more lively. Repainting the color that it was before

10. People taking care of the area - other groups planting

11. Showing and educating others that we care about the people
12. More areas for youth to go for Mental Health → where they can go and talk to people

- Not be pricey to be there
- Where youth can go and feel welcomed
- Help with motivation
**Date:** April 14, 2021  
**Format:** House Meeting Notes – Group 3  
**Participants:** 5

**Question:** Is there a time you felt safe/unsafe? Please share your experience. What resources would make you feel safer in the community?

---

**MEETING NOTES**

He is from Santa Cruz, but his nephew is in Watsonville. His nephew is hanging out with people who maybe he shouldn’t and going to car shows in San Jose. Someone was shooting a gun in the air during the show. Participant saw his nephew’s Snapchat of guns that another kid was selling, but his nephew said he only saw it on social media. Participant wonders if it’s really from social media or from his real life. Participant believes that he needs more activities and things that interest him to do.

Her son is 13, and she is stressed out and scared about what he is dabbling in. He is hanging out with the wrong kids, and she has tried to take him away from these kids. She feels that Watsonville isn’t safe and doesn’t know what neighborhood is safe. There used to be only pockets that were unsafe, but now it’s more widespread. She feels he needs more programs to engage in.

He lives in the middle of town and has lived in Wat for 10 years. He thinks it’s better than before but has its moments. There have been people who overdosed next door. It used to be isolated in certain part of town, but now it’s everywhere. His house was broken into 3 times, and the last time his daughter was home. She called 911, and the police arrived in time to catch the guy. She was traumatized by the experience, and she still has a hard time. Other than that, he has felt safe. Watsonville is still a great place, a small enough place that you can change the culture, not too big to be changed. Desperate people are going to do desperate things, and he made a lot of mistakes himself as a young person, so he understands their situations.

She feels safe when there’s more of a Watsonville police presence in downtown. She’s seen a change in the downtown, especially during Covid. There are more homeless people downtown, which creates safety issues, burglaries, and vandalism. Her property has been vandalized a number of times downtown. She has to call the police to come when homeless people are on her property, using drugs, being intoxicated, and displaying aggressive behavior. When she calls the police, they are very responsive and polite. They are doing the best they can when dealing with homeless people and removing them from being a danger to others in the community. Also, the landscaping on her property has needles in it, so she has to be extremely careful. She has found them on her property and her business. When she removes them, she has to take them to WPD, so that’s also a health issue to clean them up and remove them. She feels it’s tough because there’s a lot put on her as a business owner and she is constantly battling to keep the community safe and welcoming for everybody. She would like to see more help for downtown businesses who are trying to create a place for people to feel welcome and want to come into, but they are battling against what is being brought into the downtown and what is being allowed to take place.

**Question: What would you like to see more of, what has worked?**

Activities that speak to adolescents as a lot of them are wavering on entering the wrong path, and more of a law enforcement presence in the unsafe areas

He is part of the faith community and believes in working with young people through the faith community. It works to organize and involve people. For example, he knew the person who broke
into his house so he knew where the guy was coming from. People like him need help to change their trajectories. Grassroots work needs to happen, not just the police work or bigger projects. Start small. We need more places for kids to go where they feel safe, where they choose to do the right things (there are some, i.e., Digital Nest). At Victory Outreach, they have opened up the church in the evenings for 20-25 kids. He has broken a multiple generation cycle of drug addiction and incarceration in his family through his church. His kids have never used drugs or alcohol and didn’t have to visit their father in prison like he did.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

The need for youth engagement and providing meaningful activities for them

Downtown feels unsafe

When police are engaged, they have been responsive and have successfully addressed the situation.
Date: April 14, 2021  
Format: House Meeting Notes – Group 4  
Participants: 7

MEETING NOTES

Walnut Avenue Family & Women’s Center
- I don’t live in Watsonville, but many of my co-workers do
- Crime is inside & outside of the home, which it makes it really important to have available, affordable service for mental health and substance abuse
- Worried about police response to mental health emergencies
- Services need to be available and approachable
- People need to be treated with respect when they do ask for help
- I have concerns for my young children living in the city (of Santa Cruz)

CRC
- Deep interest in conflict resolution and addressing all forms of violence.
- For some police represent safety, but perhaps it is necessary to have them paired with mental health professionals

DA’s office
- Experienced verbal racist violence outside a restaurant in Watsonville; gave me an uneasy feeling followed by that person also slashing my tires
- So bummed to have experienced that in a restaurant I have frequented. I didn’t return to that place for over a year
- I feel more comfortable walking the streets of NYC than in Santa Cruz
- Worry for my partner late at night who works in Watsonville
- What would make me feel safer- when I moved here I did not know it was not diverse. I don’t know if I’ll ever feel 100% safe
- I’ve made friends with people I would normally be afraid of (like Chief Mills, etc.)
- I don’t put myself into situations where I might be at risk
- The way people think here is different

CAB
- I Work in downtown Watsonville
- Homeless folks in Watsonville Plaza, people using drugs in the parking lot
- Feel unsafe walking across the parking lot.
- Parking is so limited
- Housing is a big issue, especially for youth
- Drug/alcohol issues are a problem
- Need transitional housing and mental health service for homeless youth
- sometimes the response from child welfare is so difficult (not helpful)
- Need more approachable services
- I have clients having a hard time even just getting dmv IDs
- Youth mentoring for youth needed

Children’s Bh Health
- Live in Watsonville
MEETING NOTES

- Work for evening center as a counselor for youth and I hear stories about kids with access to weapons
- When I converse with kids, there is a tension- they have easy access to weapons
- I have kids myself, I am concerned for their safety
- Some of the kids have problems with gangs and own weapons
- It’s dangerous
- I feel safe when I know there is easy access to authorities/policing, so I can get help quickly
- Concern- Not too

CEO. I work in Watsonville

- As an African American male, and how I grew up, safety is a big deal
- Anyway, for my organization to help I’d like to help- I want to leave the space for others and be here to listen today
- My ‘nightmare’ has not necessarily been in this community, but I have a lot of history

Community member

- Heard about this event though Pajaro Valley Shelter
- History of going through addiction and homelessness, & partner abuse (I was leaving an abusive relationship)
- When I reached out to Human Services, I was young, I didn’t know how to communicate, I was seeking help, but felt very let down by their reception of me
- I did not feel safe because I didn’t feel heard. Felt like government assistance was not respecting me, felt like I was “nothing” after receiving service
- (on the other hand) Pajaro Valley Services welcomed me with open arms. I felt very supported and loved. They helped me- gave me a computer, helped me get into Cabrillo
- I live in transitional housing
- Kids smoke marijuana on our porch despite rules about no drugs
- Can relate to feeling safer if police are more available and around
- Innocent kids turning to gangs younger and younger
- Need more activities for kids

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Racism

Drastically different/conflicting views on policing

Lack of activities & resources for youth
Meeting Notes

Growing up male, in his 20's his preoccupation with safety was police, now his police interaction has minimized, but from his work, he knows youth still have that concern.

Lack of parks and public spaces, trails to be outside, to connect, to have eyes in the community.

Ideas for increased safety:

- More sports, arts, and public open spaces
- Advocate for police budget to be reduced and reinvested

Safety concern with traffic and cars speeding by, but also poor lighting around different parts of town. Multiple cars and dogs have been run over the years in Riverside Dr. More lighting needed in Lincoln Street especially that getting closer to Freedom. It’s hard driving at night in that area, makes her feel scared. Also, concern with lack of youth spaces/areas, has nieces that have been impacted with shelter-in-place and going into unhealthy paths. Wants to see more engaging and interactive fun places and spots for young teens.

- Opportunities: increased green spaces, and public restrooms especially around downtown, perhaps the city can invest in a refillable water dispenser and begin going green. Bring back a bowling alley or some other youth space for all family to use.

Shared about his experience with police and abuse of his rights. Brother has substance abuse problems and often brings home stolen vehicles, one-time police showed up to his house and tried to enter his home even after he said they couldn't. Son and uncle live in the residence. Participant knows his rights, and was collaborating but cops kept persisting in wanting to enter his house, he asked to see a warrant, though he remained calmed, one of the cops entered a few steps into the home while he talked to the uncle. Participant told the other cop that his partner was entering his home even after he clearly told him he couldn’t. Cop looked angry and bothered. In retrospect, participant thinks that had he not deescalated or remained calm, things could’ve easily escalated.

- Opportunities: Agrees with participant about need for parks and being outside, but also economic opportunities in downtown. Similar as other areas in San Jose or Santa Cruz, Monterey.

sharing on feeling unsafe while walking especially at night once leaving her work parking lot at CAB. Opportunities: Parks and more lighting

Appreciative of all sharing and can resonate with some of the things shared, will share more in bigger group.

Top 3 Issues That Emerged Out of This Conversation:

Need for parks, arts, public spaces

Reinvest in youth spaces and downtown economic opportunities

Youth concern with police

Traffic safety and lighting in Lincoln St.
Date: April 14, 2021  
Format: House Meeting Notes – Group 2  
Participants: 6

MEETING NOTES

Participant working too late, have a two-year old. Scared to go out at night near the office; homeless coughing all over me, ended up calling the cops.

As a teenager at a party, cruising around town. Two started fighting, one pulled a gun, Fortunately was able to get people to calm down. Both positive and negative interactions with police. Charged for interfering with arrest at a bowling alley, trying to stand up for a person. Police force that we had during the strike, and the police force now are completely different.

More things to do in the 80s/90s for kids. Didn’t have to sign agreements with school district. A lot less community space available for kids. Everything requires permission. Used to have three movie theatres, bowling alley, now those things are gone. There is funding for after-school program. No programs after 5:30.

Everyone entitled to their opinion, their story. Grew up on concept of palabra. Think about community. Born and raised in Watsonville, single mother, welfare, foodstamps, homelessness, gangs, violence. University, graduated.

- Gang task force pulled up on a young man, was mistaken identity. Mother has to navigate the trauma of the event. Son not eating, sleeping. Now doesn’t want anything to do with police. Police gave her a card. Grandparents are now questioning the mother.
- Raids that WPD/Probation conducted on youth in Watsonville. One youth lost housing because of association with the raid.

I feel very safe walking in the streets at night.

What do I need: officials to look at public safety and not just think policing. Community can also do some of this work. Ad hoc committee was all police oriented. Reinvest money in employment, prevention, housing. Intergenerational recycling of people through the criminal justice system. Need to provide healing. Watsonville cannery strike; Police sergeant beat my mom during the strike. Work in Watsonville is stagnant. Crime and incarceration going down, crime is going down, police budgets are increasing. Not anti-police. Is there still a zero-gang policy at the youth center? Yes, that’s still the atmosphere they’re trying to create. Youth from juvenile hall feel like they’re not welcome in there. What else is there for young people to do in town? More elders to bring out their art, paint night for the community.

Concern for teenage son. Shootings close to home. Hard for me to allow my son to go out on his own. For the most part it is pretty safe. Homelessness is an issue, but it’s not unique to Watsonville, and there aren’t enough resources for housing, services, shelters, etc. Agree about more activities and things to do. Kids start driving out of town as soon as they can.
MEETING NOTES

Used to live in townhomes in Watsonville. One night there were sirens outside, five or six police officers with guns drawn, with no idea what the situation actually was. Seemed like an overreaction. Was one of the few times that has felt unsafe. Youth programs in Parks targeted towards helping youth succeed. At a certain age even the youth center is not a ‘cool’ place to hang out. Late night gym concept. Planning to reopen the facility this summer.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Activities for youth in Watsonville, especially after 5:30

Law enforcement and uncertainty were main sources of fear around feeling unsafe
MEETING NOTES
Went to Mariposa in Santa Cruz to get help when she needed to leave her home. Is currently at Pajaro Valley Shelter. Is grateful for CAB and the Fit program. She wants more safety in downtown Watsonville, but there are a lot of homeless. Safety is a big issue for her, she also has a 19 year old daughter who she worries for.

Didn’t really feel safe or unsafe, had COVID and was unemployed for 2 weeks. CAB was able to help her, now has a stable home and appreciates the help from the community. Has a 16 year old son who she worries for (gang, homeless problems in Watsonville). She feels there are a lot of dangerous people in Watsonville.

Reiterated her story about cops not believing her. Has a 14, 15 year old. On Main St. there was a random homeless guy by the Chevron, which made her feel unsafe. She said for the most part she is understanding and feels bad for the homeless population but it doesn’t feel safe.

Has also had assistance from community organizations. She was a police academy cadet early in her life then decided not to do it. Has a 5 year old little girl, who she often takes on play dates and gets along well with her neighbors. They all know and support one another. Believes that Watsonville is a little crazy town (gangs, homeless) but accountability starts in the home.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Group members each had their own experience with being able to access community resources (Some still receiving services). They agreed and felt that there was support for them when they needed it the most. It was instrumental for them getting back on their feet.

This group of Watsonville residents felt that there is a big issue with safety when it comes to homeless. There are a lot of homeless, and although each member verbalizes feeling empathy for their situation, the homelessness problem creates safety issues for them in Watsonville.
MEETING NOTES

Feeling unsafe in the community

Downtown Business owner spoke about downtown not feeling safe; Main St. business owners having to keep doors locked during business hours due to impacts of those experiencing mental health issues: “We're not equipped or trained for how to handle mental health issues”; shoplifting has increased; says businesses use a reporting line, but never hear back. He does appreciate Chief Honda & how he’s community oriented.

Not enough lighting in certain areas (downtown, unincorporated areas)

Mental health issues correlating with houseless community members

Increase in trespassing, shoplifting

Violence shootings and violent altercations (getting hit up)

Feeling unsafe at home from violence

Police taking long to respond to 911 calls

Person expressed "I would not depend on police"

Person expressed Feeling united when a space was held for community members coming together to congregate in a unifying event, after a series of violence events.

Person expressed Catcalling feeling targeted avoiding certain areas especially at night

Person expressed The way police deal with a situation and having a traumatic experience with police

Domestic violence seems to be up. Don’t want to call 911 when you hear it in your neighborhood. Is there another number/resource to call if their concerned?

Question: What would make you feel safer?

Person Expressed Law enforcement/police officer taking time to come and meet them personally how they developed a relationship from a community meeting
MEETING NOTES

Opening school fields and parks creating more events for youth (access to space)

More lighting in areas

Downtown Business Owner: Trainings for business owners for how to handle those that come into their shops that have mental health issues; law enforcement foot patrol downtown – more opportunities to connect & build relationship; neighborhood watch; a non-911 # to call

More collaborative community-based problem solving with WPD

Seeing more families feel safe walking around
Date: April 14, 2021
Format: House Meeting Themes
Participants:

MEETING NOTES
Appreciation of community-based resources/providers (PV Shelter, CAB)

Perceptions of law enforcement

- very diverse experiences & perspectives around law enforcement
- business owners feeling positive, wanting more foot patrol
- others feeling not taken seriously when they called for police
- need for healing of generational/historical trauma & negative experiences with WPD, no matter from how long ago
- wanting more collaborative community involved problem solving with WPD
- need for alternatives to law enforcement
  - need for a non-911 number to call
  - opportunities to strengthen relationships with community with law enforcement
  - trauma inducing police responses from those who call law enforcement for help

Not feeling safe at night***

- more lighting needed all around
- young men being ‘hit up’
- women not feeling safe
- mother’s not wanting to let their children out after dark

Downtown: mental health/substance use and unhoused altercations (community members all coming from a compassionate stance, the desire for more resources)

- business owners feeling unprepared to deal with issues
- many no longer feel safe downtown
- need for more resources to support with unhoused and substance abuse and mental health
- parking lots not feeling safe

- Need for more activities for kids specifically after school
  - alternative to gangs
  - parks, community centers, community sports games, community events
MEETING NOTES

- racism towards the black community
- need more community-based events to create sense of safety & connection
- did not feel safe accessing services through the County
- increase in property crime, break ins
Date: April 14, 2021
Format: House Meeting Themes
Participants:

MEETING NOTES
Appreciation of community-based resources/providers (PV Shelter, CAB)

Perceptions of law enforcement
- very diverse experiences & perspectives around law enforcement
- business owners feeling positive, wanting more foot patrol
- others feeling not taken seriously when they called for police
- need for healing of generational/historical trauma & negative experiences with WPD, no matter from how long ago
- wanting more collaborative community involved problem solving with WPD
- need for alternatives to law enforcement
  - need for a non-911 number to call
  - opportunities to strengthen relationships with community with law enforcement
  - trauma inducing police responses from those who call law enforcement for help
Date: April 15, 2021
Format: House Meeting Notes
Participants: 8

Question: What does safety mean to you? Share about an experience you had with police or safety? (Please include relevant details)

MEETING NOTES

Had a positive experience with the Cabrillo Watsonville Center campus officer. Her daughter had an accident on the freeway and she asked the officer from Cabrillo if he could go help her out while her husband arrived. Sure enough, he did! This officer was very friendly and everyone at Cabrillo really felt comfortable around him. He was not intimidating but rather approachable and helpful.

Participant shared a story of an Easter drive-through event at the church. Two officers were helping out and it was really cool to see them interact with church families and NETworX families. However, there was a little girl who was scared of taking a picture with the officers. This showed her that there is a lot of fear instilled in children. Officer agreed and said he’s heard parents tell their kids that the police are going to take them when they are misbehaving.

Participant grew up in San Francisco. She had a lot of racial profiling back in San Francisco where she would be constantly stopped by police officers. She does not feel unsafe in Watsonville. Mimi agrees that there is a lot of positive police interaction in the city of Watsonville.

Participant feels safe in Watsonville. She mentioned that the diversity and abundance of different cultures in the City of Watsonville prevents or decreases racial profiling and racism from our police department. - The WPD mirrors the population of the city. (diversity of the dept.)

Participant is a cadet with the Watsonville Police Department. He has no negative experiences with the WPD. He feels that WPD has a great relationship with community members.

Participant asked, what are some of the biggest community issues in the city of Watsonville?
Officer mentioned mental health, homelessness, and a recent spike in violence (including: gang activity, homicides, domestic violence).

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

| Stigma/Fear of Police (we need more positive police interaction with children & youth) |
| The challenges of Homelessness & Mental Health & Spike in Violence (gang activity, homicides, domestic violence) |
| The WPD mirrors the population of the city and it's diversity |
Date: April 15, 2021  
Format: House Meeting Notes – Group 3  
Participants: 7

MEETING NOTES

Student from Redding

- Used to live in SC, growing up no interaction with police.
- Police seen as unfriendly, has only seen them respond to crime

Student from Watsonville

- Feeling unsafe walking downtown due to traffic

Student Soquel

- Walking downtown Santa Cruz
- Homeless woman running towards her
- Feeling unsafe at that moment

Student Watsonville

- Discrimination police have towards juveniles. I come from a family that has quite a few gang members and a while back we had an accident we’re one of my cousins got shot and killed and a cop had said it was my cousin’s choice because that was the life he chose. I think that no matter what kind of life a person has no one deserves that. It got me really mad because it was just so unprofessional - Nov, 26, 2014
- Another incident, in 2016 was with a friend in a park and police showed up and forced them to step on the marijuana. She felt humiliated.

Student Santa Cruz

- Homeless, west side, downtown, and Oceanside

Student

From participant to Everyone in chat: I think the community in Watsonville is bad since, the homeless shooting up drugs in Watsonville is unsafe for the community since they leave their needles on the floor in public.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Feeling unsafe downtown Watsonville due to traffic

Police interaction is unprofessional and insensitive towards juveniles esp. gang members

Problem with substance abuse and Homelessness
MEETING NOTES

Attended a BBQ at a friend's house, and as leaving, they notice a note in the window of the car “…cut off your fucking head” there was a guy with a machete, so they call the cops. Participant and his friends were scared and amazed. The police officer came and just asked questions, and they did not bother going to the guy’s house. Participant said, why bother calling the police if they will not do anything. He felt unsafe with the police and no follow-up.

This is participant’s girlfriend’s story. Last week her girlfriend went to her grandma’s house and parked nearby. As the girlfriend was leaving, she noticed a group of gang members standing near her car, so she was scared to go near her vehicle. She called the police, and the police said there was nothing to do since the gang members were just standing there and not doing any crime.

2nd story - Participant used to drive a 97’ Jaguar car, and police officers always followed him. They would confuse him with someone else. He was afraid of having a cop behind him. Felt nervous and had a bad gut feeling.

3rd story – Live in the Lomas, some guys shot his house, and they call the police. The police came 4-5 hours later to do the report and left—no investigation by the Monterey County Sheriffs. The family was disappointed with the police.

They broke into her mom’s car. WPD never followed up; they couldn’t find anything. Her mom was mad (upset) with the police.

(Not in Santa Cruz County) Bay area he went out to buy a used car to Oakland. He likes sport/race cars old Junky cars to fix. They purchase a 98” BMW convertible. Around 9 pm, they drove back and stop at the In and Out Burger. However, on the other side, there was a show, and people started showing up. Then 10-15 police cars show up, and they got trap by cops. They were detained and pull over, and handcuffed. Then they ask why they were there; they said we just came to purchase a car. They were let go since they were not from the area. They stop at the wrong location and time.

TOP 3 ISSUES THAT EMERGED OUT OF THIS CONVERSATION:

Police officers not doing anything to solve problems after crime reported - Police officers not following up after reports
Lack of communication and listening to the people they are dealing with. Police responding: “We can't do anything.”
Not feeling safe
MEETING NOTES

What is something that gives you energy?
- new relationships, getting outdoors, caffeine, dogs/pets, working 1 on 1 with youth on-site, nature, hiking, mountain biking, self-care.

What is something you are looking forward to?
- Vacations, hanging with family, loved ones, relaxing during a break, trip to Tahoe with friends.

As you think about last week, any reflections you have about the house meeting?
- It went by fast, was planned well, participants were engaged, as co-chair was very nervous but everyone made it a very comfortable space to lead.
- Always looking to brainstorm how to bring more youth into these spaces
- **How do we engage more youth?**
  - ice to take part in something meaningful
  - Had the opportunity to directly support a specific youth in the breakout group
  - Appreciated the space that Marisol and Jerry created led
  - Powerful to hear the storytellers in the beginning and further set the tone for the rest of the meeting
  - Loved seeing the process and eager to see how the adult meeting went compared to the youth meeting
  - Liked seeing all the different reps from the community in the meeting
  - Liked the monetary incentive for youth
  - youth voice holds great value in these dialogues
  - We wouldn’t ask adults to work for free, why would we ask that of youth?
  - How can we do better with engagement and creating more opportunities for youth to be involved?
  - Empower Now - $600 stipend and other opportunities that PVPSA is offering
  - Youth compensation for participating/working
  - Hearing stories prompted me to think about my own experiences after the meeting
  - Amanda:
    - Youth engagement is an important aspect of upcoming work (YAN)
    - Appreciated all of the prep ( youth prep session ) and it proved to be very helpful for youth participants

Themes/Lessons Learned – Group 1
- Youth was attacked by a dog while walking her dog
- Followed by a man late at night
- Doesn’t feel comfortable walking alone- due to gang activity
- Unsafe walking near Green Valley and Main St.
- Altercation at school- police arrested him and put on cuffs too tight
- Feeling unsafe walking at night- dim lighting, unsafe individuals in surroundings (struggling with mental illnesses, substance abuse)
MEETING NOTES

Key themes
- Law enforcement forceful towards youth
- Dangerous traffic
- Unsafe walking

Themes/Lessons Learned – Group 2
- Group that had the most youth- all females
- Parking lot at CAB- need more lights or someone to chaperone to car
- One youth shared they feel safe all the time
- Unsafe walking in allies, streets, neighborhoods.
- Police arrested someone in front of city council
  1. Felt very scared and now feel like I need to constantly watch my surroundings
- Scared to walk home alone
  1. Need self-defense classes, pepper spray
- Morning walks to school- cars speeding, not letting her pass
  1. Need more speed bumps
- Walking home- witnessed a drive-by shooting
  1. Saw the person that got
  2. Experienced getting caught in the crossfire
- Doesn’t feel safe as a women
  1. Unsafe walking across street in front of YMCA
  2. Need more than just self-defense classes

Key Themes
- Safety of walking to and from school
- Violence (shooting)
- Resources for self-defense and prevention efforts

Themes/Lessons Learned – Group 3
- Youth reached out that wasn’t able to attend the youth dialogue meeting
- PV student
- A concern of walking and biking to school
- Idea of fixing roads
- Environmental perspective
- More green spaces, lighting, parks.
- Lives on the outskirts of Watsonville

Key Themes
- Environmental safety
- Accessible paths/roads to school
- Cleaner and safer spaces for youth

Themes/Lessons Learned – Group 4
- Aptos high school youth
- Approached by gang members in a car
- Asked, “who do you claim?”
MEETING NOTES

- Driver had a knife and the passenger had a gun
- Youth and friend ran. Car sped up to cut them off ahead, opened the trunk of the car
- A passerby stopped and asked if they should call the cops

Changes:

- Police presence and safety at the beginning and end of the day
- Walking home and saw a stabbing. Friend helped stop the bleeding
- Remembering the sound of gunshots from a young age
- Incidents that have happened with family
- Mentorship story- need more details** refer to notes
- Mentorship creates a sense of safety
- Seeing a body
- Stress that we need to work at a local level to fix these issues

Key Themes

- Observing violence in the community
- Gang affiliation and related violence

TAKEAWAYS:

- Seems like a lot of youth do not know what to do in different scenarios. Youth are unsure what to do in unsafe situations, emergencies, etc.
- I wonder if there are any stable Veterans that would want to help make the streets of Watsonville more safe? Partnership with Local VA?

All Key Themes Organized:

Need for creating a better sense of safety when walking within Watsonville:

1. **Dangerous traffic**
2. **Unsafe walking**
3. **Environmental safety**
4. **Accessible paths/roads to school**
5. **Safety of walking to and from school**

Violence within Watsonville:

1. **Cleaner and safer spaces for youth**
2. **Violence (shooting)**
3. **Observing violence in the community**
4. **Gang affiliation and related violence**

Law enforcement

Resources for self-defense and prevention efforts
Feels WPD could probably do better at investigating.

From Santa Cruz

She said we need a safe open space

Lives in Gilroy does not feel safe when she needs to come to Watsonville

Shared stories at the Vets good and bad working with WPD

- Positive with police and non-emergency
- Recommend having strategic communication techniques for police, community, and nonprofits to talk to unhoused folks
- One incident with a resident smoking and let go, once police was called only two options given – arrest person for trespassing or leave them there. (Not helpful!)

She feels save she shared a story when she was small and one of her brothers had drug issues, cops came and had to battle to take him in to custody and grabbed the broom and was hitting brother to calm him down she feels cops did the right thing. However, she has had to endure the childhood trauma.

Police Officer

Feels Vets Hall is doing a great job. He said a security was hired for Vets Hall from 10pm to 6am

Feels that WPD needs to see homeless as they are humans, and they have the same rights

I saw two police officer approaching a vehicle on Pennsylvania telling her she needed to move. Never did they hand out resources. As officer were approaching my side I asked if they had given her resources or how were they helping her. Male officer was upset and said they had told her many times. I asked to see what resources they had offer. He handed me a City flyer. I approached the homeless person to offer her assistance and asked her to please move the car and she did. I feel we have too much mental issues and we need more support.
These are our recommended policy and programs for the City and/or Watsonville Police Department.

- Expand investment in current social service programs especially support for mental health or create a pilot program that diverts non-emergency 911 calls to non-profits (e.g. MERT)
- Reinstate the Neighborhood Services Program, allocate at least $750,000
- Create a police report follow-up/investigation system
- Invest in Parks and Recreation
Watsonville Police and Safety House Meetings

Presented by COPA - June 17, 2021
Watsonville’s Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity Presentation
What is COPA?

• Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action (COPA)

• A regional non-profit organization spanning Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties

• Nonpartisan

• It is made up of 27 member institutions – churches, synagogues, public schools, labor organizations and nonprofits that work together in civil society for the common good

OUR MISSION:

• To develop leadership skills in ordinary people so they can engage effectively in public life; to build power to negotiate with public and private sector leaders; to work for the common good by transforming the economic, social, political and cultural pressures on our families and neighborhoods.
House Meetings

Small group conversations where leaders dig deeper into their institutions by listening to others’ stories, discerning common issues, and finding new leaders. It is through the house meeting process that the potential for action on issues begins to emerge.

➔ **Organizing Tool**
  Small groups of 6-10 participants

➔ **Trained leaders**
  All group facilitators/notetakers received training

➔ **Power of storytelling**
  Regain power by telling one’s own experience, story
Watsonville Strategy

**Timeframe**: Mid-August to October 2020 – February to April 2021

**WHAT**: COPA organized 10 house meetings (listening sessions) with Chief Honda, top officers, police union leadership, and other elected officials to listen to the stories/concerns of the community regarding police and safety.

**WHO**: Hosted by community-based institutions, and attended by members of these institutions or their surrounding neighborhoods.

Participants were invited to share their stories and experiences based on their lived experience in Watsonville.

After those 10 house meetings, COPA leaders will evaluate and make recommendations on policy changes to which the WPD/Union and/or the city will respond.

*Note*
Each group had the responsibility of outreach and audience target. Training provided by COPA, as well 1-1 coaching.
Meeting Dates & Groups

- **August 26, 2020**: Church groups and community
- **October 1 & 23, 2020**: Formerly incarcerated, youth, and Spanish-speaking, women, immigrant group
- **March 19, 2021**: Spanish-speaking, farmworker, immigrant group
- **September 23, 2020**: Church group, elderly, community members
- **February 2021**: Youth and unhoused
- **April 7 & 12 & 14 & 15, 2021**: Unhoused population, youth, adult and families, Cabrillo College students
Organizations that Participated

1. Watsonville First United Methodist Church
2. Assumption Catholic Church
3. Lutheran Community Church
4. Watsonville NETworX Program
5. ALCANCE, a program of Community Action Board
6. Veterans Hall Shelter
7. Cabrillo College Criminal Justice class
8. United 4 Youth, a program of United Way
9. Community Corrections Partnering Community Education and Engagement Workgroup
10. United Way of Santa Cruz County
11. Santa Cruz County Youth Action Network
12. Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance
13. Conflict Resolution Center of Santa Cruz County
14. Living Evolution
15. Santa Cruz County Administrative Office
16. Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office
17. Santa Cruz County Office of Education
18. Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County
19. Walnut Avenue Family & Women’s Center
20. Youth N.O.W.

Note
These were all the organizations that either hosted, were part of planning teams, and/or helped lead small group conversations and note taking, etc.
City Guest Representatives:

1. Chief of Police
2. Watsonville Police Department
3. Police Union Association President
4. City Councilmembers

Note
We also had guest leaders from:
- Parks & Rec
- Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley
- Santa Cruz County Children's Behavioral Health
- Santa Cruz County District Attorney's Office
- Ad-Hoc Committee members
There were 340 participants!

- Ages range from 12-60+
- Range of 21 to 58 participants at each meeting
- Diverse groups
- Interfaith
- Virtual meetings mostly evenings
- All meetings were bilingual (interpretation available)
  - 2 hosted in Spanish
  - 8 hosted in English
Positives

- Responding quickly to scene and being helpful/respectful
- National Night Out
- Police Activities League
- Watsonville Police Cadet
- Neighborhood Watch
- U-Visa for domestic violence victims
- Positive experience with community policing

- Feeling supported by police
- Non-emergency positive interactions
- A dramatic positive change in culture noticed by both community members and longtime officer with department
- One student shared: “The WPD mirrors the population of the city and it’s diversity”
**Negatives**

- Stigma/Fear of police ~ Fear of being stopped
- Feeling unsafe downtown Watsonville due to traffic
- Police officers not doing anything to solve problems after crime reported - Police officers not following up after reports
- Not feeling safe
- Lack of communication and listening to the people they are dealing with. Police responding: “We can’t do anything.”
- Police interaction is unprofessional and insensitive towards juveniles esp. gang members
- Problem with substance abuse and Homelessness
- Abuse of Power
  - Racial Profiling
  - Discrimination based on family last name, appearance, lack of language, LGBTQ+
  - Violation of Rights (e.g. Attempt to enter home w/o consent)
- Bureaucratic issues with police complaints
- Need for accountability and transparency of services offered
- No resources for the unhoused and mental health
- Vets Hall Shelter staff shares: Feels that WPD needs to see homeless as they are humans, and they have the same rights
- Stereotyping done by police
  - generalizing that all homeless are the same, drug addicts, etc.
  - assuming that if dressed a certain way you must be a gang member
  - hanging out with the wrong crowd could be perceived as you being criminal
- More resources for youth esp. free and accessible, including parks and program
Recommendations!
These are our recommended policy, and programs for the city and/or WPD.

➔ Expand investment in current social services programs especially support for mental health or

➔ Create a pilot program that diverts non-emergency 911 calls into a non-profit program or independent agency (e.g. MERT)

➔ Reinstate the Neighborhood Services Program, allocate at least $750,000

➔ Create a police report follow-up/investigation system

➔ Invest in Parks and Recreation
GreatBlue Research
Community Wide Survey Results
Community Wide Survey
Table of Contents

SECTION ONE
About GreatBlue

SECTION TWO
Project Overview

SECTION THREE
Key Study Findings

SECTION FOUR
Considerations

SECTION FIVE
Aggregate Data (Provided Separately)
Harnessing the power of data to help clients achieve organizational goals.

**Data** to support strategic decisions to improve on products and services. Since 1979, our experience with study and instrument design, data collection, analysis, and formal presentation assists our clients in identifying the “why” and “what’s next.”

**Talent** with a knowledge base in a wide range of industries and methodologies ensures a 360° view of the challenges faced and the expertise to address them.

**Solutions** that are customized to provide a personalized approach of understanding organizational, employee, and customer needs allowing for more informed decisions.
Project Overview

- GreatBlue Research was commissioned by the City of Watsonville, CA (hereinafter “City of Watsonville” or "Watsonville") to conduct market research to understand their community's perceptions of various programs and services offered by the city.

- The primary goals for this research study were to assess community initiatives that residents prioritize, perception of community safety and engagement, satisfaction with recreational offerings and economic opportunities, support for building and employment initiatives, and the perception of public works and educational services.

- In order to service these research goals, GreatBlue employed telephone and digital survey methodologies to capture the opinions of residents of the City of Watsonville.

- The outcome of this research will enable the City of Watsonville to a) more clearly understand current sentiments regarding the city's programs and services, b) gauge residents' order of priority of various community initiatives, and c) enhance strategic planning to incorporate improvements to the city's programs and services.
The City of Watsonville Community Wide Study leveraged a qualitative research methodology to address the following areas of investigation:

- Prioritization of community initiatives
- Perception of safety, Fire Department and Police Department
- Satisfaction with community engagement opportunities and the sense of community events
- Satisfaction with the quality of recreational programs and services
- Support for housing and employment initiatives
- Perception of the library
- Current and preferred methods of communication
- Demographic profiles of respondents
Research Methodology Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methodology</th>
<th>No. of Completes</th>
<th>No. of Questions</th>
<th>Incentive</th>
<th>Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone / Digital</td>
<td>770 (500 phone + 270 digital)</td>
<td>60*</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Procured by GreatBlue and Watsonville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Watsonville</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Assurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual-level**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margin of Error</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidence Level</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Dates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 8 -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This represents the total possible number of questions; not all respondents will answer all questions based on skip patterns and other instrument bias.
** Supervisory personnel, in addition to computer-aided interviewing platform, ensure the integrity of the data is accurate.
Respondent Snapshot

This slide quantifies select data points to provide context for this research study. The data is not meant to be proportional to population contribution, rather to provide an empirical view into the demographic profile of the participants.

Registered to Vote

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don’t know / unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 to 24</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 to 74</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 or older</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refused</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to less than $25,000</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to less than $50,000</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 to less than $75,000</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 to less than $100,000</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 to less than $125,000</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$125,000 to less than $150,000</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000 or more</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refused</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Respondent Snapshot

This slide quantifies select data points to provide context for this research study. The data is not meant to be proportional to population contribution, rather to provide an empirical view into the demographic profile of the participants.

### Hispanic Background
- Yes: 69.4%
- No: 25.3%
- Refused: 5.3%

### Race
- Hispanic: 48.4%
- White: 32.2%
- Refused: 14.3%
- Other (please specify): 3.4%
- Asian, Pacific Islander: 1.0%
- Aleutian, Eskimo or American Indian: 0.4%
- African American: 0.3%

### Residency
- Rent: 29.6%
- Own: 62.6%
- Don't know / unsure: 6.6%
- Refused: 1.2%
Table of Contents

SECTION ONE
About GreatBlue

SECTION TWO
Project Overview

SECTION THREE
Key Study Findings

SECTION FOUR
Considerations

SECTION FIVE
Aggregate Data (Provided Separately)
Key Study Findings

- The majority of respondents, 84.5%, reported they are either "very satisfied" (35.1%) or "somewhat satisfied" (49.4%) with how the City of Watsonville is currently serving the community. Further, while two-fifths of respondents (40.3%) reported the City of Watsonville is about the same as it was three years ago, a similar frequency (37.8%) reported the city is better off now.

- Roughly two-fifths of surveyed residents indicated the development of affordable housing units (40.5%) and reducing crime (39.5%) should be the top priorities for the City of Watsonville in 2021, followed by over one-fifth who prioritized community policing (21.8%) and the maintenance of the community's infrastructure and facilities (21.6%).

- More than four-fifths of respondents reported drug use (85.2%), crime (83.5%) and gang activity (81.4%) are either "very prevalent" or "somewhat prevalent" issues in the City of Watsonville. Additionally, the majority of respondents (87.4%) indicated there is a need for the City of Watsonville to develop more programs designed to reduce crime, drug use and gang activity in the city.

- The majority of surveyed residents (89.1%) indicated they are either "very satisfied" (55.6%) or "somewhat satisfied" (33.5%) with how the Watsonville Fire Department engages and interacts with the community.

- Seven-out-of-ten respondents (70.4%) reported fire safety education for children is one of the most important Fire Department services, followed by nearly three-fifths (57.3%) who indicated fire safety education for adults is most important.
Key Study Findings

- More than four-fifths of surveyed residents, 82.6%, reported they are either "very satisfied" (34.0%) or "somewhat satisfied" (48.6%) with the Police Department's efforts to reduce crime in the City of Watsonville.

- Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73.2%) provided ratings of "excellent" or "good" for the Police Department "engaging in community events," while more than two-thirds of respondents rated the Police Department positively for "responding to community concerns" (68.2%) and "communicating information to the community" (67.5%).

- Roughly three-quarters of surveyed residents (74.1%) indicated they are either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with the "opportunities to participate in community matters" in the City of Watsonville, while over two-thirds of respondents (68.7%) reported satisfaction with the "opportunities to volunteer" in Watsonville.

- Over three-fifths of respondents, 63.4%, rated the sense of community in the City of Watsonville as either "excellent" (17.7%) or "good" (45.7%), while three-fifths of respondents, 60.7%, rated the sense of inclusiveness and diversity in Watsonville as either "excellent" (15.5%) or "good" (45.2%).

- Three-quarters of surveyed residents (74.4%) reported the City of Watsonville is an "excellent" or "good" place to live, while two-thirds (66.0%) rated Watsonville positively as a place to raise children. Fewer respondents (59.6%) indicated the City of Watsonville is an "excellent" or "good" place to retire.

- More than three-fifths of respondents (61.4%) reported they would support paying an amount in sales tax for the improvement and expansion of recreation programs, parks and open space.
Key Study Findings

- While over one-third of surveyed residents (37.7%) reported they currently walk and bike around Watsonville and there are no barriers to them doing so, roughly one-quarter of respondents indicated "I don't feel safe biking" (25.1%) and "I do not feel safe walking" (22.7%) as reasons for not doing so.

- Over three-quarters of respondents indicated they are either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied with the convenience of accessing quality parks from your home" (76.5%) and the "quality of parks" (76.2%) in Watsonville.

- More than three-fifths of surveyed residents reported they are either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with the dining opportunities (63.9%) and shopping opportunities (61.2%) in the City of Watsonville.

- Nearly three-fifths of respondents, 56.6%, rated the City of Watsonville as either an "excellent" (23.1%) or "good" (33.5%) place to work, while one-half, 50.5%, rated Watsonville as either an "excellent" (21.2%) or "good" (29.3%) place to visit.

- The vast majority of surveyed residents reported they either "strongly support" or "somewhat support" the City of Watsonville creating additional jobs and housing near existing infrastructure to help preserve agricultural land and natural areas (95.5%) and encouraging new businesses downtown and reuse of historic buildings (94.5%).

- More than four-fifths of respondents, 84.1%, indicated housing security and homelessness are "very prevalent" (47.7%) or "somewhat prevalent" (36.4%) issues in the City of Watsonville.
Key Study Findings

- Nearly three-fifths of surveyed residents (58.7%) were aware the City of Watsonville tap water meets all State and Federal regulations for drinking water.

- When rating the overall job being done by Watsonville's utilities and public works, roughly three-quarters of respondents provided ratings of "excellent" or "good" for garbage (75.1%) and water (73.4%) services, while fewer respondents rated the Customer Service phone line (52.4%) and street repairs (42.6%) positively.

- Over three-fifths of surveyed residents (63.9%) reported paving and repairing streets and roads should be a priority among other Department of Public Works and Utilities projects, while one-half of respondents (50.1%) reported improving street lighting should be a priority.

- Nearly all respondents either "strongly agreed" or "somewhat agreed" that the City of Watsonville library "contributes to a positive quality of life in Watsonville" (98.2%) and that "the library contributes to lifelong learning" (98.0%).

- Nearly two-fifths of surveyed residents (37.0%) reported currently receiving information from the City of Watsonville on social media, with roughly one-third (32.9%) indicating a preference for receiving this information on social media. Additionally, one-third of respondents (33.4%) reported currently receiving information from Watsonville through newsletters, with 30.1% reporting a preference for receiving information this way.

- Seven-out-of-ten respondents (70.0%) indicated the frequency at which they currently receive information from the City of Watsonville is "about right," while over one-fifth of respondents (22.2%) reported the current frequency of communication is "not enough."
Satisfied with Watsonville serving the community

Over four-fifths of surveyed residents, 84.5%, indicated they are either "very satisfied" (35.1%) or "somewhat satisfied" (49.4%) with how the City of Watsonville is currently serving the community. Of note, more residents with a household income lower than $50,000 (88.6%) reported satisfaction with the way Watsonville is serving the community than residents with a household income of $50,000 or more (82.5%). Further, nearly two-fifths of respondents (37.8%) reported the City of Watsonville is better off than three years ago, while a similar frequency (40.3%) reported the city is about the same.

Overall, how satisfied are you with how the City of Watsonville is currently serving the community?

88.6% of residents with a household income below $50,000 are satisfied with the way Watsonville is serving the community.

Thinking about the City of Watsonville three years ago, would you say the city is currently better off, worse off, or about the same?

- Better off: 37.8%
- Worse off: 16.8%
- About the same: 40.3%
- Don't know / unsure: 5.2%
Prioritize affordable housing and crime reduction

Roughly two-fifths of respondents indicated the development of affordable housing units (40.5%) and reducing crime (39.5%) should be priorities for the City of Watsonville in 2021.

Over one-fifth of surveyed residents also prioritized community policing (21.8%) and the maintenance of the community’s infrastructure and facilities (21.6%).

Notably, fewer respondents 55 years of age and older (27.6%) prioritized the development of affordable housing units compared to respondents 18 to 34 years of age (46.8%) or 35 to 54 years of age (50.0%).

In your opinion, which three (3) community initiatives should be a priority for the City of Watsonville in 2021?
Believe crime, drug use and gang activity are prevalent

Over four-fifths of surveyed residents reported believing that drug use (85.2%), crime (83.5%) and gang activity (81.4%) are either "very prevalent" or "somewhat prevalent" issues in the City of Watsonville. Further, the majority of respondents (87.4%) indicated there is a need for the City of Watsonville to develop more programs designed to reduce crime, drug use, and gang activity in the city. Of note, more respondents 35 to 54 years of age (85.5%) reported gang activity is a prevalent issue in the City of Watsonville than respondents 55 years of age and older (78.8%) or 18 to 34 years of age (78.4%).

How prevalent of an issue would you say are the following in the City of Watsonville? (w/o "don't know" responses)

- **Crime**
  - Very prevalent: 36.6%
  - Somewhat prevalent: 46.9%
  - Not very prevalent: 13.2%
  - Not at all prevalent: 3.3%

- **Drug use**
  - Very prevalent: 46.7%
  - Somewhat prevalent: 38.5%
  - Not very prevalent: 11.2%
  - Not at all prevalent: 3.6%

- **Gang activity**
  - Very prevalent: 40.1%
  - Somewhat prevalent: 41.3%
  - Not very prevalent: 13.4%
  - Not at all prevalent: 5.3%

Believe there is a need for the City of Watsonville to develop more programs designed to reduce crime, drug use, and gang activity in the city.
Satisfied with the Fire Department

Nearly nine-out-of-ten surveyed residents (89.1%) indicated they are either "very satisfied" (55.6%) or "somewhat satisfied" (33.5%) with how the Watsonville Fire Department engages and interacts with the community. Notably, more respondents with a household income less than $50,000 (92.2%) reported satisfaction with Watsonville Fire Department’s interactions with the community than those with a household income of $50,000 or more (83.3%).
Find fire safety education important

When asked to indicate which Fire Department services are most important to them, seven-out-of-ten respondents (70.4%) reported fire safety education for children is most important, followed by nearly three-fifths of respondents (57.3%) who indicated fire safety education for adults is most important to them.

Notably, more respondents 35 to 54 years of age prioritized fire safety education for children (76.0%) and adults (64.4%) than respondents 18 to 34 years of age (74.7% and 58.4%, respectively) or 55 years of age and older (63.3% and 51.3%, respectively).
Satisfied with police department crime reduction efforts

Over four-fifths of surveyed residents, 82.6%, reported they are either "very satisfied" (34.0%) or "somewhat satisfied" (48.6%) with the Police Department's efforts to reduce crime in the City of Watsonville. Of note, more respondents who own their residence (86.3%) reported satisfaction with the Police Department's efforts to reduce crime in the City of Watsonville than those who rent their residence (78.6%).
Police rated positively for community engagement

Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73.2%) provided ratings of "excellent" or "good" for the Police Department "engaging in community events," while more than two-thirds of respondents rated the Police Department positively for "responding to community concerns" (68.2%) and "communicating information to the community" (67.5%). Of note, more respondents 55 years of age and older (71.7%) rated the Police Department positively for "responding to community concerns" than respondents 35 to 54 years of age (67.8%) or 18 to 34 years of age (61.6%).

How well would you say the Police Department performs in the following areas? Please use a scale of “excellent,” “good,” “fair” and “poor.” (w/o "don't know" responses)

- Responding to community concerns:
  - Excellent: 29.7%
  - Good: 38.5%
  - Fair: 23.1%
  - Poor: 8.8%

- Communicating information to the community:
  - Excellent: 27.7%
  - Good: 39.8%
  - Fair: 24.6%
  - Poor: 7.8%

- Engaging in community events:
  - Excellent: 27.8%
  - Good: 45.4%
  - Fair: 21.3%
  - Poor: 5.5%

71.7% of respondents 55 years of age and older rated the Police Department positively for "responding to community concerns"
Satisfied with ability to participate in community matters

Roughly three-quarters of respondents (74.1%) reported they are either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with the "opportunities to participate in community matters" in the City of Watsonville, while over two-thirds of respondents (68.7%) reported they are satisfied with the "opportunities to volunteer" in Watsonville.

Of note, 14.3% of respondents were unsure of their satisfaction with the "opportunities to participate in community matters," and 18.7% were unsure of their satisfaction with the "opportunities to volunteer" in Watsonville.
Some rate community and diversity positively

Over three-fifths of surveyed residents, 63.4%, rated the sense of community in the City of Watsonville as either "excellent" (17.7%) or "good" (45.7%). Meanwhile, three-fifths of respondents, 60.7%, rated the sense of inclusiveness and diversity in the City of Watsonville as either "excellent" (15.5%) or "good" (45.2%). More respondents who indicated they are of Hispanic background rated the City of Watsonville positively for its sense of community (66.5%) and sense of inclusiveness and diversity (64.3%) than those respondents who indicated they are not of Hispanic background (59.5% and 54.3%, respectively).

How would you rate the **sense of community** in the City of Watsonville? Would you say it is…

How would you rate the **sense of inclusiveness and diversity** in the City of Watsonville? Would you say it is…
Watsonville rated as an excellent or good place to live

Three-quarters of respondents (74.4%) rated the City of Watsonville as "excellent" or "good" as a place to live, while two-thirds (66.0%) rated Watsonville positively as a place to raise children. Fewer surveyed residents (59.6%) indicated the City of Watsonville is an "excellent" or "good" place to retire. Notably, more respondents 55 years of age and older (79.9%) rated the City of Watsonville as an "excellent" or "good" place to live than those 18 to 34 years of age (71.4%) or 35 to 54 years of age (71.2%).

Now, using a scale of “excellent,” “good,” “fair” and “poor,” please tell me how you would rate the City of Watsonville as a… (w/o "don't know" responses)

- Place to live: 29.0% Excellent, 45.4% Good, 21.7% Fair, 3.8% Poor
- Place to raise children: 23.4% Excellent, 42.6% Good, 26.5% Fair, 7.5% Poor
- Place to retire: 21.1% Excellent, 38.5% Good, 26.3% Fair, 14.1% Poor

Of respondents 55 years of age and older rated the City of Watsonville as an "excellent" or "good" place to live.
Safety primary reason for not biking and walking

Over three-fifths of surveyed residents (61.4%) reported they would support paying an amount in sales tax for the improvement and expansion of recreation programs, parks and open space.

While over one-third of respondents (37.7%) indicated they currently walk and bike around Watsonville and there are no barriers to doing so, roughly one-quarter of respondents indicated "I don’t feel safe biking" (25.1%) and "I do not feel safe walking" (22.7%) as reasons for not doing so.

The City of Watsonville is eager to encourage healthier lifestyles through fostering active transportation options, such as walking and biking. What would you say are your barriers to doing so, if any?
Satisfied with convenience and quality of parks

Over three-quarters of respondents indicated they are either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with the "convenience of accessing quality parks from your home" (76.5%) and the "quality of parks" (76.2%) in Watsonville. Further, over two-thirds of respondents reported satisfaction with Watsonville’s "quality of recreation programs and events" (69.2%), the "affordability of recreation programs and events" (68.1%) and the "convenience of time and location of programs and events" (67.9%). Of note, more respondents with a household income lower than $50,000 reported satisfaction with "the quality of recreation programs and events" (78.1%) and the "availability of recreation programs that meet my/my family’s needs and interests (75.4%) compared to those with a household income of $50,000 or more (62.6% and 60.8%, respectively).

How satisfied would you say you are with the following characteristics of the City of Watsonville’s recreation (including youth and adult sports, after school programs and activities), parks and wellness offerings? Would you say you are “very satisfied,” “somewhat satisfied,” “not very satisfied” or “not at all satisfied” with the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total &quot;satisfied&quot;</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat satisfied</th>
<th>Not very satisfied</th>
<th>Not at all satisfied</th>
<th>Don’t know / unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Convenience of accessing quality parks from your home</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>34.2</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The quality of parks</td>
<td>76.2</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>44.4</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The quality of recreation programs and events</td>
<td>69.2</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>44.3</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordability of recreation programs and events</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>43.8</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convenience of time and location of programs and events</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>46.0</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability of recreation programs that meet my/my family’s needs and interests</td>
<td>66.0</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of respondents with a household income lower than $50,000 reported satisfaction with the quality of recreation programs and events.
Satisfied with dining and shopping opportunities

More than three-fifths of surveyed residents indicated they are either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with the dining opportunities (63.9%) and shopping opportunities (61.2%) in the City of Watsonville. Further, nearly three-fifths of respondents (58.3%) reported satisfaction with the employment opportunities in Watsonville, while less than one-half (44.7%) indicated they are satisfied with the entertainment opportunities in Watsonville.

Now, I will read a list of characteristics pertaining to the economy of the City of Watsonville. For each, please indicate how satisfied you are with each aspect of the City of Watsonville's economy. (w/o "don't know" responses)
Some rate Watsonville positively as a place to work

Nearly three-fifths of surveyed residents, 56.6%, rated the City of Watsonville as either an "excellent" (23.1%) or "good" (33.5%) place to work, while one-half, 50.5%, rated Watsonville as either an "excellent" (21.2%) or "good" (29.3%) place to visit. A higher frequency of respondents with a household income lower than $50,000 (59.8%) reported Watsonville is an "excellent" or "good" place to work than those with a household income of $50,000 or more (45.0%).

Now, please tell me, using a scale of “excellent,” “good,” “fair” and “poor,” how you would rate the City of Watsonville as a… (w/o "don't know" responses)

59.8%

Of respondents with a household income lower than $50,000 reported Watsonville is an "excellent" or "good" place to work.
Support creation of jobs and housing

Nearly all surveyed residents, 95.5%, reported they either "strongly support" (69.3%) or "somewhat support" (26.2%) the City of Watsonville creating additional jobs and housing near existing infrastructure to help preserve agricultural land and natural areas. Further, over nine-tenths of respondents supported initiatives regarding Watsonville's downtown area, such as encouraging new businesses downtown and reuse of historic buildings (94.5%) and increasing development downtown to bring more jobs and housing to the community” (92.6%). Notably, more respondents 35 to 54 years of age (97.1%) supported Watsonville encouraging new businesses downtown and reuse of historic buildings than those 18 to 34 years of age (92.0%) or 55 years of age and older (93.0%).

Next, I will read you a series of actions the City of Watsonville is considering regarding the creation of houses and jobs in the city. For each, please tell me if you “strongly support,” “somewhat support,” “somewhat oppose” or “strongly oppose” the City of Watsonville taking that measure. (w/o "don't know" responses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Total &quot;support&quot;</th>
<th>Strongly support</th>
<th>Somewhat support</th>
<th>Somewhat oppose</th>
<th>Strongly oppose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating additional jobs and housing near existing infrastructure, such as roads and utilities, to help preserve and protect agricultural land and natural areas</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging new businesses downtown and adaptive reuse of historic buildings to foster a vibrant downtown</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing development downtown in an effort to bring more jobs and housing to the community</td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>64.8</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging more housing developments in town</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

97.1%

Of respondents 35 to 54 years of age support Watsonville encouraging new businesses downtown and reuse of historic buildings
Find housing security and homelessness prevalent

Over four-fifths of surveyed residents, 84.1%, reported housing security and homelessness are "very prevalent" (47.7%) or "somewhat prevalent" (36.4%) issues in the City of Watsonville. Of note, a higher frequency of respondents with a household income of $50,000 or more (91.5%) indicated housing security and homelessness in Watsonville are prevalent issues than those with a household income lower than $50,000 (82.0%).
Garbage and water service rated positively

Nearly three-fifths of respondents (58.7%) were aware the City of Watsonville tap water meets all State and Federal regulations for drinking water.

When rating the overall job being done by Watsonville’s utilities and public works, roughly three-quarters of respondents provided ratings of "excellent" or "good" for garbage (75.1%) and water (73.4%) services, while fewer respondents rated the Customer Service Phone line (52.4%) and street repairs (42.6%) positively.
Prioritize paved and repaired streets

When rating the importance of several Department of Public Works and Utilities projects, over three-fifths of surveyed residents (63.9%) prioritized paving and repairing streets and roads, while another one-half of respondents (50.1%) placed importance on improved street lighting.

More than two-fifths of respondents (42.3%) reported improving traffic safety should be a priority among other Department of Public Works and Utilities projects.

Of note, fewer respondents 55 years of age and older prioritized improving street lighting (38.2%) and improving traffic safety (36.4%) than respondents 18 to 34 years of age (52.6% and 42.9%, respectively) or 35 to 54 years of age (61.5% and 50.0%, respectively).
Positive ratings for library's contributions

Nearly all surveyed residents either "strongly agreed" or "somewhat agreed" that the City of Watsonville library "contributes to a positive quality of life in Watsonville" (98.2%) and that "the library contributes to lifelong learning" (98.0%). Further, more than nine-out-of-ten respondents agreed that "the library is important to the vitality of the Watsonville area" (96.7%) and "the library is an integral part of educating youth in Watsonville" (96.7%).

Now, I will read you several statements regarding the City of Watsonville library. For each, please tell me if you “strongly agree,” “somewhat agree,” “somewhat disagree” or “strongly disagree” with the statement. (w/o "don't know" responses)
Prefer to receive information on social media

Nearly two-fifths of respondents (37.0%) reported they currently receive information from the City of Watsonville on social media, while roughly one-third (32.9%) indicated they prefer to receive information from the City of Watsonville through this platform. Further, one-third of surveyed residents (33.4%) noted currently receiving information from Watsonville through newsletters, with 30.1% reporting a preference for receiving information this way. Of note, more respondents 18 to 34 years of age (51.9%) reported a preference for receiving information from Watsonville on social media, followed by respondents 35 to 54 years of age (41.0%) and respondents 55 years of age and older (14.9%).

How do you currently receive information from the City of Watsonville? (Select all that apply) (Top 10 values shown)

And, how would you prefer to receive information from the City of Watsonville? (Select all that apply) (Top 10 values shown)
Seven-out-of-ten surveyed residents (70.0%) indicated the frequency at which they currently receive information from the City of Watsonville is "about right." Meanwhile, over one-fifth of respondents (22.2%) reported the current frequency of communication from Watsonville is "not enough."

How would you describe the frequency at which you currently receive information from the City of Watsonville? Would you say it is...
Table of Contents

SECTION ONE
About GreatBlue

SECTION TWO
Project Overview

SECTION THREE
Key Study Findings

SECTION FOUR
Considerations

SECTION FIVE
Aggregate Data (Provided Separately)
Considerations

- **Prioritize community safety improvements and crime reduction in strategic planning.** Crime reduction was a top priority for many surveyed residents when considering community initiatives for the City of Watsonville, and the majority of respondents reported crime and gang activity are prevalent issues in Watsonville. Further, the primary reason respondents indicated not biking or walking around the city was not feeling safe to do so. For this reason, it is recommended that the City of Watsonville make crime prevention and safety enhancements a top priority when developing their strategic plan initiatives. To support this cause, the City of Watsonville may consider developing additional programs designed to reduce crime, drug use and gang activity in the city, as well as offer youth prevention programs that combat these issues when residents are young. An increased focus on improving community safety and reducing criminal activity may gradually ensure residents they live in a community where it is safe for outdoor activities such as biking, walking and running, in turn improving the health of the community.

- **Focus Public Works projects on paving and repairing streets and roads.** The majority of surveyed residents indicated a top priority of the Department of Public Works should be paving and repairing the streets and roads in Watsonville. In the coming years, it is recommended that, where possible, Public Works funds be allocated towards the paving and repair of roads throughout the City of Watsonville to ensure the city is safe to drive in and provide a more comfortable driving experience for residents. Ultimately, roads where there is the most traffic and businesses such as downtown should be prioritized, as well as those roads in worse condition than others. These road condition improvements may encourage more transportation throughout the city, specifically to local restaurants and stores.
Considerations

- **Focus on retaining millennial and generation Z residents.** Fewer residents 18 to 34 years of age rated the City of Watsonville as either an "excellent" or "good" place to live than residents 55 years of age and older. In order to improve the perception younger residents have of the city, it is suggested that the City of Watsonville focus on establishing more programs and services that would be appealing to their millennial and generation Z residents, to ensure these residents remain in Watsonville instead of moving to a different city. This may entail introducing businesses that millennials traditionally find attractive, such as fast casual dining, coffee shops, and fitness centers. Further, this may help to address the economic development initiatives in Watsonville's strategic plan, while also helping to employee more local residents at businesses that are traditionally sought out by residents 18 to 34 years of age. This focus on younger consumers may help to establish a generation that views the City of Watsonville as a positive place to live.

- **Conduct follow-up survey research on a consistent basis.** Given that many of the findings from this survey will be used to help guide strategic planning initiatives for the City of Watsonville, it is recommended that after two or three years, a follow-up survey be conducted with the purpose of measuring the success of Watsonville's strategic plan goals. The questions and wording should remain as close as possible to the 2021 instrument in order to track data across the years and determine where improvements have been achieved, and where additional efforts must still be made to enhance the city overall. This will allow for time to consume the findings from this year's report, determine and initiate actions to take based on the results, and the measure community opinions based on these adjustments. Ultimately, continued survey efforts will help the city gauge their progress in developing a safer community for residents, improving the economy, and enhancing community engagement.
The City of Watsonville is known throughout the world for its long and rich heritage as a center for agriculture, especially berries. What many may not know is that Watsonville is a proving ground for entrepreneurs and businesses from all types of industries and emerging technologies.

Its central location, nestled between the Monterey Bay and the Santa Cruz Mountains, offers growing companies quick and easy highway access while avoiding daily traffic snarls. Watsonville’s location is topped only by its ideal climate and rustic, small-town charm of a close-knit community. The Watsonville area offers beaches, mountains, wine, food, activities, and more.

Watsonville is located 95 miles south of San Francisco, at the southern end of Santa Cruz County. It covers 6.6 square miles and has a population of 53,800 (2019). It is a quick 30-minute drive to Monterey and less than an hour from the beautiful Big Sur coastline. Silicon Valley is less than 45 minutes away from our charming town.

Many of the photos used in the following report were provided by: The Pajaronian, Tarmo Hannula, Steve Kuehl, Carlos Campos
It is hard to imagine that just over twelve months ago, the first shelter-in-place restrictions were imposed, setting the stage for an unprecedented year of disasters, turmoil, and tragedy. As I reflect on the events of the past year, I am impressed by the resiliency and tenacity of our community rising above adversity. I am moved by how people, who despite the challenges, came together and supported each other through innovative ideas and acts of compassion.

I am thankful for the hundreds of people, businesses, and non-profits who supported their police department with an outpouring of gifts and prayers. I am humbled by the actions of numerous community members who rallied to our aid to help defend their city against outsiders who wanted to incite violence. I am extremely proud of the work of the men and women of the WPD who, under extremely adverse and difficult circumstances, maintained their professionalism and worked around the clock to keep our community safe.

The intent of this report is to provide you with some insight into the organization of your department, highlight the major events of the previous year, and introduce new or innovative programs.

As you read this report, it is my hope that reviewing the chronology of events gives you cause not just to ruminate but also prepare for what the future may hold.

It is truly an honor to be your Chief of Police.

DAVID HONDA
CHIEF OF POLICE
TIMELINE OF MAJOR EVENTS
The new year started with a Holiday DUI Enforcement Campaign that resulted in 23 arrests. The suspected DUI drivers were also hit with hefty fines of up to $13,500.

Funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety allowed us to deploy additional officers to look for suspected DUI drivers during the campaign.

The goal of these operations is to increase safety on our roadways by reducing incidents of drunk or drugged driving.

As officers responded to a report of a disturbance, dispatchers notified them about a man in the area who had shot off a gun.

They also informed officers the man was wearing a red shirt and waving the gun around. Officers quickly spotted the man and as they approached him, they noticed he was hiding his right hand.

Officers drew their guns and immediately gave him commands to show his hands and drop anything he was holding. The suspect slowly brought his right hand forward, revealing a large revolver that was pointed at the ground. Our officers remained calm and were able to de-escalate the situation.

The man eventually put the gun down and complied with officers’ orders. He was arrested.
On February 20, convicted murderer Michael Escobar was sentenced to life in prison for a 2014 double murder that sent shockwaves across our community.

Escobar was convicted of killing 4-year-old Jaelyn Zavala and 33-year-old Ramon Rendon during a rival gang shooting.

Jaelyn was inside her family’s restaurant when she was struck by a stray bullet fired by Escobar who was outside.

A month’s long investigation into reports of drug dealing in a neighborhood led to the arrest of a 31-year-old Watsonville man in March.

Officers served a search warrant at a home on the 100 block of Maple Avenue where they found cocaine and marijuana for sale, five firearms including a stolen handgun, and thousands of dollars in cash.

The suspect was booked into county jail for possession of drugs for sale while being armed with a loaded handgun.
In March, an overwhelming majority of Watsonville voters (78.60%) passed Measure Y. This existing one-half-cent sales tax, formerly known as Measure G, will continue to fund critical police and fire services and include the Parks & Community Services Department as a new partner. The Measure will also maintain and expand afterschool and summer programs for our youth, support youth violence prevention efforts, revitalize our parks and playgrounds, and continue neighborhood police patrols.

The Measure currently funds 11 full-time positions at the police department: seven police officers, one police service specialist, our crime analyst, one property and evidence specialist, and one youth diversion specialist. It also funds eight full-time positions at the fire department: seven firefighters and one administrative assistant.

Since Measure G was enacted in 2014, the funding has also been used by the Fire and Police departments to replace and upgrade aging equipment and technology, including fire engines, a tiller/ladder truck, patrol vehicles, police body-worn cameras, and more. The funding will continue to support those efforts while also providing funding to the City's Parks and Community Services Department to hire more staff, increase youth services, and upgrade equipment at our parks.

Measure Y funded the Police Activities League (PAL), a youth prevention program that relies on educational, athletic, and other recreational activities to increase the bond between police officers, recreation leaders, youth and their parents. At the start of 2020, PAL provided programming such as outdoor sports, self-defense classes, arts and crafts, group outings at beaches and parks, and movie nights. COVID-19 halted programming in early March, which led to the development of virtual opportunities for youth. In July 2020, the PAL division was transferred to the General Fund; however, while funded by the measure, PAL was able to serve a total of 744 youth.

Measure Y also funds our Caminos Hacia el Éxito Program, a diversion program for Watsonville youth who commit a misdemeanor first offense. The program uses evidence-based approaches to hold youth accountable for their actions. Of the youth who completed the program successfully, 86% remain arrest-free.

A citizen’s oversight committee continues to review the City’s use of the funds to verify they are used only for the stated public safety, parks and recreation purposes. City financial statements are made available to the city’s website to disclose how much is collected and how it’s spent.
By mid-March, the City of Watsonville had officially declared a local health emergency over the COVID-19 pandemic.

Declaring the health emergency allowed the City to access funding to help fight the outbreak.

At the time, only four positive cases had been confirmed in the county.

Santa Cruz County was among several counties in the state to issue a Stay-at-Home order on March 16. The order intended to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus and only permitted essential businesses to remain open.

Under the county order, non-essential businesses were mandated to shut their doors.

By the end of April, the Santa Cruz County health officer had issued a new order requiring all residents older than 12 to wear a face covering when out in public. The State of California adopted a similar mandate in November.

A Regional Stay-At-Home Order was issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on December 3.

Our enforcement efforts have always focused on an educational approach. To avoid issuing any citations or potential criminal charges, residents and business owners were asked to voluntarily comply with the orders.
A cyber tip forwarded to the Watsonville Police Department landed a 25-year-old man in jail for possession and distribution of child pornography.

WPD detectives launched an investigation after the Silicon Valley Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) sent us information regarding a video posted online of a young girl being sexually assaulted by a man. The origin of the video remains unknown; however, our investigation led us to the suspect who admitted to having and sharing the video with others on a social media group.

The suspect was arrested exactly a week after ICAC forwarded us the cyber tip on April 9. The Watsonville Police Department is a member of the Silicon Valley ICAC Task Force, which is managed by the San José Police Department.

A third suspect connected to a 2017 gang-related attempted murder in Watsonville was taken into custody on May 21.

WPD detectives received new information linking the suspect to the 2017 shooting on Roosevelt Street, where two suspects shot at a man multiple times.

The suspect, a known gang member, was the getaway driver who helped the shooters flee the area the day of the shooting.
Police misconduct is disturbing. May 25, 2020, and the events which took place after George Floyd’s killing were corrosive to all law enforcement officers across the country. The officers’ actions on that day were excessive, unreasonable, and unacceptable to anyone who values morals and human decency. This tragedy was the catalyst to national unrest, which included protesting, rioting, and an outcry for police reform. To say that law enforcement was under the microscope is an understatement.

This event propelled us further into the realm of effective action, vulnerability, and true community connection. However, we must have the courage to self-reflect, acknowledge our deficiencies and use them as leverage for growth. Undertaking some of the social issues, which are the most vexing, intransigent, and problematic to the police and community is a daunting and ongoing task. These problems are not one-dimensional and require communal thought and effective action. Solutions must be feasible, realistic, sustainable, and must be inclusive.

While a mutual agreement is not always achieved, our collective goal is one in the same, the pursuit of justice and truth. We must overlook our differences and work collectively in the service of a thriving community. Good police work does not occur without a healthy community.

**POLICING & SOCIAL EQUITY AD HOC COMMITTEE**

By mid-year, the City of Watsonville and the Watsonville Police Department began to develop the Policing and Social Equity Ad Hoc Committee to increase community trust and police accountability.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Social Equity creates an opportunity for members of the community to share their thoughts and experience around policing and community services in Watsonville, share ideas regarding the future of policing, and achieve greater social equity in Watsonville. The City received 26 applications from Watsonville residents by the August 14, 2020 application deadline.

On September 18, 2020, the City of Watsonville selected 12 residents to serve on the committee. Committee members will serve for a period of no more than 12 months and will be expected to serve approximately 8-10 hours per month.
June 6, 2020, is a day our community will never forget; it’s the day we lost a true hero who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting and serving our communities.

Santa Cruz County Sheriff’s Sergeant Damon Gutzwiller, 38, was killed in the line of duty after he and other deputies were ambushed with gunfire and explosives as they investigated reports of a suspicious vehicle in Ben Lomond.

A second sheriff’s deputy and a California Highway Patrol officer were also shot. Both recovered from their injuries. The suspect was taken into custody and is currently awaiting trial.

“When you think about what you want to see in a police officer - compassion and caring, somebody who truly loves his job, who wants to help people, that’s what Damon was. He was a good man and a good police officer,” said Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart.

Gutzwiller worked for the sheriff’s office since 2006 and is survived by his wife and young children.

Rest easy, brother.

A suspect in a double shooting on Cereze Street that left a woman and teen girl in critical condition was arrested.

Watsonville police detectives tracked down the suspect in his hometown of Los Banos.

The Merced County Sheriff’s Office and Los Banos Police Department took the suspect into custody less than eight hours after the June 14 shooting. A dispute between the suspect and his girlfriend’s family resulted in the shooting.

The victims survived the shooting but the teen girl remains paralyzed.
A father who abruptly took his one-year-old daughter from her mother's home in the wee hours of the morning was arrested following an hours-long standoff in the outskirts of Watsonville on July 20.

That morning, the suspect was involved in a hit-and-run crash and vehicle pursuit with the California Highway Patrol while his daughter was unrestrained inside of his vehicle. The pursuit was terminated for the child's safety as the suspect continued over Highway 17 into Santa Clara County. Later that afternoon, our detectives located the suspect and child inside of a parked lifted truck at a ranch off of Riverside Road after receiving a tip from an alert community member.

After spending hours trying to convince the suspect to release his daughter, our Special Response Team deployed distractionary devices and broke out the windows of the truck to rescue the child and arrest her father. The suspect was booked into the county jail and formally charged with child abduction, child endangerment, resisting arrest, and other charges.

Massive fires sparked by lightning on August 16 caused widespread devastation in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties, forcing nearly 70,000 area residents to evacuate.

By August 21, the City of Watsonville officially declared a Local State of Emergency due to the August CZU Lightning Complex wildfires. The City quickly deployed mutual aid to the county and communities directly impacted by this natural disaster.

From the onset of the fires, Watsonville Police Department sent dozens of officers around the clock every day, to assist with evacuations, respond to law enforcement-related calls, such as burglary reports and security checks, and to patrol the evacuated zones. Our assistance continued 24/7 until September 7, when the fires were mostly contained and the affected areas were allowed to repopulate.

The fires were fully extinguished by the end of December. In total, 86,509 acres burned, 1,490 structures were destroyed and one fatality was reported.
Terrifying moments for a Watsonville teen who hid in a bedroom and called 9-1-1 to report a man breaking into her home.

Officers quickly responded to this residential burglary in-progress on High Street on August 21. As they were setting up a perimeter, the burglar rushed out the back gate only to be surprised by an officer.

The 26-year-old was arrested on the spot.

The suspect was arrested on a burglary charge, had a warrant out for his arrest for a previous burglary, and was on probation for burglary.

A repeat offender dubbed the “rooftop burglar” was caught in the act and taken into custody. This serial burglar is known for breaking into buildings through rooftops.

During his August 25 stint, K-9 Axel found him hiding on the second floor of Cabrillo College. Surveillance footage caught the man crawling up the side of the building before making his way to the roof. Prior to his arrest, detectives had already linked him to another rooftop burglary at a Salud Para La Gente medical clinic.

A year earlier, our officers arrested the same suspect for committing at least five rooftop burglaries during the course of a month.
Three guns, 126 grams of methamphetamine, 38 grams of heroin, and prescription pills were taken off the streets and out of the hands of gang members.

On September 8, officers were patrolling the levee near Main Street when they spotted a group of men with open beer containers. As they approached, the group took off running. During the short foot pursuit, the suspects attempted to get rid of their guns.

Officers eventually detained the suspects and located the guns following an area search. A backpack full of drugs, cash, and drug paraphernalia was also found. Three suspects were booked into the Santa Cruz County Jail.

Twin brothers suspected of attempted murder in Watsonville were taken into custody. The 27-year-old suspects are accused of stabbing two men on the 100 block of Grant Avenue on August 30.

Four days after the gang-related stabbing, the Santa Cruz County Gang Task Force arrested one of the brothers in Watsonville. The second suspect was nabbed by our detectives and SIU officers in San José on September 10.

Both were booked into the Santa Cruz County Jail on attempted murder charges.
A young mother's life was tragically cut short following a domestic dispute with her husband.

On the morning of October 15, the 24-year-old victim was reported missing by her family members. A few hours later, officers located her body inside of her parked vehicle in Soquel. Her husband was the primary suspect in this case and was the last person to see her alive. The Santa Cruz County Coroner’s Office determined the victim’s cause of death was blunt-force head injuries and mechanical asphyxia.

Detectives obtained a warrant for his arrest and were confident the 47-year-old suspect had fled the country. Five days after the murder, he was taken into custody after re-entering the United States from the Mexican border.

Watsonville police detectives traveled to the San Ysidro Port of Entry and transported him straight back to Santa Cruz County Jail where he is currently awaiting trial.

On the night of October 24, Watsonville police detectives investigated three separate shootings that resulted in two deaths. The first shooting occurred in the area of E. Front and Marchant streets.

A 44-year-old man was shot multiple times and transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. The case appeared to have gang ties.

Hours later, officers received reports of a second shooting on Main Street and Pennsylvania Drive. A 26-year-old was shot and transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. It was unknown if the case was gang-related.

Shortly before midnight, officers responded to a third shooting on Blackbird Circle. They were unable to locate a victim at the scene. They were later notified that a shooting victim had arrived at the hospital and was in critical condition. The case appeared to be gang-related. The investigations into these shootings remain active.
Two men accused of stealing an SUV were arrested after an off-duty Watsonville police officer spotted the pair casing vehicles in a neighborhood on November 9. The off-duty officer called in the suspicious activity and provided officers a description and location of the suspects.

Responding officers found the stolen SUV parked with both suspects inside. The suspects were arrested for vehicle and petty theft.

One of the suspects faced an additional charge for obstructing and resisting an officer.

An attempted murder suspect was taken into custody following a late November stabbing.

The 24-year-old suspect was arrested by detectives during a search warrant service at his home on December 10.

He is accused of stabbing a 21-year-old man in the area of Maranatha Drive. The victim was taken to the hospital in critical condition but later recovered from his injuries.

We believed the stabbing was a result of a personal dispute between the suspect and the victim.
Officers arrested a suspect in connection with the tragic death of a 43-year-old Watsonville man. The suspect is accused of punching the victim at a fast-food restaurant on the 100 block of Main Street on December 2.

The victim was taken to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries on December 9.

Surveillance video at the scene captured the single deadly punch being thrown by the suspect and the victim immediately collapsing. Detectives found evidence at the scene, which was quickly analyzed by the Santa Cruz County Sheriff’s Office Forensic Unit, leading them to identify the suspect.

Officers arrested the 30-year-old suspect as he was leaving his home on December 9.

---

Our Traffic Unit was called to the scene of a fatal collision on the 1400 block of W. Beach Street the morning of December 15.

A 42-year-old man was partially in the westbound lane pushing a cart full of recyclables when he was struck and killed by a Volvo station wagon.

The driver, a 22-year-old man, did not see the pedestrian until it was too late to react. He stayed at the scene of the crash and immediately called 9-1-1. DUI and cell phone use did not appear to be a factor in the collision.
PATROL

K-9

Crisis Negotiation Team

Detective Bureau

Parking Enforcement

SRT

CSI

UNITS/DIVISIONS

Professional Standards Division

POLICE SERVICE SPECIALISTS

Office of the Chief

CRIME ANALYST

Records Unit

EVIDENCE UNIT

Special Operations Division

Traffic Unit

FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
The Executive Assistant provides direct support to the Chief of Police, Assistant Chief of Police, and department managers; maintains confidential records and personnel files, compiles data to assist in preparing reports and inter-office correspondence, prepares and transcribes staff meeting agendas/minutes, calendar and appointment management, payroll entry, process department invoices and manages the security alarm billing program.

FISCAL MANAGER
The Fiscal Manager coordinates and monitors the annual budget; facilitates the acquisition of goods and services; processes accounts payable and accounts receivable; applies for and administers grants and contracts; and manages the alarm program.

POLICE MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST
The Police Media & Communications Specialist is the official spokesperson for the department; serves as the social media administrator; works with the media on stories about police-related issues, services, programs and events, prepares content for dissemination to the media and the community.

CRIME ANALYST
Our Crime Analyst is responsible for providing information and assistance to police officers, investigators, and the community through local and wide area networks, computerized police department systems, and regional criminal justice systems.

EVIDENCE UNIT
Evidence Unit Technicians receive, quality check, duplicate, transport, account for, and ultimately dispose of unclaimed property and all contraband including narcotics and firearms. The Evidence Unit is responsible for maintaining the integrity of every item received.

RECORDS UNIT
The Records Unit provides criminal information to law enforcement agencies and the public to aid in an investigation and comply with the customer’s right to know.
The Patrol Division is the backbone for all police-related services in the City and is the largest segment of the Watsonville Police Department. It consists of two captains, eight sergeants, and 32 officers.

Officers patrol the city and respond to calls for service in traditional marked police vehicles twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week to help deter crime and to ensure a high quality of life.

Officers are focused on service with compassion, integrity, and professionalism with community safety and security as the goal.

In 2020, patrol officers responded to 55,047 calls for service including 9-1-1 calls, medical emergencies, crimes in progress, civilian concerns, requests for assistance, vehicle traffic collisions, and a variety of other emergency and non-emergency requests.

Patrol officers also made 1,409 felony and misdemeanor arrests for crimes ranging from simple property crimes to serious violent crimes.
Police dogs have been used by the Watsonville Police Department since 1986. Over the years, we’ve used police dogs that are trained in the apprehension of suspects who are wanted for serious crimes, narcotics detection, tracking, evidence recovery, handler protection, building searches, and area searches.

In 2020, we had two police dogs assigned to K-9 Officers working on patrol for 7 days per week coverage; K-9 Ranger and K-9 Axel, both of whom are self-proclaimed fan favorites. When they were not busy working, they enjoyed participating in community demonstrations and our first-ever virtual K-9 demo. Our K-9 Unit also assists our Special Response Team during tactical operations.

K-9 Ranger retired at the end of 2020. Retired police dog K-9 Ellex was put down in May after he was diagnosed with myelopathy, causing his health to deteriorate drastically.

In Memoriam
K-9 Ellex
2009-2020
The primary duty of the Traffic Unit is the enforcement of traffic laws in order to reduce traffic collisions, their resulting injuries, and to facilitate the safe and expedient flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Additionally, the Traffic Unit is responsible for investigating major injury and fatal traffic collisions. These efforts result in safer streets, fewer fatalities, injuries, and reduced property damage.

In 2020, the Traffic Unit investigated four fatal traffic collisions. There were 422 collisions in the city, 109 of which were injury collisions. Overall, collisions in 2020 were down from 476 in 2019 to 422.

The Traffic Unit also administered two grants through the California Office of Traffic Safety focusing on increased enforcement and community outreach.

The Crisis Assessment Response & Engagement team is a collaborative effort between the Watsonville Police Department and the County of Santa Cruz Behavioral Health Services.

The mission of the team is to provide a coordinated, professional, and compassionate police response to families and individuals affected by mental illness. When an officer receives a call for service involving a person in a mental crisis, he or she can respond to the call with a mental health liaison, who will assist the officer at the scene. Taking this approach allows the officer to focus on the safety issues, while the liaison focuses on the clinical needs of the individual, and assists with ensuring that the mental health crisis is addressed with the most appropriate service.

This team consists of two full-time Watsonville police officers and one Santa Cruz County mental health clinician/liaison. In 2020, the CARE Team was able to get help/treatment for more than 300 individuals in our community.
Our Detective Bureau consists of one detective-sergeant and six detectives.

The primary duties of our detectives are to investigate crimes for which they are specially trained: three detectives are assigned to follow-up on sexual assault investigations. One detective is assigned to follow-up on persons crimes, one detective is assigned to follow-up on gang crimes and testify as the department’s gang expert, and the remaining detective is assigned to investigate property crimes.

When major crimes occur, it is not uncommon for all of our detectives to collaborate on those investigations. In 2020, our detectives followed-up on hundreds of cases, including four homicides that occurred in the city during the year.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (SIU)

The purpose of the Special Investigations Unit is to take a proactive and progressive approach to suppress crime. The unit’s daily responsibilities include proactive street-level enforcement, crime suppression, and community engagement.

Special Investigations Unit officers investigate law violations connected to narcotics, firearms, and gangs. SIU also assists our detectives with operational planning, background, surveillance, collecting intelligence, and fugitive apprehension. Often, the unit is tasked with preparing and executing search and arrest warrants on targeted locations and suspects.

In 2020, the unit seized more than two kilos of heroin, 48 guns and recovered nearly two dozen stolen vehicles. Members of the unit also arrested two attempted murder suspects and assisted the Detective Bureau on all their homicides and violent crimes.

Prior to the pandemic, SIU, in collaboration with the Santa Cruz County Probation Department, hosted a workshop on gang education and prevention for non-profits and community-based organizations, school staff from Pajaro Valley Unified School District, and the County Office of Education.
Our Special Response Team was formed in 2016 and has 18 members who are specially trained to perform a variety of advanced duties.

The team trains together monthly and is on-call 24/7 to handle high-risk search warrant services, resolve situations involving barricaded suspects, conduct hostage rescues, and any other needs that arise which exceed the response capabilities of our patrol officers. They also assist other agencies when called upon for tactical operations.

In 2020, SRT was deployed 10 times; four being pre-planned high-risk search warrant services, one barricaded suspect incident, one hostage rescue incident, and four outside agency assists.

The Crisis Negotiation Team is separate from the Special Response Team but works hand-in-hand with them during tactical responses. The Crisis Negotiation Team has been very successful in enabling tense situations to be resolved without the use of force.
The Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team is a local multi-agency task force composed of personnel and other resources from law enforcement agencies in Santa Cruz County, including the Watsonville Police Department. The Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office supervises and operates the team. The focus of the team is to prevent and reduce violent crimes and narcotics trafficking and apprehend suspects responsible for those crimes. Over the course of the year, SCCACT provided investigative services to all the law enforcement jurisdictions in the county. The team had more than 250 deployments in the county in 2020 to help support 10 different local jurisdictions with their investigations and to conduct proactive enforcement.

Specifically, in the area of gang-motivated crimes and narcotics trafficking crimes, SCCACT members were responsible for 34 arrests and seized 28 firearms that were possessed illegally along with other dangerous weapons. SCCACT conducted several narcotics-related investigations that led to the seizure of methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, and other controlled substances.

The Auto Theft Task Force was established in 1998 and provides services primarily throughout Santa Cruz County. The task force is supervised by the California Highway Patrol and operated by the Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office. The team is composed of officers, deputies, and investigators from local jurisdictions. Their primary function is to recover stolen vehicles, investigate suspected auto theft operations, and educate local auto body shop owners about criminal practices.

Although the task force had a very challenging year as many did in law enforcement, they recorded a very productive year.

The team conducted 172 investigations through the fiscal year related to auto theft recovery and recovered 63 stolen vehicles throughout the county, totaling over $1,016,000 in value. The team arrested 36 people involved in their investigations. Two separate chop shop investigations resulted in numerous stolen vehicles recovered and several arrests. One chop shop was located in the Santa Cruz Mountains and the other was in Watsonville.
Our Crime Scene Investigations Unit consists of officers and police service specialists who have advanced training and equipment to process crime scenes.

They are on-call around the clock to respond to incidents where their expertise is required.

During 2020, our CSI team was used to process three homicide scenes and nearly a dozen other locations where violent crimes occurred.

All of our CSI personnel are trained to collect trace evidence, which includes but is not limited to: fingerprints, hair, bodily fluids, DNA, and gunshot residue.

They package the evidence in a way that preserves it for testing at a crime laboratory.
The Professional Standards Division has the responsibility of investigating all allegations of misconduct by members of the Department, and to review and adjudicate all minor complaints which are handled by supervisors. Allegations made against members of the Watsonville Police Department are thoroughly and objectively investigated. PSD also has the responsibility to oversee all department training and that all training records are maintained for uniformed and professional staff. Recruiting and hiring is also an area of responsibility that is overseen by PSD.

**Recruitment:** Our recruitment unit actively provides information and application assistance to candidates applying for positions at the police department. Recruiters are committed to connecting with qualified individuals with a desire to serve the City of Watsonville.

In 2020, the police department hired three new officers, while nine officers separated from the department, and one retired. Due to the pandemic and not knowing the economic impact the City was going to experience, recruiting and hiring were placed on hold for eight months. Recruiting and hiring resumed in October of 2020.

**Training:** Because the pandemic placed tremendous restrictions on our day-to-day operations, we missed department training for the months of March and April.

Despite this challenge, the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) recognized our department for continuing to stay ahead of the industry norm by providing 99% of department members with Perishable Skills Program (PSP) training and additional advanced training to help department members do their job safely and competently. Some of this training included firearms competency and qualifications, tactical communication/defeasalation techniques, driving competency and qualifications, legal updates, and responding to calls involving students with special needs.
The Police Service Specialists Unit is assigned to the Patrol Division. They support patrol staff by responding to calls for service involving past tense property-related crimes, assisting with traffic control and road closures, towing abandoned vehicles, and helping search for missing persons.

In 2020, police service specialists were responsible for placing tow warning notices on 1,432 vehicles, and for completing 318 investigative reports.

The Parking Enforcement Unit is responsible for enforcing posted parking regulations to improve compliance with local and state regulations. Parking may be restricted in certain areas for safety reasons, near crosswalks, intersections, and narrow or high volume roadways. Parking time limits may be set to support the needs or may be reserved for special uses, such as individuals with disabilities and bus zones.

Parking Control Unit officers may issue citations when they observe regulation violations. They also provide enforcement in school zones, time-restricted zones, loading zones, no parking zones, disabled parking, permit zones, and fire zones.

Parking enforcement efforts were temporarily suspended during the early stages of the Stay-at-Home order.
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
Monarch Services

Through the years, Monarch Services has partnered with law enforcement in providing essential services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

The agency provides approximately 1,500 victims yearly in Santa Cruz County with services ranging from counseling, crisis intervention programs, emergency shelters, and legal services to name a few.

The advocate services provided to victims are available 24 hours 7 days a week. Oftentimes, the services are coordinated through law enforcement when these crimes are reported to the police. The advocates have played an essential role with law enforcement in explaining to victims the process, interviewing, and providing resources that help in dealing with such traumatic incidents.

One area in which Monarch Services has had a huge impact is in their participation with the Multidisciplinary Interview Center for Child Victims and Witnesses also known as the "SKY Center." This is a safe, child-friendly place where child victims and witnesses can talk with law enforcement as well as family and children's services professionals about their experience.

Monarch Services provide empathetic professionals who help reduce trauma to the victim and provide aftercare options that law enforcement often cannot provide. This service has been an invaluable resource when law enforcement officers are dealing with victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

Community Action Board (CAB)

The Watsonville Police Department and the Community Action Board have been in partnership for nearly two decades. Recently, CAB and officers from the WPD served as members of the Youth Violence Prevention Task Force (YVPTF), whose goals were to curb violence and the trauma associated with it.

CAB also proved to be a pivotal partner in our “Agua con la Chota” program (Water with a Cop) and the Youth and Police Dialogues. We are intentional in communicating our role as it relates to immigration laws and in alleviating the fear of deportation if contacted by the police.

Our collective work has been instrumental in helping members of this community build trusting relationships with officers of the Watsonville Police Department.
Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance (PVPSA)

The mission of Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance is to improve the quality of life of the students and families of the Pajaro Valley by providing health education, mental health counseling, substance abuse and prevention services, and by advocating for public policies that protect the health of our community.

The Watsonville Police Department has had a longstanding involvement with PVPSA, which includes our Chief of Police David Honda serving on the board of directors.

Our department works closely with PVPSA to help prevent and reduce criminal behavior, gang involvement, truancy, and drug, alcohol, and tobacco use among youth. The nonprofit agency has also played an important role in our restorative youth program, Caminos Hacia el Éxito. The following is a list of services PVPSA provides to Caminos Hacia Éxito:

- CASE MANAGEMENT
- COUNSELING SERVICES
- GUIDING GOOD CHOICES
- STRENGTHENING FAMILY THERAPY
- COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY
- BRIEF STRATEGIC FAMILY THERAPY
- 7 CHALLENGES
- SUMMER GROUPS
- SAFETY FIRST WORKSHOPS
- TOO GOOD FOR DRUGS
They’re known as the beard brigade and every year between July and September they have one mission—raise funds to support local children with cancer.

This fundraising effort began in 2015 as a way for the Watsonville Police Department to give back to the community. Officers partnered with Jacob’s Heart Children’s Cancer Support Services in Watsonville and came up with the beard brigade concept.

For three months, the department suspends its facial hair policy for officers who donate at least $100 to the organization. The beards serve as conversation starters, giving officers the opportunity to talk to community members about Jacob’s Heart and the services and support it offers to local families.

More than $6,000 was raised by the Watsonville Police Officers’ Association and the community in 2020.

Every year in October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Watsonville Police Pink Patch Project campaign raises money for the Katz Cancer Resource Center to help local families who cannot afford breast cancer treatment and/or services.

Part of our awareness efforts includes officers wearing a specially designed pink patch on their uniforms, a brightly wrapped pink police cruiser, and the sale of official Watsonville Police Pink Patch Project merchandise.

Despite the many challenges the campaign faced amidst the coronavirus pandemic, nearly $14,000 was donated to the center in 2020. A total of $48,525 has been raised by our department’s campaign since 2017.

At the start of 2020, the Watsonville Police Activities League was working to continue expanding its collaboration with local schools and agencies.

One amazing partnership they established was with Rolling Hills Middle School. With this partnership, WPAL was on campus every Friday during lunch to provide activities to the students. They hosted games, made slime, handcrafted Mother’s Day cards, and even held a pie-eating contest with the school principal.

In addition to lunchtime activities, the WPAL team helped support Saturday activities on campus to more than 100 students. As one group of youth was completing assignments, another group was outside playing sports, playing games, and getting crafty. Lastly, the team was collaborating directly with the school’s student leadership group to help support fundraisers and school dances.

WPAL was in the process of building a similar partnership with E.A. Hall Middle School when the COVID-19 pandemic struck.
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
This year was challenging for many across the board as a result of COVID-19. It created fear, uncertainty, and unprecedented outcomes. However, despite the pandemic, Caminos was able to continue providing services to former and current families virtually & via phone communication. Our goal was to focus on ensuring that the families' basic and individual needs were met by conducting weekly check-ins. Through this, we learned that many families had their work hours reduced, loss of jobs, food insecurity, no access to Wi-Fi, and unable to pay rent & utilities. Listed below are some of the services we were able to provide and work done.

- Planned and initiated second cohort of Job Preparedness Workshops hosted by the Sueños Program
- Created alternative methods for youth to fulfill their community service & pro-social hours from home
- Referred families to local food drives, community-based organizations providing financial assistance, and housing services
- Coordinated art supply drop-offs for prosocial engagement
- Referred families to a series of virtual parenting workshops hosted by PVPSA
- Referred youth to Safety First Workshops hosted by PVPSA
- In collaboration with PVPSA, mailed out a list of services available in the community to our families as it relates to the current hardships many are experiencing

Between January 2012 - December 2020, 428 out of 508 (84%) youth completed the Caminos program and of those who completed the program, 86% did not re-offend within 12-months. The successes of the youth and families we work with attributes to the true collaboration within our partners who provide case management, guidance, mentorship, and advocacy. Also, having support from community-based organizations, our local law enforcement, school district, and our community makes a true difference for all families served.
Watsonville Police Activities League (WPAL) is a youth crime prevention program that relies on educational, athletic, and other recreational activities to cement a bond among police officers, recreation leaders, youth, and their parents.

With the pandemic, the 2020 programming was impacted greatly. However, WPAL partnered with Watsonville Parks and Community Services and Santa Cruz County Recreation to find ways to still host youth programming. They currently serve 24 youth, 12 at each PAL location due to COVID guidelines. Staff assists these young students with online classes and homework, and provides recreational activities.

Early on in the pandemic, WPAL began to transition some of its community events to virtual events. They hosted a virtual Easter egg hunt that reached 250 homes in Watsonville. The Easter Bunny and Crime Fighting McGruff teamed up with City partners, including WPD officers, and went around town dropping off Easter goodies. They also did something special for Mother’s Day, giving a basket of goodies and flowers to nearly 100 mothers in the community. Class of 2020 high school graduates were not forgotten. Fifty of their graduates received a congratulatory gift bag and a huge congratulations from WPAL and our officers.
The Watsonville Police Cadet Program provides young people with the opportunity to explore the law enforcement field as a possible career choice. Unfortunately, the program was temporarily suspended at the beginning of the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under normal circumstances, cadets are rotated through a variety of divisions in order to experience the many aspects of law enforcement. They are active in traffic control for several events throughout the year, including the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am Golf Tournament.

WPD cadets also serve as a liaison between the police department and the youth in our community.

Cadets are between 14 and 20 years old. Two full-time Watsonville police officers volunteer their time as advisors to mentor the cadets.
For several years now, the Youth Violence Prevention Network, which is comprised of United Way of Santa Cruz County, Applied Survey Research, Santa Cruz County Probation Department, Santa Cruz County Community Action Board, and County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency, has been bringing together people from the community, including youth, adults, and law enforcement to meet and talk about policing, race, and community safety.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 outbreak brought the dialogue sessions to a halt in 2020.

In this circle-style dialogue, everyone has an equal voice, and people try to understand each other’s views. Participants move from relationship building to collaborative action planning. Trained local facilitators help the group move through potentially difficult conversations and ensure that the sessions end with steps for action.

AGUA CON LA CHOTA

Strengthening law enforcement and community relations was identified by the Youth Violence Prevention Network as a top strategy to achieve the result of “Fostering Safe and Vibrant Neighborhoods.”

With their help, we launched the “Agua con la Chota,” program in 2017, which aims at providing farmworkers a safe space to interact with officers, receive information and guidance with the help of our community partners. The conversations are insightful to all who participate and help humanize our police officers. It also helps strengthen trust with members of our community who traditionally fear the police.

On three separate occasions in a month, officers and staff head to the fields to meet with the workers. During the final session, they sit down with the participants and share a meal.

Due to the fast-growing COVID-19 cases in Santa Cruz County, the program was temporarily placed on hold in 2020.
Despite the many roadblocks we faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our mission to educate the public on how to be safe when walking, biking, or driving continued through the year.

With grant funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety, our Traffic Unit moved forward with its partnership with Ecology Action, an organization focused on providing safety education to youth and older adults.

The group hosted several virtual workshops on bicycle and pedestrian safety, as well as educating the public on the importance of safety equipment like reflective armbands, leg bands, headlights, taillights, reflectors, and helmets. We look forward to reinstating bicycle and pedestrian safety workshops at local elementary schools in the future.

Quarantine birthday drive-bys became quite the sensation in 2020 with law enforcement agencies across the nation taking part in the celebrations.

Watsonville police officers took the time to spread some birthday joy for dozens of community members whose parties were canceled because of the pandemic.

Due to the overwhelming number of requests we initially received, birthday drive-bys were limited to young children in our community.
In May, the City of Watsonville hosted a weeklong relief drive to help local farmworker families heavily impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. Watsonville police officers assisted in collecting essential items and with the help of staff, donated more than $1,000 to purchase 3,300 diapers, baby wipes, and formula.

The relief drive collected more than 11,000 individual diapers, hundreds of packs of baby wipes, dozens of baby formula cans, and nearly 500 masks that were delivered to the Center for Farmworker Families.

Watsonville police officers partnered with Sunrise Nursery to surprise nearly 100 elderly gals with flowers for Mother’s Day.

Residents from Valley Heights Senior Community waved as officers circled the building in their patrol cars. It was a very special moment for Watsonville Police Sergeant Michael Ridgway who, for the first time since the pandemic began, was able to see his mother from afar.
As more families turned to outdoor activities during the pandemic, our Traffic Unit wanted to make sure local kids had the proper equipment to stay safe. In September, the unit teamed up with the California Office of Traffic Safety and the City of Watsonville Park and Community Services Department to provide children with helmets, reflective snap bracelets, and bike lights.

The Helmet Drive-Thru Summer Event was held at Ramsay Park and benefitted more than 300 kids. Bicycle safety equipment was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety.

A joint operation took place in October as officers attempted to locate some of the best-behaved and kind-hearted kids in town!

During “Operation Chill,” WPD officers were actively looking for kids who had done good deeds or demonstrated positive behavior.

Once spotted, they were given a coupon for a free, small Slurpee at participating local 7-Eleven Stores. Watsonville Police Department was one of thousands of law enforcement agencies in the nation working in partnership with 7-Eleven to reward kids for doing the right thing.
With the help of a great committee, we were able to create a virtual National Night Out event for our community. Several public safety videos were produced and shared across our social media platforms on October 9. National Night Out aims to promote police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to help make our neighborhoods safer, a more caring place to live and build a true sense of community.

The videos were viewed more than 15,000 times. Also, 25 community members won a prize package for participating in a trivia quiz.

With donations from Watsonville First United Methodist Church, Twin Lakes Church, and our city departments, we were able to purchase a bike, a helmet, sports equipment, and other giveaways for youth who participated in the virtual event.

Drive-thru Trunk-or-Treat

Officers and police staff put together 1,000 Halloween goodie bags for a Drive-Thru Trunk-or-Treat event organized by the City of Watsonville, the Santa Cruz County District Attorney’s Office, and the Santa Cruz County Probation Department.

Our department was very fortunate to receive donations from Watsonville Ace Hardware, Watsonville Community Hospital, and our very own officers and staff.

The event was held at Ramsay Park on October 30 but unfortunately, was shut down early due to the large overwhelming crowds and safety concerns.

The remaining Halloween treat bags were given to officers who distributed them to community members while on patrol.
Our Shop with a Cop program sponsored 11 deserving families for the holidays.

Santa’s helpers were hard at work for several weeks. Because of the pandemic, officers and staff shopped without the families and handled all the gift wrapping. Our tradition of sitting down with the families for a meal was unfortunately canceled.

However, thanks to our community partners, local businesses, volunteers, and staff, each family received Christmas gifts, a warm meal, dessert, a box of non-perishable foods, and a mini Christmas tree during a drive-thru event at the police department on December 15.
They are the heroes at the other end of the radio who provide our officers with crucial information to make sure we can do our jobs as safely as possible.

Our Dispatchers from Santa Cruz Regional 9-1-1 serve as the lifeline for people dealing with emergencies.

Without them, we couldn’t do our job.
Public Safety Dispatcher II, Kristine Ebersole

[WPD] is my favorite channel. I started dispatching 20 years ago and my first channel to train on was WPD.

There has always been a strong camaraderie in patrol and I could hear it and feel it on the radio. The officers know the geography of their city and pay attention to what their partners are doing so they are quick to respond to cover and help each other.

I have felt like I am part of the team working this channel.

Kristine dispatches for both law and fire, and is an instructor for the Santa Cruz Regional 9-1-1 academy.

Public Safety Dispatcher II, Dillon Corley

Hey, my name is Dillon. I’ve been dispatching for a little over four years now. I've grown up, and still, live in Watsonville, for almost a total of thirty years now (that makes me feel old)!

For a long while, I was trying to find out just what I wanted to do. A close friend of mine invited me up to Netcom to watch and understand just what 9-1-1 Calltakers and Dispatchers do. The moment I sat down, I fell in love and KNEW it was something that I had to do.

I wanted to be involved in my community and help people. Being a Dispatcher is doing just that and so much more. Sometimes it's just little things like referring them to the right people, or other times, it's during one of the scariest moments of their lives. Each of my coworkers is phenomenal at what they do, and they've grown to be an extended family for me.

When not at work, I love to cook, specifically I enjoy baking, and I'm told I'm pretty decent at it (I haven't received any complaints yet)! From time to time, I also enjoy reading and writing. I do my best to make a positive impression with everyone I interact with. Be it over the phone, on the radio, or even across the room. I hope that by doing what I do, I can help my community rest a bit easier by knowing that people who love their job are helping keep them safe.
Public Safety Dispatcher II,  
Kristal Higgins

I’m Kristal. and I’ve been a dispatcher at SCR911 since 2011. I came over with the merger from San Benito County, where I worked as a dispatcher since 2007. Before this. I was a dispatcher at a tow company and would get calls from police departments for tows and thought it would be an interesting job to do. so I applied. Never did I think how fulfilling it would be to have such a big part in getting people the critical help they need. as well as getting information to the officers and helping keep them safe. I am fully cross-trained on all law channels, fire channels, as well as being an EMD and CTO. One of the main things I love about working here is how everyone is like family. We help others out and care for one another. I know from experience that it is not like that everywhere and with our type of job it makes a big difference. I also enjoy working with the different law enforcement agencies and admit that Watsonville PD is one of my favorite channels to work. The officers are always polite and respectful with us on the air and never complain when I send them to a call outside of their beat! Also, it may just be my perception, but Watsonville always seems to catch their bad guys!

Public Safety Dispatcher II,  
Germán Flores

My name is Germán Flores and I’m a dispatcher at Santa Cruz Regional 911. I’ve been working at SCR 911 for almost nine years. I was born and raised in Watsonville and because of that I take pride in being a dispatcher for our local community. At SCR 911 we dispatch for a few local agencies. one of them being Watsonville PD. When I get to dispatch WPD, it’s always an exciting day because I never know who is going to keep me on my toes—it might be the patrol team, the motor unit conducting back-to-back traffic stops, the investigations team going out to make an arrest, or SIU running an operation. As dispatchers, we don’t work directly for WPD. We are our own agency but when you’re dispatching WPD, they make you feel part of the team. It gives me great pride and joy dispatching WPD because I know the officers care about our community just as much as I do. Thank you. Watsonville PD for protecting our community.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employee List</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alvarez, Adrian</td>
<td>Andrade, Emily</td>
<td>Andrade, Pablo</td>
<td>Ayala, Javier</td>
<td>Bailey, Charles</td>
<td>Bañuelos, Sergio</td>
<td>Barnett, Michaela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Barocio, Octavio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bribiesca, Juan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Castillo, Juan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Changco, Dominic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chavarria, Aaron</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Delfin, Richard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fernandez, Yesenia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Figueroa, Antonio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Figueroa, Hilda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Figueroa, Naim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fuentez, Bryan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fulgoni, Brian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Garcia, Jay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Godinez, Maria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gombos, Lourdes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gonzalez, David</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gonzalez, Ulises</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Haas, Irma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hernandez, Nelson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hernandez, Noe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Honda, David</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ihlen, Trevor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Illes, Burton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jauregui, Angie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Johnson, Charles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Johnston, Corey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kane, Lacey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Katch, Lee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kliewer, Kraig</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Larios, Oswald</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lopez, Fernando</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lopez, Marilyn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lopez, Rudy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Magaña, Alex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Magdayao, Anthony</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maldonado, Lola</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Martínez, Efren</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McKinley, Michael</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McMahon, Devon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medina, Griselda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mendoza, Salvador</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mercurio, Dominic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Morales, Veronica</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Navarro, Jose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Olmeda, Ashly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Panick, Jason</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Perez, Joseph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pistorino, Jarrod</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plascensia-Islas, Carlos</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pulido, Michelle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Radich, Mish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ramirez, Rebecca</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rangel, Monique</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ridgway, Michael</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Robles, Henry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rodriguez, Bobby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rodriguez, David</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rodriguez, Isaak</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Romero, Luis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sanchez, Erika</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sanchez, Juan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sanchez, Leticia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Santana, Eddie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sims, Thomas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sousa, Elizabeth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Strong, Robert</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thul, Cheramy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thul, Donny</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tol, Sjon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Travers, Collin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trujillo, Juan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Umstead, Evan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Urets, Ely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Valadez, Saul</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wildey, Tyler</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zamora, Gustavo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zamora, Jorge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zarate, Anna</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zendejas, Ruben</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Retirees**

Ridgway, Brian (27 years of service)
K-9 Ranger (6 years of service)

**Volunteers**

Johnson, Frank
Jones, Connie
Sakaguchi, Leigh

**Chaplains**

Bell, Ryan
Olson, Robbie
The Watsonville Police Department is constantly looking for innovative ways to connect and expand its two-way communication with the community.

Over the years, our increased engagement on our various social media platforms has given residents a unique opportunity to get involved in their community and help our officers make Watsonville a safer place.

This established partnership has proven to be effective. Residents have gone as far as assisting us in the apprehension of suspects involved in serious crimes, to finding missing persons at-risk.

Thanks to the information we received from a community member, a man who abducted his one-year-old child was taken into custody during an incident in July. Officers rescued the child who was uninjured.

In November, an alert community member spotted an at-risk 87-year-old man who had been missing for hours. The elderly man who suffered from dementia was already showing signs of hypothermia by the time he was found. Officers quickly transported him to the emergency room where he recovered.

These are just some examples of the importance of community involvement and how quickly and effectively we can reach residents through our social media platforms.

**LIKE, FOLLOW, SUBSCRIBE, DOWNLOAD & REGISTER**

Non-Emergency Police Dispatch: 831-471-1151
Crime Tips Anonymous: 831-768-3544
Records: 831-768-3370
Investigations: 831-768-3350
Police Chief’s Office: 831-768-3300
## Quick Fact Sheet 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calls for Service</td>
<td>55,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrests</td>
<td>1,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Calls</td>
<td>719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Taken by Officers</td>
<td>4,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Reports from Members</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CRIME STATISTICS
ADULT ARRESTS
2015-2020

Adult Arrests are experiencing a 5-year, downward trend.

SOURCE: Watsonville Police Department RMS

CRIME STATISTICS
JUVENILE ARRESTS
2015-2020

Juvenile arrests are experiencing a 5-year, downward trend.

SOURCE: Watsonville Police Department RMS
CRIME STATISTICS  
ARRESTS BY GENDER 2020

 Arrest By Gender 2020

- Male: 1176
- Female: 229
- Not Stated/Other: 4

SOURCE: Watsonville Police Department RMS
Arrests by race are in line with the population demographics of The City of Watsonville.

SOURCE: Watsonville Police Department RMS. Census Data.
CRIME STATISTICS
TRAFFIC COLLISION, INJURY COLLISIONS, FATAL COLLISIONS
2015-2020

Traffic: Collisions/Injury Collisions/Fatal Collisions
2015-2020

SOURCE: Crossroads Analytics.
CRIME STATISTICS
TOTAL CRIME, PROPERTY CRIME, AND VIOLENT CRIME
2015-2019

Total Crimes (Property/Violent/Arson), Property Crimes and Violent Crimes
2015-2019
DOJ Definitions

Source: openjustice.doj.ca.gov

SOURCE: openjustice.doj.ca.gov

Violent Crime: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault
Property Crime: Burglary, Theft/Larceny, Auto Theft
Total Crime: Violent Crime, Property Crime, and Arson
Watsonville Police Department
215 Union Street, Watsonville, CA 95076
831-768-3300
LIKE, FOLLOW, SUBSCRIBE, DOWNLOAD & REGISTER

Non-Emergency Police Dispatch: 831-471-1151
Crime Tips Anonymous: 831-768-3544