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# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Albert Balagso, Director  
Robert Davis, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** RECENT GANG INCIDENTS

**DATE:** December 2, 2009

Approved

Date

12-4-09

## INFORMATION

### BACKGROUND

On September 23, 2008, the City Council unanimously approved the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) 2008 – 2011 Action, Collaboration, Transformation (ACT) Strategic Work Plan. The work plan was developed and adopted to best position the MGPTF and its numerous strategies, protocols, and programs to deal with current and future gang violence. As such, the MGPTF, led by Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) and San Jose Police Department (SJPD) has been able to prevent, de-escalate, and immediately respond to gang violence in a coordinated manner.

Unfortunately, over the period of four days recently, a series of violent gang-related incidents have plagued several of our communities:

- **10/31/09** 12-year-old boy shot in the head and 13-year-old boy stabbed (Story Road/Hopkins Road – District 5)
- **11/01/09** 20-year-old male shot in the neck and paralyzed (Rigoletto Drive/Othello Drive – District 8)
- **11/03/09** 20-year-old male shot and killed (Warm Springs Drive/Chalet Road – District 5)

### ANALYSIS

The MGPTF activated its community crisis response protocol within hours of each incident. This protocol is led by a specialized team consisting of: the San José Police Department, PRNS staff, and highly-trained gang intervention workers. This response facilitates the immediate contact and coordination with impacted partners such as: school administrators, neighborhood

leaders, community centers, local churches, and community-based organizations. Most importantly, direct contact is made with gang-impacted youth in an effort to minimize retaliation and the further escalation of violence. The following breakdown per incident will showcase the actions taken as well as the planned next steps.

10/31/09 District 5 Story Road/Hopkins Road Incident – 12-year-old boy shot and 13-year-old boy stabbed

- Community Crisis Response Protocol immediately activated
  - Immediate communication and internal crisis team meeting conducted
- Deployment of Safe School Campus Initiative (SSCI)
  - All surrounding schools and community centers notified
  - Lee Mathson Middle School provided additional counseling and support services
- Staff met to update Alum Rock Unified School District Superintendent and Cabinet on 11/02/09
- SSCI staff provided support during candlelight vigil in East San Jose on 11/5/09
- The MGPTF, in coordination with Mayor's Office, Council District 5 Office, and Alum Rock Unified School District, held a community safety meeting for 275 community members on 11/10/09
- Late Night Gym opened on Fridays and Saturdays from 7:00 –11:00 p.m. and SJPD provided perimeter security
  - Mayfair Community Center on 11/6 and 11/7
  - MACSA Center on 11/13, 11/14, 11/20, and 11/21(MACSA under contract to provide late night gym for remainder of year)

11/01/09 District 8 Rigoletto Drive/Othello Drive Incident – 20-year-old male shot and paralyzed

- Immediate deployment of SSCI
  - All surrounding schools and community centers notified
- Citywide Crisis Intervention Team (CCIT) deployed to the Meadowfair community
  - Firehouse agency conducted two diversionary efforts for Meadowfair youth
- SJPD Violent Crimes Enforcement Team (VCET) suppression effort
  - Immediate probation/parole checks on identified Meadowfair youth
- Briefed District 8 Chief of Staff on 11/4/09
- West Evergreen NAC update meeting with approximately 15 people in attendance held on 11/23/09

11/03/09 District 5 Warm Springs Drive/Chalet Road Incident – 20-year-old male shooting homicide

- Community Crisis Response Protocol immediately activated
  - Immediate communication and internal crisis team meeting conducted
- Deployment of SSCI
  - All surrounding Schools and Community Centers notified
  - Pala Middle School provided additional counseling and support services

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- SSCI staff conducted a home visit to the victim's family
- Late Night Gym at Alum Rock Youth Center on Fridays and Saturdays, 11/6, 11/7, 11/13 and 11/14/09, 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. with SJPD providing perimeter security - California Youth Outreach (CYO) to provide staff
- Alum Rock Neighborhood Coalition update meeting with approximately 100 people in attendance held on 11/23/09


### NEXT STEPS

The MGPTF will continue to implement the goals and protocols set forth in the strategic plan. Special emphasis will be placed on the following:

1. Continue monitoring gang climate especially in "hot spot" areas throughout the City of San José.
2. Increase SJPD presence in "hot spot" areas.
3. Schedule gang awareness training for Alum Rock Unified School District teachers and local neighborhood association.
4. Maintain gang mediation efforts and continued outreach to gang impacted youth including late night and weekend diversion alternatives.

For questions, please contact Mario Maciel, Recreation Superintendent, at (408) 277-2718.

  
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