

Zone 2 Report - June, 2021

by Martin Rubin - Zone 2 Director

For a variety of reasons, not all Zone 2 stakeholders who wanted to vote were able to get a ballot. Most felt that they applied correctly, some were not sure. The City Clerk's office was unable to resolve the problems. I am concerned that some of the elderly here in North Westdale, many of whom are long-time homeowner stakeholders, are being disenfranchised this election because of their lack of necessary computer skills and not enough help from the City Clerk's office for them to register.

Homeless tents are popping up at various places in and near Zone 2 including the sidewalks on Gateway Blvd., under the 10 freeway.

Several Zone 2 (North Westdale) neighbors are very concerned about the future of the access for the local children to Richland Avenue Elementary School. This should be covered at the Saturday, June 12 - Zoom Town Hall put on by the MVCC Education, Arts and Culture Committee.

The Slow Streets project in Zone 2 that Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church's initiated has been problematic over the several months that it has been in effect. The barricade signs are often blown over posing a danger. The North Westdale Neighborhood Association and the Mar Vista Community Council were not reached out to for input at the onset of the church's plans. MVCC had already passed a motion requesting clarification from CD11 about several aspects of the Slow Streets project. I don't believe we received a reply back.

For several years I have requested no left turn signs from southbound Barrington into the residential neighborhood during peak hours to curtail the reckless/cut-throat, cut-through traffic, that will, no doubt, begin to return to pre-pandemic levels. CD 11 has offered me unacceptable reasons why it could not be implemented. With all the developments in progress and planned, it does not take a rocket scientist to know that traffic will only become even more of a nightmare than it already has been.

On the positive side, the MVCC Neighborhood Watch signs that I and a neighbor mounted around Zone 2 look great. That's one positive result of these past two years. I also was able to facilitate the replacement of at least one faded stop sign and had one put in at the T intersection of Sardis and Barry Avenues. I have asked for and still waiting for a 4-way stop sign at the Federal Avenue and Clarkson Road intersection.

Over the past two years I have seen MVCC make great progress, and I am cautiously optimistic that the newly elected Board of Directors will continue on this path of progress.

Below are the April and May crime statistics for Zone 2.

My thanks to LAPD Pacific Area Crime and Intelligence Analysts Amanda Hentila and John Walter Pesusich for compiling and sending them.

April, 2021 - 0 Violent Crimes, 1 Burglary, 1 BTFV, 2 GTA's and 1 Theft:

1. GTA: 4/3 12000 Blk Clarkson Rd – Van taken from Street
2. BURG: 4/12 2500 Blk Armacost Av – unk property taken from a construction site
3. BTFV: 4/13 2500 Blk Barry Av – Susp smashed vehicle window and took property
4. THEFT: 4/22 2500 Blk Barrington Av – Bike taken from 2nd story balcony
5. GTA: 4/26 12000 Blk Ocean Park Bl – 2 Male suspects were arrested for taking a vehicle

All the best, Amanda Hentila - Crime and Intelligence Analyst I - Pacific Area - ACCIC

MAY, 2021 - One Violent Crime (1 Road Rage Aggravated Assault), and nine property crimes (2 Burglaries, 2 Grand Theft Autos, 5 BTFV's, and 1 Theft) :

1. AGG – 5/19, 5:40pm, Barrington Ave & Gateway Blvd, During a road rage incident, 22 yr old male suspect struck victim's vehicle with tire iron and then brandished gun. Suspect arrested few days later.
2. BTFV – 5/12, 5:00pm to 6:00am, 12100 blk Ivy Pl, Property taken from unlocked vehicle on street.
3. BTFV - 5/15, 7:20am, Barrington & Gateway, Suspect removed Tailgate from 2020 Truck.
4. BTFV - 5/15, 5:20am, Brookhaven & Butler, Susp took catalytic converter from vehicle.
5. BTFV - 5/11. 5:00pm to 11:30am, 2600 blk Federal, Susp took bag/backpack from vehicle passenger seat.
6. BTFV - 5/20 to 5/25, 2600 Barrington, License Plate taken from vehicle.
7. BURGLARY – 5/08, 10:00am to 10:00am, 11700 Gateway Blvd. Unkn Susp entered victim's garage and took tools.
8. BURGLARY – 5/11, 2:50am, 2600 blk Westgate, Unkn suspect entered unlocked garage and took property.
9. GTA – 5/10, 11:00am to 1:pm, 2400 blk Bundy Dr, Chevy Truck was stolen
10. GTA – 5/15, 11:30pm to 10:00am, Barrington & Sardis, Kia was stolen
11. THEFT – 5/07. 12:50pm, National & Sawtelle, Two 25yr old males shoplifted liquor & food.

Reminders :

Catalytic Converters being taken from vehicles continue to a major problem on the westside. Half the catalytic converters taken are from 2005 to 2012 Toyota Priuses.

There are catalytic converter shields available for \$200-300, plus \$100 installation that are suggested as a prevention measure.

With the lack of supply, the prices for new ones went up to \$3,000 and there has been a 2-4 month wait to get the new part.

John Walter Pesusich - Crime Intelligence Analyst-II - LAPD Pacific Area