



**Council and Authorities  
Concurrent Meeting**

**Special Order of  
Business**

**Neighborhood Watch**

Special Order of Business  
RTC 20-785  
September 29, 2020

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**City of  
Santa Clara**  
The Center of What's Possible

## What is Neighborhood Watch?

- **Crime Prevention Program** – Enlists the active participation of neighborhoods in cooperation with police to reduce crime
- **Neighbors getting to know each other, looking out for one another, and working together around a common cause** – Safety and security
- **Learning and implementing crime prevention strategies** – Recognizing and reporting suspicious activity/crimes and home security measures
- The best crime prevention device ever invented is a neighbor!

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## Neighborhood Watch

- Law enforcement officers cannot be on every corner, therefore community help was initiated
- 130 neighborhood watch groups have been established in Santa Clara since 1987



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## Neighborhood Watch Meetings can include conversations on a variety of topics, including:

- Crime statistics
- Identifying suspicious or criminal activity
- Crime reporting (e.g. emergency vs non-emergency)
- Financial crimes and scams
- Bicycle thefts and bicycle registry
- Vehicle security
- Environmental design (e.g. landscaping, lighting, etc.) as a deterrent
- Home burglary prevention tips
- Mail and package theft reduction

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## Neighborhood Watch Meeting Example



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## National Night Out

- Save the Date! Spend the evening with neighbors, as well as Police and Fire Department personnel to promote a neighborhood against crime

2021 event:

Tuesday, August 3

6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.



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## Potential Program Name Change

- Throughout the U.S. there are many names for the program our City refers to as Neighborhood Watch, yet all have the same concept
- The Police Department is evaluating all aspects of its community programs and services. A name change would allow the Department to move away from a "watch" concept to one that appears more collaborative in spirit. Potential names include:
  - Police Neighborhood Outreach
  - Neighborhood – Police Partnership
- Should the Police Department proceed with a name change, it will develop a phased plan to update the website, program flyers and communication plan to the community. At a later date, the signs hung in neighborhoods throughout the City would be adjusted to reflect the new program name

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## Start a Neighborhood Watch Group

SCPD Crime Prevention Unit  
601 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95050  
(408) 615-4876  
[www.scpd.org](http://www.scpd.org)



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