

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

Several Strawberry Square Residents hosted the SJPD for a Neighborhood Watch presentation, on April 24th, 2024 at the S.S.H.O.A. Clubhouse, which was given by Marta Dominguez, Crime Prevention Specialist; Officer Mendez and Captain R. Torres. The two-hour event was full of valuable and current information along with questions and answers. Those attending were given a two-sided handout; one side with important SJPD services phone numbers (see the Strawberry Square Website for a digital copy of the handout) and the other side a worksheet to mark for suspect descriptions or vehicle descriptions when witnessing a crime. At the end of the evening, attendees received Neighborhood Watch signs to display in home windows.

The main numbers for **San Jose Emergency Calls** include: “9-1-1”; to call from a cell phone: “408-277-8911”; and for online reporting “SJPD.ORG”. One can also “TEXT 9-1-1” (valuable for hearing impaired). The **MOST IMPORTANT ITEM** when one calls for help is **YOU NEED TO KNOW WHAT ADDRESS YOU ARE AT** for the police to be able to help you.

There are three ways to access **San Jose 311** – call 408-535-3500; download the Mobile app: San Jose 311; or go online at sanjose.custhelp.com. Use **San Jose 311** to report abandoned vehicles, graffiti, code enforcement issues, potholes, streetlights, illegal dumping, and other services.

With only 900 SJPD officers for a city of one million residents, that swells up to 1.35 million with commuters and workers, a good way we can help our community best is by being self-aware when out and about and getting to know our neighbors so we can look out for one another and our property. If you think you are witnessing a crime, have experienced a crime or are not even sure – it is best to call it in to the SJPD, as it is logged and helps with police presence. If you do not call it in, there has not been a defined crime then. Burglaries typically occur between 9 am – 4 pm when folks are working and 30% of the time entry is via an unlocked window or door.

There is a **Crime Stoppers P3** Mobile App one can download for reporting anonymous crime tips to aid police investigations. And if you want to see where crime is occurring in San Jose, visit the crimemapping.com site (where you can also sign up for alerts).

To keep your vehicles safe, keep cars locked and remove valuables. To keep your home safe, keep your doors and windows locked when away, use lighting for the outside and the inside to make your home look occupied, and let neighbors know if you are going out of town to help with packages, garbage and such. To further assist crime, register your home camera or auto camera online at WWW.SJPD.ORG (note: registering your information does not provide SJPD with direct access to your camera).

It is also important to develop partnerships between the police and the residents. On Tuesday, August 6th, our community has an opportunity to be a part of **National Night Out**, an event where we would register a social gathering (picnic, barbeque, etc.) and a team of SJPD officers would attend; registration for the event opens April 29th via SJPD.org.

Many thanks to all who came and to those who helped out during the event. Some positive consensus was that we need more social events at Strawberry Square to help build community and deter crime.