



City of Cambridge Police Department

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Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner

Richard C. Rossi
City Manager

To: Richard C. Rossi, City Manager
From: Robert C. Haas, Police Commissioner
Date: Friday, December 19, 2014
Ref.: City Council Order #5, dated July 28, 2014

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this response is to address City Council Order #5, dated July 28, 2014, whereby you are requested to consult with me and report back on the police department's plans for deploying officers in the Area IV neighborhood in response to the tragic shooting that took place on July 3rd of this year. The order also requests information relevant to those deployments going forward into the winter months, as well as any other additional measures that will be undertaken by the police department, and to post specific measures by the department to the City's website.

I want to first start by indicating that Walking Officers were and continue to be deployed in the Area IV community. While it is important that we find the right approach to successfully navigate the concerns in this area, it is also important that we balance both public and officer safety. And for these reasons, we do not publicize the specific deployment of the number of officers or the specific times officers are deployed.

At the community meeting that was held following the fatal shooting that took on July 3rd, I made a commitment to the residents who attended that meeting that the police department would be stepping up its presence from that point on through the remainder of the summer and into the fall months. That added presence included, but was not limited to the following:

- The walking officers who are assigned to the Area IV neighborhood would maintain a greater presence in the Washington Elms/Newtowne Court apartment complex, and the streets surrounding those communities. *(These walking officers will remain in these assignments through the winter months).*

- There would be added patrols in and around the area by those sector and route cars that are assigned to the Area IV neighborhood.
- Officers assigned to bike patrol would focus their patrol activities in this immediate area both during the day shifts & first half evening shifts. (*Excluding winter months*).
- Officers working in the Criminal Investigations and Special Investigations units were also directed to focus plainclothes patrols in unmarked police vehicles during first half evening shifts and early morning hours to support this effort.
- The neighborhood Lieutenant and Sergeant would also have an increased presence and availability at the community meetings taking place in the Area IV neighborhood.
- Members of the Command Staff would be meeting with the tenants council and coordinate its efforts with those community activities that were planned over the summer months.

It is important to recognize that we have and continue to engage and interact with the youth in this area to build positive relationships. Additionally, we utilize early intervention and prevention initiatives to divert the youth at risk, and collaborate with our partners and schools by providing positive opportunities both during and outside of school.

Please let me know if you have any questions or additional concerns. I can assure you that the police department is working on a variety of fronts to identify and resolve issues which potentially affect specific neighborhoods, areas, and the City as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert C. Haas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner
RCH/kb