



Chinatown
Discussion of the Chief of Police Recruitment
Lincoln Recreation Center
September 21, 2016 4:00pm

Highlights:

- **Implement Police Training** - Provide training to improve police officers' response time and ability to handle citizen complaints and crime reports.
- **Reduce Police Response Time** – Reduce response time to report of illegal activities. Communicate with the public with clarity.
- **Public Safety in Chinatown Area** – A lot of graffiti, robbery, illegal dumping, auto theft, illegal solicitation (vending without permit) happening in Chinatown area. Calls made to OPD seem unanswered. Public safety in Chinatown area should be a focus for the new Chief.

Suggestions

- Implement regular patrol in Chinatown.
 - Implement other type of uniformed patrol or community ambassador, if cost or availability of sworn Police Officer is a concern.
 - Public safety is a priority. Homeless & homeless encampment is an on-going issue.
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- **Community Relations/ Communication & Accessibility to the Chinese community**
Suggestions
 - Have bilingual aide to assist Police Chief with communication with limited English speaking community.
 - Assign Asian Community Liaison Officer to station in Chinatown again
 - Consider hosting Citizen's Police Academy on regular basis. The last Academy held in Chinese was over seven years ago.
 - Improve communication with Chinatown community and provide stable staffing assignment. Police Officers assigned to Chinatown area often changes a few times in the year. Difficult to establish relationship.
 - Increase community outreach & public relations activities with Chinese community, such as attending Street Festival. Let the community get to know their police officers.

- **Trustworthy with Clean Background** - Someone that the public can trust.
- **Integrity & Accountability** – Upheld the law and follow policies.
- **Citizen’s Quality of Life & Responsiveness of the Department** - A priority for the new Chief. When reports of illegal activities go unanswered, it negatively impact citizen’s quality of life. For instance, illegal dumping could lead to fire hazard. Illegal vending (& illegal use of parking space) could lead to traffic and health hazard.
- **Good leadership skills** – Ability to lead the Police Department and hold police officers accountable (including response time, communication with the public, handling report of crime, and building community’s trust of the police department)
 - Suggestion
 - Someone praised the current Acting Chief Downing for his involvement with the community, especially the Chinese community, and his leadership skill. Something to look for in the new Chief.
- **Cares about the community and follows through** – Listen to the community, and follow through on report of crimes.
- **Implement reform/ cultural shift**
 - Suggestion
 - Community feels like the current “priority” system adopted by the police may need to be reexamined. Some community members have experienced reporting to police (or public works for illegal dumping) weeks after weeks, and received no response from the police department. Community input need to be valued.
 - Delayed or the absence of Police response may have led to more petty crimes targeted at the Chinese community.
- **Interpersonal skill & ability to work with City Officials and Departments** – The new Chief should possess high education level and exceptional interpersonal skills. Able to establish working relationship with Mayor, City Council, and other City departments.