

Safer Community Task Force

Mayor's Office

October 19, 2009

Mayor Dennis Pauley has called for the creation of a "Safer Community" Task Force. All citizens of Rock Island have an expectation that they can live in a safe neighborhood and enjoy the amenities of the community. Though the incidence of crime has not increased, there continues to be concern about the criminal activity that takes place in the city. It is the Mayor's goal to engage a citizen task force to identify strategies to build on the city's strengths to improve the safety of citizens living in all neighborhoods of Rock Island.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Task Force will be to study the incidence of crime, examine the current law enforcement activities and identify strategies to engage citizens in efforts to make neighborhoods safe.

The Task Force Members:

The Task Force is comprised of citizens that represent different segments of the community, as well as various geographical areas of the city. They are: Althia Saunders, Andy Boswell, Connie Hayes, Ed Littig, Ed Veasey, Greg Hass, Jerry Wolking, Jessica Mayes, Johnnie Woods, Kai Swanson, Kim Foley-Sharp, Lee Strohbehn, Nick Camlin, Pat Chapinski, Preston Muhammed, Rev. Jay Bland, Rufus Greer, Shellie Moore-Guy, Tad Birditt, and Thomas Merchie

Scope:

The Task Force will review information on reported crime to understand trends and types of criminal activity taking place in Rock Island over the past decade. Law enforcement strategies will be reviewed with the Task Force. Current efforts to engage citizens in crime prevention activities will be examined.

Objectives:

1. Increase awareness of the facts related to crime in Rock Island
2. Improve the level of knowledge regarding the range of law enforcement activities taking place in the city.
3. Identify strategies to increase the involvement of citizens and neighborhoods in crime fighting efforts.

Meetings:

The second meeting of the Task Force will be October 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the SW Branch Library, 9010 Ridgewood Road. They expect to complete their work by the end of 2009.