



Section 5.13:

## **Police Protection**





## SECTION 5.13 POLICE PROTECTION

### 5.13.1 PURPOSE

This section identifies police protection services within the City of Fullerton and provides an analysis of potential impacts associated with the buildout of The Fullerton Plan (proposed General Plan Update). Information in this section is based on information in the Public Safety Chapter of The Fullerton Plan, and correspondence with the Fullerton Police Department.

### 5.13.2 EXISTING REGULATORY SETTING

#### CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE

The California Penal Code establishes the basis for the application of criminal law in California.

#### FULLERTON MUNICIPAL CODE

Fullerton Municipal Code Title 6 (Public Nuisances, Code Enforcement, and Abatement) and Title 7 (Public Safety and Morals) establish regulations related to nuisances and code enforcement and public safety within the City, respectively.

### 5.13.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Fullerton Police Department provides police protection services to the City. The Police Department is charged with the enforcement of local, state, and federal laws, and with protecting lives and property.

Fullerton Police Department operates from one station located at 237 West Commonwealth. This police station services 23 square miles and an approximate population of 138,610. The City is divided into three geographical zones, each running the length of the City from north to south. Zone 1 consists of the area west of Euclid Avenue; Zone 2 consists of the area west of Raymond Avenue to Euclid Avenue; and Zone 3 consists of the area east of Raymond Avenue to the City limits. Patrol officers are generally assigned equally to each zone. Patrol officers are assigned to three different shifts, providing for 24-hour police protection in all city zones.

Police services are divided into three divisions:<sup>1</sup>

- ***Uniform Division.*** The Uniform Division provides a constant patrol presence with an immediate capability to respond to calls for service, conduct preliminary investigations, make arrests where necessary, and report on these events. The constant presence of uniformed officers within the City is intended to serve as a deterrent to those who would violate the law. A problem oriented policy philosophy is intended to team officers with the citizens to find long-term solutions to problems facing the community.

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<sup>1</sup> Email correspondence from John Petropulos, Police Captain, City of Fullerton, dated July 28, 2009.



- **Investigation Division.** The Investigation Division has the responsibility of continuing investigation into matters that cannot be completed by the uniform officers. It must preserve evidence and prepare criminal cases for prosecution in court. Recovery of stolen property is also a primary objective of the investigation division. Investigators often work closely with other agencies on matters of mutual interest.
- **Services Division.** The Services Division provides the logistical support for the two line divisions. If the line divisions are to operate efficiently, they must have the necessary supplies vehicles, equipment, maintenance, duplicating and reporting services, property and evidence control and other assistance which frees sworn officers for their enforcement duties.

As of 2011, the service obligations of the Police Department are maintained through strategic deployment of 144 sworn officers, 67 full-time non-sworn personnel, 19 reserve police officers, and 36 marked cars.<sup>2</sup> The City maintains an officer to population ratio of 1.04.<sup>3</sup> The City participates in a mutual aid program among all Orange County law enforcement agencies at various levels. The mutual aid program provides back-up assistance to member departments as needed. Typically, the Fullerton Police Department provides assistance to, or is assisted by, the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Brea, La Habra, and Placentia.

Calls for service are prioritized into three levels:<sup>4</sup>

- **Priority One.** Aircraft accident, alarm robbery, arson, assault deadly weapon, assault domestic violence, assault peace officer, battery, battery peace officer, bomb threat, burglary, carjacking, child abuse, child molest, child stealing, disturbance fight, emergency officer needs help, explosion, fire structure, foot pursuit, forgery, homicide, kidnap, lewd conduct, man down, mental case violent, officer needs help, officer shooting, overdose, prowler, public accident, pursuit, rape, resisting arrest, robbery, shots fired, suicide, traffic collision no details, traffic hit and run, traffic injury, auto theft, grand theft, traffic stop, brandishing weapon, criminal threats, and concealed weapon.
- **Priority Two.** 911 hang up, burglary alarm, panic alarm, animal cruelty, report only calls, court order violation, dead body, disturbance party, drunk driver, fire car, found person, fraud, hazmat spill, identity theft, indecent exposure, mentally ill, missing person, narcotic violation, open door, open window, prostitution, recovered auto, restraining order violation, stolen property, suspicious person, suspicious vehicle, transient problem, and vehicle tampering.
- **Priority Three.** Minor in possession of alcohol, animal problem, child custody order violation, report calls, code Alex, department assist, noise disturbance, music disturbance, municipal code violation, hailed by citizen, illegal soliciting, keep the peace, medical aid, misuse of 911, recovered auto, suspicious phone call, traffic control, tree down, warrant service, and welfare check.

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<sup>2</sup> Scott Rudisil, City of Fullerton, September 27, 2011.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Email correspondence from John Petropulos, Police Captain, City of Fullerton, dated August 3, 2009.



Average response times (2011 year to date) are 6 minutes and 15 seconds for priority one calls; 16 minutes and 45 seconds for priority two calls; and 26 minutes and 9 seconds for priority three calls.<sup>5</sup>

### 5.13.4 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS AND CRITERIA

Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* contains the Initial Study Environmental Checklist, which was included with the Notice of Preparation to show the areas being analyzed within the EIR; refer to [Appendix 13.1](#) of this EIR. The Initial Study includes questions relating to police protection services. The issues presented in the Initial Study Checklist have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this Section. Accordingly, a project would typically have a significant impact on police protection services if the project would result in any of the following:

- Substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or result in the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which may cause significant environmental impacts in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

### 5.13.5 PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

#### POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES

- IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FULLERTON PLAN WOULD NOT AVERSELY IMPACT POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES WITHIN THE CITY.

**Impact Analysis:** The Fullerton Police Department provides police protection throughout the City. Buildout of The Fullerton Plan would result in increased development throughout the City, and as a result, an increased demand for police protection services. Thus, additional facilities, personnel, and equipment may be required to maintain adequate levels of police protection within the City.

Buildout of The Fullerton Plan would occur over several years; thus, any increase in demand for police protection services would occur gradually as additional development and associated population growth is added to the City. As individual projects are proposed within the City, the Fullerton Police Department service levels and staffing requirements would be evaluated to determine if additional staffing and/or facilities would be required. As the proposed General Plan buildout would occur over a 20-year period, the Fullerton Police Department would effectively plan for increases in population and police protection service demand.

Further, The Fullerton Plan includes policies and actions to ensure that adequate police protection is available to serve existing and future development and population (Policy 13.2). The Fullerton Plan also supports proactive approaches to address public safety through collaboration with the community and other agencies and through environmental design, which would further reduce impacts.

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<sup>5</sup> Scott Rudisil, City of Fullerton, September 27, 2011.



## Proposed General Plan Update Policies and Actions:

- P11.4 ***Neighborhood Safety***  
Support policies, projects, programs, and regulations that utilize innovative policing and crime prevention techniques to improve the safety of neighborhoods and districts, such as evidence-based policing, community-based policing, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).
- P12.2 ***Collaboration with Outside Agencies***  
Support regional and subregional efforts to prevent violence, child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, illegal use of firearms, violence associated with substance abuse, crimes against property and other similar issues.
- P12.6 ***Youth Community Safety Partnership***  
Support programs that involve young people in discussions about crime and prevention, increase youths' attachment to the community, engage youth in productive activities, and reinforce success in education.
- P12.9 ***Neighborhood Safety Strategy***  
Support policies, projects, programs, and regulations that strengthen partnerships and community-based efforts, such as Neighborhood Watch, to reduce crime through prevention, education and enforcement, and encourage communities to build block by block networks to prevent crime, develop social ties, and solve common problems.
- P12.10 ***Community Involvement in Crime Prevention***  
Support policies and programs that involve the community in supporting informal monitoring, participating in legitimate activities, and building a sense of ownership and control over neighborhoods.
- P12.11 ***Public Safety in Focus Areas***  
Support projects, programs, policies and regulations to proactively address public safety concerns as part of community-based planning of Focus Areas.
- P12.12 ***Crime Prevention***  
Support policies, programs, and regulations that implement crime prevention strategies that have demonstrated success, including Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED); Crime-Free Multi-Housing; Business Watch; Neighborhood Watch; iWatch; and other similar strategies.
- P12.13 ***Safety through Design***  
Support policies, projects, programs, and regulations that make crime prevention and the maintenance of public safety service levels considerations in design and management of existing and new private and public spaces.



P13.1 ***Inter-City Coordination***

Support regional and subregional efforts to: coordinate as appropriate Continuity of Operations Plan, plans and procedures for Emergency Operations Centers, and emergency response training systems; maintain inter-agency and public communications systems that will provide mutual aid and be reliable during and following an emergency; and, formulate definitive plans and procedures for evacuation of hazard-prone areas and high risk uses.

P13.2 ***Adequate Resources for Emergencies***

Support policies and programs that ensure adequate resources are available in all areas of the City to respond to health, fire, and police emergencies.

P13.7 ***New Technologies for Fire and Police Services***

Support policies, programs, and regulations which are based on research and evaluation and that implement new technologies and methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of fire and police services.

P13.11 ***Crime Reduction Strategies***

Support policies, programs, and regulations to create problem-solving strategies and plans for areas with higher crime rates in the City and to reduce crime by implementing these strategies and plan through a range of measures including increased policing activities, neighborhood partnerships, and other innovative programs.

A13.1 ***CERT Program***

Promote and conduct seminars in schools and other civic and neighborhood locations to teach citizens how to prepare for potential emergencies and provide ample opportunities for Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) so that community members can serve as civilian volunteers during an emergency.

**Mitigation Measures:** No further mitigation is required beyond compliance with the proposed General Plan Update Policies and Actions.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Less Than Significant Impact.

## 5.13.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FULLERTON PLAN WOULD NOT RESULT IN CUMULATIVE IMPACTS TO POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES.

**Impact Analysis:** Cumulative impacts are analyzed in terms of impacts within the City of Fullerton, as police protection service within the City is provided by the Fullerton Police Department. Implementation of The Fullerton Plan along with cumulative development projects within the region would not have a significant impact on police protection services. As buildout would occur over a 20-year period, Fullerton would effectively plan for increases in population and police protection service demand.



Individual projects would be reviewed on a project-by-project basis to determine specific safety requirements applicable to the specific development and to ensure compliance with these requirements. The Fullerton Plan includes policies and actions to ensure adequate resources are available to respond to health, fire, and police emergencies (Policy 13.2) and new technologies are available to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of police services (Policy 13.7).

The City would continue to consider impacts to police services and facilities as part of the long-term planning process, and has done that with The Fullerton Plan, which serves as a long-term planning document and anticipates future growth. The City reviews budgets on an annual basis and would plan for police demands associated with future growth. Funding for police services and facilities would be paid in part by developer fees and general funds. This would ensure that new developments would not reduce the staffing, response times, or existing service levels within the City. Therefore, implementation of The Fullerton Plan would result in less than significant impacts to police protection and emergency services. As such, implementation of The Fullerton Plan would not result in cumulatively considerable police protection impacts.

**Proposed General Plan Update Policies and Actions:** Refer to the Policies and Actions cited above.

**Mitigation Measures:** No further mitigation is required beyond compliance with the proposed General Plan Update Policies and Actions.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Less Than Significant Impact.

### 5.13.7 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Police protection impacts associated with implementation of The Fullerton Plan would be less than significant by adherence to and/or compliance with policies and actions in The Fullerton Plan. No significant unavoidable police protection impacts would occur as a result of buildout of The Fullerton Plan.

### 5.13.8 SOURCES CITED

City of Fullerton Official Website, [www.ci.fullerton.ca.us](http://www.ci.fullerton.ca.us).

John Petropulos, Police Captain, Fullerton Police Department, electronic mail, July 28, 2009 and August 3, 2009.

RBF Consulting, *The Fullerton Plan Draft*, August 2011.