



# LPSCC

## Executive Committee Meeting

### *Summary Minutes for October 10, 2010*

#### **I. Introductions, Announcements, and Approval of Minutes**

##### **LPSCC Executive Committee**

###### **Members In Attendance**

Judy Shiprack, LPSCC Co-Chair,  
Multnomah County Commissioner,  
District #3  
Sam Adams, LPSCC Co-Chair, Mayor of  
Portland  
Chief Scott Anderson, Troutdale Police  
Lane Borg, Director, Metropolitan Public  
Defenders  
Judge Julie Frantz, Chief Criminal Court  
Judge  
Karen Gray, Superintendent, Parkrose  
School District  
Judy Hadley, Citizen Representative  
Suzanne Hayden, Citizens' Crime  
Commission  
Dwight Holton, Acting U. S. Attorney  
Chief Craig Junginger, Gresham Police  
Judge Jean Maurer, Presiding Circuit  
Court Judge  
Diane McKeel, Multnomah County  
Commissioner, District #4  
Chief Mike Reese, Portland Police  
Bureau  
Chiquita Rollins, Domestic Violence  
Coordinator  
Pam Hillar for Lillian Shirley, Director,  
County Health Department  
Michael Schrunk, District Attorney  
Dan Staton, Multnomah County Sheriff

###### **LPSCC Staff**

Peter Ozanne, Executive Director  
Elizabeth Davies, Analyst  
Tom Bode, Research Associate

###### **Other Attendees**

Larry Aab, MCSO  
Art Balizan, FBI  
Jan Bishop, DCJ  
Emerald Bogue, Chair's Office  
Doug Bray, Circuit Court Administrator  
Drew Brosh, MCSO  
Nancy Cozine, Oregon Judicial  
Department  
Glenna Hayes, Center for Family  
Success  
Dara Iamsongserm, PSU Grad Student  
Neal Japport, Oregon Judicial  
Department  
Barry Jennings, Oregon Judicial  
Department  
Matthew Lashua, Commissioner  
Shiprack's Office  
Mary Li, DCHS  
Steve March, County Auditor's Office  
Gail McKeel, County IT  
Tim Moore, MCSO  
Lonnie Nettles, DCJ  
Elise Nicholson, County IT  
Erika Preuitt, DCJ  
Charlene Rhyne, DCJ  
Kathy Sevos, Volunteers of America  
Becca Stavenjard, CCFC  
Regena Warren, Commissioner Willer's  
Office  
Barbara Willer, Multnomah County  
Commissioner, District # 2

#### **Announcements**

There will be a "What Works" conference on December 10<sup>th</sup> in place of that month's LPSCC meeting.

#### **Questions, comments or suggestions?**

Contact Elizabeth Davies at [elizabeth.davies@co.multnomah.or.us](mailto:elizabeth.davies@co.multnomah.or.us) or 503.988.5002

**Serving  
Public  
Safety  
Agencies in  
Multnomah  
County**

## **II. Updates on Recent Incidents of Gang Violence**

*Materials: powerpoint presentation*

Dave Hendrie, a Portland Police Lieutenant for the Gang Enforcement Team, presented a snapshot of recent gang events and the bureau's response. The Gang Enforcement Team is composed of uniformed enforcement officers and investigators who solely work on gang crime. A PPB "liaison" program allows officers interested in gang enforcement to pursue training and information while remaining attached to their precincts; these officers assist the Gang Enforcement Team throughout the city. In addition to the Gang Enforcement Team, the Portland Police Bureau works with the Metro Gang Team. It is made up of multiple agencies and focuses more on longer term gang issues, such as narcotics. There is an FBI agent attached to it.

Hendrie discussed the most recent gang homicide, noting that the victim was an associate of the Rollin' 60s. Despite a "cool down" effort, there was a shooting an hour after his funeral. The cool down mission brought together many enforcement agencies and divisions and was an example of a relatively new model of operations.

Referring to a map of "shots fired" calls, Hendrie called attention to "hot spots" in NE Portland, the downtown core, and East County. Mayor Adams added that historical "heat maps" show that the today's hot spots have existed in the same locations for at least the past ten years. This indicates that some gang crime remains in the same place even though the offenders may not live in those areas.

Commissioner Shiprack spoke about the "stickiness" of the problem. She remarked that the permanence of the hot spots in NE Portland suggests that the new locations of violence in East County may last for a long time.

## **III. Highlights of Current Operations in a Comprehensive Interagency Response to Youth & Gang Violence: Enforcement, Intervention, Outreach, and Prevention**

*Materials: powerpoint presentation*

Peter Ozanne spoke about the need for cooperation in the public safety arena despite the pressure to devote time to agency-specific work. The eastward migration of gang violence across the county requires a cooperative and dynamic response from public safety leadership. Ozanne urged LPSCC to be more proactive about overseeing and discussing the coordination of agencies and efforts. He said that the council needs to understand current efforts in order to provide the guidance and resources that are needed to continue and enhance operations. Today's meeting is a snapshot of some of the agencies that are involved in the long- and short-term gang response efforts.

### **Office of Youth Violence Prevention (OYVP)**

Rob Ingram, Director of the Office of Youth Violence Prevention, described the two referral programs of OYVP. The first offers a non-punitive option to police officers who contact at risk youth. The officer collects the name of the youth; OYVP outreach workers then contact him and his parents. The second referral program allows OYVP outreach workers to refer

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young people to service providers. The system is well integrated with a quick turnaround for referrals.

OYVP also provides the Outreach Intervention Service, which identifies at-risk young people and refers them to service providers. Outreach workers are mobile and do not have permanent office space in order to keep down administrative costs. The focus of the Outreach Intervention Service for the past year and a half has been on shootings and youth with guns. A new program called “violence interrupters” uses volunteer ex-gang members to access high level gang members – the “trigger pullers” – who are difficult to contact.

Karen Gray asked how the referral programs contact schools. Ingram responded that school contact is individualized and inconsistent. Upcoming meetings should correct this and make schools more aware of the availability of outreach workers and OYVP resources.

## **Department of Community Justice**

Carl Goodman, Senior Manager of DCJ’s Adult Services Division with DCJ, spoke about DCJ’s role with gangs. On the adult side, there is a gang unit composed of four parole/probation officers. The unit supervises black style gangs (Crips, Bloods, Rollin 60s, etc), Hispanic gangs, and skinheads. Though there are Asian and Russian gangs active in Portland, the number of gang members from those gangs under supervision is very small. The total number of gang offenders on supervision is 250, 75 percent of whom are on post-prison supervision.

DCJ’s primary challenge is case management. Because the total volume of cases is so large, the ability to identify cases that are high-risk, high-need, or high-responsivity is crucial to properly allocate resources. In addition to normal case management, parole officers attend conference meetings with outreach workers in the area and the state.

A new DCJ program assigns “outpost” parole officers to areas at high risk for gang activity. This method allowed citizens to communicate directly to POs about suspected problem. This program started in NE New Columbia and will be expanded to East County.

Goodman said that although County Parole Officers have a strong working relationship with the Portland Police, there is a deficit of cooperation with the Sheriff’s Office and County Health that he hopes will be addressed.

On the juvenile side, there are five counselors who supervise about 150 gang-affected youth. These youth, from 12 to 18 years old, range from having peripheral involvement in gangs to being members.

Rob Ingram described how four “Stop the Violence” meeting have been held over the past year. These meetings are based on a model that has demonstrated success at reducing gang violence in other communities (see David Kennedy’s [article in The New Yorker](#)). The purpose of these meetings is to deliver two messages to gang members: 1) that continued violent activity will result in harsh penalties, and 2) that the community cares about young people and wants to help gang members be successful. Attendance at these meetings is mandated by Parole Officers. Future “Stop the Violence” meetings may involve Latino gangs, girls, or members of rival gangs. Jan Bishop, the Community Justice Manager for Juvenile Services, also spoke about the “Stop the Violence” meetings. The meetings are

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held by DCJ in conjunction with the Portland Police, community providers, OYVP, representatives from the religious community, and have included presentations from a judge, a doctor, and a trauma nurse. Comments from the youth will be available in a report, to be released later this week.

Mayor Adams stressed the importance of the Stop the Violence meetings and indicated that he would like to see higher attendance numbers.

Jan Bishop spoke about the efforts of the DCJ Juvenile division, including: arranging back-to-school events for parents and children; partnering with the faith-based community to provide mentors to children in their natural environments; developing “safety plans” for youth on probation who are threatened; providing temporary placement for kids who need to get refocused and whose parents need a break; encouraging kids to talk about violence that they witness; and working with gang outreach and the HEAT team to identify youth with existing warrants. Many of these programs focus on changing attitudes, the precursor to changes in behavior.

Mayor Adams sought to reconcile the figure of 400 gang-affected people under DCJ supervision with the PPB’s figure of 648 gang-designated individuals. Goodman suggested that DCJ’s smaller number is part of the larger PPB figure. Chief Reese suggested that the PPB number may include people who are incarcerated, have not committed crimes that earn parole or probation, or for whom the three year period of post-release supervision has expired.

Commissioner Shiprack asked about possible familial relations between adults and juveniles who are gang-affected. Goodman responded that yes, there often are relationships, although the data is difficult to compile. Through manual matching, ten families have been identified where an adult and a child are under supervision and living in the same house. Mayor Adams asked whether DCJ had the technical ability to track historical data of familial relationships. DCJ does not, but has identified technology that if purchased would greatly increase its ability to provide and process data.

Goodman concluded by saying that a year and a half ago DCJ found itself unprepared for the increase in gang activity. Since then, however, DCJ has worked hard to establish and reestablish the programs needed to effectively respond to gang violence, because it appears to be a problem that is not going away.

### **East Metro Gang Enforcement Team (EMGET)**

Sergeant Bill Smith of the Gresham Police Department introduced the East Metro Gang Enforcement Team, which is composed of six officers and one detective from Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, and the County. Over the summer EMGET had 18 shots-fired calls, 90 felony arrests, 14 gang felony assaults, and numerous reports of gang street activity. His unit has observed an influx of gang members from Portland. New gang activity concentrates in the area located from Halsey to Main and 155<sup>th</sup> to 201<sup>st</sup>.

EMGET works closely with SROs (School Resource Officers) to follow up with students reported as possibly gang-affected and to conduct house visits. Sometimes parents appear to be gang or ex-gang members themselves, while at other times the parents appear to be completely unaware of their child’s possible gang involvement. Home visits happen in

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conjunction with Parole and Probation. A new tactic of EMGET has been to work with apartment owners and managers to explain the gang problem and suggest changes to property lighting, security, and maintenance that would discourage gang activity.

In response to a question from Mayor Adams, Sergeant Smith praised the level of cooperation between the East County police departments and the Portland Police. He explained that they work closely together and share data and information frequently through formal and informal channels.

Ozanne asked about the level of outreach in East County. Sergeant Smith responded that there is minimal outreach, because the EMGET lacks the capacity to perform those functions.

Commissioner Judy Shiprack asked about the situation presented by guns in school: they present a safety risk, but expelling kids exacerbates the gang problem by driving those kids away from school. Sergeant Smith responded that a lot of gang-affected kids who are expelled have access to weapons, and a lot of the time they are expelled because they are bringing weapons to schools. Karen Gray explained that in the school system, there are no low-level offenses with weapons – just possessing a weapon is a serious offense with mandatory expulsion or suspension. She acknowledged the problem Commissioner Shiprack identified, because expelling or suspending students significantly challenges their education and likelihood of graduating. The restorative justice model offers a solution to this problem by providing early resolution of conflicts, and opportunities for youth to take responsibility for their actions while staying in school.

Sergeant Smith added that EMGET is funded by the state, and it was one of the last items added back to the budget last session, making the future funding of EMGET uncertain.

## **County Human Services**

Mary Li, Community Service Manager for County Human Services, spoke about the strategies and system level issues in Multnomah County's gang prevention efforts. She referred to a [report that County Human Services presented to LPSCC in 2005](#) about youth gang prevention numbers. The recommendations, with only slight changes to the numbers and dates, are all still valid today. She suggested that this is indicative of attention and resources given to prevention efforts. Currently, DCHS gang-prevention program has a budget of \$1 million and serves the population one step away from being gang-affected youth. There are three components of long term prevention that need to be maintained or strengthened:

- 1) Ensuring the presence of a “moral voice of authority” or a “competent caring adult” who provides stability and is a role model for young people;
- 2) Supporting restorative justice programs in schools and in the public safety system, because it offers a path of restoration to the community, the victim, and the at-risk population; and
- 3) Providing culturally-specific programs that reach the large population of people and families who do not speak English at home.

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Li explained that many programs targeting school attendance, juvenile diversion, drug and alcohol addictions, which were best-practices programs, have been cut in the last ten years. These cuts are the reason that prevention efforts are currently inadequate.

Mayor Adams asked for a cost benefit analysis of prevention programs that shows the benefits of these programs. Mary Li responded that she has that data and will send it to the Mayor.

## **Discussion**

US Attorney Dwight Holden spoke about his office's response to gang violence. They are working with the PPB to create the YGAT. They are also continuing their relationship with the DA's office regarding gun cases and prosecuting more federal gun cases. For several months, the US Attorney's office has been working on bringing a racketeering case to trial. These cases are difficult to prosecute because of the evidence required, but they have large deterrent value in communities with burgeoning gang problems. Mike Schrunk said that his office has an excellent working relationship with federal agencies. In the past, RICO cases have been successful at breaking up gangs, although now they are more difficult to prosecute. He spoke about the importance of prevention. Schrunk and Holden emphasized the importance of good schools. Mayor Adams said that there will be more school representatives at future meetings.

Mayor Adams presented three items as his "gang violence wish list." First, he would like support and cooperation as he reestablishes YGAT (Youth Gang Anti-Violence Team), which had been successful at reducing firearms and gang violence. The previous incarnation of YGAT was a collaboration between the District Attorney, the US Attorney, the Sheriff's Office, and County Parole and Probation.

Second, the Mayor would like a phone number that provides single link to the services available to someone wanting to turn away from a life of crime. County Health clinics are seen as safe places by many members of the community and the department may be a good home agency for the phone number.

Third, the Mayor would like to coordinate with Parole and Probation to enforce an exclusion zone around gang hot spots. The Mayor would like this exclusionary condition added to the standard restrictions placed on people under supervision. Exceptions could be made for people traveling to work or home. DCJ Parole and Probation is able to enforce an exclusion zone policy more effectively and flexibly than the Portland Police.

Ozanne suggested that collaborative work, such as the Mayor's "one phone number," is more effective if there is one person who directs the coordination of operations and can convene people. He thinks such a person should report to LPSCC.

Chiquita Rollins reminded Council members that the County recently received an Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grant to study children exposed to violence. Rollins would like to see people involved in the Youth and Gang Violence effort to participate in the grant meetings, which will be convened by Commissioner Shiprack.

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Ozanne remarked that the Department of County Human Services, Department of Community Justice, and LPSCC will participate in a gang assessment process sponsored by OJJDP that is a prerequisite for certain federal grants.

Judy Hadley asked if there is an action plan or a vote that follows from the calls for coordination and integration. Schrunk suggested that LPSCC staff compile an action plan from Ozanne's suggestions and points raised at the meeting. Shiprack directed LPSCC staff to create an action plan that will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.

***Next LPSCC Meeting: November 2, 2010***

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