

Public Safety Team | Minutes from the 2.25.23 Meeting,

Our Mission & Strategy

Our mission is to make our neighborhoods and streets safer. This will be accomplished by:

- 1) Identifying and surveying the problems;
- 2) Developing concrete solutions that help reduce death & injury;
- and 3) Presenting our recommendations to Thom Druffel, our D23Metro Council Representative.

Attended: Lauren Balmer, Zach Heil, Laurie Loughlin, Jim Easter, Rachel Kaiser, Brian Reynolds, Judy Sarles, Martin Shofner, & Tom Wright, Thom Druffel

They are listening and **"Things are happening."**

*(This is due—in no small part—to our presence at the Monthly Precinct Meetings. And, asking for police presence at these dangerous roadways. *)*

- On Thursday, February 16 Officer Sammy Johnson went out to the Deep Wells entrance (6921 Hwy 100) for about an hour yesterday afternoon and again this morning. Here are the results of his enforcement: **18 Vehicle stops, 2 Warnings, 15 Speed violations, and 1 Other violation.**
- Lauren Balmer reports: "I've was on HWY 100 yesterday and today. Each day metro police were there. Today I pulled over to thank the officer on duty. Things are happening."
- A couple of days later Lauren Balmer was on Highway 100: "They are again sitting and ticketing exactly where they have been asked to be. Anything I've (we've) asked them to do they are doing and repetitively. Commander Lee A. Kendall of the West Precinct has been very responsive."
- Vaughn's Gap Road and Percy Warner Dr. have been selected for traffic calming measures, based on traffic volume, speeding, and previous auto crashes on the street.
 - <https://www.nashville.gov/departments/transportation/news/ndot-announces-winter-2023-neighborhood-street-traffic-calming-project-selections>
 - <https://www.nashville.gov/departments/transportation/plans-and-programs/traffic-calming/program-overview>
- Brush has been trimmed back at Highway 100 and Alton, Taggart, Gilman, West Tyne, and Cheek.

AND, there is this from Thom Druffel, 3/7/23

“I talked with NDOT yesterday about another Traffic Calming strategy – cross walks. Our committee could identify potential crosswalk locations in close proximity to schools and parks; pull together studies and stats to show just cause; and provide me the Report & Request. I will submit them for review and enactment. I would love to see this happen.”

West Precinct Monthly Meetings have changed to 2nd THURSDAY of each month.

Next Meeting is 7-8pm, April 13 at West Precinct: 5500, Charlotte Ave.

A note from Lauren Balmer

I'm serving on a Participatory Budgeting Committee out of the Mayor's office and unfortunately, those meetings are also on Thursday nights. Going forward I'll make as many of the monthly meetings with the West Precinct that I can, but will unavoidably miss some. Rachel, Tom and I feel it has been and will be greatly beneficial to have a committee representative attend. Any volunteers? Many hands make light work.

Updates on 2 critical issues

Cutting Metro Council in Half / NOT Happening!

Belle Meade Plaza Rezoning and Redevelopment / NOT a done deal, but will be hard to stop!

Our next meeting – 10 am, Saturday, April 22, at Paneras on White Bridge Rd

Important Links

Public Safety Team email PublicSafetyD23@gmail.com

Nashville Vision Zero Action Plan Website

Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure NDOT Website

West Police Precinct Website

Commander Lee A. Kendall / Community Services Bureau / Metro Nashville Police
Department / 615-779-4259 / lee.kendall@nashville.gov

Hub Nashville [hubNashville Website](#)

Thom Druffel's Website

Communications / Public Safety Forum /

- to serve as tool for PSTeam discourse, comments, and observations
- a collection site for PS resources, and minutes
- sign up for committee or more info
- a eBulletin Board with postings of events/happenings of related interest,
- www.publicsafetyteam.org
- Should we stay in our lane?: Belle Meade Plaza Rezoning and Redevelopment / Cutting Metro Council in Half

Setup Committees to address PROBLEMS

- 1) PROBLEM: Speeding/observing traffic laws
 - SOLUTION: Positive reinforcement (along with police enforcement) Calling drivers to higher awareness. Some ideas include: Posting signs along neighborhood streets: "This is a walking neighborhood."
 - SOLUTION: Establish a relationship with West Precinct, attend meetings
 - OTHER SOLUTION(s): 1) Paint Bike Lanes, Walker Stripes, and the speed limit on streets, 2) Rumble Strips/ Audible deterrent, 3) Reflector Strips, 4) Neighborhood Legislation, 5) Signage, 6) Electronic Speed Warning Signs, 7) Speed Humps, 8) Report all crashes
- 2) PROBLEM: Need more sidewalks and lighting
 - SOLUTION: Learn more on the sidewalk endowment
- 3) PROBLEM: Intersections
 - SOLUTION: Plastic Columns/Tubes
- 4) PROBLEM: Pedestrian Safety – bicyclers and walkers
 - SOLUTION: Safety Awareness: Hold pedestrians accountable too: wearing appropriate clothing after sunset; walking on the correct side of the street, facing oncoming traffic
 - SOLUTION: Sidewalks

- SOLUTION: Landscape signage / road graphics
- 5) PROBLEM: Crime /Car Break-Ins
- SOLUTION(s): 1) Education, 2) Report all crimes, 3) Awareness: locking car & removing valuables, guns, etc
 - SOLUTION: Establish a relationship with West Precinct, attend meetings
- 6) PROBLEM: Road Blockage due to construction, renovation and demolition
- SOLUTION: 1) Letters from Neighborhood associations/organizations, 2) Report all blockage violations
- 7) PROBLEM: Who are the Authorities in charge of Law Enforcement, Policy and Management that impact our community
- SOLUTION: Identify, research, and establish relationship
 - o TDOT, NDOT, City of Nashville / HUB Nashville, Davidson County, Law Enforcement, Policy Management
 - SOLUTION: provide case studies, exhibits, and documentation of problems outlined above
- 8) PROBLEM: Impaired visibility at Intersections / overgrown hedges/vegetation
- SOLUTION: Identify and contact HUB Nashville
- 9) QUESTION: How do we stay on track, in touch, and engaged?
- ANSWER: Communication: Create Communal Communications among neighbors within each Precinct. Share information on suspicious cars, speeding cars, and cars that are indifferent to the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other drivers. For example: ePublic Safety Bulletin Board with the latest news and links on committee projects and solutions
 - ANSWER: Attend meetings and read minutes
 - ANSWER: Spread the word and our team's mission: Share what we are doing with neighbors / get feedback and engagement
 - ANSWER: As you dive into the PROBLEM and implement the SOLUTION you might run into some bureaucracy, you might run into delays, you might

run into frustrations...

- Hopefully not, but if so, that is useful too. Bring it to the table and share. That experience is useful data to support the severity of the problem and the validity of the solution, when presented to Thom Druffel and Metro Council. ALL gathered info can be used as data
- The ePublic Safety Bulletin Board could also be used to collect letters from concerned and supportive neighbors.