



Elmwood Park COPS meeting encourages public participation

Village officials look for input from residents on September 5th

ELMWOOD PARK, IL - The next Village-wide Community-Oriented Policing (COPS) meeting will give residents an opportunity to hear from Police and Village officials about public safety issues in the Village. The forum, set for September 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Center, 2 Conti Parkway, will also give residents and business owners a chance to ask questions and discuss their concerns.

"The overall goal of the meeting is to make residents aware of what's going on in their community," Police Chief Frank Fagiano said. "It also gives me important feedback on how we are doing as a police department."

Fagiano and others from his department will present the very latest information about the number and the types of crimes the Village has experienced, historical trends on both a local and national level, and how the community can come even closer together to proactively prevent crime.

"There's a partnership between the Police Department and the public and input from the residents is very valuable," Deputy Chief Andrew Hock said.

Feedback from homeowners about the activities they see in their neighborhoods can often be used to heighten the police presence in certain areas. "It helps me place officers in strategic locations to address specific concerns of the residents," Fagiano explained.

The meeting is another phase of the Village's "Keeping Elmwood Park Clean, Safe and Beautiful" campaign. Village President Pete Silvestri, Village Board members and Village Manager Paul Volpe will be in attendance.

"We need people to come to the COPS meeting, share their thoughts and ideas, share their concerns about what's going on in their part of the community," President Silvestri said. "By working together we will solve our problems and keep our community safe."

Anyone needing more information about the COPS meeting can watch a short video on the Village's website, www.elmwoodpark.org or call [708-452-3924](tel:708-452-3924) or [708-453-2137](tel:708-453-2137). Residents with any physical impairments who wish to attend should contact the Police Department at [708-453-2137](tel:708-453-2137) by Tuesday, September 4, 2012, if special accommodations are needed.