

West Precinct Advisory Council

September 12, 2018

Year to date crime stats for Magnolia total 524 vs. 421 in 2017. We continue to see larceny/theft bringing in the largest numbers.

West Precinct has not seen any “unusual” changes during the course of the year and they are able to concentrate more big cases such as drug dealing. They began work on “Operation Saturation” and have arrested 6 dealers downtown. This is an on-going project for them with a concentration on the downtown parks.

DESC continues to have clients disrupt the downtown area near the courthouse. SPD is meeting regularly with DESC. Last week they rolled out a program near the courthouse with individuals wearing green vests that will be helping out the DESC clients and keeping them and the general public safer. Funding was cut for the “family area” at DESC and it has forced people outside. When there is a call to the area, both fire and police go out as the fire department has seen an increase in attacks if police are not around.

The Navigation Team is going to be rolling out another group who will focus on RV, but it has work to do before launching. If you are not familiar with the Nav Team, they go out to the unsanctioned homeless camps and offer services before a camp is cleaned up. The new team will work with only RV’s as they have been ignored.

The other huge issue right now is the right to protest. We all know that a permit is required if you want to block a street for an event, but those “rules” are being challenged as a “protest is a first amendment right”. Each protest that break the rules will be treated separately. Pete Holmes will be more aggressive on arrests, but we really don’t know what that means...

Until next month...

Cindy Pierce