

News Release

Office of the City Manager



**BOULDER CITY
CITY COUNCIL**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2018

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Boulder City Begins Speed Watch Program

BOULDER CITY – Whether you are in a hurry or just didn't notice how fast you are going, there is nothing like that sinking feeling you get when you see a police car in your rear-view mirror. The **Neighborhood Speed Watch Program** encourages citizens to take an active role in changing driver behavior on neighborhood streets by helping raise public awareness and educate drivers about the negative impact of speeding.

Boulder City Police Department (BCPD) now has a team of 12 trained volunteers who will be taking to the streets with radar detectors to monitor traffic. License numbers and vehicle descriptions of cars clocked over the speed limit will be reported to staff. BCPD will in turn send a courtesy letter to the registered owners letting them know of the observed violation and encouraging them to drive at or below the residential speed when traveling on neighborhood streets. Citations **cannot** be issued by these volunteers. The program runs under the direction of Pat Richardson, Coordinator of BCPD Volunteer Programs.

The Police Department receives complaints regarding improper driving on a regular basis. "These complaints frequently involve people driving erratically, texting while driving and the number one complaint: speeding," said Chief Tim Shea of the Boulder City Police Department. "Utilizing our volunteers in those areas where we have received speed complaints allows us to better monitor the area and provide data that lets us utilize enforcement resources more appropriately and economically."

Chief Shea adds that the volunteers are an additional presence in our neighborhoods, assisting crime prevention efforts, and that their presence will make drivers more aware of their speed. "I expect drivers will usually slow down when they notice the volunteers," Chief Shea added. "Plus, just like a verbal warning from an officer, courtesy letters sent to possible violators inform them of when and where they were driving in violation. Hopefully increased awareness will result in those drivers slowing down. Or in the case of a parent whose minor child was driving their vehicle a bit too fast, there is an opportunity to use parental guidance without having to foot the costs associated with a traffic citation. We are fortunate to have this team of volunteers who want to ensure the safety of our residents through this effort."

The volunteers spent the past few weeks testing out the Neighborhood Speed Watch Program, but plan to start mailing the courtesy letters starting this week. "I want to extend a big thank you to our volunteers," said Mayor Rod Woodbury. "This effort should encourage drivers to keep their eyes on the road and pay better attention to their speedometers, making the roads safer for us all."

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