

Montgomery Police and Fire Outreach

What engaging programs for the community might the police and fire departments consider for outreach within Montgomery?

Public comments as of October 27, 2011, 1:59 AM

All Participants



As with any public comment process, participation in Open City Hall is voluntary. The statements in this record are not necessarily representative of the whole population, nor do they reflect the opinions of any government agency or elected officials.

Montgomery Police and Fire Outreach

What engaging programs for the community might the police and fire departments consider for outreach within Montgomery?

Introduction

Currently, the police and fire departments hold public relations and prevention programs to interact with the community in non-emergency situations. Some events include:

Safety Village (bike/stranger/fire safety for children), ChiliFest (family event in the fall)

Touch-A-Truck (children's fun interaction with safety personnel)

Safety Center Open House (education and awareness displays and training)

Bicycle and helmet checks

Vacation Home Watch

CPR classes

Infant car seat checks

Home safety and security programs

If you have an idea for another helpful program, here's a great opportunity to suggest it.

Montgomery Police and Fire Outreach

What engaging programs for the community might the police and fire departments consider for outreach within Montgomery?

As of October 27, 2011, 1:59 AM, this forum had:

Attendees:	80
Participants:	7
Minutes of Public Comment:	21

Montgomery Police and Fire Outreach

What engaging programs for the community might the police and fire departments consider for outreach within Montgomery?

All Participants

Gerald (Gerry) Houchell in Cincinnati

October 28, 2009, 8:58 AM

The list you provided are all good Public Relations practices, particularly where children are involved. What I am suggesting is more along the lines of an MCLA type program whereby Citizens become participants, in limited capacity, with the Police and Fire Departments. At one time, Montgomery and other Police Departments allowed Citizens to ride or walk on patrol, that is a step in the right direction.

How about having interested Citizens, once per week, for ten weeks, spend three or four hours in the Administration Office, on Patrol, ride on a Fire Truck (unless too dangerous), those healthy enough participate in training exercises or at least become observers.

Present a Certificate to those willing and able to complete the ten week Course.

Most citizens take Police and Fire services for granted. To change this perception, citizens need to know Police and Fire Departments are businesses. How are they funded, what are the checks and balances used to monitor spending, training, discipline, assignments, and promotions, all questions that, when answered, are a step toward developing insight into fire and Police operations. When you understand how something works, you have better understanding in how to put it to use.

Police and Fireman jobs often encompass long hours of boredom punctuated by stark moments of terror, sometimes longer. How do the members of the two Forces maintain a shape edge during these periods? What are the minimum and mental physical fitness standards? How often is training repeated? What are the roles of our Departments during a local, state, and national emergency, what training do our personnel receive (MCLA touched on this, but just as observers).

What about those of us who are interested in handgun and rifle safety and use. How are our Police and Firemen trained in such weapons, what are those weapons, and may citizens participate in such training? How about offering training to citizens in the area of weapons, their proper use and care?

Hands-on is the best way to appreciate the skills and responsibilities assigned to our Police and Fire Departments, in the same manner that watching a football game from the stands is completely different from playing in a game or at least visiting the locker room, seeing how the equipment is maintained, purchased, how players maintain physical fitness, and how is equipment fitted to individuals and distributed.

Montgomery Police and Fire Outreach

What engaging programs for the community might the police and fire departments consider for outreach within Montgomery?

All Participants

Fire/Crime Safety Seminars earn discounts off home insurance. Defensive Driving course (aka 55 Alive) earns discount off auto insurance. Offering both these programs at least quarterly gives opportunity with reward.

Name not shown in Cincinnati

October 23, 2009, 10:00 PM

I do not understand the level of investment into the fire department. Although the number of fires and floodings decrease year over year we do not seem to reduce the size of the fire department. The reality is that the fire department is converted into stand-in for a dysfunctional health care system - in particular 911 calls. It is time to reduce the cost for the fire department and allocate such costs to where they occur - the 911 / health care system.

Name not shown in Cincinnati

October 23, 2009, 1:13 PM

We routinely use take advantage of the vacation watch. We've participated in CPR classes and also had a security audit of our home.

In the past we've done touch-a-truck and bicycle checks.

Police also helped me get into my car when I locked myself out of car and home.

Thanks, Montgomery safety personnel

John Perry in Montgomery

October 23, 2009, 12:02 PM

This may be happening and just not listed, but I hope that our fire and police departments are working with Sycamore School District teachers in their Civics and Government programs, providing local examples and background information when these subjects come up in regular class work.

Dick Chisholm in Montgomery

October 23, 2009, 11:50 AM

When our police chief first arrived in Montgomery we conducted a Saturday walk in the park selecting a different park each week. This might be an interesting activity for our policemen, firemen, and interested citizens. Police might have some interesting stories about what they see and do in the parks. Firemen could talk about the controlled burn of the meadow in Pioneer Park and could also point out fire hazards if they exist.

Name not shown in Montgomery

October 23, 2009, 9:26 AM

How about a monthly drawing for "breakfast with the fire fighters" or "breakfast with the police officers" for a family with young kids?
