



# QUARTERLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



450 E. Latham Ave., Hemet, CA 92543 Phone: (951) 765-2400 [www.HemetPolice.org](http://www.HemetPolice.org) May, 2016

## Welcome!

Today, Hemet faces significant challenges as we provide law enforcement services to an ever changing community, with fewer resources and reduced manpower.

There is much talk about “community based policing” across America. The reality is that the Hemet Police Department has always been a true community police department. Our ranks are comprised of mostly Valley residents who have a personal stake in keeping our community safe. As such, our strong commitment to addressing quality-of-life issues will continue to drive our decisions and deployment of resources.

Please enjoy our newsletter, and let us know if there is anything we can do to improve it! We strive to provide excellent customer service. If viewing on -line, follow the many links embedded in photos and colored text for even more information.

Please tell us how we're doing at: <http://cityofhemet.info>

## Measure E Information

Measure E is a public safety special purpose one cent sales tax measure that requires all funds be spent only in Hemet on public safety services and cannot be redirected for other uses.

Crime is up 21% overall in Hemet since 2010, with violent crime up 50%. Additionally, not all of Hemet's fire stations have paramedics on duty. If enacted, Measure E would provide funding to increase the number of police officers and firefighters/EMTs/Paramedics in Hemet.

Measure E includes specific taxpayer accountability provisions and safeguards including:

- Independent annual financial audits
- An independent Citizen's Oversight Committee to review annual expenditure plans and monitors funds to ensure they are spent properly.
- Requiring 2/3 of the funding goes to police services and 1/3 goes to fire services, which is consistent with the City's current distribution of public safety resources.
- Legal protections guaranteeing existing City funding for public safety is protected and cannot be reduced or redirected by the City Council for other purposes.



*"I am proud to represent the fine men and women; sworn, civilian and volunteer, who make up this great department..."*

- Chief David M. Brown

## In This Issue

- Measure E Information
- Nextdoor
- Graffiti & ROCS
- Home Safety Fire Guide



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Some FAQs for Measure E

### Q: What Type of Public Safety Priorities Will Measure E Funding enable our Chiefs to Address?

A: If approved by voters, Measure E would:

- Increase the number of police officers, firefighters and paramedics in Hemet
- Ensure paramedics are on duty at every fire station in Hemet
- Improve 911 paramedic/emergency response
- Restore police anti-drug and anti-gang units
- Enhance tracking of sex offenders and parolees
- Restore a fire engine company at Station 5 in eastern Hemet
- Maintain/improve police and firefighting equipment

### Q. Can Measure E Funds be spent on Non-Public Safety Services?

A: No, Measure E is a special purpose public safety measure that requires by law that “proceeds from the tax are dedicated specifically for Hemet Police and Fire Departments...to protect and enhance public safety within the City of Hemet.” (Sec.74-131 A)

### Q. What restrictions does Measure E include to ensure tax revenues are only spent on Public Safety?

A: Measure E includes strict accountability requirements and taxpayer safeguards to ensure funds are spent properly including independent annual financial audits and an Independent Citizens Oversight Committee to monitor spending. Measure E also protects existing public safety funding to ensure that all funding generated by Measure E goes exclusively towards enhancing public safety services.

### [Resolution 4658—Measure E \(Full Text\)](#)

## Revenue Enhancement Survey Results

- [Press Release—Hemet Residents Highly Concerned About Public Safety](#)  
<http://www.cityofhemet.org/DocumentCenter/View/3223>
- [Community Services and Revenue Study](#)  
<http://www.cityofhemet.org/DocumentCenter/View/3222>
- [Summary of Survey Results](#)  
<http://www.cityofhemet.org/DocumentCenter/View/3221>

If you have any questions about Measure E, please contact :  
Police Chief Dave Brown (951) 765-2457 [dbrown@cityofhemet.org](mailto:dbrown@cityofhemet.org)  
Fire Chief Scott Brown (951) 765-2450 [sbrown@cityofhemet.org](mailto:sbrown@cityofhemet.org)

## Crime Reports

The Hemet Police Department is dedicated to providing up-to-date crime statistics to the community we serve.

The quickest way to gather this information is to utilize a web-based program called [CrimeReports.com](http://CrimeReports.com). Simply follow the link and enter the information you are looking for.

If you would like additional information, not contained within the website, please contact us at **951-765-2410** during normal business hours.



Contact Hemet Police to report your sightings. **If it is a real emergency, Dial 911** otherwise, please use the **non-emergency** number: **951-765-2400**.

- Give your name and address
- Explain what happened
- Briefly describe suspect: sex and race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, distinctive characteristics such as beard, mustaches, scars or accent
- Describe the vehicle if one was involved: color, make, model, year, license plate and special features such as stickers.

## Proposed Measure E

### Community Safety and Police Staffing Plan

(Presented by Chief Brown to the Hemet City Council in public meeting on Feb. 23, 2016)

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#### YEAR 1 (2016) "TROOP SURGE"

- ⇒ **ADD 16 POLICE OFFICERS & 2 SERGANTS, 1 LT.:** This represents the first phase of a 'troop surge' that will add "boots-on-the-ground."
- **CRIME SUPPRESSION UNIT:** Aggressive pursuit and apprehension of criminals committing violent and felony crimes against our community. Targeting gang members and sex offenders.
- **NEIGHBORHOOD/DOWNTOWN ENHANCEMENT TEAM:** Aggressively targets nuisance crime in neighborhoods and business/medical districts. Strict enforcement of trespassing, panhandling, vandalism to improve safety and security for everyone.

#### YEAR 2 (2017)

- ⇒ **ADD 6 POLICE OFFICERS, 4 INVESTIGATORS:**
  - **SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT BUREAU:** Adds 6 NEW officers to the Gang Task Force, Parole/Probation Compliance Team and Drug Task Force to improve special enforcements efforts.
  - **CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT:** 4 NEW INVESTIGATORS will work hand-in-hand with the District Attorney to ensure aggressive prosecution of the most serious violators and repeat offenders.

#### YEARS 3 & 4 (2018/2019)

- ⇒ **ADD 10 POLICE OFFICERS:**
  - **ENHANCED PATROL FORCE:** Heavily patrol Neighborhoods, Business and Medical districts to maintain improvements and safety achieved in previous 2 years. Achieve and maintain minimum staffing level of 1.2 officers per 1,000 residents.

#### YEARS 5-10 (2020-2025)

- ⇒ **Maintain safety improvements of previous 4 years. Increase crime prevention and suppression activities throughout the City.**



## **Nextdoor** - [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)

Nextdoor is the private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. It's the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world. And it's free! Nextdoor's



mission is to use the power of technology to build stronger and safer neighborhoods.

Thousands of neighborhoods are already using Nextdoor to build happier, safer places to call home. People are using Nextdoor to:

- Quickly get the word out about a break-in
- Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group
- Track down a trustworthy babysitter
- Find out who does the best paint job in town
- Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog
- Find a new home for an outgrown bike
- Finally call that nice man down the street by his first name

### **Privacy**

Fences are sometimes necessary. But online privacy is **always** necessary. Nextdoor makes it safe to share online the kinds of things you'd be okay sharing with your neighbors in person. Here's how:

- Every neighbor has to verify their address.
- Every neighbor signs in with their real name. Just like in person.
- Your website is protected by password and encrypted by HTTPS.

### **Safety**

Nextdoor makes it safe to share online the kind of things you'd be okay sharing with your neighbors in person. Here's how:

- Every neighbor must verify their address.
- Each neighbor signs in with their real name. Just like in person.
- You choose where your information is shared.
- Your website is securely encrypted using the HTTPS Internet protocol.
- Information shared will never show up in Google or other search engines.
- Nextdoor never shares your personal information with third-party advertisers.

*Many of Hemet's communities are subscribing to NEXTDOOR with great results. Both your Police & Fire Departments belong to these communities and post information on a regular basis. If you don't have this in your neighborhood ..... Try it!*

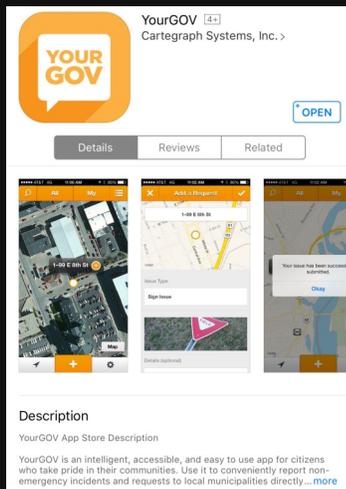
## Report Graffiti & Other Issues From Your Smart Phone

YourGOV is a simple tool that allows citizens to personally report issues and enter service requests for the following:

- Graffiti
- Irrigation
- Library—Book Return Full
- Park Maintenance
- Potholes
- Street Light
- Tree Maintenance
- Water Leak
- Water Wasting

Get engaged with your local government and help improve your community.

Go to the APP Store on your smartphone and download the YourGOV application today!



*YourGOV — putting local government to work for you!*

*The City of Hemet is integrated to this application!*



## Graffiti—Often the First Sign of Trouble

The presence of graffiti in a neighborhood can increase residents' fears about their safety and even reduce property values. Its presence can also signify to criminals that residents don't care about their neighborhood. It costs communities thousands of dollars in removal and clean-up.

### What You Can Do

- Report all graffiti vandalism to law enforcement. Call Hemet's GRAFFITI hotline @ **1-855-513-ROCS (7627)**
- This number is for those in the community to call so that you can report issues that need to be dealt with effectively and efficiently! The areas this hotline covers:
  - Option 1 - Graffiti
  - Option 2 - Abandoned Shopping Carts
  - Option 3 - Code Enforcement
  - Option 4 - Direct Connect to PD Dispatch
  - Option 5 - ROCS Volunteer
  - Option 6 - ROCS General Information
- If graffiti is on your property, clean up immediately. If it is on county or state property, law enforcement should be able to help contact the owners.



The Hemet City Council continues to aggressively move the Hemet ROCS forward! Here are just a couple of the Ordinances that have been put in place over the past couple months:

- The Drug & Gang-Related Nuisance on Residential Property Ordinance [Hemet ROCS Ordinance 1849](#);
- The Abatement of Chronic Nuisance Properties Ordinance [Hemet ROCS Ordinance 1850](#).

For more information on ROCS and to be added to citizens interest group, [click here!](#)

# Home Safety Fire Guide



## Emergency Plan

Every household needs an emergency plan for fires.

Developing a plan and practicing it are the first steps to making it out alive.

- Post emergency telephone numbers by each phone.
- Each room should have two escape routes.
- Conduct a home survey, looking for fire hazards.
- A home fire alarm signal should be discussed and agreed upon.
- Have a common meeting place once outside.
- Designate a relative or friend out of the area through whom family can share information.
- Make sure all family members know how to “stop, drop and roll.”
- Practice Emergency Drills In The House (EDITH)
- Make sure all family members know how to use a fire extinguisher and where they are stored.
- Show responsible family members how and when to turn off the utilities (water, gas, and electricity) at the main switches,
- If you have children in daycare or school, ask to see their emergency plan. Their plan should have information about how they will communicate with parents during a disaster. Ensure that they have staff members trained in first aid and CPR.
- Keep a 3-day supplies of drinking water and canned foods on hand. Have first-aid supplies, a portable radio, portable lanterns and batteries on hand.
- **GET OUT FAST!** Don't stop to gather valuables, don't try to find the source of the fire and don't fight it yourself.



**Use Common Sense:**

**Don't give fires a place to start!**

**No one wants to think about having a fire at home. But thinking about it and being ready for it can save lives.**



# Home Safety Fire Guide

## Smoke Detectors

- Only purchase smoke alarms that are listed by UL and carry the UL mark on packaging.
- For people with hearing impairments, special smoke alarms with strobes and/or vibration are available.,
- Install detectors in bedroom areas, the dining room hallways, and the utility room,
- Test detectors monthly.
- Replace the batteries twice a year (when clocks change)
- Clean detectors with a vacuum cleaner, Dust and cobwebs reduce sensitivity to smoke.
- Install new smoke alarms if they are then 10 years old.

## Inside

- Smoking is the #1 cause of fatal fires. Use caution when smoking at home and dispose of ashes and cigarette butts properly.
- If you have small children, install child safety plugs on all unused electrical outlets.
- Replace frayed or worn electrical cords, don't run wires under rugs, and never use multiple attachment plugs.
- Don't use candles or matches to light dark spaces.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- If you smell gas, don't turn on the lights or light matches. Open windows to ventilate your home.
- Clean fireplace chimneys and flues at least once a year. Make sure you have a 1/2" mesh screen on your chimney and that trees and branches are cleared away for at least 10 feet.
- If using a wood stove, burn only seasoned hardwood, which burns evenly and doesn't contain toxins.

## In The Kitchen

- More home fires start in the kitchen than any other room. Keep anything that can burn, including towels, pot holders and paper towels, away from the stove
- Never store or use gasoline as a cleaner,
- Keep a working fire extinguisher handy.
- When cooking, turn the handles of pots and pans away from the front of the stove.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.



# Home Safety Fire Guide

## In the Bedroom / Bathroom

- Don't smoke in bed.
- Turn off and unplug electric blankets and other electrical appliances when not in use, including curling irons and hair dryers.
- Take extra care when using portable heaters.
- Buy children's sleepwear made of flame-retardant fabric.

## In the Garage

- Check your electrical tools regularly for wear. Replace frayed or cracked cords. Replace any tool if it causes small shocks, overheats, shorts out or gives off smoke or sparks.
- Store oily rags in tightly covered containers.
- Mount a working fire extinguisher in the garage.
- Disconnect electrical tools and appliances when not in use.
- Never bring or use gasoline indoors, and use it only as a motor fuel,

## Check Your Surroundings

Many of us live in areas that border fire-prone wilderness. Maintaining a defensible space around structures and along access roads is the best way to reduce the risk of wildfire destroying your property. California law allows law enforcement to close an area if a fire becomes so dangerous that evacuation is necessary. Follow their instructions immediately; it may be the only way to protect your family. Here are some helpful tips to prepare your home, family and property:

- Keep tools like a shovel, hoe, rake and bucket available.
- A "defensible space" clearance of 100 feet around your home and any structure is the law.
- Use fire-resistant plants in landscaping.
- Avoid open burning, especially during dry season.
- Create easy firefighter access to your closest emergency water source.
- Remove dead leaves and needles from your roof and trim dead tree limbs hanging over the house.
- Know how to use all equipment properly. Lawnmowers, weed eaters and tractors can all spark a wildfire.
- **If you see a fire, call 911.** Don't assume someone else has called.
- Make an evacuation checklist and have on hand which includes two routes of escape, important personal papers, and critical medications.

***For any questions or concerns, you can always call our Hemet Fire Department @ 951-765-2450***

**[Or check their website!](#)**

## **City of Hemet Community Alert System**

The City has instituted an improved notification system that will send telephone notifications to residents and businesses within the City of Hemet. It will be used to notify us with information on emergency events and/or evacuation by way of voice message, text, or email. The systems uses our area's 9-1-1 database. The system is TTY/TTD capable. Please check for more information on the City's Website at: [www.cityofhemet.org](http://www.cityofhemet.org).

## **Calling All Future HPD Volunteers**

The Spring Academy for HPD Volunteers will be upon us before we know it. Go to our website and [download an application](#). Interviews will be conducted soon so get your completed application turned in ASAP. If you have 16 hours a month to pay it forward, we'd love to have you!



## **Volunteer with Us!**

The Hemet Police Department Volunteer Program was created in 1993 as a way for citizens to supplement the Hemet Police Department's sworn officers.

The intention of the program is for volunteers to perform certain tasks that otherwise would be performed by sworn police officers and thereby allowing the police officer to spend more time on the streets. The volunteers operate a wide variety of services:

- Alzheimer Registration
- Crime Scene Call Outs
- Livescan Fingerprinting
- Parking Enforcement
- Traffic Control
- Vacation Property Checks
- Child / Adult Care
- Special Events (such as Parades, Ramona Outdoor Play)
- Much, much more

*Stop by our one of our stations to pick up or print an **APPLICATION** today!*

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**951-765-2400 (24-hour)**

**Hemet Police Non-Emergency Number**  
***Please learn & use this number!***

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## **Stay Connected With Us!**

### **To START/CANCEL or EDIT your e-mail subscription:**

Send e-mail to [nmiller@cityofhemet.org](mailto:nmiller@cityofhemet.org) with "Subscribe to Newsletter", "Cancel Newsletter", or "Edit E-Mail" in subject line. Please include your new e-mail address in the e-mail.

### **To DOWNLOAD and/or view a Newsletter from our Website:**

Go to [www.hemetpolice.org](http://www.hemetpolice.org) then click on [Community Services](#) then [Quarterly Newsletter](#).

### **To RECEIVE TEXT and/or E-MAIL ALERTS from the Hemet Police Web-site:**

Go to [www.cityofhemet.org/list.aspx](http://www.cityofhemet.org/list.aspx) then follow the "NOTIFY ME" instructions. Select POLICE under the News Flash Heading.

### **To follow us on FACEBOOK:**

Go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Hemet-Police-Department> and LIKE US!

*We will NEVER sell, loan, rent or otherwise share your personal information!*