

Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills

Interoffice Memorandum

To: Ellen Sandman
Business Administrator

From: Paul O. Philipps
Chief of Police

Date: January 4, 2018

Subject: Parsippany Police Substation

The purpose of this memorandum is to examine the feasibility of a police substation in the Powdermill Plaza. For the reasons outlined below a Powdermill police substation would not be the most appropriate use of police personnel. The concept of a police substation typically is to serve centrally located areas with heavy foot traffic. After further consideration I have determined that Powdermill's pedestrian traffic is very low, especially in comparison to other areas of our Township.

Furthermore, if crime is high in a particular area or quality of life for area residents is low; a substation would be of utility. This is not the case in the area of the proposed substation. To illustrate this point, during the year, 2016, Section #1, the Lake Hiawatha area, had 7367 calls and Section #2, the south-eastern side of town, had 5886 calls (total of 13,253). In comparison Section #5, the Powdermill area, had only 4955. By narrowing the incident types to Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft, Section #1 had 105 incidents and Section #2 had 90 incidents (total of 195 incidents). In comparison Section #5 only had 79 incidents.

During 2017 Section #1 had 8553 calls and Section #2 had 7743 calls (total of 16,296). In comparison Section #5 only had 5921. Again, narrowing the incident types to Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft, Section #1 had 131 incidents and Section #2 had 123 incidents (total of 254 incidents). In comparison Section #5 only had 65 incidents.

Police response times to calls for service in sections 1, 2 and 5 were also compared. The difference between them was 55 seconds or less.

Section #1 average police response time is 6 minutes 5 seconds

Section #2 average police response time is 5 minutes 30 seconds


Section #5 average police response time is 6 minutes 25 seconds

Considering that neither high crime or poor quality of life are issues for the Powdermill area, the maintenance of a substation at that location would not be an appropriate use of our limited manpower.

Lastly, considering manpower for our police department is currently not at an appropriate level, we should have 113 officers and we currently have 104. To adequately staff a Powdermill Police Substation we would require an additional Lieutenant, 4 Sergeants and 12 Patrolmen. For further information about staffing needs see Captain Wiener's attached memorandum of August 29, 2017. We must deploy our limited resources in a manner most appropriate for the safety and benefit of all township residents.

For these reasons I recommend that we do not institute a Parsippany Police Substation at Powdermill.

Respectfully submitted,


Paul O. Philipps
Chief of Police

Cc: File

Township of Parsippany - Troy Hills

Interoffice Memo

To: Chief Paul O. Philipps

From: Capt. John J. Wieners
Patrol Division Commander

Date: August 29, 2017

Subject: Powder Mill Station/ Staffing

Chief,

Per your request, I submit to you my proposal for staffing and operation of the Powder Mill Sub Station.

The primary purpose of the sub station will be to provide more local police service and access to residents of the western portion of the township. This will include giving said residents a convenient location to complete non-emergency police reports, speak with officers regarding police related issues, obtain copies of police reports, and provide a place of safe refuge. Other conveniences it will provide residents are a location to host police-community events such as "Coffee with a Cop," various crime prevention/ safety seminars and a prescription pill drop off box, just to name a few. The sub station will also be of use to patrol officers assigned to Patrol Sections 4 and 5 to complete more detailed reports in a secure environment, conducting follow up interviews of victims and witnesses, and to restock their patrol vehicles of first aid supplies and oxygen without having to come to police headquarters, resulting in less down time and keeping them closer to their assigned sections.

In order to sufficiently staff and command the sub station, I recommend the following personnel commitment:

Station Commander: 1 Lieutenant (Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday schedule)

Shift Commanders: 4 Sergeants (4 on/4 off schedule; 05:50 and 15:40)

Patrol Officers: 12 Patrolmen (4 on/4 off schedule; 03:40/05:50/08:00/15:40/17:50/20:00)

This compliment of personnel will ensure that there is at least one sworn officer in the sub station at all times to handle walk-in reports and will usually allow an officer leave the station to follow up on quality of life issues, complaints and emergencies as needed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Capt. John J. Wieners #402