

# Hopewell Township Police Department

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## Strategic Goals & Newly Proposed Programs (Part II)

Director Robert A. "Bob" Karmazin  
Township Committee Meeting  
Date: January 25, 2021



# Purpose



- This presentation (Part II) will highlight “strategic goals” towards enhancing community policing, along with introducing future proposed engagements and programs.



# Strategic Community Policing Goals

## Goals:

- Rebuild trust between community members and police while acknowledging that many community members deeply respect and have positive interactions with our police force.
- Develop community policing goals with community input.
- Create and standardize regular bridges of communication between community and director
- Develop leadership skills (including effective communication with community members) within the existing police force.
- Create standards that increase diversity on police force and best practices for hiring and promotion.
- Provide regular honest and open communication with the public about what can and cannot be done by police by statute.
- Contextualize the Hopewell Township Police within current standards and practices today (high level of Crisis Intervention Team training, NJ State Accreditation, high regard in Hopewell Township community and police community).
- Creating policies and procedures for civilian administration officials representing the community to have insight and oversight permissible by law into the hiring and promotion process within the department.



# Proposed Social Contract

- What will the Hopewell Twp. Police Department look like at the end of a successful implementation of its strategic goals?

*Shifting from current construct will require adoption of a “proactive and progressive” social contract*

- **Community will:** Continue to embrace a collaborative partnership to develop solutions to problems and increase trust in police.
- Prioritize and illuminate public safety concerns.
- Recruit individuals who live, work, or otherwise have an interest in the community to participate in advisory groups.
- Recommend potential recruits.



- **Committee Leadership will:** Establish policies, recommendations and guiding principles towards community policing.
- Spearhead committees and working groups focused on achieving community policing goals.
- Ensure current standards and practices meet guiding principles and goals.
- Periodically review police department compliance.
- Continue to explore opportunities for community policing programs and engagements.

**Police Department will:** Review, Implement, and reinforce the strategic community police goals established by the committee as the appropriate authority.



# Proposed Programs and Community Engagements



- **Operation Blue Angel**

Newly introduced, this program is available to residents 55 years and older and others with significant medical needs. This program provides assistance for residents who are unable to open the front door for first responders by having a key inside a secured lock box owned and operated by the police department. The lock-box will be installed by the Hopewell Twp. Police Department and at no cost to community residents.

- **Firearms Safety Course**

Newly proposed, this course will provide gun safety information to both new and experienced gun owners. This course will be conducted by Hopewell Twp. Police Department Range Instructors and consist of classroom instruction and live fire exercises at the Hopewell Twp. Police Department range.

- **Civilian Police Academy for Adults/Senior Citizens**

Newly proposed and similar to the Youth Police Academy, adult members of the community would participate in basic law enforcement instruction. Members of the community would participate in a host of events gaining insight to the world of community policing e.g. how calls are received, dispatched, and responded to by the police department. Additionally, gun safety would be introduced.

- **CPR Refresher**

Newly proposed and in concert with the American Red Cross, certified and knowledgeable Hopewell Twp. Police Officers will provide CPR and CPR refresher certification classes. Skills can fade from memory, but with the help of police department community members can ensure their response will be timely and fresh when need.



# Proposed Programs and Community Engagements



- **Director of Police Office Open Office Call**

Newly proposed, the Director of Police would conduct an evening Zoom session with the community to discuss the Police Department and answer questions. A Public notice would be issued ahead of time to announce these meetings and solicit questions in advance.

- **Hopewell Valley Municipal Alliance – Executive Committee**

The Director of Police has recently re-established the departments commitment to the Alliance. The Director is now a member of the Executive Committee, participating in committee meetings united in the development of caring, confident and responsible youth in Hopewell Valley. Members of the committee represent every sector of the Hopewell Valley community.

- **Recruitment Plan**

The Hopewell Twp. Police Department would continue and maintain its commitment to attract qualified individuals to pursue a career with the police department. The department will continue to achieve the overall racial and gender composition of the department in comparison to the service population of the Township. The department will continue to contact local minority organizations and social support groups, to include but not limited to educational, religious, ethnic, racial, and gender based organizations.

- **Selection Plan**

Newly proposed, once potential recruit's are identified via the recruitment plan, the department would sponsor the recruits attendance to an academy for their specific placement in Hopewell Twp. Police Department. This proposed plan would ensure the department meets its recruitment objective.



# Proposed Programs and Community Engagements



- **Community Policing Bicycle Program**

Previously established – revise the Community Policing Bicycle Program. Select police officers would interact within an environment and community that is otherwise not accessible within the confines of a patrol car. With the wide-open spaces and community outdoor events held in Hopewell Twp., police officers have an additional way to connect to community.

- **Canine Support Dog**

Newly proposed, the Hopewell Police Department would incorporate a therapy canine which would be maintained by a police officer. The officer, along with his canine "ambassador" would participate in community events representing the department's compassion for those in need. Visits would include the Hopewell Valley Schools, Capital One Health, nursing homes and businesses.

- **Community Ride Along Program**

Newly proposed, members of the community who express interest would be authorized to learn about a day in the life of a Hopewell Twp. Police officer. Opportunities such as attending briefings, responding to calls, traffic enforcement would be available.

- **Monthly Statistics Update to Public**

Newly proposed enhancing transparency, the Director will publish police department statistics and present them as part of the periodic police open call with the Director.

- **Baseball Cards – Community Outreach**

25 years since last established, police department baseball cards for children K-8/poster sheets for businesses. When a child interacts with a police officer they would receive a card and a possible coupon for an ice cream etc. Businesses within the community would participate to help further police/community engagement.

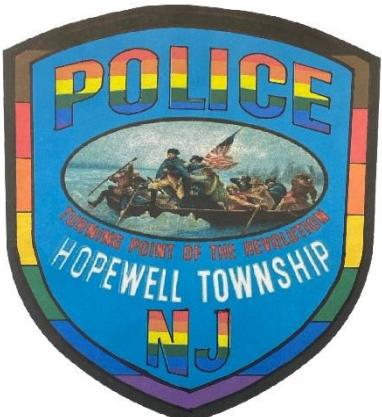


# Proposed Programs and Community Engagements

- **LGBTQ+ Ally Patch/Sticker for Pride Month –June 2021**

Newly proposed, during the month of June, which is Gay Pride Month, in support the Hopewell Twp. Police Department members (voluntarily) will wear the ally patch. These patches will display the LGBTQ+ ally flag as a symbol of our continued commitment to ensuring that everyone in our community feels safe, understood, and treated with dignity and respect. In addition to the patches being worn by officers, the department will also be selling patches to the community as a fundraiser for an organization that helps the LGBTQ+ community.

**We believe we will be the first municipal police department in New Jersey to introduce this initiative.**



- **Award Revisions – e.g. Community Policing**

Newly proposed, the Director of Police will review the police department awards, commendations and certificates of recognition. The police department will revise, update and introduce new awards to include community policing, post 9/11 service to the community, military service, field training officer recognition (recruit training) and police marksmanship.

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***Final Reminder:***

- **Internet Safe Exchange Zone**

Previously established, the Hopewell Twp. Police Department is a internet safe zone for receiving packages vs. packages being dropped off at residences.

- **Safe Haven for New Born Babies**

Through the ***New Jersey Department of Children and Families***, the Hopewell Twp. Police Department is a safe haven for infants.



# Hopewell Township Police Department Bottom Line

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***"We will be what the community of Hopewell Township needs us to be"***