JUDtestimony

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HCR79

Submitted on: 3/20/2017 Testimony for JUD on Mar 23, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin Nomura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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I rarely go into China Town or the Downtown area in general, but have seen a number of issues brought up via the media. Mostly about business owners asking for "active" police involvement and protection or the claim of how they feel uncomfortable going to the police. On the rare trips I've made into China Town, I saw quite a number of police officers, standing on the corners; some helping people to cross the streets along the bus line; even what appeared to be parked police cars (didn't see anyone in the vehicle, but the presence of a police vehicle is supposed to deter some actions, so found it positive); and on the back streets less traveled a homeless person defecating, while standing.

What I didn't realize was that China Town also has CCTV cameras available, but doesn't utilize the ones they have. So, one of my concerns is that China Town has 26 cameras in place, with 12 cameras that are broken, yet the issue comes to no one available to monitor the videos making them useless and costly...With according to the article I read, claimed "It's been up to community volunteers to monitor the activity on the cameras, and right now, there are no volunteers. HPD says the cameras are periodically monitored by officers at the Chinatown substation." (KHON2, published January 17, 2017) So, maybe if the cameras are in key locations where the most incidents occur, having the businesses combine forces to have a security detail or utilize the cameras to further deter crime, as opposed to sending more officers to the area, which to date, doesn't seem to be helping...

Like for me, I have issues on my street, but while I have police going by on the main roads (sometimes will even hear a few blips of a short siren signaling they're coming by or in the area...but since it's not on my street, while it will stop something for a moment, doesn't last...) Which is what this proposal is doing, taking a number of police officers away from other locations to assist one, but in the long run, isn't actually fixing the issue or solution to an ongoing problem.