

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD
INTERIM REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Council Referral - Juvenile Curfew Law

BACKGROUND: At the regular meeting on May 22, 2012 Council referred a proposed juvenile curfew law to CRAB that was requested by the Windsor Green community. The Board considered this referral at meetings on October 23, 2012 and November 19, 2012.

FINDINGS: During both meetings, there was discussion of curfew laws in general. It was noted that curfew laws have been overturned by courts. Also, a curfew would only apply to juveniles (under age 17) and some public safety problems are caused by adults. Finally, the States Attorney's Office for Prince George's County does not prosecute under the County's curfew law.

At the meeting on November 19, CRAB met with representatives of the Windsor Green HOA Board and the Greenbelt Police Department. Several members of the Public Safety Advisory Committee were present as well. The Windsor Green representatives discussed public safety concerns in the community which had led to the referral and the Greenbelt Police discussed strategies the Police and the community could implement to address these concerns and also reported on research regarding curfew laws.

Strategies that could be implemented to address the Windsor Green concerns included:

- Revitalize Neighborhood Watch program
- Encourage residents to call Police and report suspicious activity (residents can make these reports anonymously)
- Conduct Police saturation patrols and traffic stops
- Post/improve signage at playgrounds and park areas stating rules and expectations.
- Improve/upgrade outdoor lighting
- Continue periodic meetings between Windsor Green, Chelsea Wood, Greenbelt Police and County Police
- Consider removing the basketball court at Mandan Field and trimming some of the trees to make the area more visible

INTERIM
RECOMMENDATION:

CRAB suggests that the approaches above be implemented before any further consideration of a curfew law. It is the hope of the Board that the success of any or all of these measures in reducing crime will lead to the withdrawal by the Windsor Green community of the request for a curfew. CRAB expects to meet again with the parties to determine a final recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted

Rick Ransom, Chair
Community Relations Advisory Board