



# CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

### FOOT-BICYCLE PATROL

**GENERAL ORDER:** 09.14

**CREATED:** July 8, 2016

**ISSUE DATE:** July 8, 2016

**ACTION:** Creates new general order

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 8, 2016

#### **09.14.0**    **PURPOSE**

The mission of the department's Foot/Bicycle Patrol Program is to improve the quality of life in city neighborhoods by reducing or preventing crime, fear and disorder. Residents and police will develop mutual trust and confidence in working together to keep neighborhoods safe by intensely involving individual officers in an extended commitment to individual neighborhoods.

#### **09.14.1**    **POLICY**

It is the policy of the Concord Police Department that foot and bicycle patrols may be used for regular patrol duty, traffic enforcement, parking control, or special events. The use of foot and bicycle patrols will emphasize officer mobility and department visibility in the community.

#### **09.14.2**    **GOALS**

- A. Reduction in actual or perceived criminal activity.
- B. Increase the safety of citizens.
- C. Increase citizen participation in reporting suspicious or criminal activity.
- D. Increase community awareness of actual or potential problems and citizen participation in correcting the problems.

#### **09.14.3**    **OBJECTIVES**

- A. Ongoing exchange of information between foot/bicycle patrol officers, district officers and other units within the department.
- B. Develop community awareness of the problems of crime by analyzing crime trends and reporting same to individuals or to groups who reside in the assigned foot/bicycle patrol areas.
- C. Attend community meetings and other neighborhood activities as a resource person regarding law enforcement procedures and activities.
- D. Develop and maintain an open line of communication with youth and youth related agencies.

- E. Collect and distribute pertinent information to the various department work locations concerning criminal or illegal activities (i.e., district supervisors, Vice, Major Crimes, etc.).

#### **09.14.4 FOOT PATROL**

Foot patrols will facilitate communication between patrol officers and residents, thereby enhancing the relationship between the department and the community it protects. Foot patrols will improve public perception of how officers are deployed and will allow the opportunity for residents to become more involved in improving the quality of life in their neighborhood. Foot patrols may be conducted by area patrol officers during their regular tour of duty as outlined below:

- A. Officers shall perform foot patrols within their assigned district or any other area as directed by their supervisor.
- B. Foot patrols shall be conducted in those areas requiring dedicated patrol.
- C. Crime trends / patterns, events and any other reason of significance will be used to determine the geographical location and time of day or night for foot patrols.
- D. The area and time of day or night is to be authorized by the district commanding officer or designee.
- E. Any member conducting a foot patrol assignment shall advise the dispatcher via the department radio, use the appropriate code and give the location or appropriate specified location. For example, "4200 to Concord, I will be 7.16 Logan 1."
- F. Foot patrol assignments should not exceed two hours in length without the authorization of their commanding officer or designee.

#### **09.14.5 BICYCLE PATROL**

Bicycle patrols enhance police presence with superior mobility and response time. Bicycle patrol has been shown to be an effective way to increase officer visibility in congested areas, and the quiet operation of the patrol bicycle can facilitate a tactical approach to crimes in progress. Patrol bicycles may be deployed to any area, at any hour of the day or night, according to department needs and as staffing levels allow.

##### **A. ASSIGNMENT**

The Chief of Police will determine the size of the bicycle fleet; and how many bicycles are assigned to each work location.

##### **B. COMMANDING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

Division Commanders or designee will select the member(s) who shall be authorized to operate a bicycle and shall ensure:

1. That member who are authorized to operate a bicycle are properly trained and equipped.

2. The secure storage of bicycle assigned to officers under their command.
3. That monthly bicycle equipment inspections are conducted.
4. Maintain a list of assigned bicycles and equipment.

C. ADMINISTRATION

1. Officers shall only use a department owned bicycle with the permission of their commanding officer.
2. Any officer conducting a bike patrol assignment shall advise the dispatcher via the department radio, use the appropriate code and give the location or appropriate specified location. For example, "4100 to Concord, I will be 7.17 in Logan 1."

D. OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Bicycle patrol officers shall only use department approved equipment.
2. Bicycle patrol officers will patrol in the approved bicycle uniform unless otherwise directed by their commanding officer.
3. Officers assigned to bicycle patrol duty shall conduct a safety inspection before patrol, and perform minor maintenance and adjustments as needed. Officers shall maintain their bicycles in a clean and safe operating condition.
4. Officers who are no longer assigned to bicycle patrol shall turn in designated equipment and uniforms to their commanding officer.
5. Officers shall promptly report to their commanding officer or designee any missing, stolen, defective or damaged bicycle equipment or uniforms.
6. Officers shall promptly report any accident involving a department bicycle to their commanding officer or designee.

**09.14.6 TRANSPORTING THE PATROL BICYCLE**

The patrol bicycle should be transported using a department issued vehicle bicycle rack. Due to the possibility of damage, transportation of the patrol bicycle in the interior or trunk of the police vehicle is discouraged.

**09.14.7    TRAINING**

Officers must complete an initial department approved bicycle training course prior to assignment to the bicycle patrol. The initial training shall minimally include the following:

- A. Bicycle patrol strategies;
- B. Bicycle safety and accident prevention;
- C. Operational tactics and techniques using bicycles.



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CHIEF OF POLICE