

# More Police Protection Allotted for High-Crime Areas

## ▲ Aldermen fund 16 foot patrol officers

By DAVID L. DILLARD  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen adopted a program Tuesday night that will place an additional 16 police officers on foot patrol in areas considered high-crime neighborhoods.

According to Capt. Mike McCoy, all 16 are earmarked for public housing with 10 going to the Kimberly Park area and the other

six scheduled to patrol the Piedmont Park area.

"They are tentatively placed now, but crime areas tend to change so we do have the flexibility to move them around," McCoy said. Mayor Martha S. Wood has repeatedly called for strengthening and enlarging the police patrol to curb the spread of neighborhood violence. In a press conference last week, Wood cited Cleveland

Avenue Homes as a neighborhood where crime has decreased since foot patrols were instituted.

According to Ann Jones, budget and evaluation director, the total costs involved with the foot patrol program, including equipment, is \$555,140.

Alderman Larry Womble, a long-time advocate of neighborhood foot patrols, said he is in favor of the program because it closes the gap between police and citizens.

"When policemen are out walking their beat, they get to know the people and the people get to know them," Womble said. "This gives the neighbors a different perspective of the policeman and creates a per-

sonal relationship which can prevent crime."

Mayor pro tempore Vivian Burke is also pleased with the neighborhood foot patrol.

"We now have officers who can give the time needed to the people in the particular community. I'm just happy about it," Burke said. She said the public housing facilities are sometimes referred to as high-crime neighborhoods because outsiders go there with criminal activity.

"People come into the neighborhoods with guns and drugs, and the foot patrols will protect the people who live there from these crimes," she said. "We're trying to



Vivian Burke



Larry Womble

prevent the areas from becoming high-crime neighborhoods.

The only way to alleviate the crime, according to Womble, is to have police and citizens working

together.

"It's not going to work just with the police; we must have police and the citizens in the neighborhoods working together," he said.

## Blacks Say Police

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"They're scared," said April Galloway of Kimberly Park, referring to white officers who patrol black neighborhoods. "He's (Piscitelli) a white man in a black neighborhood."

Pamela Little, also a resident of Kimberly Park, told the story of when police officers arrested a man on the corner smoking a marijuana cigarette. She said the man wasn't causing trouble, or selling drugs, yet several officers showed up to make the arrest.

"If they go looking for trouble, they'll find it," Little said. "If they go looking in white neighborhoods, they'll find it there, too."

She said she has driven on Stratford Road and seen white youths drinking beer out in the open and the police did not bother them.

"They're always here," she said of the police.

She said she blames the police presence for the increased number of confrontations involving law enforcement officers and members of the black community.

While some residents complain, law enforcement officials, however, defend their actions. Capt. Michael V. McCoy, the supervisor of Piscitelli, said some officers are more sensitive than others to minorities.

"White or black, some cops deal with minorities better than others do," McCoy said.

Bines, 26, was killed last Wednesday after he interfered with Piscitelli's attempt to make an arrest in the 1100 block of East 18th St. A witness said that Bines came upon Piscitelli and another man fighting in the front yard of an apartment. Bines interceded and Piscitelli sprayed pepper spray at both men before the fight between Bines and Piscitelli flowed to the backyard. There, surrounded by several on-lookers, the two men fought. Piscitelli drew his 10mm handgun and accidentally shot himself before fatally shooting Bines.

Perry Anderson, president of the Washington-based National Organization of Black Law-Enforcement Executives, said that during his 20-plus years in law enforcement, he has encountered incidents where a white officer killed a black.

This incident, however, "shouldn't be looked at as this officer intentionally shot this man because of racial reasons," said Anderson, who is commissioner of police in Cambridge, Mass. "He should have his day in court like

everybody else.

"We have to realize that in this society... there are also black officers who are not sensitive to the community," he said.

Anderson, who is former chief of police in Miami, said he is in favor of an independent review board made up of citizens.

"It would be incumbent upon the community to look at the (findings) of the investigatory body," he said. "Hopefully, it would be outside the department."

McCoy said that Piscitelli had a good work record and had worked in Cleveland Homes "for some time." He is at Forsyth Memorial Hospital recovering from a wound to his thigh.

## Shooting from page A1

killed me, too."

According to a police report, preliminary findings indicated a drug deal gone bad, but more information showed the ordeal occurred because the suspects were affiliated with the skinheads. Johnson, said that the confrontation was not over a bad drug deal or skinheads.

"The police didn't talk to anybody who was there," he said. "There was no drugs involved. We didn't even know (the men in the Pinto) were there."

Johnson said he knew Moser was a skinhead, but didn't think that was the cause of the shooting because they knew each other.

"We were hanging out together just a few days ago," Johnson said. "I don't know why he did it. I'm still trying to figure it out."

Johnson was shot in the right thigh just above his knee. He is currently at Baptist Hospital where he is in satisfactory condition and expected to recover.

Moser, 20, of 1952 Lyons St., was charged with murder, possessing a deadly weapon and inflicting serious injury, police said. Vance Bradley Adams, 22, of 322 N./Green St., was charged with carrying a concealed weapon, police

said. Adams was released yesterday on \$1,000 bond. He came to visit Johnson at the hospital.

"I put the word out that I wanted to see him, so he came to my room and we talked," Johnson said. "He was telling me he was sorry and that he did the best he could to stop it."

Johnson said that Adams is not a skinhead, but he was just hanging out with them. The third man in the car has not been charged in the incident.

Capt. Linda Davis, of the criminal investigations division, said they don't know what the motive for the shooting was, but the incident could be viewed as being racially motivated.

"Obviously the circumstances would make you think there was bad blood," she said. "It could be interpreted as racial, but only those people involved would know."

Moser is being held without bail at the Forsyth County Jail. He is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on June 25; Adams is scheduled for hearings on July 15.

Davis said the investigation is ongoing.

Frank Campbell  
District Agent

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