Cupertino Block Leader Program

Building community, one block at a time



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Block Leader Program

- Block Leader Program Beginnings
- What is a Block Leader?
- How does Cupertino support its leaders?
- How do Block Leaders gather and communicate with Neighbors?



Program Beginnings

- Demographic shift (mid 1980s, 74 percent European immigrants; today 60 percent Asian)
- Connect longtimers and newcomers
- September 11
- Block Leader Program:
 - Bridges cultural divides
 - Provides easy access to city services
 - Enlists residents as partners in public safety



What is a Cupertino Block Leader?

- A volunteer who helps neighbors to reduce crime, respond to emergencies, enhance understanding
- A voice of the neighborhood
- Channel for the city to communicate, plan, and work with neighborhoods
- Means to build civic engagement and participation



What is a Block Leader?

Block Leader - Volunteer (Retirees, students, longtime/ new residents)

Neighbors

City





The City provides:

- Trainings for updates and peer connection
- Guidebook with sample fliers
- ID cards
- Photocopy services
- Notices to target info & introduce new citywide programs



Information to Block Leaders

- Pilot & new programs (apps)
- Pertinent to area, such as street repairs, building permits
- Public safety (missing persons, street closures, mosquito fogging)







- Knock on doors to introduce self
- Block Parties (free city program)
- National Night Out & Neighborhood Watch
- Emergency training
- Work on common concern
- Neighborhood rosters, email, Nextdoor





References

- 2015 National League of Cities'/National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials' - Diversity Award
- 2014 Migration Policy Institute (Sept. report)
 - "Immigrant Civic Integration and Service Access Initiatives:
 City-Sized Solutions for City-Sized Needs"
 - American Immigration Council: Immigration Impact (Sept) "Cities Find Creative Ways for Civic Immigrant Integration"
- 2013 SafeWise Report: 50 Safest Cities in California (Cupertino #12)
- 2010 League of CA Cities' <u>Helen Putnam Award</u> for Excellence: Enhancing Public Trust, Ethics, and Community Involvement



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www.cupertino.org/blockleader