

COHOPE Report - Oct. 11, 2007

Sheriff's Deputy, Grey LaCerte presented his monthly crime statistics for September. Part 1 Crimes (major crimes) showed very little change from norm. One exception, Kidnap category, had one incidence. This category is usually zero. In the Part 2 category list the Property category and the Trespass categories (Dwelling and Vehicle) showed significant decline. This is attributed to school being back in session - less chances at "crimes of opportunity" like valuables left in cars, house doors left open, etc. The deputy also passed a copy of a "Message from the Sheriff" describing the Sheriff's department's approach to domestic violence. The message describes deputy training for threat assessment, the new emphasis on DV offenders in the Sheriff's Most Wanted List and the Sheriff's support of victim Advocacy groups. This information can be found at the Sheriff's website - [www.jeffcosheriff.com](http://www.jeffcosheriff.com). The Foothills Park & Recreation representative, Colin Insley, talked briefly about the proposed 3Mil levy increase that Foothills will probably put on the ballot in May, 2008 and the efforts of the Friends of Foothills volunteer committee to support this effort. The guest speaker was Bruce Daly, the recently elected representative to the RTD Board from southwest Jefferson County. Bruce talked about the negotiations between RTD and the Jeffco County Commissioners concerning the changes to the proposed Gold Line between the Federal Center and the County Building in Golden. The Commissioners are mostly concerned about the reduction to one track and the spacing of service to 15 minutes during rush hour. The compromise appears to be additional passing tracks that will allow at least 10 minute service during rush hours. Bruce also gave some insight into the on going issues dealing with the use of light electric rail verses diesel commuter rail cars on north and east lines. Bruce believes (and supports) diesel will finally win out mainly due to the cost of electrifying the lines and the liability issues involved using railroad right of way where heavier commuter rail cars are required. He also discussed the Private/Public partnership discussions going on within RTD as a potential way to get the new rail lines built with less public money. COHOPE business subjects mostly consisted of further discussions about the Rock of the Southwest Church expansion plans verses the Westridge HOA's opposition to the expansion within their neighborhood. The COHOPE members voted to initiate a letter to the Planning & Zoning Commission expressing COHOPE's support of the Westridge HOA.

Larry Major