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Interviewee: Paul Danko

Interview conducted by: Katrina Hebdon

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member of 2020 Vision Committee

Katrina Hebdon: How and when did you come to Hillsboro and can you give a general description of your life here?

Paul Danko: I came here about 1969 and lived in Beaverton for two years. I started in 1967 as a police officer in the city of Beaverton. I lived there for the two years and then I moved over here although I continued to work for Beaverton; I've lived in this city for thirty, almost forty years. I probably saw it come from a city of maybe twelve thousand up to its current population which is in the high eighty thousands.

KH: Were there any other programs you were involved in when you first moved to the area?

PD: Well in Beaverton which was very comparable to Hillsboro although they didn't touch at that time community policing in the late eighties and nineties was the way that a lot of departments felt that they needed to go to get the citizens involved in fire prevention rather than the expectation that the police take care of all of it themselves, which was impossible to do. So I know as a resident of Hillsboro, although I didn't work for them, I watched that take place with them. To come back kind of general I also saw that to be a response to handling gang problems, graffiti problems, and various types of problems that the citizens could take more responsibility and be partners with the police rather than just relying on the police, which actually couldn't take care of the problems themselves.

KH: Do you see that as a better way of taking care of problems?

PD: I do see that because the citizen becomes the eyes and ears for the police department, they could build programs using volunteers. They create a better understanding with the citizens so that if they see something happening within their own house; children using drugs, starting gang affiliation, they can start taking steps and the police department can help them with the knowledge of how they can start it in the home before it gets out to be a street problem.

KH: What do you see as the biggest problems or changes that you have seen as a resident or employee of Hillsboro?

PD: I think probably the type of drugs on the street have increased and have a lot to do with crime. It's no longer a matter of having the money to go out and buy it; a lot of people are just making it themselves. Growing or making it themselves. So it's not necessarily the dealers on the street the police having to work with, but it's the people that are creating their own drugs. We are also seeing that gangs maybe aren't as prevalent as they used to be, but gangs are still a problem. But more in a subtle way where you don't see the retaliation as much as you did when gangs were the thing to be in and it was right out front. Although they were marking their territory, they were still

fighting on the street corners and they were doing those things that were obvious where anymore they aren't quite so obvious out there. It's a little harder for the police to deal with them because they are not making a spectacle of themselves.

KH: What do you think about the programs they are being used to handle gangs, such as the GREAT program?

PD: I think that those are good; I think that they are starting young in school. It started out as DARE and now it's become GREAT in a lot of police departments because they moved it from just being a gang resistance program to a drug resistance program, to gangs and drugs. It's an esteem builder and creates alternatives for kids on how to handle these sorts of things, they have started from the ground up and they're building an understanding and a culture at a younger age rather than trying to go in. It used to be when drugs weren't such a big problem, like marijuana. You know the story was that if you smoked marijuana you're going to go blind, well that didn't happen. Now they can start talking about drugs; this is what it will do to you, this is how you can resist it and they start that at a younger age where the kids have a better understanding. And then if they go to drugs, you know a percentage of them are going to, at least they have built an understanding of how kids can resist it if they choose to and I believe it works better than doing nothing and just going out arresting people and putting them in jail.

KH: What is your relationship to our question or study, how is it relevant with your occupation now and the programs you're involved in?

PD: Well because I'm retired I still wanted to have an impact on the community that I live in and the way I chose do that is was with 2020. And 2020 is a program where it's citizen driven, meaning that the people in the community tell the program what they want Hillsboro to look like in the year 2020. And this started out in the late 1990's where they put together the citizen committees and surveys, and asked, what do you want to see here? What do you want it to look like? What do we need in this city? And they developed strategies and action items and those started out in the year 2000, and they've come now to the five year review and this is the year that they've gone back and done citizen surveys and they had open houses and they had people come in and say what do you think of the strategies and actions we have now? Do you think that they are okay? Do you think they need to be changed? What are we missing that you would like to see? So my involvement is that I'm a citizen representative on the implementation committee and my area is public safety which is police and fire.

KH: What would you say are the biggest changes or accomplishments that have come by with the 2020 program?

PD: It's involved the community as partners in telling the city or other lead partners what they want this community to look like. If you go by crime statistics alone, what you have is a measure of number. You have how many robberies, how many thefts, how many vandalisms and it's just a matter of numbers. But there are two ways to look at crime, and one is by the statistical evaluation, you know how many of these things did we have.

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How many burglaries did we have last year versus this year. The other way that you look at crime is the perception that people have of how safe they are, how bad is the crime in the community. So you've got crime numbers and you've got perception of crimes. You can have a lot of burglaries or thefts, and if it didn't happen in your neighborhood, you may not care. But you have one burglary in your whole neighborhood and all of a sudden you feel threatened, you feel unsafe. And that is the perception of crime; you know how does this really impact me? And what 2020 does is because its citizen driven it's what do you want to see as a member of the community. They're really dealing with what's my perception of crime, what should be done to make me feel safer or help me. So I see that as the driving force between 2020, and it has the same to do the other areas; the environment, business, one of them has to do with transportation, sidewalks people want to see more sidewalks so they feel safer when they walk or their kids ride their bikes from one place to another. So it's all a perception of what we need, it's not a statistical analysis of what we need.

KH: What would you say is the most requested change by the community?

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PD: In my area which is actually health and safety although there is another person that deals with the safety part. But health and safety its access to low cost or no cost health care, that's what I see in my focus area, and there are six focus areas in 2020, mine being health and safety. People want to be able to take their children or them, go in and when they have an ear ache be checked and when they can't afford insurance or they don't have insurance, it's low cost or no cost. The other part that we're seeing in health and safety is the need for multi-cultural, multi-lingual responders. People when they go in for health care or when they have a problem that needs assistance from police or fire that the person that is helping them understands their culture if it's different and understands their language is different. So multi-cultural and free or low cost health care are the two prevalent ones in my area.

KH: As a citizen of Hillsboro how do you think it has changed over the years?

PD: I don't think crime has changed that much, I don't think that we have big peaks and valleys. I think that the gang problem is less focal and so as a citizen I think there are less gang problems. Although it may have changed significantly because I'm not experiencing it I don't worry about gang problems like I did when gang problems first came about. So I don't see the crime rate changing much as a citizen, what I do see is that the police department and the fire department have established programs that address things that they didn't before such as in the police department, their mediation program. You have neighbors that have a problem or two people that have a problem that can't solve it and rather than going to court and suing each other or fighting it out in the street, they can go to the police department and have a mediator sit down with the two people and say okay what do you think the problem is? How can we both meet in the middle? How can we sort this out so you both leave with maybe not happy but neither of you are unhappy. Fire department, one of the new action items has to do with juvenile fire setting. I'm not as a citizen that we have a big problem with juvenile fire setters, but apparently some people do, and so a new action is programs that will address juvenile fire

setting. And maybe that's programs that are going to go on in schools like GREAT dealing with police stuff that maybe they have learned not to burn for younger kids, so that we reduce the number of candle fires, lighter fires those sorts of things that kids get into by curiosity, you know playing around. Those are the things that I see as they are addressing more problems even though we may not see them, they are out there but they don't get a lot of publicity.

KH: Do you think the media is giving us the wrong influence about crime today?

PD: I think it depends on who the media is and who is presenting the information. And a good analogy of that is one of the local fire departments, not Hillsboro but one of the big ones, Tualatin Valley fire and rescue had a fire problem where they gave the media very good thorough information about how they handle the fire and what they did about it. And then a reporter who wanted to be flamboyant came in interviewed him and then took the words and made it sound like the fire department didn't do their job very well, so that's a good example. If watch the news on TV, a news bite on TV maybe will last ten seconds. They will go and interview and that person will maybe give ten seconds, but you read it in the paper and you find out that that ten seconds and what really happened are almost two different things because they cut off the rest of the explanation. So the media if they have a good relationship with a department can be an asset to you. Some departments don't have public information officers to get good media out in the first place and that is where a lot of them go wrong is because the public only gets bits and pieces of something that happened, but not a good solid story.

KH: What other crimes have you noticed other than gangs that have been a problem lately or in the past?

PD: Well I don't know that it's different but I think what happens is it goes back to perception of how it impacts your neighborhood. I live in the Jackson School neighborhood of Hillsboro which is really more than upper middle class and we basically just don't have a lot of crime in that neighborhood. But not so long ago, and you would be familiar with it, four boys stood outside of someone's house and fired guns through the walls and windows retaliation for somebody stealing their drugs. That's something that had never happened in my neighborhood. I understood as a former police officer that that was random, it wasn't going to happen again tomorrow and next week, but the people that had never been in that kind of situation were up in arms, how can we stop this. And so it's not a matter of it hasn't happened before and it won't happen again, it's the first time it's happened to me as a citizen and so that's a new crime. Even though it's not a new crime to the city, it's a new crime to the citizen who lived next door or around the corner. So that's where it comes in how has crime changed, I've never experienced my neighbors house being shot up. That's a change for me, not a change for the city.

KH: What do you think of the neighborhood watch program and other community organizations? Do they really help out with making the community more aware?

PD: I think that community watch can be viewed as two ways, number one they put the signs in the neighborhood and that's a visual notice, hey if you come into my neighborhood we've got a program, we're going to take your license number down if you look suspicious, we're going to call the police. But when in fact what really happens as in my neighborhood is people don't really get involved they expect somebody else to do it for them. It's difficult to get people to be block captains that would be one person in a neighborhood who kind of has everyone's name and phone number. If something strange happens they can call, you know it's a phone tree. But we have very low participation because people are apathetic, they just don't bother to get involved, they would rather play golf or work in the yard. So the sign helps, probably helps more than the people in the neighborhood because it's difficult to get people to volunteer and be organized. They just don't care that much to go the extra step; I think the program is good when it's organized and it works.

KH: Do you think its been effective with people not participating as much?

PD: I think that the only way people really care is if it happens to maybe a neighbor that they know and they see a strange car in the drive way and they know that person is supposed to be gone. I'll give you an example, after the shooting in our neighborhood people were calling our association and saying what are you going to do stop this? There is nothing we can do as an association. What are we going to do, neighborhood watch, you know that sort of thing. So they said we need a meeting, we need a meeting in our neighborhood to get all the information and what are we going to do. So we had a board meeting about three weeks after that and we said; well we'll discuss the shooting if you want to come. One couple came, one couple only and we said we need help in neighborhood watch if you'd like to help. We need volunteers, and they didn't offer and no body else offered. So it went from a public out cry of distaste and what are you going to do about it as an association, to zero.

KH: Are some groups trying to keep neighborhood watch active?

PD: The association does, the association has a board of directors and we have programs that deal with approving landscaping and remodeling so that the neighborhood keeps the quality height. We have people that keep track of the neighborhood and if lawns go to pieces or a house needs to be painted, they'll report it. We have neighborhood watch, but it's limited to one person sending out email and email neighborhood watch newsletter. And the block captain program where the neighborhood is broken up into squares, we have lost neighborhood watch block captains and can't seem to get anybody back. We used to have a walking patrol during the summer, couldn't get enough people that were willing to go out between ten and midnight after dark, you know with a cell phone and a flashlight and just report something, not take action but just report. Can't get those people to do it, the interest isn't high enough for people to go out of their way in our neighborhood and I'm sure across the city to do something like that. They would rather let someone else do it, it's your problem you're the board of directors. And we can't do it, just like the police can't do it, they don't have enough, they can't put a police car on your block you know twenty-four hours an day.

KH: Do you think it's because of the lack of participation or that they're kind of afraid of what's going on around them?

PD: I don't think they're afraid, I think they only care when it directly impacts them and when the threat is no longer there they really don't care in the maintenance part of it, keeping it on.

KH: How do you view the growth of Hillsboro from 1980 to present?

PD: I don't know what the numbers were back then, although I lived here I don't know what the numbers were. But Hillsboro is a very progressive city I know the management people of the city and I'm very respectful of those people and impressed by them. Because they take a very logical and business and methodical approach to growth, what the trend is now is not to build up main streets, the trend is when you build a housing addition like Orenco is that you build in an infrastructure there, you build in the Starbucks, the grocery store, an eye clinic, florist, wine shop, where people don't have to go far to get their everyday type supplies. And you're seeing them there and you're starting to see them in other cities too. They've taken that approach and with light rail and how they have built around light rail so that people can commute back and forth without cars. They are a very progressive city; their police department and their fire department are very progressive. Their planning is good, they just finished the civic center, you were there. There was a great deal of community and employee participation in that, they had a committee that dealt with how the lighting was selected, so that it was good lighting for workers but didn't blind you, and you know it was soothing and that sort of thing. They have a very good planning process to housing and transportation, the streets that they built thoroughfares that they cut through, I like it, I think it's very good.

KH: With all the business growths in the area how do you feel about keeping the small town feeling?

PD: Well the way that they do that, part of it which is one of the 2020 strategies and action items is that they have their little sections, like Orenco station has a Saturday market or Sunday market, but they have market. They have a market downtown they promote things like the three on three basketball which is kind of a city wide thing, it's a community event. When they built city hall they built, one of the action items is called third places, if you're not at home and you're not at work or in your case if you're not at home or not at school where can you go that's fun, educational. You can go down on the steps of the Civic Center, you'll be able to have coffee from a coffee shop shortly, it's Wi-Fi, you can bring your laptop and you can sit down there and have wireless access because the city is providing it. That's called the third place, and they're building these things so you can identify with the city and do it in a third place. They're probably never going to have a really thriving downtown but they're trying to keep it up so that you can go down and do some business, you can do a little bit of shopping, you can go to City Hall and sit outside by the fountain and it's still the identity of Hillsboro. Beaverton doesn't have a downtown area so Hillsboro is one step up on Beaverton already.

Beaverton I worked there for 33 years and I never felt it had an identity, Hillsboro has an identity.

KH: What do you think are the biggest challenges facing Hillsboro in terms of crime and law enforcement between now and 2020?

PD: I think that budget probably has the biggest impact the reason I say that is they have to provide basic police service which means that police cars to answer calls, cars and motorcycles to enforce traffic, firemen to put out fires and to provide rescue services. But the extra programs like learn not to burn, the juvenile fire centers, mediation, those things where the public can't see the results. When a police car comes to your house, you see a results, if rescue comes to your house you see a result but you don't see a result of fire setters or mediation. Those are the programs that are in jeopardy when budgets get cut, they're never cut going to cut a fire crew or a fire truck but they will cut off programs that really the public can't see or doesn't have a basic result. So budget is probably the biggest impact that's going to happen. The other thing is that at some point costs for services go up and if you don't annex or build more houses to get more property taxes, if the same amount of property taxes come in and costs go up now you're starting to stop programs cause they don't match. When we do things like giving tax benefits to Intel that has a result because it's trying to keep Intel here, keep people employed, people shop, spend money. But they're also reducing the amount of money that goes into the fund that provides police, fire, and other types of services. So money is going to be the big issue probably forever.

KH: What do you think is the best way to raise funds for programs like these?

PD: Well there are a lot of federal grants, police and fire departments are always looking for federal money and there is a lot of federal money out there that's available. Homeland Security grants are out there and although they don't directly impact us here like when you think of Homeland Security you think of terrorists and bombs being put out, that's what the general public thinks, and you know checking bags at the airport. Really Homeland Security money is used for emergency management, not only do we have, if we have a terrorist attack which is highly unlikely in this city or this area because we don't have a nuclear power plant, we don't have big electrical dams and that sort of thing. But that kind of money goes into emergency response where if we had a bad earthquake or the volcano erupted again it's training people in the neighborhoods how to help themselves and their neighbors because the fire department and the police department will be so busy handling the really big stuff that we're going to be left to take care of ourselves. And so a lot of that grant money is coming in for emergency management which has been around for a long time but now the federal government starting to pay more than what used to be a budget item from the department.

KH: What do you think about adding more taxes or raising taxes in order to support programs?

PD: People are tired of taxes, people don't want more taxes. People passed measure five years ago which limited the amount of taxing, you know how much you could raise it and people are saying, we don't want taxes they don't want a, we have property tax and income tax, they don't want sales tax, that's what I'm trying to say. And they're even afraid that if we pass the sales tax, they don't believe that the state government would drop different types of tax to make up for it. Like get rid of property tax and get a sales tax, people are afraid that if implement a property tax or a sales tax that they would still come back and raise your taxes. So people don't want more taxes, but they don't want you to drop your services either they want everything but they want to pay less for it. So it's a big balancing act on what kind of services are promoted people aren't going to pass more taxes, you see it in the school bonds all the time. It used to be schools could pass a bond measure without any problem; build more schools, you know more classrooms, more teachers, and now you see people voting those down because they just don't want that extra tax

KH: How do you feel about people that want more programs and support, yet they don't want help support it?

PD: Tough luck you know, it's just if you can't do it with the money you have, government whether it be school district or city or county they have to prioritize what services they should have. Too many jurisdictions like the school district they've got the first thing is that we have to pay teachers, we have to run a building, we have to have books. And over here they've got a bunch of other programs and what happens is they try and whittle a lot of these programs across the board down instead of saying lets go back to basics and dump some of these other little programs so we can give kids good basic opportunities and education instead of trying to create a program for every little thing, lets deal with the big picture.

KH: How do you feel about law enforcement and authorities in Hillsboro?

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PD: I have personal knowledge not only because I was a police officer but I was part of enforcement accreditation program which is meeting national standards in four hundred and fifty some areas to make them professional and I was very impressed. It gave me an inner knowledge of the police department and I was very impressed, I'm impressed with the way they do business, I'm impressed with the types of officers that they hire and have, I think it's an excellent police department. There are other departments that are good, but departments tend to be different even though they may have the same high quality. They'll have different programs here than Beaverton because they have different problems than they have there.

KH: Do the police department is focusing on the right things?

PD: Yeah, I really think they do because they work primarily by the numbers if a crime goes up then they're going to address it. Gang problems, they're going to have a gang team, if they have a lot of accidents in a particular intersection they're going to start working traffic heavier for red light violations for instance. And maybe what happens is,

you either, I won't say cure a problem, but you reduce it or you move. If you see a police car or motorcycle hanging around an intersection you're going to stop there all the time even when you don't see it, but what happens is you go across town and you're going to slide through the yellow light because you've never seen the police officer there. There is a street that goes behind target it comes out on thirty-second, I don't know if you've ever watched motorcycles there but it's a twenty- five mile per hour speed and it's wide open, there's no houses on it for half a mile and people zip through there. If there's a motorcycle there with radar people see them, they'll drive slow for a week because saw it, the motorcycle may never come back, but they'll drive slow for a week, but they'll speed on Jackson School road cause they never see the motorcycle. So police focus on where the problem is and then the problem moves and they go over and focus where it moved to.

KH: Does Hillsboro feel safer to you now than when you first moved to the area?

PD: I've always felt safe in Hillsboro but when you're a police officer and you have a gun in the house you feel pretty safe anyway because you're used to dealing with emergency situations or crime. I couldn't answer as an average citizen because I never lived in this city when I was either a police officer or a retired police officer and I knew how to handle it. So crime doesn't frighten me like it would other people I feel very safe, I don't feel threatened walking through any part of the city regardless of the make-up of the neighborhood simply because I have the self confidence that I can handle myself in a situation. I think that in general people feel fairly safe in this city simply from looking at the 2020 I'm not seeing anything that says reduce crime, I'm not seeing anything that says that pinpoints anything that would say that we have people here that are afraid. We have people here that say address gang problems because they don't want their kids growing up with gang problems but they don't say anything that says to me, I'm scared to live here.

KH: What do you believe is the biggest cause of crime and conflict in Hillsboro?

PD: I think that although I don't think that gang problem is big and prevalent as people would think. I think that gang problems, there is a gang problem because it's a matter of identity and territory so I think it's a minority group or a small group of people that they feel that their place in life is to act tough and call this block mine. These are people that probably don't have much self-esteem as much confidence as much interest in getting a job, getting an education. They just want to be tough guys, so you've got that part of it. I think that, and graffiti goes along with that I think other than that I don't see there being something really prevalent from a crime stand point and a gang although there's shootings and stabbings and that sort of thing those are one on one identity crimes. They aren't random where you should be afraid to walk down the street because you might get stabbed. People knew who was going to get stabbed ahead of time and so it's a matter of, it's the after affect is what we have to deal with, we have to deal with the health care problem because that person doesn't have health insurance. Now you've taken up free health care somebody else could be using, you've taken up the criminal

justice system, you have to have people that go out and paint over the graffiti, clean up the environmental or visual look that you don't want to have in the city.

KH: What other public and private providers participate with the 2020 plan?

PD: Well actually you can see in your 2020 thing, I brought along just my strategies and action. But the school district, Washington county health, human services, I'm just jumping around; Washington County Library, commission on families and children, Tualatin Valley Workshops, Saint Vincent Hospital and they go on and on. So there are lead partners in each action item and these are people who have said I will be responsible for getting this action item accomplished and then the potential partners which is the next column over are people who the lead people could call on to help make it happen. So there are literally hundreds without counting I would think there was probably a hundred just in health and safety, and throughout the whole thing I'll bet there's over three to four hundred throughout the whole 2020 plan.

KH: Do you think in school effort plans make a major difference in the way that students act? (Internships, mentoring, in school resource officers)

PD: I do, and I'm familiar with the school resource officers because I had them where I worked. I think those people are a low profile identity that kids can come to if they have a problem, have a question, want to report something without being big time out front. I think that the resource officers have over time assigned to the same school, the same resource officer assigned for a long time in a school have gained respect of the kids and have created this, you can come to me kind of attitude. They may not win over everyone, but they may get to the point where at least people may not totally respect and draw to them but at least they get kids to the point that kids don't care that they're in the school, you know they're not negative toward them, they may not be positive, but at least they're not negative. And, so these are people that can stop crime before it happens, they can deal with events in the school while they're there, I mean I don't know how much time they spend in each school, whether they get them a whole day or half a day or whatever. But there's a lot of times that the resource officers there when a bomb threat comes in or they hear a ticking in a locker and they can deal with it right there on the spot rather than having a very high profile fire engine coming in code three. You know people jumping, running out of the building you know it's a low profile professional approach to those types of problems.

KH: Do you think that affects kids over a long period of time?

PD: Well I think at least if nothing else it puts them more at ease with the police department I think fire people are always the good guys anyway. You know they never come in a penalize you in some way, where police do if you're in trouble you know they take care of it, but at least it will get kids comfortable with the image of law enforcement. Which if you never have adhered and a policeman walked into your school the first thing that kids say is what is he doing here or whose in trouble. Where when you see a resource officer you don't think too much, they walk down the hall and you think okay,

fine, that's his job, he's here. So I think it eases the impact of the uniform and makes the police department more approachable.

KH: What do you think of the DARE program and since we only get a certain section in schools today do you think it affects kids over a long period of time?

PD: I think it depends on the department, Beaverton had DARE for a long time and they stopped it two years ago. I don't know what they have here; I know one of the action items is GREAT program. So I don't know if they DARE or if they have incorporated DARE into GREAT, but it's a matter of the opinion of the department. Each different department, some think it's good, some people don't think it works. So I think it's a personal decision on the part of each individual police department.

KH: What's being done today to stop the outbreak of youth violence?

PD: Well I think school resource officers for one thing, I think the programs that are actually part of 2020; after school activities, getting kids a third place and keeping them off the street after school, giving them other activities for them to participate in. Parks and Rec. district have a baseball and basketball and softball, night activities you know from the park districts stand point. Those are all things where you give kids alternatives where they can expend their energy in a constructive manner or it gives them a place to go rather than just roaming the streets, Boys and Girls Club. And although it's not a 2020 thing, school lunch and school breakfast programs I think are real important too because provides nourishment to kids that the families can't afford that kind of nourishment. And a kid that comes to school and gets a breakfast and feels better and can build some feeling of respect and esteem kind of out of all these programs together, it gives them a better feel of a future, and rather than oh what am I going to do today and oh lets go out and get into trouble.

KH: How familiar do you think the community is with problems we have today with gangs and drugs and violence with kids?

PD: Simply what they read, simply what they read. I went to lunch with some acquaintances and the lady has never been affected by drug activity at all, never been burglarized, never had somebody threaten her on the street for her money, lives in an affluent neighborhood. And she's scare to death of the meth problem, well that's okay, but she only knows what she reads. Now the problem may be big, but it isn't a personal problem to her but she's scared to death so it goes back to a matter of perception. If she thinks that she is a victim or is going to be a victim she is afraid of it, if she's never felt that way than the problem isn't that big of a problem because it doesn't affect her.

KH: Do you think if the community was better informed they would take more actions with the problems?

PD: I think that they are very well informed and in some cases maybe too well informed because you see the news reports and they take the opportunity to sometime count the

number of negative things that are being reported than the number of positive things happen. And you'll find that ninety percent of what you see on television is bad things that have happened, somebody was in a crash, somebody was arrested for this, somebody molested this. The reason is that this is news worthy stuff to them they don't think and maybe true that they don't care about a batch of puppies being adopted from the animal shelter, it's not big news. Negative stuff is big news and that's what they do and they have to pack a whole lot of it into a half an hour or an hour. And other than sports, that's what you get; you get the stuff that makes news. You start reading the newspaper and you start seeing more human-interest stuff but you don't see that on a TV news show.

KH: Do you think the amount of negative news that they show to the Hillsboro people affects the way that they view the city?

PD: Well they're not showing it to the Hillsboro people, they're showing it to the people that have channel eight, channel six, channel 4, channel 12 in there receiving per view. Not only that but now with CNN and MSN news, you more news out of Iraq and Afghanistan than you have ever dreamed you would get five years ago, ten years ago and not only are we impacted but what happened by our own, but we're also impacted by those war stories because we have soldiers from our community or our county or from Oregon that are over there being hurt, being killed, so that makes the news too. And then it forms public opinion too, how many people are saying I'm tired of this lets get our boys get back here, let those people take care of their own so I mean the news whether it be mostly negative it builds up emotion and forms up public opinion. That's why we have people protesting the war areas because of the new, they've formed an opinion and they start acting out even though it's thousands of miles away, they're doing something to make a statement.

KH: Do you think the negative affect of the news; does it give a bad view of Hillsboro?

PD: No, I don't think so; I think what you really see if you watch the local news you'll see that Portland and Vancouver which are much bigger cities get big play because more things happen. Salem gets a lot of play now than they used to because they're starting to draw a viewing audience for further out, and the reason that they do that is advertising, that's what keeps a radio or a TV station in business, is advertising. If nobody bought ads they couldn't go on the air so they've expanded their news coverage so that among other things not only reporting purposes but also so people will watch their station which then sells products.

KH: Do you have any other information for me that I haven't asked about?

PD: No, I haven't, you've got 2020 so this is, I'll just give you a copy, this is public safety and these are the new actions and strategies that were approved. Did you go and put stickers on the board?

KH: Yeah.

PD: Okay, well this is what you were voting, that's what you were prioritizing, so you can have that for what it's worth. And what you can see is these show the amendments on it, it doesn't show the new ones, it shows what work we did on them and you saw the clean copy on them down there.

KH: I was wondering if you have any other documentation or survey results that I could possibly get a hold of?

PD: You can find that on the 2020 website, you can see results of surveys. There's just a wealth of information if you go and search around. If you have questions that you didn't find answered, then call a gal, her name is Rene Heade and she is with 2020 and she's with the city administration. You can find a lot of stuff, you can find minutes of board meetings and you can find results of surveys.

KH: Can you suggest any other people or places that we can get more information?

PD: I think from what I understand who you are already contacting; you're probably doing a pretty good job.