



# CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

**AGENDA TITLE:** National Night Out Proclamation  
**MEETING DATE:** July 21, 2010  
**PREPARED BY:** Captain Gary Benincasa, Interim Chief of Police

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Mayor Katakian to present a proclamation for National Night Out 2010 to be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010.

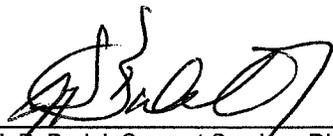
**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The City of Lodi Police Department established the Neighborhood Watch Program in 1985. Police officers were specially trained to conduct Neighborhood Watch Meetings to provide crime prevention information and develop partnerships with the community. This year the Department celebrates 25 years of Lodi Neighborhood Watch with over 250 active and organized neighborhoods.

In 1988 Lodi joined the National Association of Town Watch and began taking part in National Night Out. Thousands of communities and hundreds of thousands of citizens participate in National Night Out each year. The City of Lodi has placed in the top 10 participating communities nationwide each year, taking the first place award seven times.

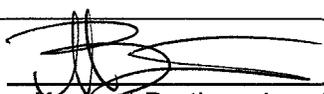
In 2009 the Lodi Police Department was unable to organize the event due to staffing changes, but several neighborhoods participated on their own. They organized block parties and were visited by police personnel and Council Members demonstrating the strength of their commitment. Neighborhood Watch is a critical component in our ability to succeed in addressing crime issues. It is essential that all citizens of Lodi be aware of the importance of crime prevention programs and the impact their individual and group participation can have on reducing crime in Lodi.

This year police staff and volunteers will be organizing National Night Out and participating to the fullest. Staff will be volunteering their time to visit Neighborhood Watch groups on National Night Out to reinforce the importance of the event, and demonstrate our commitment to the partnerships in our community. We anticipate more than 100 Neighborhood Watch groups will take part in the 2010 National Night Out against crime.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None

  
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Captain J. P. Badel, Support Services Division Commander

GB/JPB/jb

**APPROVED:**   
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Konradt Bartlam, Interim City Manager