

RESOLUTION NO. 146

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING STRATEGY (COPS), INCLUDING AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ITS SUPPORTING STRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, as a newly incorporated City, the City of University Place is committed to enhancing public safety and reducing crime in the community;

WHEREAS, a partnership of the police, community, and the City offers the opportunity to work together to develop the most appropriate and effective methods to increase the real safety of citizens and to maximize public confidence in safety within communities;

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted, among its 1997 goals, the implementation of a COPS program to address crime problems at their roots by emphasizing neighborhood policing priorities and encouraging community participation in public safety;

WHEREAS, the interim Community Oriented Policing Strategy (COPS) Advisory Committee has, over the last year, created a COPS strategy and implementation plan that recommends the establishment of a regular COPS committee and a supporting structure;

WHEREAS, the interim Community Oriented Policing Strategy (COPS) Advisory Committee shall expire on April 30, 1997;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Community Oriented Policing Strategy (COPS) adopted. The City Council hereby adopts the Community Oriented Policing Strategy as created by the interim COPS Advisory Committee, located in Attachment A of this resolution.

Section 2. Community Oriented Policing Strategy (COPS) Advisory Committee established. The City Council hereby establishes the Community Oriented Policing Strategy (COPS) Advisory Committee.

Section 3. Purpose. The purpose of the Committee is to implement and further develop the COPS strategy and implementation plan as adopted by the City Council. This COPS Advisory Committee shall also serve as a clearinghouse and forum through which businesses, groups, block watches, apartment complexes, and citizens voice their public safety concerns and ideas.

Section 4. Membership. There shall be nine members of the COPS Advisory Committee. The Committee shall be comprised of one representative from each of the following: business, school, and church community. There shall four Neighborhood Zone and two at-large representatives. In addition,

one police department and one City staff representative shall also serve as non-voting members of the committee. The City Council may designate alternates that may participate on the Committee if the primary member cannot attend.

Section 5. Committee Appointments. Appointments to the COPS Advisory Committee will be by the City Council during a regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 6. Term. COPS Advisory Committee members shall normally serve two year terms; however, to overlap the terms of the Committee members, four of the nine voting members will initially serve a one year term. Committee members will draw lots to determine who will serve one year terms. After the first year, all Committee members shall serve two year terms.

Section 7. Vacancies and Removal of Members. Vacancies occurring otherwise than through the expiration of terms shall be filled by the Council, in consultation with the COPS Advisory Committee, within 90 days of vacancy, for the unexpired term. Members may be removed, after public hearing, by the City Council for inefficiency or nonperformance of duty, misconduct, or malfeasance in office. A COPS Advisory Committee member may be removed for being absent from more than fifty percent of the committee meetings per calendar year.

Section 8. Organization. The Committee shall elect its own Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Note Taker. The Vice-Chairperson shall preside in the absence of the Chairperson. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be voting members of the Committee. The Committee should hold at least one regular meeting each month for the first year and at least quarterly thereafter. A majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum. The Committee shall adopt rules for transaction of business, and shall keep a written record of its meetings, attendance, resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations which shall be a public record.

Section 9. Voting. A quorum of the Committee, during an open public meeting, shall be necessary to legally act on any matter before the Committee. For a nine-member committee, a quorum is five members. A majority vote of a quorum is necessary to advance Committee recommendations to the City Council. For example, if five members of the Committee are present, three affirmative votes are necessary to advance a recommendation.

Section 10. Conflict of Interest. Each voting member of the Committee may vote on all questions put to the Committee unless a conflict of interest or an appearance fairness question under state law is present. Failure to vote shall be deemed to be an affirmative vote. Committee members may submit written comments for the record on an issue that will be voted on in their absence.

Section 11. Expenditures. Any expenditures for the Committee shall be within the amounts appropriated for the purposes set by the City Council.

Section 12. Consultants and Advisors. The Committee may recommend to the Council the retention of consultants or professional service providers to assist the Committee in its studies and reviews. Upon approval by the City Council, professional service providers shall be hired by the City.

Section 13. Powers and Duties. The Committee is advisory and reports to the City Council. The Committee may recommend policies to the City Council. In addition, the Committee shall coordinate with City staff regarding public safety resources, and the Committee may advise the City Council on public safety issues as they arise. The Committee is a standing committee. The Committee shall designate its meeting times. The following first 18-month schedule is recommended for the Committee:

- A. Begin the implementation of the COPS strategy in June 1997 and report to the City Council on the Committee's progress by the end of October 1997.
- B. By the end of May 1998 (if not sooner), report back to the City Council with recommendations concerning the progress of the COPS strategy.
- C. Report back to the City Council by the end of 1998 with an evaluation of and recommendations for the overall COPS strategy.

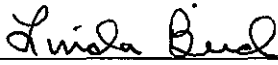
Section 14. City-wide COPS Structure. Individual citizens and groups may also voice their input and opinions directly to the Committee or City Council. Block watches, apartment complexes, business owners, and individual citizens may bring public safety concerns, information, and suggestions to their neighborhood zone meetings. The COPS Advisory Committee representative from each zone will then report these concerns and suggestions to the COPS Advisory Committee

Section 15. Neighborhood Participation. The cornerstone of the City's Community Oriented Policing Strategy is the neighborhood watch program, consisting of block, business, and apartment (e.g., Crime-Free Multi-Housing) watch groups. The COPS Advisory Committee shall use these groups and whatever other methods deemed appropriate for the two-way flow of information between citizens and the Committee.

Section 16. Staff Support. The two non-voting police and staff representatives shall serve on but shall not provide administrative support to the committee. The Committee is responsible for keeping its own notes on each meeting (including attendance, topics discussed, and actions taken) and shall file these notes with the City Clerk.

Section 17. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON MAY 5, 1997



Linda Bird, Mayor

ATTEST:


Susan Matthew, City Clerk

UNIVERSITY PLACE
COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Overview
- ◆ Mission Statement
- ◆ University Place Law Enforcement/Community Oriented Policing Values
- ◆ University Place Crime and Crime Related Problem Statement
- ◆ Goals
- ◆ Action Plans
- ◆ Resources, Tools and Suggestions
- ◆ Summary

INTRODUCTION

The citizens of University Place, being newly incorporated, have a rare and unique opportunity. They can have a dramatic impact in how police service is delivered to their community.

It is this opportunity which led to the forming of a "COPS Task Force," made up of citizens from a variety of backgrounds, interests and expertise. Their task is to form a strategy that would assist the University Place Police Force in reflecting the values, priorities and goals of the citizens.

This plan must be short, simple and easy to understand; implementation of the plan may begin immediately upon approval.

It also became obvious that this task force would need to hand the torch off to another group when this strategy is completed. The creation of a Citizens' Advisory Group is recommended to act as a sounding board for the citizens and police. This group would be advisory and would be made up of a cross section of the community.

COMMUNITY POLICING OVERVIEW

Community Policing is by its very nature an all encompassing concept that may include literally scores of different programs. Each individual community and neighborhood have needs and demands which are unique for its own safety and welfare.

Community Oriented Policing revolves around the concept that citizens work together with the police to define problems and enact solutions. Future COPS programs could focus on:

1. **General Community Concerns** (e.g., basic crime prevention, etc.).
2. **Specific Problem Programs** e.g., burglary reduction, crime stoppers, citizen and police reward programs, illegal drugs, youth problems, etc.).
3. **Special Group Programs** (e.g., senior citizens, racial minority group concerns, low income and high risk groups, commercial crime initiatives on shoplifting, bank robbery prevention, etc.).
4. **Community Oriented Programs** (e.g., police-community liaison, Neighborhood Watch, public information and education, cross-cultural program development, etc.).

5. **Youth Oriented Programs** (e.g., youth community activities and education programs, youth awareness campaigns, youth camps and clubs, child safety and identification programs, youth law education activities, etc.).

The central premise of University Place Community Oriented Policing is a common philosophy. The philosophy is that the police and the public they serve have an interdependent and shared responsibility in making our community safe and livable, and that citizens should have an active and coordinated role in the accomplishment of this endeavor.

CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE COMMUNITY POLICING MISSION STATEMENT

We, the citizens of University Place, through a shared vision and partnership with the police, will achieve and maintain a safe and livable community.

UNIVERSITY PLACE POLICE DEPARTMENT VALUES

SERVICE

The University Place Police Department will maintain a staff of law enforcement officers, support staff and volunteers that are committed to promoting public safety, human rights, mutual respect and courtesy.

PARTNERSHIP

The University Place Police Department will work in partnership with the community, city staff, service agencies and all aspects of the criminal justice system.

EMPOWERMENT

The University Place Police Department will encourage decision making at the most effective level, will promote citizen responsibility and facilitate citizen involvement.

PROBLEM SOLVING

The University Place Police Department will encourage and use creative, community based problem solving methods to reduce the fear of crime and to improve the quality of life.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The University Place Police Department will promote a sense of responsibility among all paid and volunteer personnel in that they are major stake holders in the community. "We are the community and the community is us." There will also be emphasis on deputies and citizens assuming personal responsibility for their neighborhoods.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC SAFETY VALUES

PREVENT AND REDUCE CRIME AND THE FEAR OF CRIME

All citizens should feel and be safe from crime and the fear of crime as they go about their daily lives.

EMPOWER THE COMMUNITY

Create an involved, educated and responsible community by building stronger community partnerships, improving customer service, providing more open and responsive communications, and delivering programs that promote involvement in problem solving and crime prevention.

OVERVIEW OF CRIME RELATED PROBLEMS WITHIN THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE

The City of University Place has the same type of crimes and related problems as other areas. Despite the current lower rate overall of crimes, the effects of these crimes are just as debilitating to the community. Based on task force and limited community input, some of the major areas of concerns are as follows:

- fear of being a victim of crime
- fear of being unsafe in the community
- fear of retaliation due to involvement
- response time to crime
- knowledge of resources and the police "process"
- crime prevention
- fear of vigilantism
- police coordination with other support agencies
- recreational or job resources for youths
- visible police presence
- neighborhood organization and coordination with police
- domestic violence and child abuse

These are some of the issues discussed. Some resources were gathered as well as some suggested solutions; however, a formalized process will be initiated to organize and gather more input from members of the community. This is the beginning of the University Place Community Oriented Police process as recommended by the COPS Advisory Task force.

STRATEGIES

- Develop and implement a comprehensive COPS plan that provides the most visible presence of police and enhances effective service delivery in a timely, reliable and user friendly manner that is sensitive to special considerations such as ethnicity, gender, age, disability, etc.
- Develop and implement a plan that maximizes police and community involvement in identifying and resolving problems and concerns by assessing viable options and implementing solutions using a broad base of community and police resources.
- Develop and implement a formalized process that establishes and enhances two way communication between police and citizens in a collaborative, non-threatening and supportive environment that takes seriously the citizens' definitions of problems and solves those problems that have been identified.
- Provide a checklist of tools and strategies for addressing crime and the fear of crime that can effectively reduce both reported and non-reported incidents of all types.

GOAL STATEMENT

Many people feel that the City of University Place is an affluent suburb that provides a lucrative opportunity for criminals. However, the city also experiences other types of crimes such as drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, etc. The goal is to increase awareness and facilitate positive change in the community.

GOALS

1. Establish a permanent COPS Committee

The COPS task force will officially recommend to the city council in December of 1996, that a standing COPS advisory committee be established to carry out the strategy as submitted. The COPS committee will also serve as an information clearinghouse for the

submitted. The COPS committee will also serve as an information clearinghouse for the community. The committee should be representative of the rich diversity that the city enjoys as well as being representative of the identified organizational structure.

2. Neighborhood Zones

There will be five geographic neighborhood zones. The standing COPS committee will send and receive information through these zones by having a representative from each zone serve on the COPS committee. However, citizen groups will also be invited and welcome to address the COPS committee directly.

3. Expand and Enhance Block Watch Groups and Multi-Housing Complex Groups

The COPS committee and police will meet with identified neighborhood block watch group leaders, crime-free multi-housing complex leaders and elicit support in organizing similar groups. These groups will also identify problem issues and possible solutions. The groups will then design an infrastructure that will provide problem solving and long term participation in the prevention of crime and crime related issues.

4. Contact and Involve Special Issue Groups

The COPS committee and University Place police will contact new and already identified organized groups representing ethnic diversity and other special interest groups to elicit input regarding the creation and design of a process to identify problems and solutions. These groups will be asked to participate in an ongoing process of prevention and responding to crime and crime related issues.

5. School Mobilization

The COPS committee and police will meet with University Place School District Administration representatives and the school district's major stake holders to design and implement a strategy to identify and define crime and crime related problems by March 7, 1997. The district will be asked to identify representatives and resources to assist the COPS committee on pertinent issues.

6. Church Groups

The COPS committee will meet with church groups to create and design a process that will identify and define possible solutions to crime and crime related issues in the community by March 7, 1997. It is anticipated that these focus groups will meet on an ongoing basis to discuss issues.

7. Media

The COPS committee and University Place police will meet with representatives of the media (newspaper, radio, and cable television) by March 7, 1997, to design a strategy that will best serve the citizens of University Place regarding education, information and prevention issues. This plan will include a short and long term involvement of the media.

8. Business

The COPS committee and University Place police will meet with local business leaders to create a process that identifies current and anticipated problems. Businesses will be asked to assist in designing long term solutions.

SUMMARY

The proposed COPS Plan identifies potential issues which can be addressed by the community and police. Under each goal (and there will be other goals as the program continues to evolve), it is anticipated that there will be an inclusive and progressive process that will continually change to address new concerns.

The process in this strategy plan is not designed to solve specific problems. Instead, the program creates a procedure for problem resolution and planning.

This temporary advisory task force recognizes that the community is the key to the success of this effort. The standing COPS committee will be involved in tracking results and statistics in cooperation with the police in order to measure success and to make adjustments when needed. The committee will also be responsible for making quarterly reports to the city council and sharing information with the community.

COPS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Community Oriented Policing:

Community Oriented Policing is based on a co-independent relationship between police and the community. The establishment of a permanent COPs committee will provide a structure that will enhance that process and assist with that implementation throughout the city.

COPs Committee Representation

COPs committee shall be composed of 11 members representing the following groups:

- Business – U.P. Chamber of Commerce President/designee
- School – U.P. School Superintendent/designee
- City Liaison – U.P. City Manager
- Churches – Religious Representative
- Police – Chief of Police
- (4) Neighborhood Zones – Chair/Captain of each U.P. neighborhood zone
- (2) At Large – These will insure there is a balance of ethnic and gender

Terms of Office

Terms of office will be for two (2) year appointments with the exception of the Police Chief and City Manager.

In order to enhance the flow of new ideas and energy, the city council will reappoint every two (2) years with exception of the Chief of Police and the City Manager who will provide institutional memory.

In addition, the chair and/or co-chairs should be citizens. (not paid staff or officials)

During the first meeting, the committee will select a chairperson, vice chair, and a secretary to record minutes of each meeting. (The city will provide assistance with typing, copying, distribution and postage of minutes and other materials as needed). The committee will meet on a monthly basis, and minutes will be available to the public at city hall.

Duties of the COPs Committee

The committee's primary duties are to:

1. Serve as community liaison between community and law enforcement and the city council to enhance dissemination of information to the community and elicit feedback; to participate in rumor control and public relations; and to assess information on critical incidents involving law enforcement.
2. Participate in information gathering and assist law enforcement in working with citizens and/or citizen groups to identify and resolve community law enforcement issues.
3. Collaborate with police and the city council in monitoring accomplishments of identified goals and to complete an annual report to the council and the community.
4. Develop a structure to assist neighborhood zones in developing and assuming ownership of individualized COPs plans to meet the needs of each neighborhood zone. The committee will also designate key people to identify problems and provide support in implementing strategies.

Strategies Overview

The City of University Place has crime problems similar to those in other urban areas. Due to our demographics, we have lower crime rates than many other cities but still suffer from crime related activities.

Community-wide issues include:

1. Traffic issues - speeding, illegal parking, noise, dirt bikes, disobeying traffic controls
2. Vehicle thefts
3. Drugs/Gangs - with resulting foot/car traffic, noise, loitering, violence, vandalism, gangs, curfew violations
4. Business - shoplifting, bad checks, fraud
5. Domestic Violence - This is a major problem in University Place and statistics are growing. (Domestic violence is very labor intensive for police and the judicial system.)

The original COPs committee recognized it was impossible to identify and address every crime issue that exists within the city. However, the committee did attempt to examine some of the issues facing seniors and other special groups (minorities, disabled, etc.).

STRATEGIC PLAN

I. COMMUNITY EDUCATION

An extensive education campaign is needed to inform University Place residents about the benefits of Community Oriented Policing. There is a wide range of opinions regarding

crime in University Place ranging from a state of denial about serious crimes to the myth that "outsiders" are causing all of the problems.

A key building block for Community Oriented Policing is to develop Block Watches in every neighborhood. There are currently 62 Block Watches within University Place. Under the Block Watch program, neighbors are trained to become the eyes and ears of their neighborhoods. Officers can provide neighbors with proactive steps to reduce crime while neighbors can assist officers with observations and information. Current Block Watch captains, the police, service clubs, organizations, the city, schools, churches and businesses can work together to encourage greater participation in the Block Watch program. Apartment residents can also participate in the Crime Free Multi-Housing program. The Block Watch chairperson will be tasked with the responsibility to collaborate with the Safe Street Block Watch organization.

Other avenues are also available to inform citizens about events (criminal situations) as well as educating them on ways to reduce the incidence of crime and improve the quality of their lives.

Strategy

Increase Participation in Block Watches and the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and collaborate with existing and new Safe Streets Block Watch programs to enhance safety.

Action Plan

- School district readerboards. (Police/COPs committee)
- Cable TV announcements. (COPs/Police/City)
- Articles in PTSA newsletter, individual school newsletters. (COPs/Police)
- Articles in UP Journal, TNT, City Newsletter. (COPs/City/Police)
- Special forums, church programs. (COPs/Police)
- Mailings in bank notices, refuse bills. (City)
- Information display at library.
- Participate in speaking engagements with interested groups. (COPs/Police)
- Contact current Block Watch Safe Streets and Multi-Housing groups to illicit input and assist with organizing new groups. (COPs/Police/Neighborhood Block Captains)
- City WEB page, kiosks, fliers. (City/Police/COPs)
- Development of a referral book for all officers and community. (Police)
- Educate people how and when to call police. (COPs/Police/Block Watch)
- Develop neighborhood survey to be administered by block captains regarding livability issues, criminal problems, etc. (COPs/Police)
- Bicycle cops, UP Community Police Academies. (City/Police/COPs)
- Increase hours of local police station. (City/Police/COPs)

Contacts

Block Watch and Crime Free Multi-Housing captains, police, city, school district, Safe Street Groups, Neighborhood Advisory Groups, school district, churches, media, grocery stores, library.

Measurements

- Increased number of Block Watch, Crime Free Multi-Housing and Safe Streets groups participation.
- Increased attendance at community forums.
- Number of articles written.
- Number of speaking engagements.

II. TRAFFIC RELATED PROBLEMS

The city is surrounded by a densely populated urban area which results in numerous traffic problems. Traffic is the number one source of complaints to the University Place Police Department.

Strategies

- Utilize a team approach to traffic problems working with the City Public Works Department and the county road crews. (City Manager/Police)
- Enforce all traffic laws fairly and impartially. (Police)
- Utilize city ordinances to take care of problems that may need a new approach. (City Council/Police/COPs)
- Seek and maintain high technology police equipment. (Police/City Council/COPs)

Action Plan

- Set up regular meetings of the police, City Public Works and county road crews group for mutually beneficial problem solving.
- The police shall set up a system for tracking and responding to traffic complaints in the city. (Police/COPs)
- Utilize a volunteer traffic speed program to assist the police in enforcing and educating drivers about speed limits in neighborhoods. (Police/COPs)
- The city shall purchase the latest technology in police equipment for the officers to use on the enforcement side of the problem.

Measurements

- Reduction in traffic speed and complaints.
- Report programs on regular basis in UP newspaper. (Police/UP Paper)

III. VEHICLE PROWL. THEFTS AND CRIMES OF OPPORTUNITY

The city has the perception of being an affluent suburb, thus thieves from all over the area come to UP to commit crimes. University Place has been victimized many times due to that perception.

Strategies

- Crime prevention and education for citizens to better protect themselves.

- Expand and strengthen the block watch program in residential neighborhoods.
- Have all apartment complexes participate in the Crime Free Multi-Housing program.
- Utilize all available police resources in the most efficient manner.

Action Plan

- Use the media, city newsletter and one-on-one contacts to educate citizens regarding crime prevention methods. (Police/COPs)
- Continue car prowls updates in UP Journal along with a year-to-date total. (Police)
- Publish crime-fighting tips in city newsletter, and crime prevention tips on cable TV. (Police)
- Have deputies market the block watch program as they work their assigned neighborhoods. Also publicize via newsletter and press releases, and working with neighborhood and owner associations. (Police/COPs)
- Education campaign through Block Watches to lock doors, park in secure, lighted areas, install steering locks, etc. (Police/COPs)
- Develop computer/telephone trees between Block Watch captains and police when incidents occur along with information about possible suspects, etc. (Police/COPs/Block Watch)
- Warning notices in parking lots, gas stations... "Lock Your Car." (Police)
- Have the crime prevention officer contact each apartment complex in University Place market the Crime Free Multi-Housing program. (Police)
- Ask the City Council to explore the options of requiring all apartment complexes to join by crafting an ordinance. (City Council/COPs/Police)
- Officers talk to kids at school regarding penalties as well as amount of financial damage. (Police)
- The Police need to use all tools available. Bicycle patrols, emphasis patrols, crime analysis, Crime Stoppers, and the curfew ordinance are first line defenses. (Police)

Contacts

Block Watch and Crime Free Multi-Housing captains, neighborhood zone captains and local media.

Measurements

- Reduction in vehicle thefts/break ins.
- Increased number of Crime Free Multi-Housing participants.
- Increased number of police/COPs positive contacts.
- Tracking of Public Education programs given.
- Tracking of focus group initiated contacts.

IV. DRUG AND GANG ACTIVITY

The community should have a zero tolerance for gang and drug activities due to the high risk of crime and fear that they create for the citizens.

Strategies

- Drug activity in apartment complexes can be addressed by the Crime Free Multi-Housing program.
- Residential neighborhoods can use the Block Watch and Safe Streets Programs.
- Schools should continue providing early education on avoiding drugs and gangs. The COPs committee could work with the school curriculum team to identify key junctures at which police would be most effective.
- Police should aggressively follow-up on all information on drug and gang activities in the city.
- Use multi-prong approach to solving gang and drug problems realizing that each problem is a problem for the entire community to address and solve by collaborating with major stake holders.

Action Plan

- Establish Crime Free Multi-Housing and Block Watch programs throughout the community. (COPs/Police/Block Watch/Safe Streets)
- Utilize the CJRO, the Crime Prevention Officer, School Personnel and PTSAs to educate and teach the dangers of drug and gang activities. (COPs/Police)
- The police will use all legal tools to eradicate drug use and gang activities. This will include arrest and prosecution, knock and talks, school visits, working with apartment managers and any other tool available.
- Use all available community resources (stakeholders) for a multi-prong attack. This will include the police, the schools, city government, service organizations, churches, PTSAs, youth groups, apartment managers, fire department, building officials, organizations and businesses.

Contacts

Apartment Managers, Block Watch captains, schools (staff and PTSAs - see list under "Contacts Directory"), City Government (City Council, building department, county health department), fire department, service organizations, churches, youth organizations businesses.

Measurements

- Increased number of Crime Free Multi-Housing and Block Watch.
- Increased number of drug related and gang arrests.
- Increased number of positive comments.
- Increased number of referrals.
- Increased number of Public Education and Training contacts.
- Increased number of new volunteers.

V. SCHOOL/YOUTH ISSUES

The following strategies were developed based upon input gathered from the city's Youth

Violence forum, the U.P. School District's Community Network Advisory Group forums, interviews with local educators and pamphlets regarding local services.

Strategies

- Provide additional positive activities during the after school and evening hours.
- Provide job skills, mentorships, career days, interview skills/applications and actual job opportunities for junior and senior high kids.
- Increased emphasis/training for non-college bound kids.
- Emphasis on Community Service to encourage community pride/ownership.
- Increase publicity regarding current resources.
- Increase publicity about "good" kids and positive activities.

Action Plan

- Provide positive activities by collaborating with city recreation department, U.P. School district, PTSAs, latchkey programs, churches, Tacoma Community College, YMCA, Girls and Boys Club and service groups to offer additional activities and after school enrichment program. (Program participants could pay a slight fee to cover classes and instructors. Hire college or high school kids along with funding an after school activity bus).
- Recruit mentors/role models from UP schools, local colleges and communities.
- Expand Lunch Buddy program at Narrows View and Homework Program (DRUM) to all schools.
- Explore possibility of student mentorship programs with businesses and city government.

Publicity - Positive Events

- Encourage schools and other involved parties to send pictures and information to local media.
- Annual Banquet to honor community service/positive activities.
- Job Information.
 - ◇ Use the U.P. Journal, city newsletter, TNT, PTSA newsletters, etc., to advertise for specific professionals/tradespeople to offer career info during the day or evening. Students could provide information about desired careers.
 - ◇ Establish a "Take a Kid to Work" day to give kids experience about a "typical" day. Contact local businesses and employees for assistance.
 - ◇ Contact local agencies regarding interview skills, dress for success, etc.
 - ◇ Work with the Private Industry Council (591-5450) to provide job opportunities for ages 16-21.
 - ◇ Help publicize existence of 'JOB BOOK' at High School Career Center which lists potential local jobs as well as students interested in employment.
 - ◇ Establish a kiosk at Safeway, Albertson's, city hall and library listing job possibilities or kids looking for work.
 - ◇ Contact local unions for internships and information.

- ◊ Contact Bates and Clover Park Technical Colleges for speakers on various trades.
- Community Service
 - ◊ Encourage all schools to participate in community service projects.
 - ◊ Enhance the school/police partnership with periodic meetings between police and school leadership to understand each other's procedures and requirements as well as interests of common concern.

Contacts

Career Center Coordinator at Curtis Sr. High (566-5710 x103)

Local Unions

TCC, Bates and Clover Park Technical College

U.P. School District

Local businesses/professionals/tradespeople

Churches, YMCA, Young Life, Girls and Boys' Club, etc.

Alternative Program in Curtis Junior High (1996 - 1997)

(See Contact Directory)

Measurements

- Increased number of activities/participants.
- Increased number of employed kids/job opportunities and job experiences.
- Increase in community service projects.
- Increased recognition for good kids.
- Increased number of mentor/role models.

VI. BUSINESS

There is a diverse business community located throughout the city which suffers from common as well as unique problems. Concerns include: graffiti; break-ins; lack of police visibility; skateboarders; wandering kids; shoplifting; armed robberies; drive by shootings; "border" problems for businesses at the intersections of Tacoma and University Place; limited communication among businesses; property manager/owner relationships.

Strategies

- Develop communications among individual businesses as well as with police about crime trends that may affect their business.
- Assist businesses by providing crime prevention tips.
- Assist businesses in organizing Focus groups

Action Plan

- Set up a computer on-line program that businesses can access for information on crime trends and crime prevention. (City/Police/COPs)
- Develop a business neighborhood watch. (Police/COPs)
- Develop relationships between zone deputies and businesses. (Crime prevention)

- Hold training workshops with the Crime Prevention Deputy.
- Develop computer/telephone trees regarding shoplifting and other problems. (Police)
- Survey businesses regarding workshop topics, dates and times. (COPs/Police)

Contacts

See Business Listing under Contacts Directory
University Place Chamber of Commerce

Measurements

- Increased communication among businesses, police and COPs.
- Participation of businesses at workshops.
- Decrease in overall crime experienced by businesses.
- Organizing and participation of Business Focus Groups.

VII. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

University Place suffers from an extremely high incidence of domestic violence. By far, it is the most prevalent crime in our community. In 1996, there were 395 assaults reported in University Place; 238 of these were domestic violence related. If domestic violence assaults were subtracted from the number of all assaults, total assaults would be at a five year low.

Strategies

- Reduce the number of return trips by officers to the same residence.
- Develop informational campaign throughout schools and the community to educate people about domestic violence and available resources.
- Collaborate with schools, domestic violence groups, and other groups to create a resource directory and referral process.

Action Plan

- Establish and maintain a trained, caring police force that will enforce laws fairly and with compassion. The city should provide training over and above the normal amount to enhance U.P. officers' intervention skills. (Police/City Council)
- Encourage the school system to teach early conflict resolution classes before violence becomes the norm in a person's life. Churches, PTSA's, school counselors and other community resources could team up to present family workshops regarding conflict resolution skills.
- City declaration of October as Domestic Violence Prevention month with associated activities.
- Ad campaign throughout city and schools - ("Love Doesn't Hurt" posters/bumper stickers).
- Speakers and presentations at PTSA meetings, service clubs, schools, churches.
- Media campaign (cable/newspaper/radio ads) listing phone numbers to call for help.

- Displays at junior and senior high schools, library, grocery stores.
- Inserts in city newsletter regarding domestic violence, phone numbers, safe houses.
- Fliers in apartments and public restrooms.
- Anger management programs in schools, evening class.
- Self esteem/date rape classes for kids.
- University Place officers should be well versed in all resources available to victims of domestic violence so proper referrals can be made.
- See Domestic Violence Packet.

Contacts

- Pierce County Domestic Violence Unit. (596-2970)
- Domestic Violence Hotline. (1-800-562-6025)
- Protection Orders. (591-7455)
- Pierce County Pros. Attorney Domestic Violence Unit. (591-7446)
- Sexual Assault Crisis Center. (474-7273)
- YWCA Womens' Shelter. (383-2593)
- Family Renewal Shelter. (475-9010)
- Pierce County Domestic Violence Line. (593-4166)
- See Contacts Directory PTSAs.

Measurements

- Reduction in repeat calls to same households.
- Increased awareness of domestic violence and resources as evidenced by the number of people participating in workshops.
- Increased number of domestic violence calls due to increased awareness about resources.

VIII. SENIORS

The committee's limited examination of senior issues revealed the following concerns:

- Fear of crime
- Fear of opening doors/going out at night
- Loss of independence
- Victims of scams
- Loneliness, feelings of uselessness
- Need for inter-generational bonds/contacts

Strategies

- Reduce crime and fear of crime.
- Educate people about community resources for independent living.
- Increase awareness about volunteer opportunities.

Action Plan

- Establish Block Watch programs to promote neighborhood interaction as well as distribution of crime prevention tips.
- Increase number of public service speaking engagements with senior groups.
- Encourage groups to participate in Block Watch and Safe Streets groups.
- Disseminate information about community resources (meals on wheels, transportation, reassurance phone calls, etc.) on colored insert in city newsletter, UP Journal, TNT, cable, grocery store fliers) to hang on refrigerator.
- Offer educational programs/displays at the library, meal sites, churches, grocery stores, area restaurants, apartment complexes, UP Park District Building, etc.
- Provide information about volunteer possibilities throughout the community.
- Senior Reassurance Telephone Program.

Contacts

AARP, retirement homes, assisted living facilities, churches, social groups, service clubs (Lions, Rotary, Optimists, Kiwanis), UP Park District group, area churches, Titlow/Fircrest/Steilacoom senior groups, meal sites, McDonald's and other restaurants with senior groups, bingo hall, grocery stores, schools, apartments, foster grandparents program, SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together), Lunch Buddy Program at schools, RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program), See Contacts Directory.

Measurements

- Increased number of volunteers.
- Increased participation in community services.

IX. SPECIAL GROUP PROGRAMS

A. Ethnic/Minority

Strategies

- Establish partnerships/communication with ethnic/minority groups.
- Foster understanding/acceptance of other cultures/values.

Action

- Identify existing ethnic/minority groups within UP.
- Identify leaders/translators to meet with other community members to determine concerns and issues.
- Potential "Rainbow Festival" with music, dance, food, exhibits.

Contacts

- Black Parents Association, bilingual parents at junior/senior high schools.
- Tacoma Community House (language bank/translators) 383-3951.
- Korean Women's Association; Vietnamese Association of Pierce County.

- Police contacts.
- Cultural diversity contacts from individual schools.
- Local churches. (i.e., the mosque on Bridgeport, African American congregation in UP Park District Building, Korean church across from junior high, etc.)
- Pierce County Black Collective.
- Tacoma Urban League.
- University C.O.R.E. group.

Measurements

- Initiate and increase number of Focus groups.
- Measure number of contacts and input.
- Increased number of volunteers.

B. Physically and mentally challenged groups

Strategy

- To have police and community develop a better understanding of the abilities of challenged individuals.

Action Plan

- Contact identified groups to gain input for areas of concern.
- Assist with development of Focus groups
- Provide training for police and COPs regarding special needs.

Contacts

- TACID (Tacoma Area Coalition of Individuals with Disabilities)

Measurements

- Training provided to COPs, police and other groups.

COPS PROGRAM MEASUREMENTS

The COPs program must be evaluated periodically to determine what types of changes are needed in order to develop a successful program. Measurement tools include:

- Community Survey (including youth)
 - ◊ The survey should be distributed six months to a year after the COPs program has started. Survey drop boxes should be located in the library, grocery stores, businesses and schools.
- Determine if problems/concerns are being resolved.
- Identify new issues.
- Track number of contacts (phone, person and letter) whether it was resolved and how.

- Record of contact with focus groups in the community. (i.e., schools, businesses, etc.)
- Number of volunteers recruited and trained to facilitate duties of the COPs committee.
- Number and status of recommendations to city council and law enforcement.
- Comparison of crime statistics to previous year.
- Number of Public Relations Contacts to media and personal contacts in the community.
- Annual reports to city council and to the community.
- Record keeping to include tracking of proposals initiated by the committee, citizens and others that are COPs related.
- Number of Block Watches and Crime Free Multi-Housing participants. Are they active? Number of contacts with zone officers.