

City of Cincinnati



Interdepartmental
Correspondence Sheet

Date: 05/31/2006

To: Colonel Thomas H. Streicher, Jr., Police Chief
From: Lieutenant Russell A. Neville, District Three
Copies to:
Subject: Second QUARTER District Three PROBLEM SOLVING REPORT – Patrol BUREAU

Category: CPOP Case Case #: SARA 0600056 District: 3
Neighborhood: West Price Hill

Coordinating Personnel: Sergeant John Murray, Badge; S564

Description of Problem: Litter, Drug Sales, Loitering

Phase of SARA: Assessment

SARA Documentation

Scanning (state problem): 1 - What precisely is the problem?

While participating in Price Hill Will's safety walks members of the community, social agencies and police department identified excessive litter on the streets and sidewalks. They also believed several subjects were loitering to purchase or sell drugs.

2 - Who is this a problem for?

The problem of litter and drug purchases and sales is a problem for every member of the community and those who come to the neighborhood to visit family and friends. As Price Hill Will has devoted resources to the improvement of the quality of life issues for Price Hill it is a problem for the success of the program.

3 - How long has it been a problem?

The issue of loitering and litter have been a problem for several years; however, the issue of drug purchases and sales in the community are fairly new.

Analysis (identify factual support): 1 - What is the time frame being analyzed?

An analysis of the past five months (January - May, 2006) has been conducted.

2 - What information is being analyzed?

Calls for service, arrests and offense reports are being analyzed. Additionally, complaints received through the District Three Violent Crime Squad (VCS) are being reviewed to determine if there is a correlation between their enforcement efforts and the CPOP data. We are also attempting to identify absentee landlords to hopefully bring them into compliance with city codes and to hold them accountable for the activities on and around their property.

3 - What conditions contribute to the problem?

Place management practices and behavioral management issues contribute to the problem. Additionally, there are a large number of teens (12 - 19 years old) who currently reside in the community which adds to the likelihood of loitering and congregating. Additionally, abandoned structures and grafitti.

Easy access to the streets from the main thoroughfare (Glenway Avenue) also adds to the problem as it increases the vehicular traffic for drug sales.

Response (define action taken): 1 - Who is/was available to assist in the CPOP/problem solving effort?

In addition to District Three personnel (Violent Crime Squad, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd shift personnel and the investigative unit), Cincinnati Police Department's Vortex Unit, Price Hill Citizen's on Patrol, members of Price Hill Will, Buildings and Inspections and the Health Department are available to assist with working to resolve the problem.

2 - What are your goals or what are you hoping to accomplish with your response?

To eliminate those conditions we are able to eliminate (loitering, litter, delapidated structures, etc) that allow this type of activity to flourish. Also, encourage community and business involvement in assisting with resolving the issues and assist with the follow-up that allows quality of life improvement in the community.

3 - What precisely is your response or responses?

The initial response is to coordinate a meeting with each involved group to ensure we are all interested in accomplishing the same task and to determine what resources are available from each. Second, determine what hours are most active so resources from the police department can be adequately distributed for maximum effectiveness. Third, coordinate a meeting between buildings and inspections with absentee landlords to determine who is willing to come into compliance and what actions need to be taken against those who refuse. We also need to define community options and identify additional stakeholders.

Once these steps have been accomplished we will go forward with proactive enforcement, cleanup, and additional programs cooperatively agreed upon by community representatives, residents, city departments and the police.

4 - What were the dates each element of the response was implemented?

District Three resources were immediately allocated to address several of the problems, i.e., Police Visibility Overtime (PVO) personnel were designated to closely monitor the area and to take enforcement action where appropriate; the PVO was a combination of foot, bike and vehicular patrols. Additionally, the District Three VCS contributed by conducting under cover drug purchases and surveillance. There have been three district curfew sweeps where heavy attention was given to this neighborhood. Price Hill Will and Price Hill Citizen's on Patrol have continued to walk the neighborhood and report concerns to the police department.

Assessment (document measurement): 1 - What are the results of your assessment?

a. Through the cooperative efforts of District Three, Vortex, Price Hill Citizen's on Patrol and Price Hill Will the activities initially of concern have reduced tremendously. Crime analysis shows a reduction in calls for service, arrest, and reportable offenses during the months of July and August, 2006.

b. The types of calls for service have not so much a changed; however, there has been a dramatic reduction in the number of offenses and calls for service. We have also experienced a major drop off in curfew violators in this part of Price Hill.

Police Participation

Specific Feedback:

City Department Participation	Specific Feedback
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buildings and Inspections	None to Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Development & Planning	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Department	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health	None to Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Sewer District	
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services	
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation & Engineering	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Works	