

City of Cincinnati



Interdepartmental
Correspondence Sheet

Date: 11-11-2006

To: Colonel Thomas H. Streicher, Jr., Police Chief
From: Captain Thomas A. Johns, District Five Commander
Copies to:
Subject: FOURTH QUARTER District Five PROBLEM SOLVING REPORT – Patrol BUREAU

Category: CPOP Case Case #: SARA 600017 District: 5 Neighborhood: Clifton Heights

Coordinating Personnel: Officer Jayne Boodram

Description of Problem: When Hughes High School lets out at 1530hrs, a majority of the students head to the stores on W. McMillan Ave and Calhoun St to loiter. This creates a problem due to the large volume of students (approx 500) in such a small area. The students block the sidewalks, jay-walk, litter, block the entrance to many of these businesses, engage in drug activity and fights are known to break out when these kids hang on the street corners in groups.

Phase of SARA: Response

SARA Documentation

Scanning (state problem): Students from Hughes High congregating around the area of W. McMillian and Clifton Avenue causing problems as it relates to large crowds blocking the sidewalk, traffic congestion from jaywalking, using illegal drugs, and littering.

Analysis (identify factual support): The business owners in the area , Penn Station, Angels Carry-Out, Thai Express, Mac's Pizza Starbucks, ANYC, Bzhars and Campus Cyclery have complained about youths loitering on sidewalks causing problems and scaring away customers .Some businesses have closed due to lost revenues. Statistics show an increase in calls for service in the area such as disorderly juveniles, assaults, fights in progress, cars parked in violation, traffic stops and thefts. The number of calls for service are about 130 for the school months of September thru early June and from the hours of 1400hrs to 1700hrs. The area surrounding Hughes High school remains a Hot Spot during these months due to the number of calls for service, the number of reports made and the type of calls, which some are violent in nature. This title is usually removed during the summer months. This is an ongoing problem we deal with every school year. In past years we have addressed the problem using Mounted Police, PVOS, Bike Patrols, Vice Units and the use of the School Resource Officers. When the students go away, the problem goes away. Each year we deal with the problem with a new group of students.

Response (define action taken): A strong police presence of the beat officers in the area surrounding Hughes High School at dismissal time has been our best defense in clearing up the problem. High visibility both on foot and in marked vehicles has made our point clear that loitering, jay walking, drug dealing and fighting are not acceptable behavior while in route to the bus stops. For the most part, the students have responded to this idea, with only a few citations and verbal warnings, the students on the whole have begun to follow these rules on their own. There are a few weeks left in the school year, these after school problems are disappearing but beat officers are the key to keeping things in order during this time of the day. The increased presence serves as a reminder of what behaviors are expected of the students. The business owners agree that keeping the youths moving clears up the trouble and business will return to normal. When the next school year begins we start with a strong Police presence and move forward from there with what ever is needed. We implemented our response this year in early April and students were cited for Assault, Littering, Drug Abuse, Disorderly Conduct and Jaywalking.

Assessment (document measurement): Since September 6th, 2006, the beat one officers have noticed that there has been a decrease in disorderly behavior amongst the Hughes High School students during the school dismissal hours of 1530 to 1630 hours .The increase in police visibility has made a significant impact in the disorderly behavior, resulting in the students getting on their respective busses after school and not loitering around the area. In the weeks and months that have passed since school has been back in session things have remained quiet during the dismissal hour. Beat one officers continue to be visible both on foot and in marked vehicles. Crime stats have been requested to verify these observations.

Police Participation

Specific Feedback:

City Department Participation Specific Feedback

- Buildings and Inspections
- Community Development & Planning
- Fire Department
- Health
- Metropolitan Sewer District
- Parks
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation & Engineering
- Water Works

TAJ