



# Seattle Chinatown-International District Public Safety Council 2021 Annual Report



By the Community Members of the  
Chinatown International District Public Safety Council

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## **Letter from the Co-Chair**

The last two years have been challenging on many levels, with public safety being at the forefront of our minds in the Chinatown-International District. Our community had preexisting conditions prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, but this became overbearing due to the lack of eyes on the street and limited resources to help reduce crime.

The CID Public Safety Council continues to strive for both community-driven solutions to safety, as well as working with law enforcement to provide the appropriate level of service. One of those efforts include sustaining the CID Public Safety Coordinator position, along with various positions in collaboration with the City, to ensure issues related to public safety are addressed, elevated, and that the CID has a strong voice in determining what it is we need to feel safe.

As Community Co-Chair of the Public Safety Council, I am honored to work alongside my community and City partners to undertake this difficult work to build a safer and stronger neighborhood. This Annual Report provides insight into where we are in accomplishing the community's recommendations, as well as provide updates on priorities and the changes that have occurred over this period of time. Many of the top concerns continue to be the same, but our approaches have altered due to the political environment, available resources, and new leadership within community and at the City level.

I hope that this annual report communicates how far we've come and the many accomplishments we've been able to achieve during this tough time for community safety. But there is still much work to be done and we look forward to your continued support and collaboration to build a stronger, safer CID.

Thank you for taking the time to view the Chinatown-International District Public Safety Council's 2021 Annual Report.

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Quynh Pham  
Community Co-Chair, CID Public Safety Council  
Executive Director, Friends of Little Saigon



## **Introduction by the CID Public Safety Coordinator**

In 2016, the CID Public Safety Task Force Report was created as a response to the death of community builder Donnie Chin in 2015. Shortly after the release of the report, the Task Force reconvened as the CID Public Safety Council. Currently the Public Safety Council is composed of 8 community representatives and 4 City representatives. Since the report was created, the Public Safety Council has been working under its guidance to build stronger connections between the City and the community, and prioritizing the public safety issues in the CID neighborhood.

We believe that building a safe neighborhood requires multiple efforts. The Task Force report focuses on three sections: improving communication and coordination between the CID and the City, targeting criminal activities and related environmental factors, and fostering public safety through a vibrant and healthy neighborhood. The recommendations brought up by the Public Safety Council fall into different sections, and under each recommendation, specific action items were created to keep the goals measurable and trackable.

The CID Public Safety Coordinator and the CID Public Safety Council both work under the report's guidance. The Public Safety Coordinator gathers trends, problems, and concerns from the community, and reports them to the CID Public Safety Council during their monthly meetings. The council work together to address public safety concerns in the CID with both short-term and long-term solutions. Through these meetings, the Public Safety Council oversees the progress and status of each action item originally in the Task Force Report. In the past six years, the Public Safety Council has had some extraordinary achievements. For example, one of the recommendations in this report was to move the Little Saigon area of the CID neighborhood from the East Police Precinct into the West Police Precinct to provide better tracking of crime patterns and address public safety needs in the whole neighborhood. This recommendation was completed by the City in 2017.

To focus on the achievements we made in 2021 and recommendations yet to be fulfilled, we have moved all recommendations completed before 2021 to the appendix. If a recommendation or an action item is marked as "Complete", it does not necessarily mean it is fulfilled – it may refer to a mechanism or system being built and utilized in ongoing efforts. Using the same example of the precinct change for Little Saigon, now that Little Saigon is part of the West Precinct, the Public Safety Council has created additional action items to require extra police resources for the West Precinct as it is now larger than before.

Some recommendations that were created several years ago no longer apply to current situations or cannot be achieved due to Covid-19. Therefore, we have either adjusted some approaches from the earlier report or we will revisit the topic in the future. However, our goal has not changed, which is to combine everyone's effort to create a safe and thriving neighborhood. It has been my honor to work on this report. I would like to thank each organization/stakeholder for your input. Your efforts help us progress forward. We hope this CID Public Safety Annual Report will be a good tool to communicate with the City and the public.

Sincerely,  
Cecilia Liang  
CID Public Safety Coordinator

## Section 1. Improve Communication and Coordination Between the CID and the City

The City and CID neighborhood create a formal long-term partnership with structures and processes in place to support implementation of the CID public safety strategies provided as recommendations in this report.

**Recommendation A:** The various City entities (including but not limited to the Mayor’s office, Department of Neighborhoods, Human Services Department, Parks and Recreation, Seattle Fire Department, Seattle Police Department, etc.) that impact public safety in the CID neighborhood should coordinate with the CID Public Safety Council when necessary.

Action Description	Status
1. City of Seattle will have up to 2 staff who serve on the CID Public Safety Council. Staff shall be at a strategic level within their workgroups. One representative shall be a captain-level or higher in the Seattle Police Department (SPD). The other representative shall be a strategic Adviser position or higher who regularly reports to the Mayor’s Office. City Representatives are not subject to 2-year terms. City representatives will be selected by the City. In addition, Department of Neighborhoods’ Community Project Manager and SPD’s C/ID Community Engagement and Outreach Specialist will staff the CID Public Safety Council.	<b>Complete:</b> In 2021, Julie Kline, the Interim General Counsel & Senior Public Safety Advisor at Office of Mayor Jenny Durkan has been the CID Public Safety Council’s co-chair. Captain Allen at SPD and Laura Jenkins at Department of Neighborhoods (DON) also served as the CID Public Safety Council members.
2. Each City Department that is involved in the public safety topics should have a point person to keep stable connections with the CID Public Safety Council. The Public Safety Council should have a list of their contact information.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The current Community Engagement Coordinator will work with the Public Safety Coordinator to create this list.
3. The City should keep the CID Public Safety Council updated about new grants opportunities, new policies and regulations, and any changes related to public safety.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The City representatives give updates about this information during the monthly CID Public Safety Council meetings.

**Recommendation B:** Create a regular public safety presence of SPD in CID.

Action Description	Status
1. CID Public Safety Coordinator and Public Safety Council provide a hotspot list where officers can park and write reports and increase coordination with the Crime Analysis Unit to determine “hot spot” areas to focus efforts.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The Public Safety Coordinator works with the CID Community Liaison at SPD to create the list and send it to the patrol officers and the West Precinct Captain. There will be joint effort from the Public Safety Council and the community to make sure the list is always up to date.
2. SPD should allocate more patrol officers to the neighborhood according to the hot spots and crime trends.	<b>Ongoing:</b> West Precinct Captain works with SPD Chief Diaz to ensure that the Precinct has have the adequate resources to address the crimes in the neighborhood.

**Recommendation C:** Strengthen efforts to recruit and hire more officers with sensitivity to the CID and other communities of color.

Action Description	Status
1. SPD creates and publishes a plan on how to address disparities and disproportionality in recruitment of officers who are Chinese, Vietnamese, American Indian, and other people of color with a focus on relevant language competency.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The CID Public Safety Liaison at SPD will create this plan.
2. SPD utilizes the Race and Social Justice Tool Kit for its recruitment/hiring.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The CID Public Safety Liaison at SPD works with their supervisor on recruitment efforts that include the RSJ Tool Kit.
3. SPD and CID community identify effective approaches to reach and recruit diverse police officer candidates. SPD recruiters partner with the CID to hold recruitment open houses in the CID.	<b>Incomplete:</b> No formal strategy has been designed between SPD and the community; however, SPD recruitment team will continue to table once it’s safe to do so during a pandemic and share in language flyers through community newsletters and boards.
4. SPD should consider resource investment in CID community organizations to help with recruitment efforts.	<b>Incomplete:</b> Hold due to the pandemic.
5. The CID Public Safety Council reviews annual recruiting metrics as part of tracking its impact measures.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The CID Public Safety Liaison at SPD works with data analyst team to gather metrics from 2019 to 2021 for comparison.

<p>6. Officers serving the CID, including patrol, undergo required training about the CID neighborhood history to understand its unique place in Seattle history, past and current social justice issues, the vital role played by Donnie Chin, and current community assets.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> Historic Training on hold due to SPD patrol staffing shortage and individual health concerns during the pandemic.</p>
<p>7. SPD incentivizes police officers to choose neighborhoods to serve where they have previously lived/currently live and provides financial incentives for officers proficient in a second language.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> These conversations are ongoing between the Public Safety Coordinator and SPD to figure out what current strategies for other police departments are utilizing.</p>

**Recommendation D:** Improve 911 responsiveness to CID incidents and increase public safety awareness education efforts.

Action Description	Status
<p>1. CID Public Safety Liaison and Coordinator works with the new Community Service Communication Center (CSCC) to review 911 dispatcher training to ease non-native English language speaker discomfort in calling 911. CID bi-lingual community members help SPD evaluate effectiveness/ usefulness of SPD language line, dispatch and calls to 911 centers in languages other than English.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> CSCC is still working to finalize their dispatch training with the Seattle Fire Department.</p>
<p>2. CSCC develops a culturally responsive 911 protocol. SPD/Fire 911 dispatchers participate in cultural competency training/ response to non-native English speakers.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> CSCC is still working to finalize their dispatch training with the Seattle Fire Department.</p>
<p>3. CID organizations encourage /educate CID community about use of 911 and effective methods (e.g., teach people to state the language they need to the 911 operator to prompt immediate interpreter help).</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> SPD and the CID Public Safety Council have been doing reeducation through in-language personal safety and 911 trainings to hundreds of residents and organizations across the district.</p>
<p>4. SPD in collaboration with CID community partners develops “safety take-away cards” translated into multiple languages. Patrol officers use “safety take away cards” with business owners/others to build relationships and encourage 911 calls.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> SPD is currently working on safety take away cards in multiple languages.</p>

<p>5. CID and the City collaborate on translated communication tools about community issues of concern, e.g., clean-up of unauthorized encampments.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> The Public Safety Council works with the City to include a budget for translation services.</p>
<p>6. Community identifies one or more “Safe Places” where people know they can go in the event of emergencies. Staff at Safe Places are trained about what it means to be a Safe Place.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> SPD has been introducing the Safe Place Initiative and the City’s Trespass program to the businesses in CID.</p>



## Section 2 – Target Criminal Activities and Related Environmental Factors

The CID neighborhood suffers from a negative ecosystem of interrelated and reinforcing criminal activities and disruptive behaviors. Vandalism, break-ins, drug dealing, addiction, shoplifting, electronic bank transfer (EBT) fraud, car prowls, sales of stolen goods and other activities all connect and reinforce each other. The only effective way to break this cycle is to employ a multi-pronged approach of enforcement, regulation, connection to needed services and community pressure and advocacy.

**Recommendation A:** Renew efforts to reduce chronic drug dealing and drug use in the CID.

Action Description	Status
1. SPD takes action to directly address drug dealing using all of the tools available, including diversion programs such as the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program and drug court for low level drug offenders and those engaged in sex work, and enforcement for drug dealers.	<b>Ongoing:</b> SPD continues to work with LEAD to provide resources to individuals and request Health One as needed for social services.
2. The City departments work with community partners to address the elements that contribute to drug dealing hot spot ecosystems.	<b>Ongoing:</b> SPD usually does an undercover operation to catch the drug dealer in the act. It doesn't seem that a visible police presence works as a deterrent anymore. SPD works with other City departments to address relative issues.
3. The CID community makes new social contact referrals in coordination with the CID Public Safety Coordinator and shares information about individuals in the LEAD program who continue to have a presence in drug dealing hot spot areas to help the neighborhood become safer and ensure program success.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The Public Safety Coordinator and the CID community work together to make referrals through LEAD.

**Recommendation B:** The City and other agency partners such as the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) collaborate to ensure accessibility and safe public spaces for community. The City and the community collaborate on a range of activities to activate the area under I-5. (Due to the pandemic, this recommendation has been put on pause.)

Action Description	Status
<p>1. The City and other agency partners take steps to prioritize safety and sanitation of the CID community and streamline the response to unsanctioned encampments and camping in the CID community, following protocols in attempting to connect individuals in encampments with shelter and/or services. City ensures that outreach workers have language/cultural competency skills to engage with limited English-speaking individuals camping in the area</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> The City is currently following the Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [1] not taking instant actions on encampment removal. The Navigation Team has been replaced by the HOPE Team. Unlike with the Navigation Team, there is no regular communication between the Hope Team and the Public Safety Council.</p>
<p>2. The City permanently posts and prohibits encampments/ camping in the hot spot areas.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> According to the CDC guidance and COVID-19 Homelessness Response of King County Public Health [2], the City allows people who are living unsheltered or in encampments to remain where they are if individual housing options are not available.</p>
<p>3. City funded outreach resources help prevent reestablishment of camps by informing people that camping is not permitted in those locations and calling the Customer Service Bureau when new camping activity is observed.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> Same reason as above.</p>
<p>4. The Community informs the Public Safety Council when campers reappear.</p>	<p><b>Complete:</b> The monthly Public Safety Forum provides a venue for these updates.</p>
<p>5. Community organizations collaborate to reclaim the areas under I-5 through activation and/or other efforts to encourage positive/desirable activity. WSDOT should support community activation efforts.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> Currently there's no organization in the neighborhood that is capable to take on additional oversight and responsibility for this area</p>
<p>6. InterIm CDA negotiates with WSDOT to retain more revenues from the parking lot it administers under I-5, considers providing some of the funding to help support activation activities. InterIm CDA makes repairs to the fences that surround the parking lot and works with the City to clarify areas of responsibility and cleaning.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> InterIm is working with WSDOT to make this plan happen.</p>
<p>7. City and WSDOT agree on management/maintenance responsibilities to foster success and clarify accountability. City and community collaborate on design and programming elements to activate the space.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> This conversation was paused in 2021.</p>

**Recommendation C:** Ensure that nuisance businesses/establishments correlated to high crime rates operate legally and without disruption to the neighborhood residents.

Action Description	Status
1. The City continues the process of creating a regulatory license for nuisance businesses/establishments correlated to high crime rates in partnership with business owners and community stakeholders.	<b>Incomplete:</b> Regulatory licensing for such businesses did not move forward.
2. The City takes enforcement action against any businesses that is serving as a front for prostitution or human trafficking. The City and Washington State should take regulatory action to ensure that all businesses are in compliance with City codes (i.e., obtaining a business license, proper licensing of masseuses, not covering windows during operating hours, and paying all required taxes).	<b>Ongoing:</b> In February 2019, SPD along with partner agencies raided and shut down seven massage parlors in the CID, relocating potential trafficking victims to offer services in confidential spaces. This was a major step towards regular enforcement against human trafficking in the neighborhood.
3. SPD leads a Joint Enforcement Team comprised of regulatory agency representatives that should lead enforcement action related to human trafficking involved businesses.	<b>Incomplete:</b> There was a big bust in 2019. Due to the increase in illegal market sales and drug deals, the focus has been on 12th & Jackson and 3rd and Pine as these activities have cause violent incidents in the public. The CID Public Safety Liaison is in conversation with Detective Chris Brownlee for more information.
4. SPD engage and develop relationships with business owners/managers and property owners where the businesses correlated to high crime are tenants	<b>Ongoing:</b> The CID Public Safety Liaison is working on building relations with SPD and helping to communicate with Business/Property Owners. So far, SPD has been working with a few property owners for drug dealings and illegal sales, but these relations have been made and will continue when a unit/team is made to focus on this.
5. The CID community determines which entity/resource is most appropriate to engage with property owners who are renting to the majority of the parlors to communicate concern about the negative impact on the business climate and community as a whole.	<b>Complete:</b> The City has sent out warning letters to property owners who rented to illicit massage parlors after a 2019 raid of several parlors.

6. The CID retail recruiter works with property owners to help attract desirable retail businesses for spaces currently leased to businesses with negative impacts.	<b>Ongoing:</b> Shanti Breznau, the CID Business Developer, has maintained this effort.
7. The City departments and community agencies collaborate in exploring opportunities to increase regulatory requirements for such businesses.	<b>Ongoing:</b> Shanti Breznau, Jamie Lee (the Community Initiatives Director of SCIDpda), and the City officials have met to discuss next steps in addressing the proliferation of massage parlors in the CID.

**Recommendation D:** Address the sale of stolen goods and Electronic Bank Transfer (EBT) fraud.

Action Description	Status
1. The City continues to take enforcement action against any stores involved in trafficking of stolen goods.	<b>Ongoing:</b> Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is currently doing educational outreach to the unsanctioned street vending activities. If the outreach doesn't work, they will collaborate with SPD to take enforcement action.
2. The CID Public Safety Council works with community organizations to bring pressure to bear on store owners engaged in stolen goods trafficking and on property owners who lease to such businesses. The Public Safety Council helps coordinate efforts to educate business leaders about the damage that this activity does to the business climate and larger community.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The Public Safety Council will do educational marketing campaign outreach in the community.
3. The City, State, and Federal governments continue to take action to enforce the law against EBT fraud.	<b>Ongoing:</b> SPD usually have done an undercover operation in conjunction with state and federal partners to EBT sellers and buyers. Currently their staffing issue seems to be the big impediment to doing more with these types of crimes.

**Recommendation E:** Target high incidence crimes and chronic problems in the CID neighborhood. (Including but not limited to shoplifting, break-ins, vandalism, fire, assaults, graffiti, drug dealing, car prowls, and public drinking, trespassing, public urination/defecation, and indecent exposure.)

Action Description	Status
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<p>1. SPD prioritizes arresting suspects. Property crime negatively impacts stores and likely helps support the drug market.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> Rather than prioritizing arrests, SPD and the City of Seattle has opted to expand LEAD and other resources to guide high-need individuals into diversion programs. LEAD has been at its full capacities and haven't taken any new referrals for a while. They recently received an additional \$3.5 million budget for 2022, and they said with this budget "they will not be able to serve all high priority LEAD-eligible individuals in 2022". It is necessary to know will they prioritize the needs in CID.</p>
<p>2. Increase more police presence and other kinds of security measures to prevent crimes from happening from 11 pm to 7 am. Majority property crimes happen during this period. Businesses employees and their customers feel unsafe during such late or early hours.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> SPD's third and first watch teams currently do not have the capacity to increase their presence in the CID area.</p>
<p>3. Work with service providers to ensure outreach and referrals mental health and/or addiction treatment are prioritized in the CID.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> LEAD's expansion into shoplifting diversions have increased the available resources to high-need individuals.</p>
<p>4. SPD Crime Prevention staff coordinates with the PSC to advise stores on security measures.</p>	<p><b>Complete:</b> The Public Safety Council and SPD's Crime Prevention Coordinator have shared public safety information, tips, and resources with businesses across the district and continue to follow up with businesses on outreach.</p>
<p>5. The City Attorney Office recommends referrals to specialty courts such as drug court or mental health court as appropriate. Coordination between SPD, the public safety coordinator, and the Precinct Liaison Attorney (Nyjat Rose-Akins) is critical to ensure this works well.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> More work on communication with the Public Safety Council.</p>
<p>6. Businesses employ every tool available to deter car prowlers, e.g., lighting, cameras, staff and customer education and security personnel.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> The CID Public Safety Coordinator has worked with SPD to do educational outreach in the community.</p>
<p>7. Deploy Anti-Crime Team (ACT) and bicycle squad emphasis in hot spot areas during the week.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> ACT continues to investigate drug hot spots and the bike squad continues their emphasis during drier weather. During the winter season vehicles work on emphasis.</p>



<p>8. SPD’s Crime Prevention, the Community Police Team (CPT) and the West Precinct Liaison Attorney work with the CID Public Safety Coordinator to educate property and business owners about the City’s Trespass program.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> Since 2017, SPD and the Public Safety Council have collaborated to enroll businesses across the district in the Trespass Program. The CID Public Safety Coordinator continues updating contact information and providing new signs to the registered businesses.</p>
<p>9. City-funded human service providers, with support from City departments seek human service support in addressing chronic problems of public drinking, public urination/defecation, and indecent exposure.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> Such problems still exist but now the community is facing other more severe safety concerns, and many projects are on hold due to the pandemic. The CID Public Safety Council will revisit this topic in the future.</p>

## Section 3 – Foster Public Safety through a Vibrant & Healthy Neighborhood

Fostering a safe and healthy neighborhood includes, but is more than, increasing police presence to try to drive undesirable activities out the neighborhood. For decades, the CID as a low-income community of color, has been inequitably and negatively impacted by deteriorating structures, vacant storefronts, and unsafe pedestrian corridors.

Without sufficient resources to develop the physical and social infrastructure of the CID the ultimate goal of creating a safe and inviting place for individuals and families to live, work and play will remain forever elusive.

**Recommendation A:** Invest in supporting physical and safety improvements, maintenance and ongoing program activities in parks, alleys, plazas and green spaces.

Action Description	Status
1. Fund a concierge position, and resources for regular cleanup and additional amenities such as tables and chairs to fully activate Hing Hay Park. The concierge must be trained and adequately supported to address situations that arise and will interact with public safety personnel to share information that impacts public safety	<b>Completed:</b> The City has maintained funding for the concierge program in Hing Hay Park.
2. Ensure that neighborhood parks and public spaces are well maintained and have adequate physical infrastructure to support the desired use, including lighting, access, electricity, seating, play areas, etc. Partner with community, including contributing ongoing resources to support programs and activities, to firmly establish these parks as vibrant, safe, and welcoming spaces for the neighborhood. Monitor parks and public spaces to ensure that the intent of the space is maintained and make adjustments in hardscape and programming as necessary to maintain active and positive use.	<b>Ongoing:</b> Seattle Parks and Recreation and SDOT should be accountable to maintain the access to the public spaces.
3. Support alley rehabilitation and activation. Canton Alley and Maynard Alley, the two main alleys in the CID, have a rich history, once providing apartment units for families and storefronts for small businesses that contributed to the economic and cultural vitality. The soon-to-be-implemented repaving plan for Canton Alley can set the	<b>Ongoing:</b> Canton Alley continues to host community events since the 2018 repaving. Maynard Alley is undergoing activation strategy planning at the time of writing this report. The Canton Alley has been continually activated by the Wing Luke Museum for 2021. Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development

stage for greater program activity that takes advantage of this history.	Authority (SCIDpda) worked to install new lighting for 4 buildings along the Maynard Alley.
4. Fund capital improvements in the Danny Woo Garden to make it accessible, safe, structurally sound, and functional. Discuss street vacation process with Seattle Parks and Recreation, InterIm CDA, and the Woo family and execute if all parties agree to clarify ownership, accountability, and roles and responsibilities.	<b>Complete:</b> InterIm CDA has made a number of improvements that include replacing the retaining walls of both west and east parts of the garden, designing and building a new tool shed, and improving a few staircases. They are currently assessing the possibility of placing cameras up in the Garden. The ownership has been clarified. However, due to the pandemic, many projects or plans are on hold.
5. Establish a defined group (existing, new, or hybrid) to take a lead role in activating the neighborhood’s significant public spaces. Building upon efforts already underway, this group would take a holistic approach to partnering with the City, businesses, non-profits, and others to generate positive uses.	<b>Incomplete:</b> This body has not yet been convened. The priority for the Council is to advocate for public spaces to be clean, safe, and accessible. More intentional activation may shift after it is safe to gather again.

**Recommendation B:** Install effective lighting throughout the area, especially in dark and crime-prone pockets.

Action Description	Status
1. Fund a lighting study and implement a lighting plan that increases a sense of safety and comfort for those walking in the neighborhood. This should include public right-of ways, appropriate lighting colors, as well as improvements that property owners and businesses could implement as appropriate.	<b>Completed:</b> SCIDpda has finished a district-wide evaluation of lighting in public areas of the CID. SCIDpda is actively working on implementing the recommendations from the lighting study. This includes new lighting for Maynard Alley, lighting for Dragon’s sculptures, lighting for Kobe Terrace Park, and the pavilion at Hing Hay Park. SCIDpda is working with a few businesses on a pilot project to install new lighting for their storefronts
2. SCL will upgrade lighting.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The LED conversion in Chinatown-International District was completed several years ago, except for the underdeck of I-5 which Seattle City Light is currently working on. The King fixtures (decorative) were converted in 2015. There are no current plans for LED upgrades in the CID except under I-5. When King and

	Jackson are complete, Seattle City Light crews will start work at Dearborn.
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**Recommendation C:** The CID needs more frequent garbage pick-up and street cleaning, including the alleys where dumpsters and grease containers are located.

Action Description	Status
1. The City must determine and implement a garbage collection method to keep the area under I-5 near encampments cleaner. The area needs frequent monitoring and maintenance.	<b>Incomplete:</b> The City of Seattle continues to address garbage collection under I-5, however more resources need to be dedicated to the area. Since the pandemic, SPU has implemented a bag program for encampment residents to fill. SPU also has cleaning crews to pick up litter under I-5, however the collection is not consistent with fluctuating funding and continued or growing encampments.
2. “Garbage” management can be extremely complicated. The City and CID property managers must hold their various garbage contractors accountable. Refuse collection agencies serving the CID must be available every day for service.	<b>Incomplete:</b> The pandemic created a situation where businesses reduced service during the peak of closures but did not increase service as dining rooms reopened. Additionally, residential buildings/residents adjacent to alleys are required to be part of the Clear Alley Program and purchase bags through Waste Management for their dwelling refuse. However, most residential buildings are not complying with the City ordinance, leading to overflows in public litter cans, overflows and illegal dumping in the alleys, and missed pickups by the hauler because garbage is not in the correct bag. The pandemic also created staffing shortages with haulers. Chinatown-International District Business Improvement Area (CIDBIA) continues to engage with and advocate on behalf of businesses and residential property managers to comply with the ordinance, while understanding the program is inequitable to both businesses and residents due to cost and design of the program. CIDBIA is actively hiring a replacement for the Clean & Safe Coordinator position, which has been challenging with the pandemic. CIDBIA cleaning contractors Seattle Surface Cleaners are taking requests directly from stakeholders and have done a great job being responsive.

**Recommendation D:** To provide accessible safe spaces and activities for youth, senior and families, expand City funding support, hours, and program offerings at two key institutions, the International District/Chinatown branch library and Intentional District/Chinatown Community Center.

Action Description <u>11</u>	Status
<p>1. Libraries and Parks will coordinate between the CID Library and Community Center, including exploring shared space at the community center for library programming and expanding hours to better meet the demand in the neighborhood for safe places and positive programming.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> Seattle Public Library in-person programming is on hold through the first quarter of 2022 due to the pandemic.</p> <p>Library hours at the CID branch should soon (January 2022) expand to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday &amp; Tuesday 1pm to 8pm</li> <li>• Wednesday through Saturday 11am to 6pm</li> <li>• Sunday 12pm to 5pm</li> </ul> <p>There may be additional expansion of hours, as well.</p> <p>Community Center: Current operating in person registered programming. Days/Hours(Winter 2022) Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 11am-9pm Tuesday/Thursday: 10am-6pm Saturday: 10am-5pm</p>
<p>2. The City funds a full-time community center manager immediately to provide more consistent leadership and operations.</p>	<p><b>Complete:</b> Doreen Deaver has been hired as the current full time Community Center Coordinator/Manager.</p>
<p>3. The City encourages and supports community building events by informing the community of available resources, clarity in procedures to use spaces. Provide no cost opportunities for community to use space for community events.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> During pandemic there have been no in person events held. This policy is being revised for 2022 and will make public aware when safety plan is in place for these operations.</p> <p>Free Winter Programs: Adult Pickleball, Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball, 50 and up Fun Youth Basketball</p>

**Recommendation E:** The CID Public Safety Council believes the key to a healthy neighborhood is a balanced and vital mix of commercial and non-profit activities to serve both residents and community centers as well as to attract visitors coming into the area.

Action Description	Status
<p>1. Consider expanding funding for the “Only in Seattle” program- helping to spur development by providing technical assistance, marketing support, and guidance</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> continually helping businesses access capital and navigate the permit process. SCIDpda is working with Seattle Department of Construction &amp; Inspections (SDCI) and Office of Economic Development</p>



to small businesses on how to navigate the permitting process and strengthen and grow their business.	(OED) on new position specifically to support businesses in permitting process.
2. SPD is more proactive to inform property owners of problem businesses in their buildings. Check in with property owners periodically about related issues.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The CID Public Safety Coordinator, SPD’s CID Public Safety Liaison, and SPD’s Crime Prevention Coordinator work together to keep in touch with property owners and managers about relative issues.
3. Community development organizations work with businesses and neighborhood stakeholders to have storefronts open into Canton and Maynard alleys to help activate these spaces and share their historical significance in the community.	<b>Ongoing:</b> In 2021, in Maynard Alley, one of the two storefronts is now occupied by a new commercial tenant Mother Yoga Studio. For 2022, SCIDpda has plans to add additional community art project along the multiple alleys.
4. Examine, test, and prototype tools to encourage use of vacant spaces. Look at tools including programs like “Storefronts Seattle” which allow artists to move into vacant storefronts. State “blight” regulation that limits the length of time for vacancies.	<b>Ongoing:</b> SCIDpda has worked with Storefronts Seattle in 2021 to help fill a few empty storefronts in the CID with art by local artists.
5. Finalize and pass an expanded CIDBIA to provide a more sustainable revenue stream for the core to support marketing the business district, business promotion, street cleaning. Determine methods to ensure a sustainable funding source for Little Saigon activities.	<b>Incomplete:</b> CIDBIA put expansion efforts on pause in 2019 as the organization was hiring for a new Executive Director. The pause has continued since the pandemic while CIDBIA assess options on long-term sustainable funding to ensure a baseline of services for sanitation, marketing and events, public safety, and advocacy.

**Recommendation F:** Develop a comprehensive framework and implementation plan for community and City investment in long-term preservation and development of the CID as a culturally diverse, historically significant area of Seattle.

Action Description	Status
1. Create a framework that incorporates past planning efforts (including projects like the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, and Little Saigon Landmark), updates and makes relevant to reflect current conditions, develop elements that are missing, and develop an implementation strategy. Enhance community opportunities to provide input on City projects such as the Center City Connector, the future of the Charles Street	<p><b>In Progress:</b> In 2018, City convened and facilitated the CID Framework process, which was ultimately disbanded by community.</p> <p>In response to the community’s request to drive the process, the City funded \$133k to Denise Louie Early Childhood Learning Center as the fiscal sponsor for the community stakeholders visioning process.</p> <p>Phase 1 – hire a community selected facilitator to identify community priorities.</p>

<p>Yard and the Seattle City Light Denny to Massachusetts Transmission Line Project.</p>	<p>Phase 2 – implement community priorities identified from phase 1.</p>
<p>2. City and community collaborate to identify key projects that will occur in and around the CID over the next five years to incorporate into the framework and action plan.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> This was originally compiled for the framework project mentioned above but has not been updated or maintained.</p>
<p>3. City accept updated framework with City project list, to be monitored by the CID Public Safety Council and community stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> City representatives are invited to the CID Public Safety Council meetings and/or CID Public Safety Forums when their departments have CID related updates. The Mayor’s Office has regular presence on the council, keeping the City and CID’s connection close.</p>
<p>4. City partners with community to ensure that the impacts of the Unreinforced Masonry Regulations (URM), when adopted, are anticipated and that tools are made available for property owners to prevent the mass transfer of land. URM upgrades are an opportunity to bring remaining partially vacant/ underutilized buildings back to productive use, as well as to upgrade properties to be more sustainable in the future.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing:</b> In December 2021, SDCI has updated their confirmed URM list. Due to Covid, many of their services have been paused, and The Applicant Service Center and Public Resource Center has been closed.</p>

## Conclusion

Six years have passed since the release of the first CID Public Safety Task Force Report. The report requested strong connections between the City and the CID, effective approaches to reduce criminal activities, and resources to develop a healthy community.

We have built a strong and long-term collaborative relationship between the CID and the City which has promoted excellent communication and transparency. However, we did not see considerable progress on the other two key strategies. Since 2020, the Chinatown-International District has experienced large challenges and losses. Our beloved families, community members, senior citizens, and local businesses in the CID neighborhoods have had to experience hate crimes, assaults, property loss, and violent crimes more than ever. Although it seems that the pandemic is near its end, the CID is behind other Seattle neighborhoods in terms of recovery. Facing these difficulties, the CID community remains strong and resilient. We have countless individuals, businesses, and community groups reaching out to us to ask what they can do to help, and everyone is contributing in their own way to support the CID neighborhood.

We are now more prepared with effective ways to approach our work during pandemic times and as the community transitions back to normalcy, we can revisit many recommendations in the report that have been paused in the last two years. With the new leadership in the City that stresses the importance of public safety, we hope that an effective response system can be created to build a safer community.

Thank you for reading this report, we sincerely hope this will help everyone understand our goals and the direction of our next steps. If you have any questions, or are interested in getting involved, please see the next page.

## **Acknowledgements**

Thank you to the Chinatown-International District Public Safety Council community representatives – Community Co-Chair Quynh Pham, Marc Le, Julie Neilson, Sue May Eng, Gary Lee, Susan Ammon, Beth Ku, Nat Nguyen, and the current City representatives – Andrew Myerberg, Capt. Steven Strand, Lauran Jenkins, and Monica Ly.

Appreciations for our former council members, Ron Chew, Maiko Winkler-Chin, Tam Nguyen, Larry Larson, I-Miun Liu, Gary Johnson, Scott Lindsay, Ben Han, David Leong, Jamie Lee, Minh-Duc Nguyen, Sokha Danh, Jessa Timmer, Capt. Thomas Mahaffey, Capt. Matthew Allen, Julie Kline.

Thank you to the Seattle Police Department, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Human Services Department, and all the community-based organizations and groups for your effort of building a safer and healthy neighborhood.

## **Get Involved**

If you are interested in reading the full CID Public Safety Task Force Report and the CID Public safety Council 2018 Annual Report, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3N36niE>

Please reach out to the CID Public Safety Coordinator Cecilia Liang at [cecilial@seattlechinatownid.com](mailto:cecilial@seattlechinatownid.com) to:

- Learn more about or apply to join the CID Public Safety Council.
- Understand the CID Public Safety Council's work updates and priorities in 2022.
- Share concerns, comments or ask questions about public safety in the CID.
- Attend our Monthly CID Public Safety Forum or Monthly CID Public Safety Council meetings.
- Sign up for the CID public safety newsletter.

## Appendix 1

This appendix includes recommendations and action items that have been completed prior to 2021 or have been replaced due to the change of the political environment, available resources, and/or administrative system.

### Section 1. Improve Communication and Coordination Between the CID and the City

**Recommendation B- was created in 2016 and completed in 2016-2017. Since then all the implementations have been ongoing.**

- Establish a high-level Mayoral position responsible for coordinating City CID efforts and partnering with CID community.
- Establish funding for a CID Public Safety Coordinator (Public Safety Coordinator) to coordinate public safety problem solving and serve as liaison between the community and the Mayor’s office and City departments.
- Form a steering committee of CID community and key City department representatives
- Create a CID Public Safety Agreement between the City and CID organizations for mutually agreed upon set of partnering guidelines, public safety actions, timeframe and partner roles.

Action Description	Status
1. The Mayor designates a lead staff to coordinate City departments’ activities in working with the CID community on public safety initiatives.	<b>Completed 2016:</b> Currently this role is filled by the Community Engagement Coordinator at DON, Laura Jenkins. Julie Kline, the Interim General Counsel & Senior Public Safety Advisor at Mayor’s office, also serves at the CID Public Safety Council.
2. Community Police Team (CPT) officers working in the CID are issued work cell phones for ease of communication between the Public Safety Coordinator and SPD.	<b>Completed:</b> SPD has hired a CID Public Safety Liaison for ease of communication between the Public Safety Coordinator and SPD.
3. The City agrees to fund the PSC for a specified period. CID neighborhood organizations decide which one will house the PSC position and both the City and CID neighborhood organizations develop a PSC training protocol.	<b>Completed 2016:</b> At the time of writing this report, the position is filled by Cecilia Liang. This position was initially funded for two years in 2016. Funding was renewed till the end of 2022.
4. The PSC facilitates the monthly public safety forum for broad community input and education.	<b>Completed 2016:</b> This monthly public safety forum occurs every third Tuesday of the month at 3PM online.



<p>5. A CID public safety “Steering Committee” of CID representatives and City staff is formed to provide ongoing guidance and problem solving on mutually agreed upon priorities, measures and annual assessment of progress.</p>	<p><b>Completed 2016:</b> The Public Safety Council includes a representative from the Mayor’s Office and DON as mentioned previously, and SPD via West Precinct Captain Matt Allen and the CID community liaison Monica Ly.</p> <p>Along with these appointed members and staff, community representatives sit on the council, listed at the bottom of this report.</p>
<p>6. A community public safety survey should be conducted annually by the PSC.</p>	<p><b>Completed 2016:</b> The neighborhood’s public safety survey has been an ongoing program facilitated by the Public Safety Coordinator since the beginning of the role.</p>
<p>7. The Steering Committee prepares a brief annual progress report and shares it with the community.</p>	<p><b>Completed 2018:</b> The first annual report was published and presented to the City Council encompassing the work of 2017. This annual report will be published once receive the permission from the City.</p>

**Recommendation C:** Create a regular public safety presence by opening a Public Safety Center in CID.

Action Description	Status
<p>2.CID organizations and property owners identify a safe and secure space where officers can write reports and interact with community members.</p>	<p><b>Completed:</b> In 2018, a space was identified and attempts were made to negotiate a contract between SPD and a local property owner for a small office space for patrol officers to use in the CID for office work and restroom access.</p>
<p>3. Agreement reached with SPD on use protocols for the space and a commitment that officers will use the center on a regular basis</p>	<p><b>Incomplete:</b> These plans did not come to fruition as SPD has shared concerns around the feasibility of such a center with special concern to the safety of officers and community members that would use it, and that SPD had not properly allocated a budget for the leasing of a space.</p>

**Recommendation D:** Reinstate the Community Service Officer (CSO) program as a pilot program to create an ongoing channel for communication between CID and the Police Department.

Action Description	Status
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1. The SPD recruits and hires a CSO officer who is linguistically/ culturally competent to work with the CID. SPD creates a training protocol and designates a Sergeant to supervise the CSO.	<b>Ongoing:</b> The City elected to revive the program for the entire city as opposed to piloting it in the CID.
2. The CID community provides a centralized office location and helps identify those who are interested/qualified for the CSO hiring pool.	<b>Incomplete:</b> There are locations where property owners are willing to let SPD use as an office space for presence, but SPD had security issue with networks and this was put on hold. The CID Public Safety Liaison brought this up to their Collaborative Policing Bureau Captain and he is still looking into specifics with I.T.

**Recommendation E:**

Move the Little Saigon area of the CID neighborhood from the East Precinct into the West Police Precinct to provide better tracking of patterns of crime and address public safety needs in the whole neighborhood.

Action Description	Status
1. SPD consolidates its precincts into one precinct that services the CID.	<b>Complete:</b> In 2017, this was one of the first actions taken by the city under the partnership between Mayor Durkan and then-interim Police Chief Best.
2. SPD changes the current boundaries of the West Precinct to include the area east of the I-5 freeway to Rainier Ave. Increase resources and personnel to accommodate the increased geographic area	<b>Complete:</b> The new precinct boundaries unites the CID as far as Rainier Ave S.
3. SPD places the entire CID community into a single sector and district.	<b>Complete:</b> Please see above.

**Section 2 – Target Criminal Activities and Related Environmental Factors**

**Recommendation A:** Renew efforts to reduce chronic drug dealing and drug use in the CID.

Action Description	Status
1. SPD and the City Attorney’s Office work with King County Superior Court to impose Stay Out of Drug Area (SODA) orders, as	The order of SODA is outdated.

appropriate, for key individuals convicted of drug dealing in the CID. Task Force recognizes challenges with SODA orders for individuals living in or receiving services in the CID.	
2. PSC will monitor cases that arise out of the CID in order to become aware of sentencing disposition and conditions. The PSC shares information about individuals under SODA orders that are observed in the neighborhood to help ensure compliance.	Please see above.

**Recommendation F:** Target high incidence crimes and chronic problems in the CID neighborhood. (Including but not limited to shoplifting, break-ins, vandalism, fire, assaults, graffiti, illegal drug sales, car prowls, and public drinking, trespassing, public urination/defecation, and indecent exposure.)

Action Description	Status
1. Provides best crime information/education/best practice tips to community members/victims of car prowls through outreach with the crime prevention coordinator to the Public Safety Coordinator and affected businesses.	<b>Complete:</b> The CIDBIA and the Public Safety Coordinator regularly meet with known targets and victims of burglaries to follow up and provide information about crime prevention.  (The current Public Safety Coordinator is contracted by CIDBIA, so the roles are combined)

**Recommendation G:** Reduce chronic problems of public drinking, trespassing, public urination/defecation, and indecent exposure. (This recommendation is combined with Recommendation F. CID Public Safety Council will revisit this topic in the future)

Action Description	Status
1. Community members notify the Public Safety Coordinator and SPD of individuals who are engaging in indecent exposure behaviors.	<b>Complete:</b> The monthly Public Safety Forum provides a venue for these updates.
2. City-funded human service providers, with support from City departments such as the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs,	Other safety priorities became more pressing this year, the CID Public Safety Council will

connects with East African community service providers to seek human service support in addressing core issues that manifest as group public realm drinking.	revisit this topic as this issue becomes a concern again.
3. City departments such as the Mayor’s Office and the Office of Intergovernmental Relations partner with King County and community organizations to advocate for resources to greatly expand alcohol treatment resources.	Please see above.
4. SPD and the Public Safety Coordinator work together to ensure that enforcement is effective.	<b>Completed:</b> The Public Safety Coordinator regularly informs CPTf officers and other SPD representatives of known trespass violations.
5. SPD issues citations when public urination and defecation are observed. Multiple ignored citations can be a tool to connect an individual in need to Specialty Court resources.	Other safety priorities became more pressing this year, the CID Public Safety Council will revisit this topic as this issue becomes a concern again.
6. City-funded human service partners engage with such individuals to make an assessment about issues/services that may address core issues	Please see above.
7. Design for the planned public restroom near Hing Hay Park must address public safety concerns.	Please see above.
8. Concerning indecent exposure, SPD assesses the situation and take appropriate action. Actions may include referral to the City-funded human service providers and/or the Union Gospel Mission mental health professional or issuing a citation as a pathway to a specialty court.	Please see above.

**Section 3 – Foster Public Safety through a Vibrant & Healthy Neighborhood**

**Recommendation A:** Invest in supporting physical and safety improvements, maintenance and ongoing programs activities in parks, alleys and plazas and green spaces.

Action Description	Status
<p>1. Consolidate the annual street permits for projects designed to enhance the public realm and meet shared City and community goals, such as public art projects and kiosks. The identified community projects should be reviewed collectively and the permitting fees should either be waived or considered as one Annual Permit Application.</p>	<p>(This recommendation is not likely going to happen.)</p>

**Recommendation E:** The Task Force believes the key to a healthy neighborhood is a balanced and vital mix of commercial and non-profit activities to serve both residents and community centers as well as to attract visitors coming into the area.

Action Description	Status
<p>1. The City should analyze whether reducing the number of entities (3) with design review responsibilities would result in better cohesion in future development.</p>	<p><b>Completed:</b> The boundaries of International Special Review District (ISRD) have been redrawn to include Little Saigon in 2018.</p>
<p>2. The City and community stakeholders should re-examine the ISRD Guidelines and code requirements to make sure that they reflect current community needs, cultural and public safety considerations in design and orientation.</p>	<p><b>Completed:</b> A committee of stakeholders and city representatives worked together in 2018 to review and recommend changes to ISRD guidelines.</p>



## Appendix 2

- [1] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). *Interim guidance for homeless service providers to plan and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (covid-19)*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved March 17, 2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html>
- [2] *Covid-19 homelessness response*. COVID-19 Homelessness Response - King County. (n.d.). Retrieved March 17, 2022, from <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/providers/homeless.aspx>