



CHINATOWN-INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE REPORT



Chinatown International District Public Safety Task Force

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Introduction

Donnie Chin, grandson of immigrants who grew up in the alleys of the Chinatown International District, took on the role of the neighborhood's eyes and ears, volunteer first responder on 911 calls and public safety champion for over forty years. He was a community builder and connector long before the term was fashionable, trusted and able to help despite language barriers. Donnie's murder in the CID last July evoked a community-wide outcry for the City to solve his case and to address the public safety issues that were his life's work.

Donnie's death brought an immediate response from the City in the form of a stepped-up police presence and a heightened focus on criminal activities, but also surfaced longstanding community distrust and skepticism about the City's commitment to address the CID's public safety and ensure its future viability. The CID community, including Chinatown, Nihonmachi (Japantown) and Little Saigon, has long struggled to remain intact, buffeted by high crime rates from recurring cycles of drug dealing, gang violence and other illegal activities, and decades-long neglect, lack of resources and displacement impacts. "It wouldn't happen in another neighborhood" is a common refrain among CID community members.

After meeting with community representatives to discuss a list of their concerns in the summer of 2015, Mayor Ed Murray created the CID Public Safety Task Force for the purpose of helping the City "deal with entrenched issues that have plagued the neighborhood for several decades." Twenty members were appointed, representing CID resident advocates, businesses and property owners, and community development, service and cultural organizations. Two community representatives, Executive Director Maiko Winkler-Chin and business owner/President of Friends of Little Saigon Tam Nguyen, served as co-chairs, as well as Deputy Mayor Hyeok Kim and Deputy Police Chief Carmen Best. Staff from the Mayor's Office and twelve City departments also provided helpful expertise and perspectives.

From multiple discussions over 6 months, the Task Force developed recommendations that fell into three categories: 1) Improve Communication and Coordination between the CID and the City; 2) Target Criminal Activities and Related Environmental Factors; 3) Foster Public Safety through a Vibrant and Healthy Neighborhood. The following principles have guided the recommendations and action steps:

- There is an urgency to address public safety conditions in the CID as a high need, highly impacted low income neighborhood of color.
- As a vulnerable neighborhood, some strategies specifically geared to the CID's needs should be considered in order to mitigate an inequitable degree of negative impacts.
- Recommended strategies draw on lessons learned from past successes and failures, focus on short and longer term timelines, and leverage existing and new assets and resources.
- A comprehensive and coordinated approach is needed - disjointed "fixes" will not be sufficient.
- The City and CID community need to actively collaborate as partners with clear roles and feasible measures and processes for accountability over time.
- In order to implement and sustain CID public safety, the City and CID community need to continuously build relationships, connection and trust.

For Task Force members active in the CID spanning decades, the "entrenched issues" referenced in the Task Force's mandate are a reminder of past CID studies, reports and recommendations that were never implemented, were tried but failed, or succeeded but weren't sustained. In order for the efforts of this Task Force to not end up gathering dust on a shelf and reinforcing community distrust, specific and concrete action must be taken immediately and be sustained. (The reality of the prevalence, impact, and nature of the community's public safety challenge was underscored by the occurrence of multiple public safety incidents in the CID and involving several Task Force members during the course of the Task Force's work.) While there is no replacing Donnie Chin, his legacy is an inspiration and call to action for the City and CID community to partner toward making real progress for the safety and vitality of the CID.

Summary of Recommendations

I. Improve Communication and Coordination between the CID and the City

- Recommendation A
- 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 (PSC) 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.
- Recommendation B
- Create a regular public safety presence by opening a Public Safety Center in CID.
- Recommendation C
- Reinstate the Community Service Officer (CSO) program as a pilot program to create an ongoing channel for communication between CID and the Police Department.
- Recommendation D
- Strengthen efforts to recruit and hire more officers with sensitivity to CID and other communities of color.
- 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.
- Recommendation F
- Improve 911 responsiveness to CID incidents and increase public safety awareness education efforts.

II. Target Criminal Activities and Related Environmental Factors

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| Recommendation A | Reduce chronic drug dealing and drug use in CID. |
| Recommendation B | Address proliferation of unauthorized encampments and tent shelters. |
| Recommendation C/D/E | Ensure that hookah bars operate legally and without disruption to neighborhood residents, shut down illegal massage parlors and address trafficking in stolen goods and EBT fraud. |
| Recommendation F | Target high incidence crimes such as shoplifting and car prowls. |
| Recommendation G | Reduce chronic problems of public drinking, trespassing, public urination/defecation and indecent exposure. |

III. Foster Public Safety through a Vibrant and Healthy Neighborhood

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| Recommendation A | Invest in physical and safety improvements, maintenance and ongoing program activities in parks, alleys and plazas and green spaces. |
| Recommendation B/C | Install new quality lighting throughout the area (especially in dark and crime-prone pockets) and expand and improve garbage pick-up and street cleaning. |
| Recommendation D | Expand funding support, hours and program offerings at two key City institutions, the International District/ Chinatown branch library and International District/ Chinatown Community Center, to provide accessible safe spaces and activities for youth, seniors and families. |
| Recommendation E | Encourage and support a good mix of small businesses and non-profit activities that operate day and night, seven days a week, with the goal of attracting desirable pedestrian/ consumer activity that, in turn, will promote a safer, more inviting environment for residents, visitors and others. |
| Recommendation F | Develop a comprehensive framework and implementation plan for City investment in long-term preservation and development of the CID as a culturally-diverse, historically-significant area of Seattle. |

Recommendations

I. 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION A:

- **Appoint a high level mayoral lead staff responsible for coordinating City CID efforts and partnering with the CID community.**
Various city departments make decisions on an on-going basis that affect the public safety needs of the CID, without assurance of coordinated or comprehensive approach to problem solving and implementation. A high level mayoral lead would ensure that the economically and physically fragile CID receives the attention it deserves as City policy and budget considerations are made.
- **Fund a community based Public Safety Coordinator (PSC) to serve as “point person” and liaison between the CID community, Mayor’s Office and City departments.**
The CID community needs a “point person” that can advocate for CID stakeholders with the City, help determine appropriate action for public safety/human service situations that arise on a daily basis, and work on initiatives to build trust between CID non/limited English speaking residents, small businesses, community organizations and the police. Funded by the City as a full-time position of a CID community organization, the Public Service Coordinator would be empowered to act on behalf of the CID i.e., not unnecessarily constrained by “chain of command” issues within the administering organization and have communication access to the Seattle Police Department and other city department leaders to ensure effective collaboration.
- **Create a CID public safety “Steering Committee” composed of CID community representatives and staff of relevant City departments.**
Effective partnering and communication between the City and CID community around public safety requires ongoing and adaptive assessment of progress, strategizing and action implementation. A CID public safety “Steering Committee”, made up of representatives of CID organizations and key City departmental staff, would provide ongoing guidance and problem solving assistance to ensure effective collaboration and progress toward outcomes. A

tracking system with impact measures would be created to assess progress/ implementation on an annual basis.

- **Create a CID Public Safety Agreement between the City and CID organizations for a mutually agreed upon set of partnering guidelines, public safety actions, time frame and partner roles.**

The CID neighborhood has participated with the City on previous occasions in public safety planning exercises. Past experience has shown a lack of implementation and/or successful but unsustainable efforts. A public safety charter between the City and the CID neighborhood can ensure mutual understanding and agreement about partnership operating principles, structures, processes and partner roles to pursue public safety actions.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. The Mayor designates a lead staff to coordinate City departments' activities in working with the CID community on public safety initiatives.	City
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.	City
3. The City agrees to fund the PSC for a specified period of time. CID neighborhood organizations decide which one will house the PSC position and both the City and CID neighborhood organizations develop a PSC training protocol.	City/Community
4. The PSC facilitates the monthly public safety forum for broad community input and education. Youth representatives will be invited to participate.	Community
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.	City/SPD
6. A community public safety survey should be conducted annually by the PSC.	Community
7. The Steering Committee prepares a brief annual progress report and shares it with the community.	City/Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION B: Create a regular public safety presence by opening a Public Safety Center in the CID.

Past and present community surveys reflect a lack of trust/confidence in police and police response to CID public safety needs. Having a physical office space for police to interact with community members and take reports would build familiarity and trust.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. CID organizations and property owners identify a safe and secure space where officers can write reports and interact with community members.	Community

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| 2. Agreement reached with SPD on use protocols for the space and a commitment that officers will use the center on a regular basis. | City/SPD |
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RECOMMENDED ACTION C: Reinstate the Community Service Officer (CSO) program as a CID pilot.

The CSO program of the SPD, a civilian unit focused on assisting communities with a range of non-urgent public safety concerns is no longer available due to budget cuts. CSOs helped free up sworn officers time to deal with emergent situations given their role of information gathering, follow up and community education. Reinstating a CSO officer in the CID would bolster trust and understanding between the community and SPD and be a cost-effective way to increase police response to community requests for assistance.

Action Description	Partner Role
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.	City/SPD
2. The CID community provides a centralized office location (recommended action B) and helps identify those who are interested/qualified for the CSO hiring pool.	Community
3. CSO pilot program evaluated as part of Steering Committee’s impact annual review.	City/ Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION D: Strengthen SPD efforts to recruit and hire more officers with culturally competent skills to more effectively serve the CID and other communities of color.

Hire a police force that reflects the racially and linguistically diverse CID to improve communication, relationships and trust with the neighborhood.

Action Description	Partner Role
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.	City/SPD
2. SPD utilizes the Race and Social Justice Tool Kit for its recruitment/hiring.	City/SPD
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.	City/ Community
4. SPD should consider resource investment in CID community organizations to help with recruitment efforts.	City/SPD
5. The Public Safety Steering Committee reviews annual recruiting metrics as part of tracking its impact measures.	City/ Community

Action Description	Partner Role
6. Officers serving the CID, including patrol, undergo required training about the CID neighborhood history in order 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.	City/SPD
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.	City/SPD

RECOMMENDED ACTION E: Move the Little Saigon area of the CID neighborhood from the East Precinct into the West Police Precinct to better track patterns of crime and address public safety needs in the whole neighborhood and to help reunite the historical neighborhood.

The CID is currently divided by Interstate-5, with the Chinatown and Nihonmachi areas in the West Precinct, and Little Saigon community in the East Precinct. A single precinct covering the entirety of the community would facilitate improved communication, reduce duplication of strategies and improve the relationships officers can make with community members. The Task Force recommends changing the current boundaries of the West Precinct to include the area east of the I-5 freeway to Rainier Ave. Resources and personnel would be expanded to accommodate the increased geographic area.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. SPD consolidates its precincts into one precinct that services the CID.	City/SPD
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.	City/SPD
3. SPD places the entire CID community into a single sector and district (beat).	City/SPD

RECOMMENDED ACTION F: Improve SPD 911 responsiveness to CID incidents and increase CID public safety awareness education.

While SPD urges the community to call 911 when situations arise, the view in the CID is that SPD response to 911 calls are frequently late in coming and/or not handled with appropriate sensitivity and follow-up.

The City of Seattle should develop and require 911 dispatchers to be trained in culturally/linguistically skilled responses to individuals in crisis, and produce and disseminate translated public safety brochures/materials and other information. The City should work collaboratively with CID community groups to develop both training and educational material content.

SPD public safety education efforts should include having officers attend public events in the CID (e.g., community open houses, block watch parties, festivals and

special events) to get to know the community better and establish relationships with key stakeholders and community leaders.

SPD should make greater efforts to share up-to-date information about daily patrol/ police operations, explain how police handle situations, share public safety tips and answer questions. The SPD could provide public safety updates through the PSC as the point person, advertise in ethnic media and disseminate through community drop-off points such as the ID-Chinatown branch library and community center.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. SPD works with the 911 Call Center(s) 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.	City/SPD/ Community
2. SPD develops a culturally responsive 911 protocol. SPD/Fire 911 dispatchers participate in cultural competency training/ response to non-native English speakers.	City/SPD
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).	City/ Community
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.	City/ Community
5. CID and City collaborate on translated communication tools about community issues of concern, e.g., clean up of unauthorized encampments.	City/ Community
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.	Community

II. Target Criminal Activities and Related Environmental Factors

The CID neighborhood suffers from a negative ecosystem of interrelated and reinforcing criminal activities and disruptive behaviors. Drug dealing, addiction, shoplifting, electronic bank transfer (EBT) fraud, car prowls, fencing 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION A: Renew efforts to reduce chronic drug dealing and drug use in the CID.

Currently, drug dealing is common at locations such as 5th/6th and Jackson; 12th Ave. S. & S. Jackson; 6th Ave. S. & S. King; Kobe Terrace Park/Danny Woo Garden, and under I-5. Individuals coming to the area to buy or sell drugs add to the overall perception of the lack of safety in the area. Drug dealing and use/addiction also leads to many peripheral issues, such as shoplifting and car prowls. The City and the CID community must work together to address these issues.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. The Seattle Police Department 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.	City/SPD
2. SPD focuses on high impact areas and dealers.	City/SPD
3. SPD and the City Attorney's Office work with King County Superior Court to impose Stay Out of Drug Area (SODA) orders, as 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.	City/SPD
4. 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.	City/ Community
5. CID community makes new social contact referrals in coordination with the Community Police Team 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.	City/ Community
6. City departments work with community partners to address the elements that contribute to drug dealing hotspot ecosystems.	City/ Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION B: The City and other agency partners such as the Washington Department of Transportation take immediate steps to remove and prohibit reestablishment of the unauthorized encampments and tent shelters that have proliferated in and around the CID. The City and community collaborate on a range of activities to activate the area under I-5.

The large number of tents on sidewalks and public property specifically under the I-5 underpass on South Jackson and South King Streets has created unsafe, unsanitary conditions as well as public safety concerns because of documented incidences of violence and crimes.

The City should permanently post and prohibit encampments/camping in the hot spot areas and take other action to discourage such activity. Funding should be identified to repair the fences that surround the InterIm CDA parking lot and initiate activation efforts that result in more desirable community uses.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. The City and other agency partners (e.g., WSDOT) take steps to 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.	City
2. The City permanently posts and prohibits encampments/camping in the hot spot areas.	City
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.	City
4. The Community informs the PSC when campers reappear.	City/SPD
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.	Community
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.	Community
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.	City/ Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION C: Ensure that hookah bars operate legally and without disruption to the neighborhood residents.

In the CID, neighbors are concerned about the proximity of a hookah lounge to senior and other residential facilities serving vulnerable populations, noting the associated impact of late-night street racing, crowds and noise from those congregating outside or near the lounges. One business reported that their employees experienced harassment from a crowd when leaving work.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. The City continues the process of creating a regulatory license for hookah establishments in partnership with business owners and community stakeholders.	City/ Community
2. The Community identifies the appropriate community organization to engage with hookah bar owners/management to build relationships and explore ways in which hookah bars could become partners in creating a safe and healthy business district.	Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION D: Shut down illegal massage parlors, especially those involved in human trafficking and prostitution.

There are approximately 20 massage parlors in the CID. Some appear to be involved in illegal activity, including prostitution and human trafficking. Others are simply not abiding by basic City codes that contribute to a safe community (e.g., the restriction on window coverings). The over-concentration of massage parlors, particularly in Little Saigon, does not contribute to a balanced and healthy business environment.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. The City takes enforcement action against any massage parlor 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).	City
2. SPD leads a Joint Enforcement Team comprised of regulatory agency representatives that should lead enforcement action related to massage parlors.	City/SPD
3. Community Police Team officers engage and develop relationships with massage parlor business owners/managers and property owners where parlors are tenants.	City/SPD
4. 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.	Community

Action Description	Partner Role
5. The CID retail recruiter works with property owners to help attract desirable retail businesses for spaces currently leased to massage parlors.	Community
6. City departments and community agencies collaborate in exploring opportunities to increase regulatory requirements for massage businesses.	City/ Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION E: Address the sale of stolen goods and Electronic Bank Transfer (EBT) fraud.

Some electronic repair shops, used good stores and restaurants are involved in buying stolen property, particularly stolen phones. In the past decade, Seattle police have made numerous arrests at stores in the CID that overtly purchase stolen property. These stores attract property thieves to the CID and may also contribute to property crime. Stealing electronics and trading them for quick cash also contributes to the drug economy. The City should continue to take enforcement action against any stores involved in trafficking of stolen goods.

Some stores in the CID are involved in EBT fraud. This occurs when food stamp benefits are traded for cash or other goods that do not qualify for these benefits. EBT fraud is one way in which individuals with addictions can get cash to buy drugs. Seattle police have run numerous sting operations in the past decade and arrested store employees and store owners involved in facilitating EBT fraud. The police and community have also launched education campaigns for store owners. But some stores apparently remain involved in EBT fraud, which acts as a magnet for drug and other illicit activity.

The City, State, and Federal governments should continue to take action to enforce the law against EBT fraud. City agencies should communicate with the PSC to provide information about consequences to support community education efforts. The PSC can help share information with the community and store owners about the impact of EBT fraud.

Action Description	Partner Role
Fencing and Stolen Goods:	
1. The City continues to take enforcement action against any stores involved in trafficking of stolen goods.	City
2. The CID Public Safety Coordinator 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 PSC helps coordinate efforts to educate business leaders about the damage that this activity does to the business climate and larger community.	Community
EBT Fraud:	
1. The City, State, and Federal governments continue to take action to enforce the law against EBT fraud.	City

Action Description	Partner Role
2. City agencies communicate with the Public Safety Coordinator to provide information about consequences to support community education efforts.	City
3. The PSC takes the lead in educating the community and store owners about the consequences of EBT fraud and its negative impact on the community.	Community

RECOMMENDED ACTION F: Target high incidence crimes such as shoplifting and car prowls.

Shoplifting has a significant impact on CID businesses and likely helps support the drug market. SPD should prioritize arresting shoplifters. SPD’s Crime Prevention staff and the PSC could advise stores on security measures. The PSC could help build an information network to help businesses keep up to date about specific individuals are known to shoplift.

Car prowls are also an increasing problem, particularly in Little Saigon. The activity seems to be focused on parking lots serving retail businesses. Customers who return to find that their cars have been broken into and items stolen are not likely to return to patronize the area again. To deal with car prowls, businesses can employ tools such as lighting, cameras, staff and customer education and security personnel to deter car prowlers.

Action Description	Partner Role
Shoplifting:	
1. SPD prioritizes arresting suspects. Property crime negatively impacts stores and likely helps support the drug market.	City/SPD
2. Make referrals as appropriate to mental health and/or addiction treatment providers.	City/SPD
3. SPD Crime Prevention staff coordinates with the PSC to advise stores on security measures.	City/SPD
4. The CAO 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 is critical to ensure this works well.	City/City Attorney’s Office (CAO)
5. A tracking system for individuals engaged in shoplifting is formalized and expanded to help communication between businesses about individuals who are known to shoplift.	Community
6. PSC acts as the repository of information and be responsible for sharing it.	Community
Car Prowls:	
1. Businesses employ every tool available to deter car prowlers, e.g., lighting, cameras, staff and customer education and security personnel.	Community

Action Description	Partner Role
2. The neighborhood Public Safety Coordinator ensures that business owners have access to best practices in preventing car prowling activity.	Community
3. Deploys high visibility police patrol between calls to deter criminal activity from resources provided by SPD.	City/SPD
4. Increases coordination with the Crime Analysis Unit to determine "hot spot" areas to focus efforts.	City/SPD
5. Conducts thorough investigations, to include fingerprinting, to maximize prosecution.	City/SPD
6. Deploy Anti-Crime Team and bicycle squad emphasis in hot spot areas during the week.	City/SPD
7. Provides best crime information/education/best practice tips to community members/victims of car prowls through outreach with the crime prevention coordinator to the PSC and affected businesses.	City/SPD

RECOMMENDED ACTION G: Address the chronic problems of public drinking, trespassing, public urination/defecation and indecent exposure.

These persistent problems, while not unique to the CID, are especially prevalent in our particular neighborhood, affecting the daily quality of life for residents, employees and business owners.

The CID has experienced ongoing impacts from individuals and groups drinking in public at locations such as S. King St. and 6th Ave. S., the Danny Woo Garden and Hing Hay Park. This behavior adds to a negative perception of safety in the neighborhood and spawns periodic incidents of aggressive behavior and violence.

Public urination and defecation is a significant problem in downtown neighborhoods including the CID. Historically, the City has been reluctant to "criminalize" this behavior because of the lack of accessible public restrooms.

Indecent exposure is an issue often associated with public drinking, lack of restroom facilities or mental illness. SPD should assess the situation and take appropriate action. Actions may include referral or issuing a citation.

Action Description	Partner Role
Public Drinking:	
1. SPD and City-funded human service partners coordinate an "enforcement and services" approach with individuals drinking in public.	City/SPD
2. SPD continues to cite violations of the drinking in public laws. Multiple infractions can be used to bring an individual into the Municipal Court's Specialty Courts system through a criminal "failure to appear" citation.	City/SPD

Action Description	Partner Role
3. City-funded human service providers, with support from City departments such as the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, connects with East African community service providers to seek human service support in addressing core issues that manifest as group public realm drinking.	City/ Community
4. 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.	City/ Community
Trespassing:	
1. SPD’s Crime Prevention, Community Police Team 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.	City/SPD
2. SPD and the Public Safety Coordinator work together to ensure that enforcement is effective.	City/SPD
Public Urination/Defecation:	
1. SPD issues citations when this behavior is observed. Multiple ignored citations can be a tool to connect an individual in need to Specialty Court resources.	City/SPD
2. City-funded human service partners engage with such individuals to make an assessment about issues/services that may address core issues.	City/ Community
3. Design for the planned public restroom near Hing Hay Park must address public safety concerns.	City/ Community
Indecent Exposure:	
1. 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.	City/SPD
2. Community members notify the Public Safety Coordinator and SPD of individuals who are engaging in indecent exposure behaviors.	Community

III. Foster Public Safety through a Vibrant & Healthy Neighborhood

Fostering a safe and healthy neighborhood includes, but is more than, increasing the police presence to try to drive undesirable parties 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.

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

In a congested urban neighborhood like the CID—buffeted by freeway noise, busy thoroughfares like S. Jackson and Dearborn—green spaces and safe public spaces are both very necessary and in short supply. Hing Hay Park, Kobe Terrace Park and Donnie Chin International Children’s Park are essential assets that should have a baseline level of support for maintenance and program development. The City should move forward to implement the Little Saigon park. The Danny Woo Community Garden, while not all City-owned property, should be supported by the City as an essential part of the CID’s green space network.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. Fund a concierge position, and resources for regular clean-up 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.	City
2. Manage and maintain a well-designed public restroom in Hing Hay Park (currently budgeted.) Develop a standard for urban public restrooms that address at minimum, public safety, family needs, and gender identity.	City
3. 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.	City

Action Description	Partner Role
4. 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 stage for greater program activity that takes advantage of this history.	City
5. 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.	City
6. 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.	City
7. 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.	City
8. 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 --e.g. Karaoke nights, games, classes, youth programs, etc.— that are relevant to the community and conducive to safe and welcoming spaces. The group would monitor the success of these spaces, apply a creative and strategic approach to improving them, advocate to the City and others for needs, and develop additional partners and funding sources. Entities to consider for this group might include existing “Friends of” groups, the steering committee Interim has organized in response to SPR’s 2016 Urban Parks Partnership funding, or others.	Community

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

There is a broadly shared perspective by the community that the CID neighborhood is not adequately lit to provide a sense of safety. Better lighting will provide reassurance to the community who are now hesitant to go outside their doors at

night or travel through areas of the neighborhood that are not well-lit.

Action Description	Partner Role
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.	City
2. SCL will upgrade lighting.	City

RECOMMENDED ACTION C: The CID needs more frequent garbage pick-up and street cleaning, including the alleys where dumpsters and grease containers are located.

Uncollected trash, including abandoned items left in alleys and side streets, coupled with unpleasant odors that stem from rotting food refuse and human waste raise concerns about health, sanitation and potential rodent infestation.

Action Description	Partner Role
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.	City
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.	City/ Community

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

Because the library and community center are adjacent to one another in the ID Village Square complex and both operated by the City of Seattle, there are opportunities to launch joint programming initiatives that bring together their mutual goals of provide lifelong learning opportunities, and strengthening the health and vitality of the mostly immigrant community that uses their services. The library and community center, working in partnership with CID cultural organizations, can spur further programs as well.

The Task Force recognizes the importance of community building to foster a sense of shared ownership and connection with the neighborhood. The community will continue to support smaller events that are targeted to folks in the neighborhood, such as national night out, alley parties, lunch BBQs with community organizations working in the district, activities in the parks for kids. Effective communication is essential and there is need to create reliable community communication places and methods appropriate to the CID community, such as a central bulletin board,

outreach tree, etc.

Action Description	Partner Role
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.	City
2. The City funds a full-time community center manager immediately to provide more consistent leadership and operations.	City
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.	City
4. The community develops a reliable community communication system that is both old and new technology (not just emails and Facebook posts, but also “old school” bulletin boards).	Community

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 members as well as to attract visitors coming into the area.

Efforts should be made to support small businesses, social services and cultural and non-profit groups that operate throughout the day, seven days a week. By incentivizing the right kind of activities, less desirable elements—such as marijuana dispensaries and massage parlors—will be crowded out of the market or at least diminished in presence and influence.

Expansion of the Business Improvement Area (BIA) could provide a larger, more sustainable revenue stream to support marketing, promotion and event sponsorship in the CID core. Changes to relevant design review guidelines could help ensure that storefronts are made pedestrian-oriented and that empty storefronts are activated and transformed into community assets through creative and economically strategies.

Design review in Little Saigon is currently split between three City Boards. The intersection of 12th and Jackson is overseen by the East Design Review Board north of Jackson, the Southeast Design review Board south of Jackson and east of 12th Ave. S. and the International Special Review District south of Jackson and west of 12th Ave. S. The City should work with CID stakeholders to analyze options that coordinate and/or consolidate design review of this key intersection to bring cohesion to future development of the neighborhood.

Action Description	Partner Role
1. Consider expanding funding for the “Only in Seattle” program- helping to spur development by providing technical assistance, marketing support, and guidance to small businesses on how to navigate the permitting process and strengthen and grow their business.	City
2. The City should analyze whether reducing the number of entities (3) with design review responsibilities would result in better cohesion in future development.	City
3. Consider ways to improve/strengthen enforcement against violations of International Special Review District regulations.	City
4. Implement programs and approaches to incentivize positive businesses for the neighborhood, including help with tenant improvements. The Commercial Affordability Advisory Committee might inform additional strategies.	City
5. SPD is more proactive to inform property owners of problem businesses in their buildings. Check in with property owners periodically about related issues.	City/SPD
6. Community development organizations will 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.	Community
7. 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.	Community
8. Finalize and pass an expanded Business Improvement Area (BIA) 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.	Community
9. The City and community stakeholders should re-examine the International Special Review District Guidelines and code requirements to make sure that they reflect current community needs, cultural and public safety considerations in design and orientation.	City/ Community

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

Over the past decades, numerous plans for the CID have been developed to preserve and develop it as a culturally diverse and historically significant area of Seattle, including some by the City of Seattle. Rather than launch an entire new

neighborhood planning process, existing plans should be reviewed and utilized as appropriate to identify a framework for holistically addressing community needs and the development of a realistic implementation plan. The framework should be validated by the CID community and approved and accepted by the City.

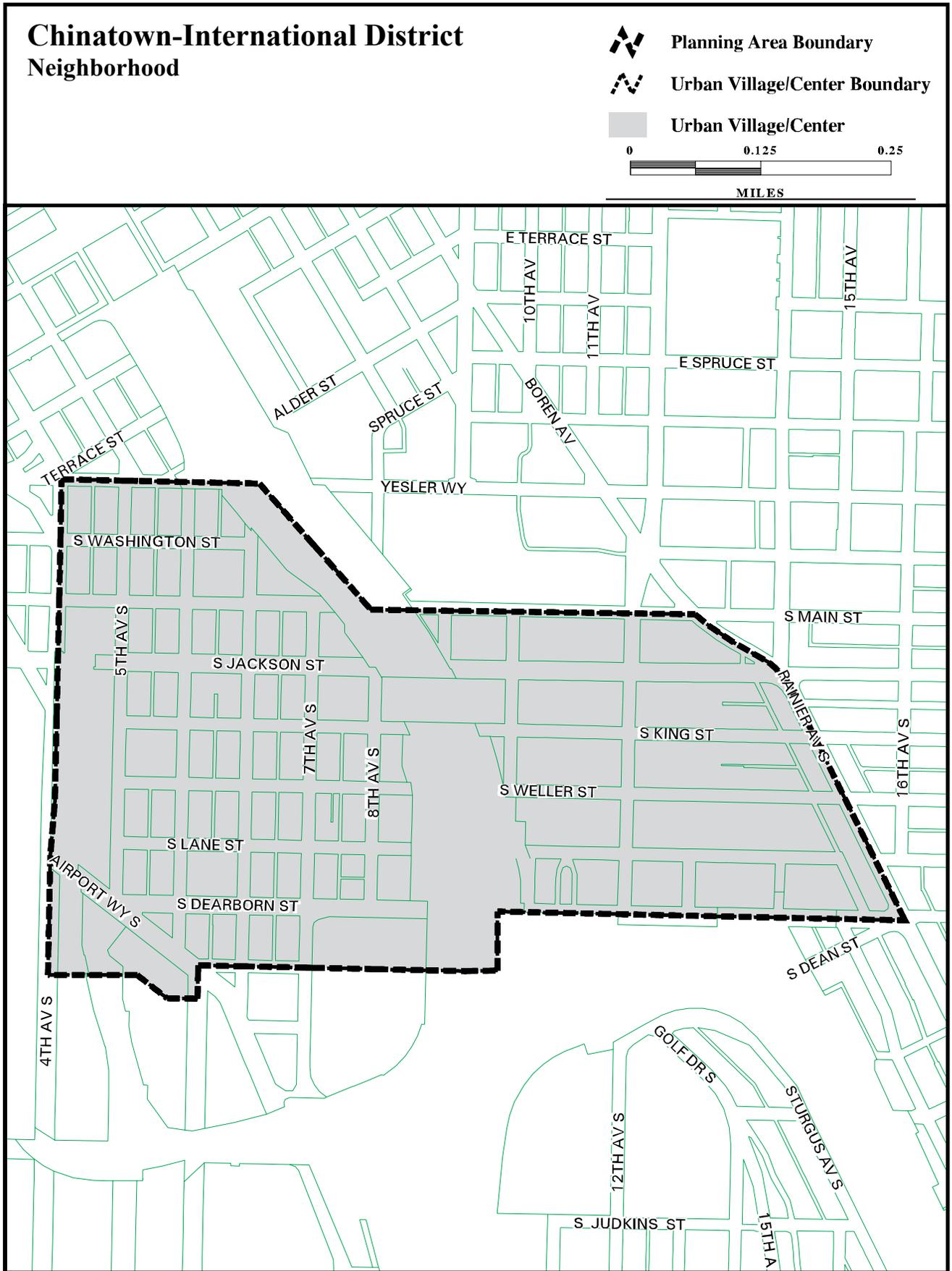
Leaders in the CID have raised concerns about the lack of community input and coordination in public projects. This framework could provide the community with an opportunity to refresh a vision for the future, as well as the City to discuss and work with the community on identifying issues. Crafting a new broadly shared implementation plan is critical to ensuring the CID’s survival as a vital neighborhood that retains its unique character as one of Seattle’s oldest multiethnic districts. How can aging historic structures be restored and brought back to life as culturally appropriate spaces for another generation? How can the CID balance the disparate interests of low and moderate income residents with the interests of small businesses, property owners, workers, visitors and other community participants?

Action Description	Partner Role
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 Yard and the Seattle City Light Denny to Massachusetts Transmission Line Project.	City/ Community
2. City and community 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.	City/ Community
3. City accept updated framework with City project list, to be monitored by the Steering Committee and community stakeholders.	City
4. City partners with the community to ensure that the impacts of the Unreinforced Masonry regulations, 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.	City/ Community

List of Appendices

- 1. Neighborhood Map**
- 2. Demographics**
- 3. Public Safety Survey**
- 4. Impact Measures**
- 5. Map with Precinct Boundaries**
- 6. Crimes and Infractions**
- 7. Neighborhood Map with Crime Hotspots**
- 8. Recent CID Public Safety Incidents**
- 9. Images**
- 10. Task Force Charter**
- 11. Media Coverage**

Appendix 1: Neighborhood Map



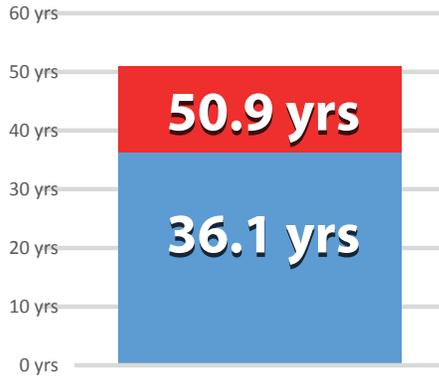
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planning area: uv413_5

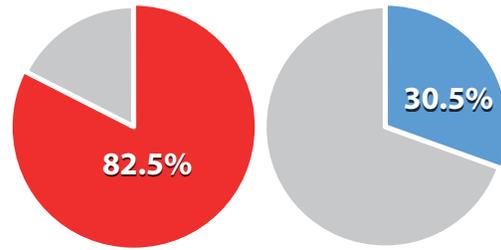
Appendix 2: Demographics

■ Chinatown-International District
■ Citywide

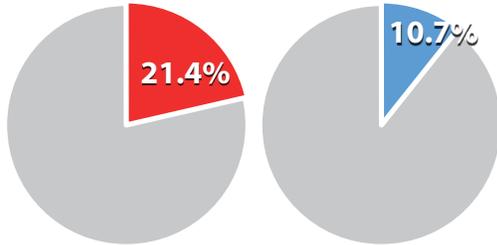
Median Age



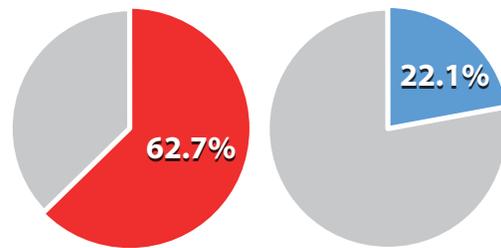
Race: People of Color



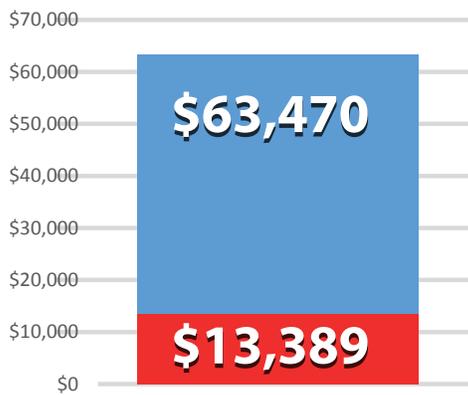
Age 65+ years



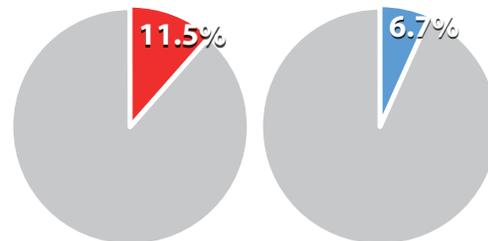
Households in which language other than English is primarily spoken



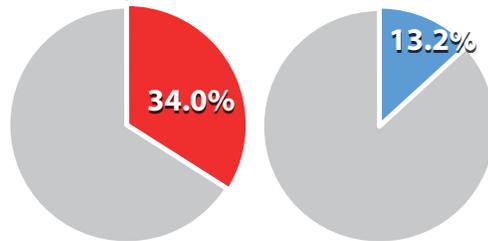
Median Household Income



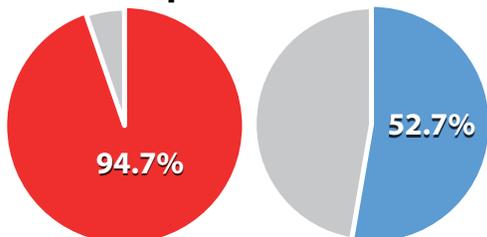
Unemployment Rate



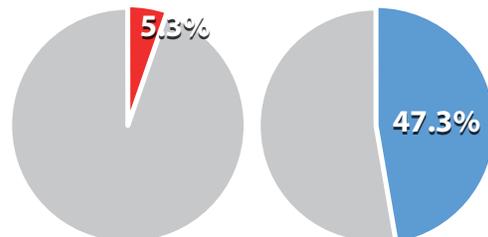
Poverty Rate



Rentership Rate



Home Ownership Rate



Appendix 3: Public Safety Survey

2016 CID Public Safety Survey Matters

INTRODUCTION

The Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority (SCIDpda) in partnership with Interim Community Development Association (Interim CDA) developed a 46-question public safety survey for the purpose of evaluating the community's perceptions of public safety, police-community relations, and the importance of various public safety interventions. The findings of this survey are intended to shed light on the state of public safety in the Chinatown - International District and to make targeted advocacy, programmatic, and policy recommendations to improve the safety, health, and livability of this historic neighborhood.

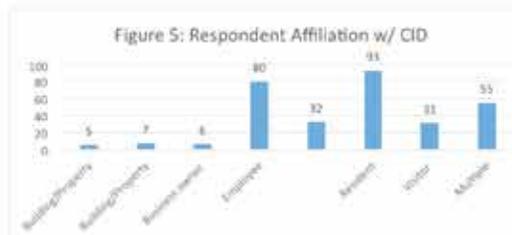
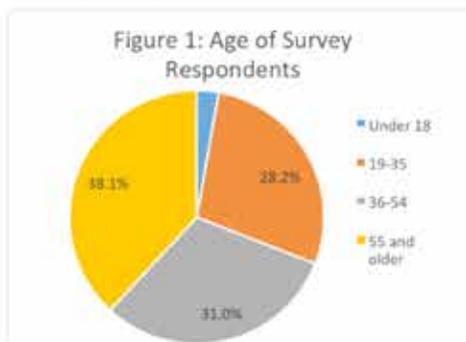
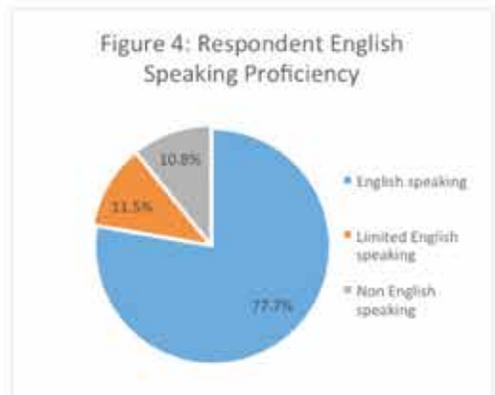
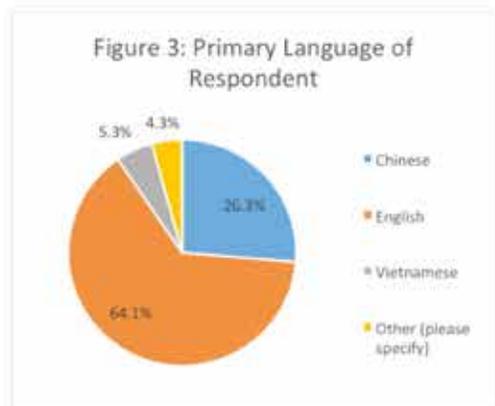
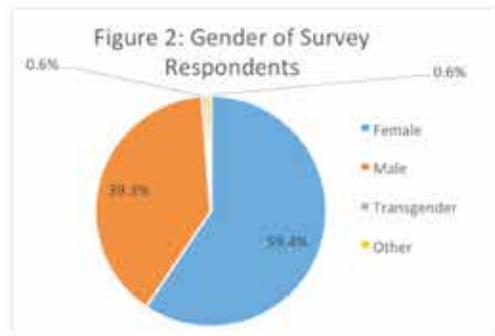
The survey was adapted from various public safety surveys including the Pioneer Square public safety survey, previous Chinatown - International District public safety surveys, and with assistance from Seattle Neighborhood Group. For the first time, the Chinatown - International District public safety survey asked questions related to mental stress and anxiety to better understand the impact of public safety on

METHODOLOGY

The survey was disseminated in English, Chinese, and Vietnamese beginning in January 2016 and was closed at the end of February 2016. The electronic survey (via Survey Monkey) was disseminated to SCIDpda, Interim CDA, and other email and social media networks. In order to get a more representative sample of the Chinatown - International District neighborhood population, we engaged business owners and residential building managers to ensure that neighborhood workers and residents, especially those without access to internet and with limited English-speaking skills, could participate. We distributed paper surveys in English, Chinese, and Vietnamese to businesses and residential buildings. At the end of the survey period, 333 individuals completed the public safety survey electronically and on paper. A total of 323 surveys were included in the analysis due to some surveys being incomplete.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Of the 323 respondents, the majority of respondents identified as female (59.4%) (Figure 2) and 64.1% reported English as their primary language, followed by 26.3% reporting Chinese as their primary language (Figure 3). Of all the respondents, 11.5% have limited English speaking skills and 10.8% are non English speakers (Figure 4). The greatest portion of the respondents were at least 55 years of age (38.1%) (Figure 1). Most respondents claimed to be residents (n=93) or employees (n=80) of the neighborhood (Figure 5) with 40.6% of respondents reporting being affiliated with the neighborhood for over 10 years (Figure 6).



Key Findings

1. The largest percent of respondents stated they “always” see behaviors like trespassing (23.8%), public intoxication (20.3%), and graffiti (20.0%). Although these are non-violent crimes, these behaviors contribute to a general sense of neighborhood decline, disinvestment, lack of safety, and therefore contribute to a negative perception of safety.
2. Over 50% of respondents indicated that they had witnessed either a non-violent or violent crime in the CID neighborhood. Of those who reported witnessing non-violent crimes, an overwhelming 72.9% stated that they did not report it to the police. The most common reason for non-reporting was that they did not expect any follow through by the police (40.4%), followed by thinking that police couldn’t do anything (31.9%). Of those who reported witnessing violent crimes, 59.5% did not report the crime to police. The top two reasons for not reporting violent crimes were that someone else called (40%) or because they did expect any follow through by the police (31.9%).
3. A high proportion of Chinese and English speakers do not call 911 (73.5% and 76.5% respectively) when they witness non-violent crimes. Similarly, a high proportion of both groups do not call 911 for violent crimes as well (61.5% for Chinese speakers and 56.5% for English speakers).
4. 44.3% of respondents stated that they “rarely” see police engaging with the public. In a subsequent question about rating police-community relations, only 2.4% of respondents stated that police-community relations were “very good.” The majority of respondents stated that police-community relations were only “fair” (32.5%). 70.5% of the community think that police-community relations are “fair,” “poor,” or “very poor.”
5. 23% of respondents stated they were “never safe” in the I-5 Underpass and 17.1% stated they were “never safe” in the Kobe Terrace Park/Danny Woo Community Garden. 28.3% of respondents claimed to feel only “somewhat safe” in Chinatown. 26.4% of respondents reported that they felt “somewhat unsafe” in Little Saigon. Conversely, 24.2% of respondents said they felt “often safe” in Japantown.
6. 45% of respondents state that they do not have a safe place to go in the CID in case of an emergency.
7. Younger respondents are more likely to disagree with the statement “police keep the CID safe” compared to older respondents. 71.6% of respondents between 19-35 years old either “somewhat disagree” or “disagree” with the statement “police keep the CID safe”, while 58% of people 55 years or older “somewhat disagree” or “disagree” with that statement. Respondents’ feelings of safety declined as age increased.
8. 48.84% of respondents found it to be somewhat true that they experienced anxiety or stress due to feeling unsafe going outside in the CID; this feeling was fairly consistent across all age groups.
9. Of both City and neighborhood-based public safety efforts (i.e. LEAD, MID, Block Watch, and IDEC), respondents were most familiar with IDEC. Additionally, IDEC was most highly rated as playing an important role in the neighborhood.

Preliminary Recommendations

- A. Support a “Safe Place” style program accessible in the Chinatown-International District to learn about personal safety, emergency preparedness and help community members report nonviolent and violent crimes.
- B. Create designated times and spaces for law enforcement to interact with community members in the Chinatown-International District to learn from one another in order to build trust and understand the unique challenges of the community and supporting long-term relationship building.
- C. Develop a culturally responsive protocol that delineates how the Seattle Police Department will serve and respond to the Chinatown-International District in the absence of compelling 911 data by placing value on community partnerships to help address the gap in data-driven practices that are not responsive to communities of color.
- D. Implement an analysis of community outreach practices performed by the Seattle Police Department with the Chinatown-International District and immigrant and refugee communities, while also utilizing the Race & Social Justice Initiative toolkit to strengthen training and engagement strategies. Continually evaluate community outreach practices performed by the Seattle Police Department and develop and implement institutional changes that adequately serve immigrant and refugee communities.
- E. Provide support and resources to the International District Emergency Center to evaluate its programs and strategize the organization’s next steps moving forward.
- F. Leverage data from the C-ID Public Safety Survey to inform the Seattle Police Department’s Micro Community Policing Plan for Chinatown-ID and Little Saigon with measurable and timely reporting outcomes for improving neighborhood public safety conditions.
- G. Partner with social and behavioral health services that specialize in multicultural settings to develop programming to address the chronic stress and mental health of residents and community members in the Chinatown-International District impacted negatively by their feelings of being unsafe and their limited access to resources.
- H. Participate in and support long term initiatives in the neighborhood that have a critical public safety component. This includes engagement and financial support (for both development, maintenance, and activation) of public spaces in the Chinatown-International District.

Appendix 4: Impact Measures

Potential indicators for monitoring progress. The Steering Committee will finalize.

- ACCOUNTABILITY TRACKING – Annual community-city dashboard review
- COMMUNITY TRUST/SENSE OF SAFETY/911 CALL USE/PUBLIC SAFETY/KNOWLEDGE of SPD – Annual survey
- OFFICER RECRUITMENT/HIRES – SPD data
- CRIME RATES/911 CALL RATES/PATROLS/SPECIALTY SERVICE REFERRALS/ENCAMPMENTS – SPD data
- SPD PARTICIPATION W/COMMUNITY - SPD/Community data
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT – OED
- RETAIL REVENUE – OED
- COMMERCIAL VACANCIES/BUSINESS TYPES – BIA inventory
- COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENTS – Community data
- ACTIVATED SPACES- Parks/Community

Appendix 6: Crimes and Infractions

There are a number of offenses that are prosecuted by the CAO in Seattle Municipal Court that are referred to as civility crimes and infractions. It should be noted that the CAO does not specifically prosecute infractions. Infractions are directly filed by the police officer in Seattle Municipal Court and the CAO only appears if the infraction is challenged. Examples of civility crimes and infractions are:

Misdemeanors and Gross Misdemeanors

Punishable by jail and/or a fine; must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt

- Assault, SMC 12A.06.010
- Obstructing a public officer, SMC 12A.16.010 (intentionally and physically interfering with a public officer)
- Pedestrian interference, SMC 12A.12.015 (aggressive, intimidating begging; blocking pedestrian or vehicle traffic on a sidewalk or street)
- Fighting, SMC 12A.06.025 (fighting in a public place that creates a substantial risk of injury to an uninvolved person or property damage)
- Criminal trespass, SMC 12A.08.040 (entering or remaining on property or in building without the owner's permission; can be charged for property not open to the public, where the owner/manager has previously given the defendant notice of exclusion, for violation of conditions of entry as part of SPD's Trespass Program, or for violation of Parks rules following a warning)
- Graffiti/property destruction, SMC 12A.08.020 (intentionally damaging another's property, including by writing or painting)
- Disorderly conduct on buses, SMC 12A.12.040 (long list of conduct on buses or at transit facilities, typically enforced by the King County Sheriff's Metro Transit Police)
- Indecent Exposure, SMC 12A.10.130 (intentionally making "any open and obscene exposure of his or her person or the person of another knowing that such conduct is likely to cause reasonable affront or alarm")

Civil Infractions

Punishable by a monetary penalty; if contested, must be proven by a preponderance of the evidence

- Open Use or Display of Marijuana, SMC 12A.20.100
- Urinating or defecating in public, SMC 12A.10.100

- Sit/lie, SMC 15.48.040 (sitting or lying down on a public sidewalk in certain business districts between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm between Puget Sound, S. Jackson, I-5, and Denny Way/Broad St.; does not apply in parks)
- Nighttime disturbance, SMC 15.48.050
- Drinking in public, SMC 12A.24.025
- Possession of opened or unopened liquor in a park, SMC 18.12.257 (unless with a permit or in original packaging with receipt and being transported through the park)
- At large dogs, SMC 9.25.084.A (requires a maximum 8-foot leash except in dog parks or on private property)
- Tethered dogs, SMC 9.25.084.F (prohibits tethering a dog to a fixed object where it can enter a sidewalk, street, or other public place)
- Failure to remove dog feces on public property or another's private property, SMC 9.25.082.B
- Skateboard, roller-skating, or using coasters in Westlake Park, SMC 18.16.150 (applies only to Westlake Park)
- Camping in parks, SMC 18.12.250 (includes either remaining overnight or erecting a tent or other shelter, exemptions for permitted events)
- Littering in parks, SMC 18.12.260
- Chronic failure to respond to civil infractions that negatively impacts community and is not resolvable with outreach can lead to criminal failure to respond charges

Parks Code of Conduct (Administrative Rules; applies only in parks)

Violations lead to a warning about the rules; once a person has been warned, subsequent violations can lead to criminal trespass charges

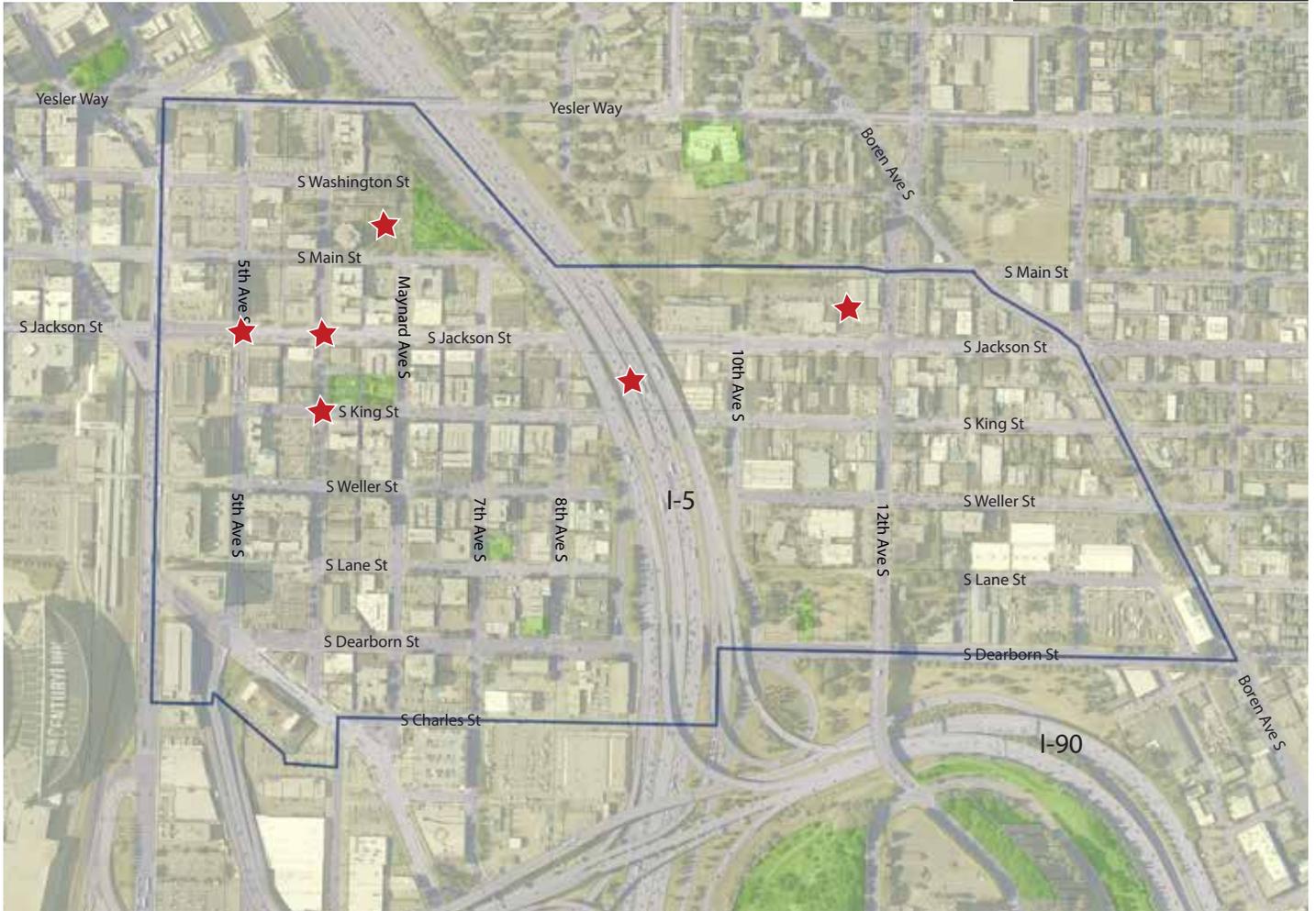
- Any violation of state or local law, including the Parks Code (SMC Ch. 18.12) is a violation of the Code of Conduct
- Conduct that unreasonably deprives others of their use or enjoyment of the park or park facility (3.2.2)
- Smoking or other tobacco use within 25 feet of other park patrons (3.2.10)
- Leaving packages or other items unattended (3.2.12)
- Blocking or obstructing access or pedestrian traffic (3.2.15)

Felony Offenses Prosecuted by the King County Prosecutor's Office

- Homicide
- Assault
- Kidnapping
- Sexual Assault
- Physical Abuse of Children

- Promoting Prostitution
- Domestic Violence
- Harassment, Stalking and Related Offenses
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Arson
- Felony Traffic Offenses
- Theft, Malicious Mischief and Related Offenses
- Auto Theft and Vehicle-Related Property Offenses
- Escape and Bail Jumping
- Drug Offenses
- Weapon Enhancements
- Firearm Offenses
- Expedited Crimes
- Persistent Offenders

Appendix 7: Neighborhood Map with Crime Hot Spots



Appendix 8: Recent CID Public Safety Incidents

The following incidents occurred during the Task Force Process.

Email from a Task Force Member who was assaulted:

While walking by the transit center to get something to eat at Uwajimaya at 6pm in broad daylight with people and families all around, a man punched me in my stomach and called me a derogatory slur. Nobody did anything, and I wasn't sure if I should call the police after he left. It didn't feel like an emergency, so I bought my musubi and then realized I should call so that it would show up in the neighborhood crime reports.

From calling until getting to talk to an operator, the non-emergency line took me two minutes thirty seconds. At several points in the automated menu of options to connect to someone, they suggested I hang up and file a report online instead. Once I talked to an operator, they sent SPD. It took around 15 minutes for someone to meet me while I waited; the location they told me to wait at felt like I was just biding my time before I became the victim of the next hate crime. Once the police arrived, they were helpful and polite, so at least there's that.

I bring this up to point out a few things.

1. Does our community know when to call 911 and when to call the non-emergency line? Do they know there is a non-emergency line?
2. Two minutes is a long time to be on a phone without talking to a human. Do you think this presents a problem to our communities?
3. Much of those two minutes were spent suggesting I hang up and just fill out the form online, which I feel is discouraging to people in our communities that often lack reliable internet service or just don't know how to use computers.
4. This highlights the need for us to do more civic engagement work, connecting members of our communities to each other. All of the folks by the transit center ignored me as and after this happened. Would that be the case if I was assaulted in another neighborhood?

SCIDpda staff received the following email during a Task Force Subcommittee meeting - the person who sent the email was sitting outside the meeting room:

I had a very serious altercation in Seattle today that makes me feel the social issues we face are intolerable. Unfortunately, the issues of homelessness, crime, and institutional ineffectiveness were palpably felt by my family and community today. We were assaulted by a hostile homeless man and the police did not come to our aid or recognize our need.

My daughter, a first year Brownie, and I setup a Girl Scout Cookie table on the sidewalk corner next to Hing Hay Park in Chinatown. Since it was so sunny I decided it would be nice to enjoy the large Hing Hay Park space and good weather. We made more sales than we did at a strip mall on the eastside! A lot of the people coming by were glad. A few homeless people came around but ignored us. One homeless man was different and he approached us several times. It did not go well.

He began yelling at us in assault. His incessant screaming and cursing at us was so loud a young gal immediately asked, "Should I call the police?" This went on for several minutes, I already had an emergency call going on my phone. We were on hold, and we needed immediate response. I was preparing myself to become physically violent to protect my daughter. Finally an operator picked up the phone as I hid my daughter behind me. I told the operator "We're being assaulted at Maynard & King - selling Girl Scout Cookies..." The homeless man's vicious screaming was so loud that another woman ran down from her apartment building across the street to try to help us. After a couple minutes of me speaking with the operating, and feeling defended by the people around me, the man walked away from us while jeering at other people. The operator asked if I wanted to be contacted by an officer. I said yes.

After 20mins, the man came back again and we still had no contact with a police officer. He began approaching us while mumbling, sitting at the opposite corner glaring at and intimidating us. I called 911 now a 2nd time, and he walked away when he saw me call.

I hung up disgusted - not at the homeless man, but at the zero police response and the difficulty of reaching emergency services in a critical time. We decided to leave the park corner. We finally saw a patrol car go by, but with no acknowledgment. I was carrying a giant green Girl Scouts banner. Did they know I just called 911?

I intentionally work in Chinatown to help reinvigorate the area and provide a sense of normalcy with professional activities and community efforts. I will not be deterred. My daughter is now a 5th generation Seattleite, my family has lived and worked in the Seattle Chinatown area coming close to a century. Because of this legacy I also sit as an officer in the Filipino American National Historical Society. Our great-grand uncle was the first Asian to own land in Washington State; a right to property which he had to fight to the Supreme Court. As a historian, it does not sit well with me basic services and securities are things I cannot count on.

Experiencing the pleasure of raising my children in a beautiful diverse and generous community should be a freedom free of fear. I should have confidence that the services I rely on will respond to our needs. We are only free from fear when we are secure that things like the police will function and serve us. We are able to experience our community only when all those people are able interact in a healthy way without illness, vitriol, or desperation of the streets.

I am doing everything a normal person should to address our community, family, and greater good. Can you help end this disparity?

Email from a Task Force Member about someone doing drugs in his space:

My store has a constant problem with homeless or addicts coming in our store, disrupting our business, and doing drugs in our bathrooms. The latest person used to work for me about five years ago, but he just stopped coming to work one day. Now he's in front of my store every night.

We've left him alone up until recently because there is literally nothing we can do, no matter how much he affects our entrance, but now he comes in daily to smoke meth in our bathroom. Customers complain of the odor in the bathroom. He does drugs in broad daylight in front of our door with kids coming and going. The entrance to our store is a challenge, but we've pretty much accepted that this is the norm in Seattle now.

There is nothing we can do to move him along, and we must allow him access to our store; the only way to get him out is to have officers there. I know the big issues are shootings and murders in Seattle, but these low level offenses are what's causing the apathy. The attitude is that nothing ever changes, and what's the point in calling 911 or even following the laws. I cannot just sit there and tell my staff to just keep cleaning up drug paraphernalia every day because the city doesn't care.

My staff have called 911 on this issue many times in the past and it has resulted in nothing. It wasn't until I personally called 911 last night, then personally spoke with the officers and went off angrily about these issues that something happened. The 2 officers that came by did resolve my issue when they drove back around after their first visit, but I can see in their eyes that they're just as frustrated at this revolving door as I am.

My staff doesn't have the same connections to the city or same demanding attitude I do. 99% of the people in the community are like my staff, they don't escalate the issue. We need to discuss a better way where we actually believe what the employees are reporting and it gets taken seriously enough the first time, that it doesn't take a person like me go on a diatribe to an officer or send these long emails.

Email from a Task Force Member:

People are drag racing, drifting, and loudly revving their engines around my store and it has become a huge problem for my team, our customers, and local neighbors.

This is absolutely embarrassing that this is associated to my business. Out of the hundreds and thousands of people that come into my store every day, these are the few types of people I do not want coming in but I'm forced to endure. I cannot control anything outside my doors. I have always been proud of my business for being a positive space in the neighborhood, but I can't do that without help when I need it.

I have called 911 on this issue many times and so have residents. Here is a typical 911 call:

911: what are you reporting?

me: there are people racing and drifting in front of my store

911: can you describe the vehicle?

me: I don't know, they're loud and it goes on constantly all night

911: what color is the car

me: I don't know, it's an issue that keeps going all night

911: what direction did the car go?

me: I don't know...north?

911: how long ago was that?

me: this is ridiculous. I'm just calling it in to put it into the all-powerful 911 data pool.

911: thank you

Can we all just admit that calling 911 DOES NOT WORK FOR THESE ISSUES??

When several people in the community bring up an issue that is persistent in the neighborhood, how is that less valid than 911 data?? If data is what is needed, then what is the magic number of calls to get a response? I need to know the rules of the game to have a chance. If you tell me we need 20,000- 911 calls to trigger new action in an area, then just tell me that so I know what I need to do. Calling 911 for 6 yrs with no results is absolutely maddening.

Someone recently said that Seattle is not about preventing crime, it waits until a tragedy happens and then tries to bring justice. This is potentially another tragedy waiting to happen and I can't just sit here and let people ignore it. The local news stations still come around and asks us about updates to public safety issues and about Donnie's murder.

When we talk about safe neighborhoods, this is the frustration the residents and businesses have. We raise issues and nothing is taken seriously. It has to come to a boil before anything happens and that's insane when we're talking about people's lives at risk. Our concerns need to be taken seriously a lot sooner, not only for a few months after a death.

Task Force Members who have businesses near each other in Little Saigon noted in this article highlighting that carprows are up 22% in 2016:

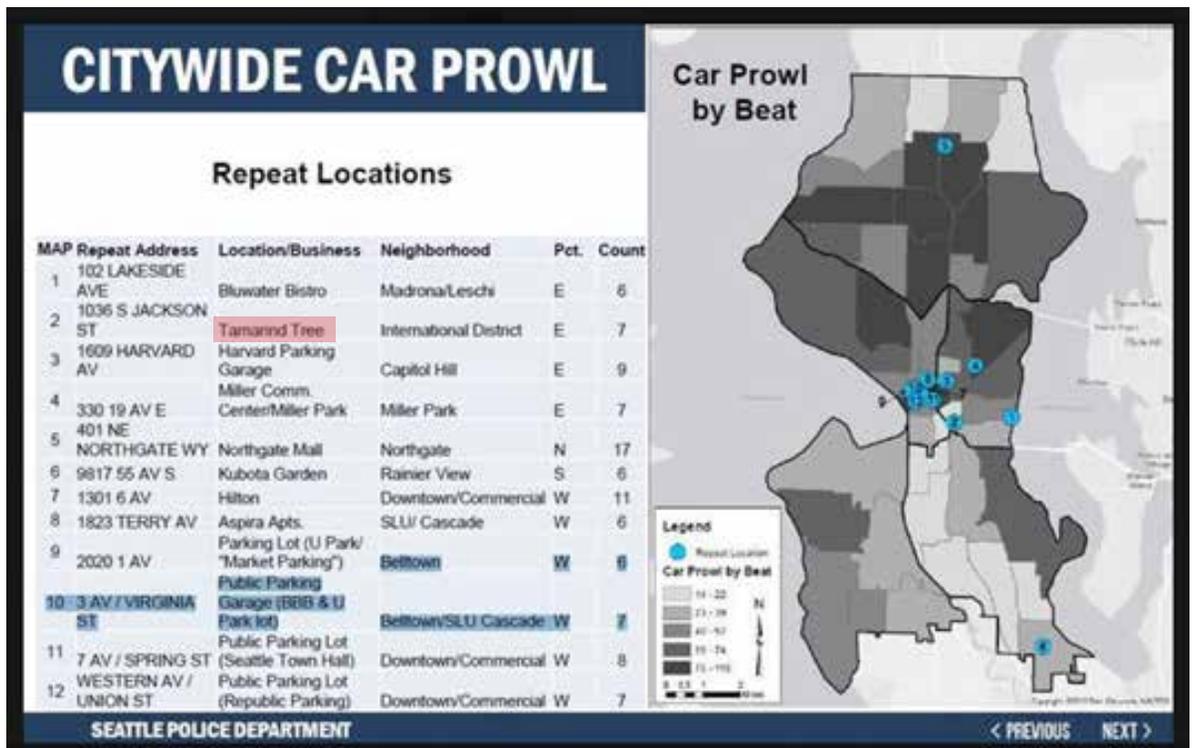
Affected Task Force member comment:

We have so many car prowls. It is so frustrating, despite our efforts of having parking lot security, putting up more lights and fixing broken lights, and having surveillance camera.

Our sales also drop as this car prowl problem continue. We wonder if this is the best neighborhood for us to continue to do business, whether we want to risk losing our regular customers for good.

I will be working with our landlord to see what are other approaches we should take

because what we are doing now is not working.



Story from a Task Force Members:

A coworker of mine parked his car in Little Saigon to walk to our offices. While walking in, he saw an agitated man holding a machete near the intersection of S. King and 10th Ave. S. We call him Machete #2. Machete #2 was jogging, and started going towards the elders waiting in line for the ACRS food bank. This got my coworker nervous. He called 911, and while he was on the call, Machete #2 started running towards my coworker. My coworker ran away, and Machete #2 gave chase, but turned away. My coworker then started following Machete #2 as he provided a description and the general location in which Machete #2 was going.

Shortly thereafter, my coworker heard police sirens and came to work. When my coworker tells the story, it's so funny, except that it's not.

We got a copy of the police report. When SPD found him, Machete #2 was hitting the ground with a "large machete". It took a while for Machete #2 to drop the machete. There was another witness, who stated that Machete #2, before coming to Chinatown, had been in "The Jungle" and had been assaulted, being hit in the face with a piece of lumber

We call him Machete #2, because we had another machete incident in the neighborhood a year earlier. There was a tent located in the WSDOT area near or under I-5, a 1/2 block from affordable family housing, and it was notorious for prostitution and drug dealing. Machete #1 apparently came out of the tent, walked down the street towards Jackson and stabbed someone, right outside affordable senior housing. I think Machete #1 and #2 are different people... but I'm not sure.

Appendix 9: Photos



Appendix 10: Public Safety Task Force Charter

TASK FORCE PURPOSE

The Chinatown International District (CID) Public Safety Task Force (Task Force) is being convened to provide a forum for the City of Seattle to partner with neighborhood stakeholders in crafting recommendations for addressing longstanding public safety challenges in the CID neighborhood.

REPRESENTATION

The Task Force members are appointed by the Mayor. Members represent the following neighborhood interest groups:

- CID businesses
- CID business organizations
- CID property owners
- CID community development organizations
- CID service provider organizations
- CID resident populations

City of Seattle staff (Deputy Mayor and Deputy Chief of Police) serve as co-chairs, along with two CID representatives (the Executive Director of the Seattle CID Public Development Authority and the Board President of the Friends of Little Saigon).

Staff from the Mayor's office and key City departments will serve as resources throughout the process. Other departments will be tapped as needed.

VISION

The Task Force identified the following elements for a CID public safety vision:

SENSE OF SAFETY - Diverse residents of all ages and other stakeholders (e.g., visitors, workers, owners) all feel safe; homeless and mentally ill people are treated respectfully.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT /CONNECTEDNESS - People are involved and have a sense of ownership to ensure a safe neighborhood; organizations and businesses are connected and collaboration occurs with other communities.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT - The neighborhood is clean, well kept up and lit, with green space; public spaces are activated and inviting and buildings are fully developed and occupied; the neighborhood retains and reflects its history but also

looks to its future.

ECONOMIC VITALITY - Businesses that serve the needs of residents and the neighborhood are supported; thriving storefronts create a sense of vibrancy.

COMMUNITY-CITY-SPD RELATIONSHIPS – There are trusted relationships between the neighborhood and the City and SPD with commitment of resources and quick responses to neighborhood needs; law enforcement is visible and known to the community, involved in community building as well as addressing crime.

POSITIVE PROFILE – Media captures and conveys a positive picture of a safe and vibrant neighborhood.

OPERATING AGREEMENT

The Task Force agreed to operate according to the following values:

- Hold confidentiality of Task Force discussions
- Keep an open mind – listen intently and develop potential solutions
- Agree to disagree, assuming best intent and offering mutual respect
- Share/don't hold back
- Come prepared
- Stay engaged
- Recognize power dynamics and value all voices

TASK FORCE SCOPE & GOALS

The Task Force will identify strategies for enhancing public safety in the Chinatown International District neighborhood, and issue a report to the Mayor, from which the Mayor will identify key priorities for implementation. The CID community and the City will work together in implementing the strategies.

- The Task Force shall identify specific public safety challenges in the CID neighborhood and recommended strategies to address them.
- While acknowledging that each neighborhood has unique characteristics and challenges, the Task Force should identify common elements that make a neighborhood safe, helping to ensure that the work of the Task Force helps other neighborhoods address their public safety
- The Task Force shall focus on identifying strategies for a new model of neighborhood policing, which will build on the micro-policing plans and community policing culture Chief O'Toole has initiated since becoming Chief of Police.
- The Task Force shall identify strategies for a culturally-sensitive, linguistically-responsive and data-driven approach to improve the City's relations to and effectiveness with residents of the CID. These strategies once identified will inform the City's engagement with all other neighborhoods.

The report should address:

- 1) Strategies for public safety and policing issues
 - Increase police visibility and positive engagement with the neighborhood and community;
 - Improve education of public safety issues for a predominantly immigrant/refugee neighborhood population; and
 - Improve emergency and non-emergency service capacity to the neighborhood and address multi-lingual and multicultural reporting barriers.
- 2) City-Neighborhood public safety accountability
 - Identify baseline data and metrics around crime, social/health/housing services, neighborhood economic development and health;
 - Improve the City's culturally/linguistically appropriate responsiveness to neighborhood concerns.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Task Force Members

Task Force members will participate in a deliberative process of discussions, with consideration of information from external sources as necessary, to develop strategies and provide recommendations to the Mayor to address public safety in the Chinatown International District.

All Task Force members are expected to:

- 1) Hold Task Force deliberations in confidence, until after submission of recommendations to the Mayor and the release of their report;
- 2) Attend all scheduled meetings and arrive at each meeting prepared to discuss the issues on the agenda, including reviewing any/all materials provided in advance;
- 3) Fully participate in meetings and articulate views of their community of interest (i.e., organization, business, specific constituency)
- 4) Strive to seek understanding, resolve differences, and provide thoughtful input.

Co-Chairs

The Task Force Co-Chairs will demonstrate the partnership between the CID neighborhood and the City in a good-faith process to address public safety challenges by:

- 1) Working to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate in the discussions during Task Force meetings.
- 2) Setting agendas for the work of the Task Force in conjunction with input from Task Force members and assisted by the facilitator;
- 3) Working collaboratively to ensure that the Task Force produces a set of recommendations for the Mayor.

City of Seattle Staff

The lead staff for the Task Force is Gary Johnson, Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD).

Staff from City departments will attend Task Force meetings to participate in discussions as content experts about City processes and activities related to the neighborhood and as resources to provide information to support the Task Force's work. Key departments to be represented include: the Mayor's Office, Department of Neighborhoods, Office of Economic Development, Human Services Department, Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, Parks and Recreation, Office of Planning & Community Development and the Seattle Police Department. Other departments will participate as needed.

Facilitator

The facilitator will act as a neutral party to assist the Task Force in the development of its recommendations by:

- working with the Co-Chairs, Task Force members and staff to develop meeting agendas;
- providing guidance on and designing appropriate processes to further the meeting agenda topics and the Task Force's success;
- ensuring that necessary information and materials are available as needed;
- facilitating Task Force meetings in a manner that results in focused and productive meetings with constructive conversations and participation by all members;
- taking the lead in preparing the Final Report/Recommendations.

TASK FORCE OPERATIONS

Meetings

1) The Task Force will meet on a scheduled basis, starting in December 2015 and with enough frequency to adequately discuss and develop recommendations by April 2016.

2) Participation in Task Force meeting discussions will be limited to Task Force members and invited City staff.

Task Force Decision Making

The Task Force chooses to work toward consensus by using a process that explores all views, concerns and interests, and generates alternate proposals in order to find common ground. Members agree to:

1. Engage in sharing information/ be explicit with each other.
2. Try for consensus but identify all positions even if not in full agreement
 - a) Conduct open voting indicating approval, acceptable/acceptable with questions and/or reservations, or not acceptable (thumbs up, sideways, down).
 - b) Explore thumbs sideways or down and ask for proposals to bring nays to "can

live with it.”

c) Vote on proposals to check for full consensus and proceed with understanding of all positions even if not in full agreement (exception of one).

After discussing dissenting opinions, alternate proposals may be generated from the group to see if full agreement can be reached through subsequent voting. A final decision from the Task Force may occur with a majority and a minority opinion, since there is value in the City hearing dissenting opinions.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This Task Force and its work may be of interest to the public, observers, other public agencies, and other advocates or interested advisors. The Task Force will determine if and how such interests may help inform the work of the Task Force including the possibility of one or more public meetings.

COMMUNICATION

Any media requests, inquiries or outreach shall be directed to William Lemke in the Mayor’s Office.

Appendix 11: Media Coverage

“Stolen Cellphones, Drug Tent and Shrimp Fraud Uncovered in Operation at 12th and Jackson”

Written by Jonah Spangenthal-Lee on March 28, 2014, 1:29 p.m.:

Early Thursday morning, Seattle police raided a Vietnamese restaurant and a tent in the woods in the International District, and arrested 25 suspects as part of a three-month operation around 12th Avenue and S. Jackson Street, which led police to bust stolen cellphone and computer traffickers and a woman selling illegally purchased shrimp out of a van.

In January, East Precinct’s Captain asked the SPD’s Major Crimes Task Force for help in addressing open-air drug dealing around the busy intersection.

“My officers were seeing car prowls and drug deals out there, and growing unrest in the community,” says East Precinct Captain Pierre Davis. “Once officers started putting these cases together, one arrest led to another.”

When the MCTF began looking into what was happening at 12th and Jackson, Detective Todd Jakobsen says “informants were telling us it was so bad you couldn’t

OPERATION ROCK-N-HOCK





walk down the street without getting hit up to buy drugs or electronic food-assistance benefit cards.

The first break in Operation Rock and Hock came after a burglar was busted in Downtown Seattle tipped police that a non-descript electronics store on Jackson Street—

One-Stop Wireless, which was previously raided by the MCTF in 2009 for trafficking stolen cellphones and computers—was back in business.

“Before One-Stop opened up their doors at 10 o’clock every morning,” Det. Jakobsen says, “there would be a line of people looking to sell iPhones and iPads they had stolen the night before.”

MCTF detectives served a warrant at One-Stop on January 14th, and seized 804 suspected stolen computers, iPods, and cellular phones, many of which were reported stolen. MCTF detectives also seized more than \$226,000 in cash from the business.

While working the One-Stop case, detectives also began a “buy-and-slide” drug sting around 12th and Jackson. Undercover officers and informants began buying drugs—primarily crack cocaine—around the clock in the neighborhood. But instead of busting dealers after each sale—referred to as a “buy bust” operation—the MCTF identified more than two-dozen dealers, and began building cases against the suspects.

“In a buy-and-bust you devote a lot of manpower to making one or two arrests, and then everyone disappears,” Det. Jakobsen says. “With a buy-and-slide, we identified and built rock solid cases on 26 drug dealers. We think we have the bulk of the people selling drugs in the area.”

The drug investigation also led detectives to a tent in the woods under I-5 near 8th Ave S. and S. Jackson St. Police learned the tent was being used by suppliers to traffic several ounces of crack cocaine every day in the neighborhood around 12th. This tent was also recently the site of at least one reported shooting.

Detectives also noticed a number of drug dealers in the neighborhood frequenting the Thanh Tam Restaurant. One police informant told detectives they had purchased drugs from the restaurant’s owners more than 100 times. When detectives later served a warrant at the Thanh Tam restaurant on March 26, they recovered \$17,000 and 16 grams of cocaine at the business.

Already busy investigating the drug and stolen cell phone shop operations in the neighborhood, the MCTF received another request for assistance, this time from the US Department of Agriculture, which was investigating Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) fraud around 12th and Jackson.

Once the MCTF began investigating with the USDA, they found there were two fraud schemes in play in the neighborhood:

Middlemen were recruiting people off the street to sell their EBT benefits to clerks at the Minh Tam Market. The clerks paid undercover officers and informants 50 cents on the dollar for their card benefits, sometimes offering up crack cocaine in lieu of cash. After investigating Minh Tam, MCTF served warrants at the business on and recovered

more than \$424,000 in cash.

MCTF detectives also learned of a woman, who was well known around 12th and Jackson for buying EBT cards off the street. After making contact with the woman and offering to sell her EBT cards, the woman took undercover officers to several grocery stores near 12th and Jackson—including Lam’s Seafood Market and Viet Wah—where she used the undercover’s EBT cards to buy cartfuls of meat, seafood and large bags of rice, which she loaded into her minivan. Detectives also noticed that store employees helped the woman skirt EBT regulations, allowing her to use multiple cards at a time, and breaking up large purchases of food to avoid raising any flags in the EBT system.

Detectives continued investigating the woman and, at one point during their case, followed her in the middle of the night as she pulled her van into an alleyway, and sold off \$1,000 worth of frozen shrimp she had just purchased through EBT fraud. When detectives later arrested her, the woman had approximately twenty 50 pounds bags of rice in her van. “Her minivan was weighed down so much it was sitting 3 inches off the ground,” Det. Jakobsen says. Police also served a warrant on her home, where they seized \$3,000 in cash.

The woman and suspects associated with the Minh Tam Market are now facing fraud charges as a result of the operation. Officials from USDA and the Department Social and Health Services are also investigating the businesses involved in the EBT card schemes, and the businesses could lose their ability to accept EBT card payments.

Police are working to track down and arrest all of the suspects identified during Operation Rock and Hock. As of this afternoon, police had arrested 25 of the suspects.

“We’re going to go through 12th and Jackson and arrest all those dealers, get them off the street. Starting tomorrow we are then sending in ‘Clean Scapes’ to clean up graffiti and debris, and the Seattle Health department, City Licensing, King County Metro Police, SPD Traffic as well as area emphasis by the East Precinct Patrol, Bike, Foot Patrol, CPT and ACT teams. We’re going to take that area back for the community,” Det. Jakobsen says.

“This operation will be good for the International District community,” says East Precinct’s Captain Davis. “We’re not just doing enforcement in the neighborhood, we’re looking at the environment as well. The community is a big part of this.”

