

PUBLIC SAFETY LISTENING SESSION: Summary of Notes

April 13, 2016

THEMES

1. Short Term Deterrence: Police response temporarily shifts drug activity from one area to another; once they leave illicit activity continues.
2. Communication Breakdown: Community feels they are trying to communicate, but do not get a consistent response from Mayor, City, or Police.
3. Only on the Edges: Police presence concentrated on Penn & North, but does not venture into the neighborhoods.
4. Drug Trade Hurts Other Trade: Businesses cannot get drug dealers to stop using their stores as cover. Drug trade deters patronage
5. Core Systemic Issues: Education and Employment
6. Stymied police relationships: need for increased police presence perpetuates division between police and residents.

AREAS THAT REQUIRE CITY STRATEGY

- 1) Communication and Collaboration between community and police
- 2) Foot Patrol
- 3) Police check in and log in stations and locations
- 4) Lighting for public safety
- 5) Attracting desirable retail
- 6) Engaging young people around community safety efforts.
- 7) Police participation in community events (e.g. Community block parties)
- 8) Bus shelters & trash cans
- 9) Coordinate public safety with transit, schools, and demolition plans

SUGGESTED COMMUNITY INITIATIVES:

- 1) Reviving Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative and PAL (Police Athletic Leagues)
- 2) Youth works capacity
- 3) Community leaders should be encouraged to take part in ride-a-longs

- 4) Increase citizen patrol walks
- 5) Neighborhood watch – similar to DHCDC “Community Caretakers”
- 6) Programs that engage children and families around veneration
- 7) Trash initiative to discourage littering

IDENTIFIED LOCATIONS FOR INCREASED POLICE ASSISTANCE:

- 1) 2200 McCulloh and Gold: loitering and drug activity-youth hang out
- 2) Presstman and Stricker: drug activity
- 3) Cumberland: drug activity around vacant houses and alleys off Pennsylvania Ave
- 4) 1500 Blk Pennsylvania and Nelson: shootings
- 5) Laurens and Pennsylvania: drug activity involving store owners
- 6) Laurens from Stockton to Carey: Drug activity
- 7) Laurens and Freemont: Drug activity
- 8) N. Carey Street and Mosher: drug activity using storefront
- 9) North Ave between Penn and Mount: Many reported open air drug market
- 10) Fremont and Riggs: drug activity in and out of the nearby apartment units
- 11) Mount St
- 12) Gilmore Homes: violence and drug activity
- 13) The Avenue Market/Laurens: drug activity
- 14) Harlem and Fremont: businesses open late, loitering, criminal activity
- 15) 2400 Blk of Pennsylvania Ave: open air drug market
- 16) W. Lafayette & N. Carey and 900 Blk N. Carey St.
- 17) Fulton & North Ave: store open from 6am to 2am, drug activity.
- 18) Monroe & North Ave: two liquor stores open late, criminal activity
- 19) 1710 Ruxton Ave: absentee landlord, drug and criminal activity
- 20) 2529 Pennsylvania Ave: Criminal activity.
- 21) Pennsylvania and Dolphin: Drug Activity
- 22) Pennsylvania and McMechen: Drug activity