

Community Task Force Community Workshop #2

5:30-8:30 pm at Southlake School, 8601 Rainier Ave S.

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Hotspot: Rose Street

Facilitator:

- Raphael Mondesir

Feedback on SPD Panel Discussion

- overall many team members felt that the SPD officers used extreme examples when asked to characterize the typical crime climate in Rainier Beach-- they paint a very bleak picture centering on gang activity and organized crime (many bona fide RB members would not have recognized their own neighborhood in those descriptions!)
- one team member felt that there should have been some SPD officers of "ethnic stock" -- i.e. someone of Asian/vietnamese background, African-American or other
- the perception was that SPD officers tended to answer more than one question with the same or similar statistics or references... some answers felt "guarded"!

Review/discussion of January 2014 Supplemental Data

- property crimes are on the rise
- rates of robbery are falling
- there has been a huge increase in theft
 - the number of thefts doubled from 2012 to 2013
- disorders remain constant
- we might be missing data on assaults -- especially simple assaults
- there seems to be low/ not trust between community and police
 - maybe that's why some crimes remain underreported.
 - slow police response may discourage people to report crime (they have the impression that it's not taken seriously enough)
 - especially assaults -- due to fear of snitching and reprisals
- new data suggests that most crimes on Rose Street are committed by people 26 or older (73%) -
- does that mean that the focus on youth is misguided?
- in light of the new data, we retain the priorities we had already identified:
 - thefts
 - simple assaults

Questions on January 2014 Supplemental Data

- How can we get more data on "property stolen"?
- what is the difference between "property theft" and "property stolen"?
- can we have more information on disorders?
 - are there different types of disorders ?
 - and can they make a difference in the prevalence of crime?

Rainier Beach: A Beautiful Safe Place for Youth

brief overview of placed-based risk factors

- we did not complete this due to time limitations (*)
- many members remembered placed-based issues we have raised in prior discussions (a good sign!)

wrap up

- teams members expressed serious concerns about being able to do future workshops on weekdays (this is a reversal from prior opinions that a weekday would work better than Saturday -- it seems Saturday is still the best choice overall!)