

CITY OF MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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MPD LAUNCHES SHERMAN PARK POLICING PLAN

The Sherman Park Neighborhood is a diverse neighborhood with a rich history. It is not the most violent area of the city of Milwaukee, however, over the last several years incidents of violent crime, drug dealing and disorderly behavior (loud music, littering, public drinking and graffiti) have been on the rise.

District 7 police, under the command of Capt. Patrick Mitchell, will reduce crime, fear and disorder with the Sherman Park Policing Plan. Beginning immediately, the area of operation will include the area bordered by W. Center St. to W. Concordia Avenue, North 35th St. to N. 51st St.

The area consists of multi-family housing units such as duplexes and four-family apartments. A portion of the area consists of owner occupied single-family residences. Small businesses are located on the main arterials such as W. Center St. and W. Burleigh St. The area is home to St. Joseph's Hospital, which has been a stabilizing influence in the area and has been involved in various community projects. But the area also contains 25 nuisance properties, as well as gang and drug activity and weapons violations.

In 2007, the area of operation experienced six homicides, 13 non-fatal shootings 103 robberies, 219 vehicle thefts and 112 burglaries. If the situation in this neighborhood is not mitigated, it is expected that it will continue to deteriorate with the result being higher levels of crime, fear and disorder.

The Milwaukee Police Department's strategy is consistent citywide. Our partnerships with the community will be key in residents taking back their neighborhoods. In Sherman Park, there will be coordination among government agencies and community groups.

In the coming weeks, Sherman Park residents will see the following police actions:

- Intensive foot patrol;
- Targeting of specific individuals involved in criminal activity;
- Targeting specific locations where disorderly behavior occurs;
- Mitigation of nuisance properties;
- Monitoring of suspects on high risk probation/parole.

We know that police officers, working in conjunction with citizens and community groups can have a significant impact upon crime, fear and disorder.

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