



## Community Safe Zone Project

*“Drug Related Violence: Trafficking a New Plan”*

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# Culture of Violence

## Baltimore City

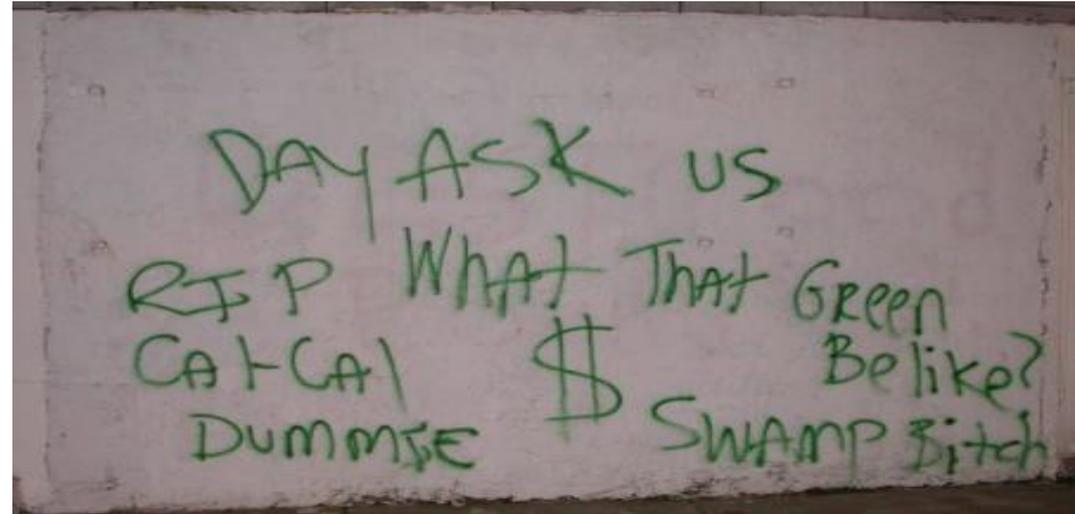
### *Understanding the Underlying Culture of Violence*

- Since 1970 there has been 9,580 homicides in Baltimore City.
- In the last 10 years alone there has been 2,846 homicides in the Baltimore City (**Averaging 285 murders per year**).
- Major misconception is that all of these homicides are a direct result of the drug trade.

*Many shootings and homicides are a pattern of escalation that often starts with a single small event.*

# Culture of Violence

**Culture of Violence is reinforced through graffiti and memorials.**



# Gang Memorials – 1500 Gilmor



# Culture of Violence - Gangs

**Gangs have become a powerful influence in neighborhoods**



# Culture of Violence - Gangs



**Edmondson Avenue Bloods**

# Culture of Violence - Gangs



**Homicide Victim 2002**

# Culture of Violence - Gangs



**Same Victim Memorialized in Neighborhood**



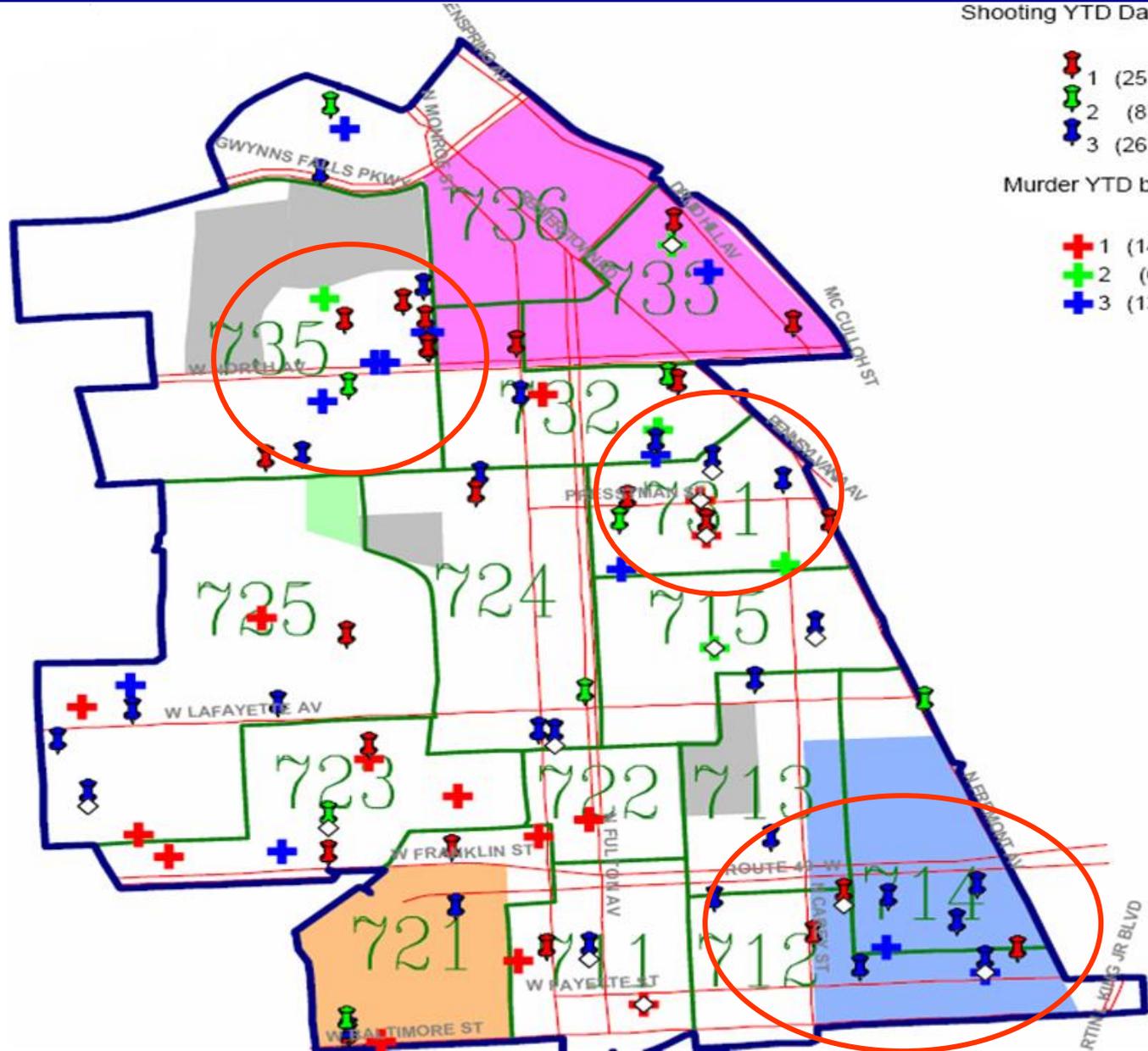
# Western District - Assessment

Shooting YTD Days

- 1 (25)
- 2 (8)
- 3 (26)

Murder YTD by S

- 1 (14)
- 2 (6)
- 3 (13)



- Historically, the majority of violence is concentrated in two police districts: Eastern and Western District.

- In the last 10 years alone there has been 458 homicides in the Western District (Averaging 46 murders per year).



# Western District - Assessment

- Western District is approximately 4 square miles comprised of single row type homes.





# Safe Zone Project - Implementation

## Community Safe Zone Project

- Was implemented in 2005 as a pilot program in the Western District
- The primary goal was to create an innovated strategy to stabilize neighborhoods experiencing patterns of violence and to change the culture of violence.



# Safe Zone Project – Implementation

## Safe Zone Project Elements

- Redirection of Non-Residential Traffic Patterns
- Coordination of Targeted City Resources
- Coordination and Deployment of Social Service Outreach Teams
- Organization Police Sponsored Community Events
- Implementation of Violence Intervention Program for “High Risk” Juveniles



# Re-Direction of Traffic Patterns

## Re-Direction of Traffic Patterns

- The Safe Zone Neighborhoods were selected based on significant patterns of violence.
- Non-residential traffic was redirected out of a 10 square block area through the use of traffic control devices for a continuous 4 week period.
- Uniformed Community Relations Officers were assigned within the zones and conducted door-to-door outreach with residents. *Approximately 3 officers were in the zone at all times.*
- Each Safe Zone Area was approximately 10 square blocks contained about 500 residential homes.



# Re-Direction of Traffic Patterns





# Re-Direction of Traffic Patterns





# Re-Direction of Traffic Patterns



**Officer Sloan walks door-to-door in Safe Zone Neighborhood.**



**Officer Kiah redirects non-residential traffic out of Safe Zone Neighborhood.**



# Coordination of City Resources

## Coordination of City Resources

Over the course of the 4 week deployment period City Resources were coordinated into the Safe Zone. This coordination of City resources focused efforts on improving the quality of life among residents through physical improvements. These physical improvements included:

- **Removal of all Trash and Debris from Streets and Alleyways**
- **Boarding and Securing of all Vacant Dwellings**
- **Removal of all Graffiti**
- **Repair of all Street Lighting**
- **Removal of all Gang Monikers from Trees and Poles**
- **General Repair of Streets and Alleyways**
- **Installation of Overt Police Camera Systems (PODSS)**



# Coordination of City Resources



**Before**



# Coordination of City Resources



**After**



# Coordination of City Resources



**Overt Police Camera System**



# Coordination of City Resources





# Coordination of City Resources

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

August	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	 Kick Off	Street Closure: 1400 to 2200 hours			1900 to 0300	
28	29	30	31	1 (September)	2	3
	Street Closure: 1400 to 2200 hours			 Youth Night	1900 to 0300	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Street Closure: 1400 to 2200 hours			1900 to 0300		
11	12	12	14	15	16	17
	Street Closure: 1400 to 2200 hours			 Health Fair		1900 to 0300



# Coordination of Social Outreach Teams

## Governmental

**Baltimore City Department of Social Services**

**Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office**

**Department of Parole and Probation**

**Baltimore/Washington HIDTA**

**Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods**

**Baltimore Police Department**

**Mayor's Office of Employment Development**

- **YOUTH OPPORTUNITY!**
- **Reentry Center**

**Commission on Aging and Retirement Education**

**Recreation and Parks**

**Housing Code Enforcement**

**Baltimore Fire Department**

**Housing Community Action Centers**

**Department of Transportation**

**Baltimore City Health Department**

- **Field Health**
- **Childhood Lead Poisoning**
- **Baltimore Healthcare Access**
- **Baltimore Mental Health Systems**

**Women, Infants, Children**

**Child Health and Immunization**

**Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems**

**SHARP Project**



# Coordination of Social Outreach Teams

## Private / Non Profit

**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

**Family League**

**On Our Shoulders**

**Kennedy Krieger**

**Family Health Centers**

**Narcotics Anonymous**

**United Healthcare**

**East Baltimore Medical Center**

**Caroline Center**

**Goodwill of the Chesapeake**

**Churches in Action**

**Shock Trauma: VIP**

**Chesapeake Center for Youth Development**

**Caroline Center**

**Learning Bank of COIL**

**S. Baltimore Learning Ctr**

**KAGRO MD**

**St. Bernadine's Head Start**

**Banner Neighborhoods**

**HARBEL, Inc.**

**Brooklyn/Curtis Bay Coal.**

**Belair Edison/Main Streets**

**Community Conferencing**

**NAFI**

**UM Cancer Program**



# Social Service Outreach

**Informational  
Booths within Safe  
Zone  
Neighborhood.**



# Social Service Outreach





## Informational Booth



# Social Service Outreach





# Police Sponsored Community Events

## Police Sponsored Community Events

- During the 4 Week Safe Zone Period the Police Department sponsored large community events: Youth Night, Resource Day, and Health Fair.
- These events allow residents to interact with police officers in a non-traditional setting and generally were used to promote trust.
- Social Services Partners also participated in these community events.



# Community Events



**Police Commissioner Leonard Hamm and Reverend Ray**

# Community Events





**Adalius Thomas of Baltimore Ravens**



**Derrick Mason of Baltimore Ravens**

# Community Events



13 3:49 PM

# Community Events



# Community Events



**A different type of memorial.**





# Violence Intervention Program

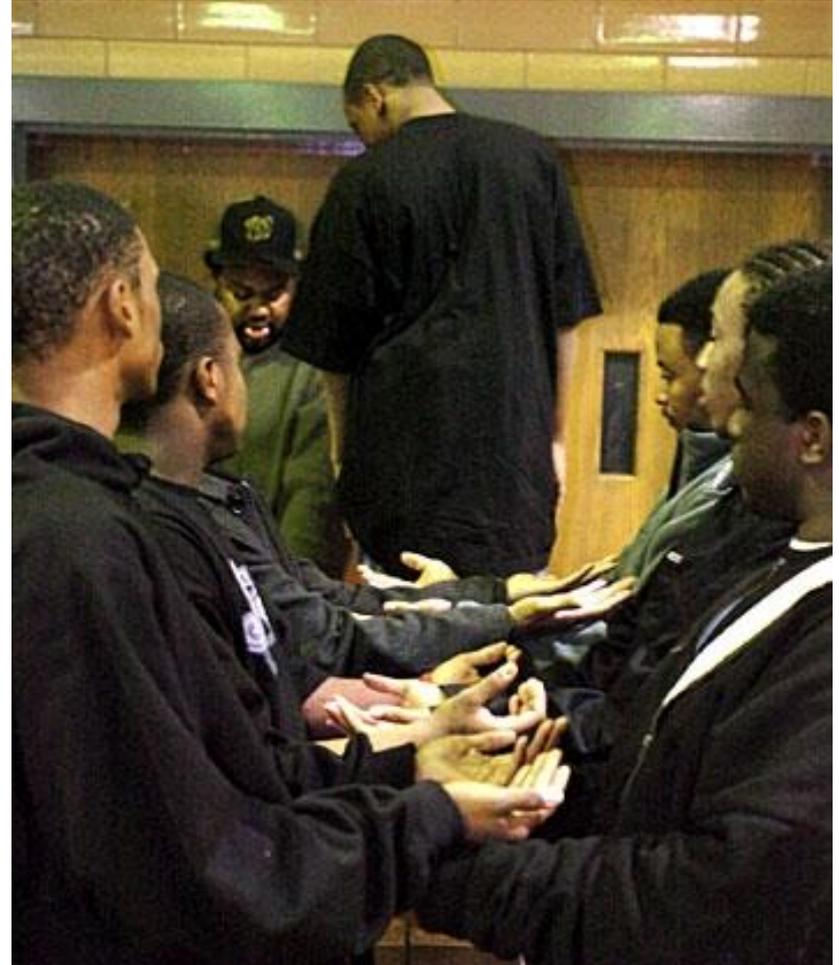
## Violence Intervention Program

- During the Second Phase of the Safe Zone Project a Violence Intervention Program was initiated with juveniles on probation for drug related crimes.



# Violence Intervention Program

- Juvenile Offenders from Safe Zone Neighborhoods are mandated to participate in a 7 week Intervention Program coordinated by the Baltimore Police Department.
- Juveniles are assigned a Police Officer Mentor.
- Over the 7 weeks juveniles attend a series of sessions that focus on conflict resolution and goal development.





# Violence Intervention Program

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
29 Jan	30 Opening 6 pm to 9pm	31	1 Feb	2	3	4
5	6 6 pm to 9pm NAFI	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 6 pm to 9pm Shock Trauma	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 6 pm to 9pm Police	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 6 pm to 9pm Bereavement	28	1 Mar	2	3	4



# Violence Intervention Program

## **Week 1**

Community Conferencing  
Part 1

## **Week 2**

NAFI  
Team Building Program

## **Week 3**

Shock Trauma  
Violence Intervention  
Program

## **Week 4**

Police Orientation  
Program

## **Week 5**

Bereavement Center  
Community  
Conferencing

## **Week 6**

“Boys of Baraka”  
Charles Theatre

## **Week 7**

Yo Baltimore  
Career Development  
Graduation



# Violence Intervention Program

## Program Partners

Baltimore Police Department  
Department of Juvenile Justice  
Shock Trauma Violence Intervention Program  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Mayor's Office of Employment – Yo Baltimore  
Family League  
Safe and Sound  
North America Family Institute  
Community Conferencing Center  
State's Attorney's Office



# Violence Intervention Program



**Formal Graduation**



# Assessment

## Analysis of Results

- During the 2005 Pilot Program, 5 Safe Zone Areas were implemented in the Western District. Deployment in each zone lasted 4 weeks.
- Analysis of violent crime demonstrates that after implementation, homicide and shooting incidents decreased by **86 %**. (*Comparing 6 months before and after implementation*).



# Assessment

<b>Safe Zone Location</b> <i>Approximately 10 Square Blocks</i>	<b>Violence Recorded 6 Months Prior to Implementation</b>	<b>Date of Implementation</b> <i>4 Week Project</i>	<b>Violence Recorded 6 Months <u>After</u> Implementation</b>
Druid Hill at Whitelock	1 Shooting	April 11	0 Shootings 0 Homicides
Calhoun-Baker- Stricker	5 Shootings 3 Homicides	May 12 (5 Weeks)	1 Homicide (inside)
Walbrook at Payson	5 Shootings 2 Homicides	July 5	1 Shooting 1 Homicide
Westwood at McKean	4 Shootings 3 Homicides	August 15	1 Homicide
Penrose at Payson	5 Shootings 1 Homicides	October 17	0 Shootings 0 Homicides
	<b>29 Total Victims</b>		<b>4 Total Victims</b>



## Other Results

- All the vacant dwellings were properly boarded.
- All the streets and alleyways were cleaned.
- All the street lighting was restored.
- All graffiti was removed.
- The number of “Crime Watchers” significantly increased.
- Three of the neighborhoods established “Citizens on Patrol” groups.
- Countless residents were referred to and enrolled in social service programs such as: Addiction Treatment, Child Immunizations, Job Training, Parental Counseling, Lead Paint Testing, Juvenile Mentoring, etc.
- All the neighborhoods established regular monthly community meetings.
- These meetings are held in partnership with the police department.
- All the juveniles enrolled in the Intervention Program returned to school and enrolled in the City’s Summer Job Program.



## Conclusion

*In 2006, The Community Safe Zone Project was implemented city-wide. We are currently on pace to implement Safe Zone Projects in 25 different neighborhoods by the end of the year.*

*Baltimore is currently experiencing a 6% reduction in violent crime for the 2006 calendar year.*