Manchester Police Department

**Chief of Police
David J. Mara**

Safe Neighborhoods Initiative

Presented to Mayor Frank C. Guinta

Safe Neighborhoods Initiative

Per the direction of Mayor Frank C. Guinta the Manchester Police Department has developed a plan to combat crime and improve the quality of life in identified high crime areas within the city of Manchester. The plan outlined below does not rely solely on enforcement but, encompasses a diverse set of crime fighting strategies. This plan includes an intense police presence with uniformed and plainclothes officers working together to take enforcement action against law offenders. However, the Manchester Police Department recognizes that crime cannot simply be arrested away. High intensity enforcement strategies have traditionally had a short term effect on reducing crime if used alone. Without a partnership between the Manchester Police Department and the community it serves any plan to reduce the crime rate will be ineffective. This plan also involves and relies upon the participation of the residents who are affected by crime.

The ultimate goal of this plan is to make the City of Manchester a safer community. The Manchester Police Department does not plan on accomplishing this goal alone. We are relying on collaborating with neighborhood residents, businesses, city departments, and other law enforcement agencies. One of the most important aspects of this plan involves police officers and residents getting to know each other, developing a trust, and creating a positive working relationship. If we all work together we will be successful in decreasing crime and improving the quality of life in the neighborhoods.

The strategies outlined below are listed under the Manchester Police Department Divisions which will be employing them. We consider this plan to be fluid in nature and will change as circumstances dictate.

Community Policing

- Develop community partnerships in identified problem areas through outreach.
- Coordinate efforts with Weed and Seed to schedule and advertise community meetings in order to inform area residents of efforts and gain their support.
- Work with area crime watch groups and encourage residents to join.
- Distribute questionnaires to attendees at meetings to elicit definitive information about crime problems in area.
- Promote Crimeline through distribution of literature.
- Encourage area residents and businesses to contact Community Policing Officers via their cell phones to report concerns and problems.
- Coordinate efforts with other city agencies such as the Manchester Housing Authority, Health, Building and Highway Departments.
- Intervene with juveniles at risk with programs such as PAL and MPD Explorers.
- Conduct door to door canvas of area to have individual interactions with residents in order to discuss their concerns.

- Identify owners of identified problem addresses and put them on notice of problems at their properties.
- Reach out to minority and immigrant residents in order to gain their trust and participation in all community initiatives.
- Coordinate efforts with Manchester Office of Youth Services Outreach Workers to reach out to youth in identified problem areas and utilize their Spanish speaking abilities.
- Assign Spanish speaking patrol officers to areas where their language skills will better utilized.
- Identify other languages spoken in different neighborhoods and procure interpreters in order to effectively communicate with all residents.

Patrol
- Reallocate patrol units and manpower from different shifts to create a 1900-0300 shift to specifically patrol identified problem areas.
- Incorporate walking and bicycle officers in identified problem areas.
- Increase presence in identified areas with marked patrols units.
- Encourage patrol officers to take meal break in identified problem areas to add to increased police presence.
- Enforcement of all state and local offenses.
- Continue checks of all local business by entering businesses and initiating dialogue with employees.

Special Enforcement
- Identify addresses and locations where drug activity is occurring.
- Utilize SWAT to arrest offenders at such locations when appropriate.
- Coordinate with federal and state law enforcement agencies to assist in drug and gang investigations.
- Seek funding and other resources from such agencies.
- Increase the number of officers in the Street Crime Unit (SCU).
- Utilize the SCU in identified problem areas in order to take advantage of the unit's undercover capabilities.
- Continue to utilize Crime Watch software to identify crime trends in area in order to focus resources more effectively.

Investigative
- Implement special patrols of two-person unmarked units tasked with executing arrest warrants on wanted persons in identified problem areas.
- Conduct knock and talk visits at identified problem addresses in such areas.

- Review pre-deployment intelligence bulletins prepared by the Manchester Police Department's National Guard Intelligence Officer.
- Review notes and minutes of agency Crimestat reports which detail information such as assembly locations for gangs, areas identified in complaints, police reports, special attention requests, drug-house information sheets, crime-related trouble spots, suspicious activity reports, as well as addresses and locations where criminal activity may be taking place.
- Consult with representatives of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department to inquire about active wanted lists of fugitives and wanted persons from other jurisdictions believed to be residing in identified problem areas.

Administrative
- Make crime mapping program available to the public on the Manchester Police Department website. This program will enable residents to look up what crimes are being committed in Manchester and in what locations in order to keep them better informed.
- Member(s) of the Manchester Police command staff shall attend all community meetings while the plan is in effect.
- The Manchester Police Department command staff shall monitor and evaluate the plan on a daily basis while it is in effect and modify it if, when or where required.