

MEMORANDUM

Beaverton Police Department



DATE: April 9, 2018

TO: Chief Monger

FROM: Captain Williams *JAW*

COPY: Christy Ray, Crime Analyst

SUBJECT: BPD Public Demand Calls Surrounding 9307 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway

SUMMARY

In March 2018, I was tasked to analyze crime data geospatially related to a business located at 9307 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway. There have been numerous reports to public safety agencies and information shared with the City of Beaverton Community Development Department regarding events which may or may not be associated with the business located at 9307 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway. Visual signs of social and physical disorder in public spaces reflect powerfully on our inferences about urban communities.¹ Without in-depth analysis of specific public demand requests for police services, I am unable to draw causal conclusions regarding the presence of the business located in question. The analysis is further complicated by a number of various criminological factors which are present in any attempt to understand criminal or public disorder behavior.

DEFINITIONS

“Disorder triggers attributions and predictions in the minds of insiders and outsiders alike. It changes the calculus of prospective home buyers, real estate agents, insurance agents, and investors and shapes the perceptions of residents who might be considering moving.”² Based on this context of disorder, examples of public demand calls which could be considered public disorder calls and are part of this analysis are:

- WCK: Welfare Check - Reported concern for a person based on hazardous environment, verification of health status (family member out of contact without explanation, medically fragile), unknown life status of person observed down (e.g.

¹ Sampson, R. J., & Raudenbush, S. W. (1999). Systematic Social Observation of Public Spaces: A New Look at Disorder in Urban Neighborhoods. *American Journal Of Sociology*, 105(3), 603.

² *ibid*

man down in field, female slumped over in parked car, etc.), person observed stumbling around

- SPP: Suspicious Person - A person acting strangely or unusually for their surroundings, is obviously not familiar with the area, acting furtively or sneaky (e.g. checking the doors of different buildings/businesses, checking the doors of parked vehicles, appearing to be hiding in shrubbery, naked, etc.)
- SPC: Suspicious Circumstance - A situation or condition that is “out of the ordinary” or something that doesn’t look right or normal (not usual) – e.g. an unlocked door that is usually locked, lights in a normally dark area, etc.
- SPV: Suspicious Vehicle - A vehicle that is not familiar in the neighborhood or is out of place – like a vehicle near a closed business, or a vehicle that shows obvious damage (broken windows, punched ignition, flat tires, etc.)
- UNW: Unwanted Person - Reports of a subject(s) failure to leave a premise when asked/told
- NOI: Noise Complaint - Used for nuisance type incidents, not crimes in progress or suspicious activity (e.g. loud parties, construction noise, etc.)
- DIS: Disturbance – General disturbance or fight
- THF: Theft – Self-Explanatory
- THV: Theft from Vehicle – Self-Explanatory
- BHI: Behavior Health Incident – Self-Explanatory
- VCD: Vice Drugs - Reports of drug activity, suspected drug houses, witnessed buying/selling drugs
- THS: Theft – Shoplifter- Self-Explanatory
- LTR: Littering – Littering or dumping
- PWL: Prowler - A person observed near a residence or commercial business acting suspiciously: actively looking in windows, climbing over a fence, moving stealthily around a building

This list is not all-inclusive, but should provide sufficient types of calls to understand the nature of activity in the area surrounding 9307 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway. In part, definitions of these calls are provided by the Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency (WCCCA).

FACTORS

Many factors contribute to both the presence of crimes and reporting of crime. Additionally, “correlation means that observable phenomena ‘tend to vary with each other

systematically,' as height and weight do. Positive correlations refer to variations in the same direction. Negative correlations refer to variations in the opposite direction. Correlations are necessary to causation because if two phenomena do not vary together, one phenomenon cannot cause the other. But correlation is not enough to prove causation. There has to be a theoretical rationale – a sensible explanation for the correlation. Even if both the elements of correlation and a theoretical rationale are present, cause in theories of crime and criminal behavior is still a statement of probabilities not certainties.”³

DATA

Data on public demand calls for service reflects calls within .5 miles and .25 miles from 9307 SW Beaverton-Hillsboro Highway. Additionally, calls throughout the BPD jurisdiction are provided for comparison purposes. This data reflects reports made to BPD, not necessarily events which resulted in confirmed criminal investigations. For example, a report of a theft may not have included the elements required to establish the crime of theft – and thus a subsequent criminal investigation.

Welfare Checks	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	12	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	23	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>2057</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	15	25.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	30	30.43%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	2308	12.20%

Suspicious Person	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	6	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	12	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>1086</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	6	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	18	50.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	1274	17.31%

Suspicious Vehicle	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	18	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	11	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>621</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	1	-94.44%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	13	18.18%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	822	32.37%

³ Myers, Myers & Samaha. (2010). CJUS. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. 29-30.

Unwanted Person	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	6	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	12	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>877</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	9	50.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	16	33.33%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	971	10.72%

Noise Complaint	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	2	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	9	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>640</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	7	250.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	10	11.11%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	630	-1.56%

Disturbance	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	4	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	8	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>434</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	5	25.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	12	50.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	451	3.92%

Theft	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	5	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	8	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>782</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	11	120.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	20	150.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	897	14.71%

Theft from Vehicle	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	1	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	8	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>394</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	5	400.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	15	87.50%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	388	-1.52%

Behavior Health	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	0	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	1	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>56</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	0	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	3	200.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	218	289.29%

Vice - Drugs	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	0	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	1	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>121</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	0	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	1	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	122	0.83%

Theft - Shoplifter	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	0	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	1	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>107</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	0	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	6	500.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	85	-20.56%

Littering	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	1	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	1	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>49</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	1	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	3	200.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	48	-2.04%

Prowler	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	0	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	0	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>27</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	0	0.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	1	100.00%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	35	29.63%

Suspicious Circumstances	Count	Difference Between Last Year to This Year
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .25 Radius	7	
5/15/16 to 3/15/17 .5 Radius	19	
<u>5/15/16 to 3/15/17 All City</u>	<u>964</u>	
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .25 Radius	10	42.86%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 .5 Radius	33	73.68%
5/15/17 to 3/15/18 All City	1103	14.42%

CONCLUSION

The above data generally reflects increases in reportable activity from last year to this year from the address in question. Additionally, rates of reportable activity are generally greater in the analyzed radius than rates experienced throughout the entire jurisdiction of the Beaverton Police Department. It should be noted that in some cases above, the sample size of reported calls is very small and may contribute to significantly high percentage changes.

As stated earlier, this data supports a possible explanation, but more analysis surrounding other factors present within the .25 and .5 radius of the address in question would need to be explored for a more accurate understanding of this data. Some of the other factors to be considered include, but are not limited to, the willingness of the public to report public disorder and the public's respective perceptions of the same public disorder. Additionally, this analysis did not include data from the jurisdiction of the Washington County Sheriff's Office which is in close proximity to the address in question.

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