

SEATTLE CHINATOWN-
INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT
PUBLIC SAFETY
SURVEY REPORT

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Authors

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Introduction

The Chinatown International District is located south of downtown Seattle. In 1910, young Chinese immigrants flocked to the area that is the modern day Chinatown-International District for economic opportunities and sanctuary from their native countries. As their population grew, Chinese immigrants formed Chinatown, which is located alongside King Street. Japanese immigrants followed suit and formed a Japantown located near Main Street. In the wake of World War II, the bustling Japantown received a major setback. As with much of the West Coast, Japanese Americans were sent to internment camps. Thereafter, Filipino Immigrants and African-Americans began to reside in the international district.

In the 1970s, the International District faced economic strains as projects such as the I-5 highway construction led to the collapse of several businesses. In 1973, the city government of Seattle passed an ordinance, which declared the International District of Seattle's "eight historic districts." In the 1980s, Little Saigon, located near 12th avenue and South Jackson Street was created.¹

In today's Chinatown-International District public safety issues are forefront in the community's concerns. In July of 2015, Donnie Chin, a major public safety advocate and icon in the Chinatown-International District, was murdered. In the wake of Chin's death, in December 2015, Mayor Murray assembled a taskforce to spearhead both public safety and habitability issues in the neighborhood. The taskforce's mission is to enhance policing practices and economic improvement. In addition to crime data, health and housing data will be sought for public policy purposes. Over 75% of the residents within the District are people of color, over half of residents speak a language other than English in their homes, and 60% of residents are Asian. The mayor's taskforce is comprised of 19 members from the community and businesses circles, in addition to city employees. As with the international district, the panel is racially diverse. The panel seeks to address underlying issues within the International District.²

The survey, whose results are presented in this report, represent a grassroots effort by community based organizations in the Chinatown-International District to gather information on community members' current public safety concerns. The following report contains detailed findings regarding the Chinatown International District Public Safety Survey, which will be presented to the taskforce so that the voices of those who live, work and visit the Chinatown-International District are represented.

Chinatown-International District Community Survey

Survey Data Description & Analysis Plan

The data analyzed was gathered from a survey administered by SCIDpda in partnerships with InterIm CDA. The survey was administered online, through Survey Monkey, and in paper form to people in the Chinatown-International District. The survey consisted of 47 questions that included basic demographic data, community public safety, firearm storage and usage, police-community relations, CBO and partners evaluation, and follow-up questions. In total, there were 334 respondents to the data analyzed here. Eleven respondents was omitted due to the fact that they left the majority of the survey incomplete, leaving 323 respondents in the analysis.

Univariate analysis was conducted on variables, such as age, gender and English proficiency, using pie charts to provide frequencies of the responses within each variable. Univariate analysis was also done on respondents affiliation with

¹ Office of the Mayor. (2015, December 15). Murray convenes Chinatown/International District task force. Retrieved March 14, 2016, from <http://murray.seattle.gov/murray-convenes-chinatowninternational-district-task-force/#sthash.eiKlm3pT.dpbs>

² Beekman, D. (2015, December 25). Seattle panel focuses on crime, economic development in Chinatown ID. Retrieved March 17, 2016, from <http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/seattle-mayor-launches-task-force-on-chinatown-ids-safety-concerns/>

Chinatown-International District (CID), their length of affiliation with CID, mode of transportation used, perceived levels of safety, sorry about specific crimes occurring, being witness to certain crimes, feelings that CID is a safe place to live, and level of anxiety and stress due to feeling that it is unsafe to go outside. Along with bar charts, cross-tabulations were run for survey items that used a Likert scale for responses.

There was an interest to see how different variables influenced levels of safety. The scale measuring the level of general safety was created by using the question of perceived safety based on location. The respondents were offered a 5-point Likert scale question for each location, including Japantown, Chinatown, Little Saigon, I-5 Underpass, and Danny-Woo Garden. These five locations were combined to form a sliding scale from 0 to 25, with 0 feeling never safe and 25 feeling always safe. Once the scale was developed, a bivariate analysis with general safety against various points of interest were ran. Some variables that feelings of general safety were run against were mode of transportation, ownership of a firearm, age, gender, primary language, and community affiliation. Bivariate analysis used to compare variables such as mode of transportation with witness of a crime and ownership of a firearm with police effectiveness, as well as how long respondents were affiliated with CID and their perceived safety in Chinatown, Little Saigon, Japantown, and Danny Woo Garden/Kobe Terrace Park.

Finally, the follow up questions of the survey were used to better understand the specific concerns of respondents. There was no analysis done on the open-ended responses. These responses were aggregated into broad topics of concern and reported thematically.

Survey Results

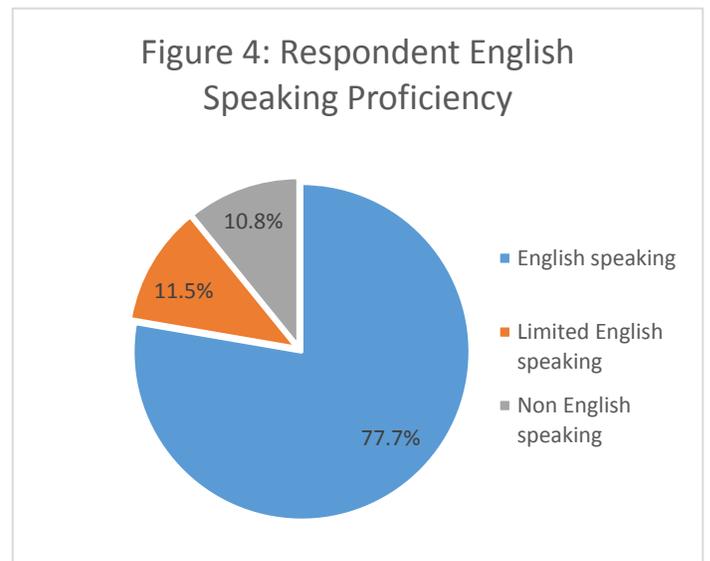
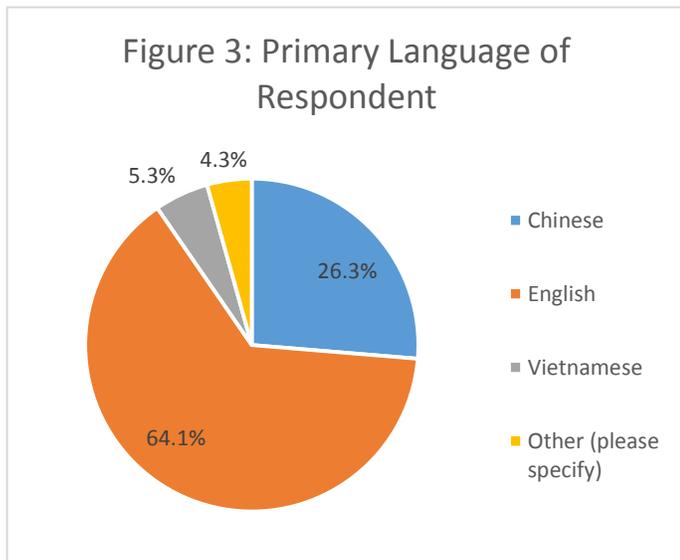
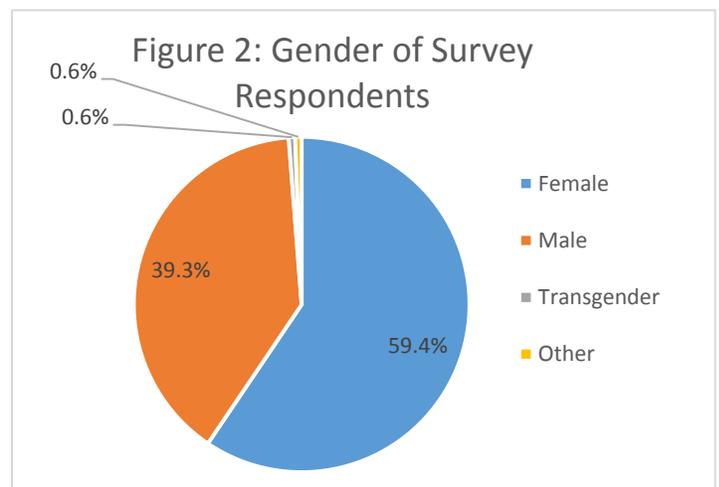
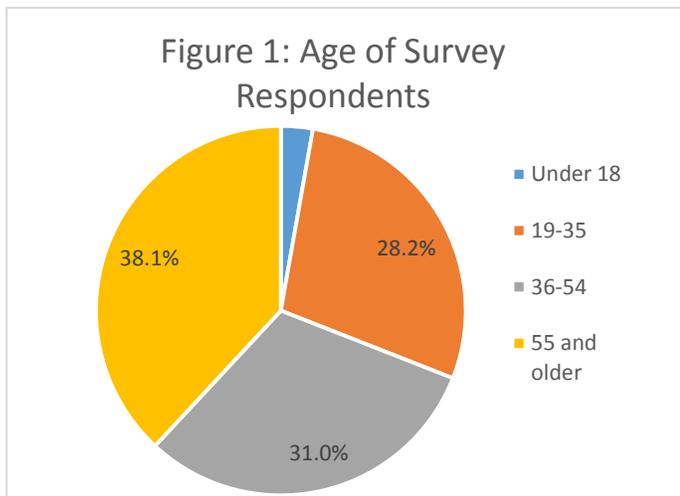


Figure 5. Primary Mode of Transportation in CID

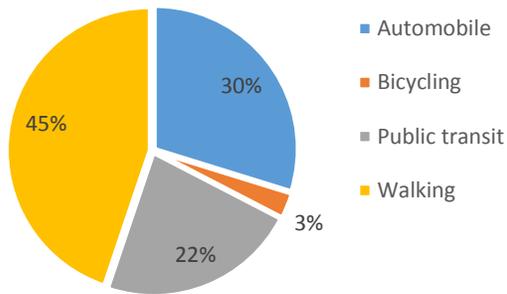
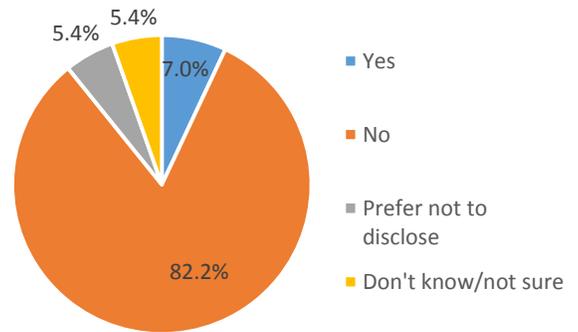


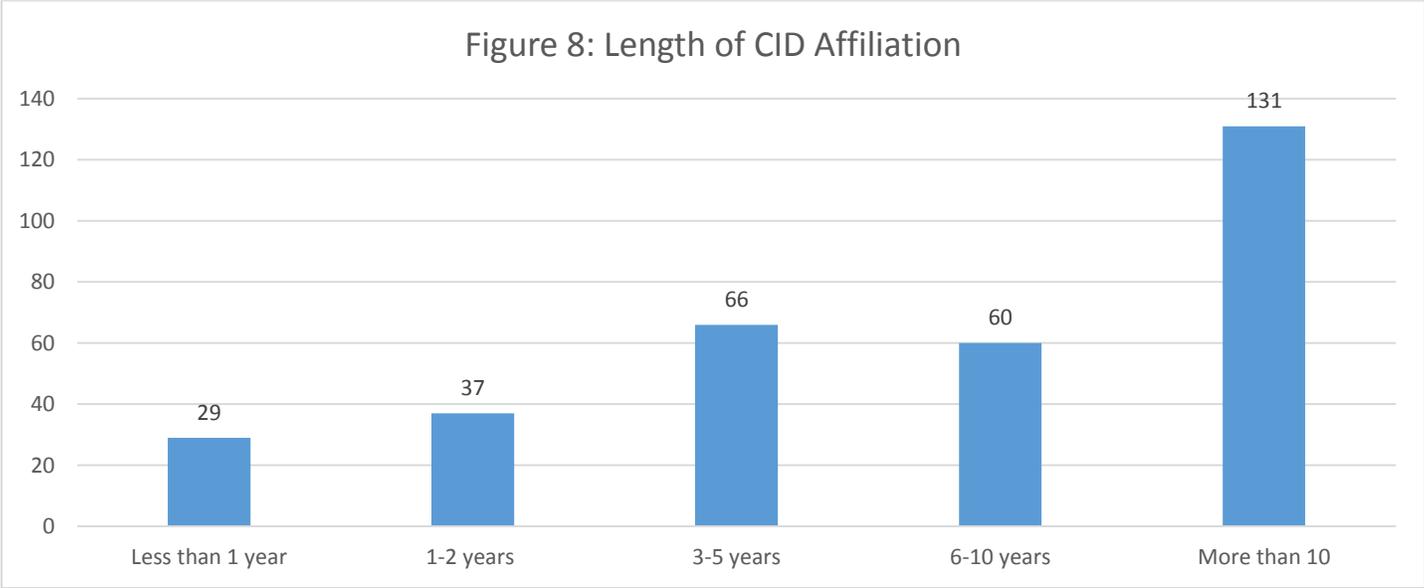
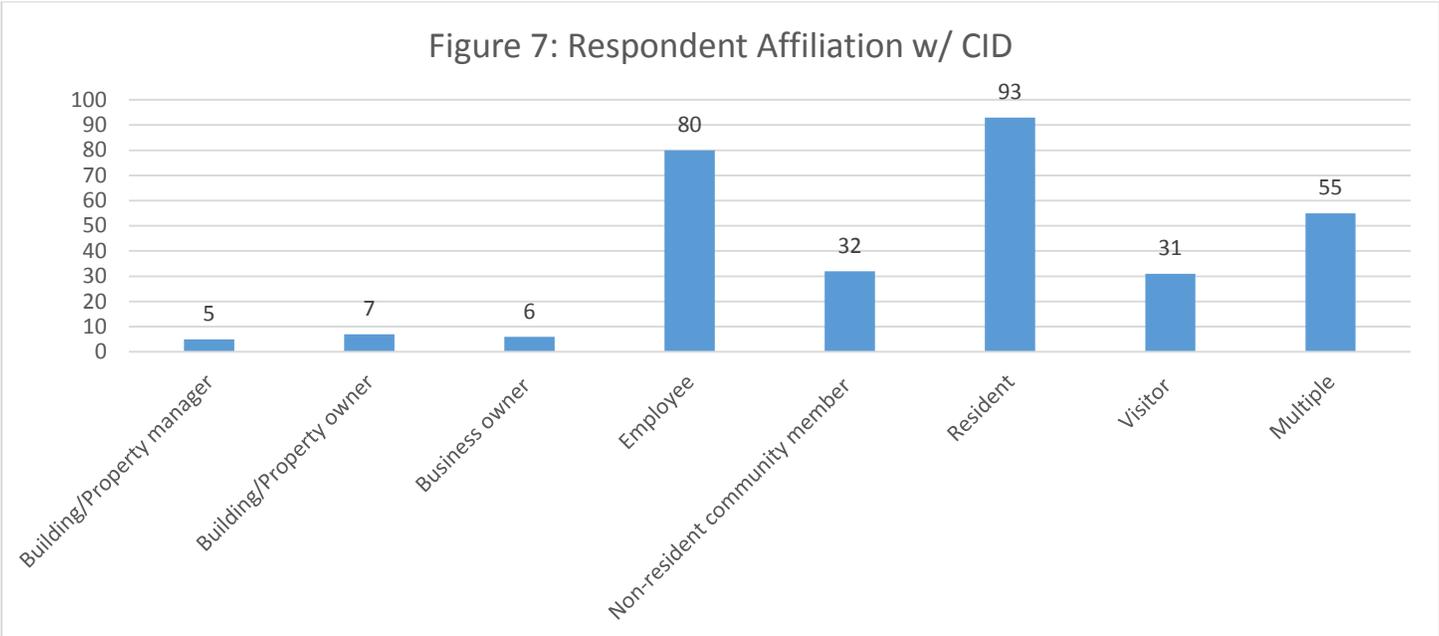
Figure 6. Firearm Possession in Home or Other Property



Demographics

Figure 1 through Figure 5 present basic demographic information about the survey respondents. In Figure 1, we see that the majority of the respondents in the Chinatown-International District were 55 or older (38.1%), 31.0% were between 36 and 54, 28.2% were between 19 and 35, and less than 3% were under 18. Nearly 60% of respondents identified as female, slightly more than 39% male, and less than a percent each identified as transgender or other (Figure 2). The primary language of almost two-thirds of the respondents was English, while 77.7% were proficient in speaking English (Figures 3 & 4). More than one-quarter identified Chinese as their primary language, followed by Vietnamese (5.3%) and finally 4.3% identified their primary language as one not listed in the survey. More than 22% stated that they did not speak English or were limited in their English speaking skills. When asked what their primary mode of transportation within the CID was, 45% state that they walked, 30% drove, 22% used public transportation, and 3% utilized bicycles (Figure 5).

In addition to traditional demographic questions, other questions about the respondents were asked about their behaviors and connections to the CID (Figures 6-8). Figure 6 identifies which respondents possessed or stored a firearm on their property, with 7% responding the affirmative and more than 80% stating no. Figure 7 shows in what way the respondent is connected to the neighborhood. Most respondents (n=93) are residents of the Chinatown-International District, with the next largest category comprising of employees (n=80). Fifty-five of the survey respondents identified as having multiple connections to the CID, followed by non-resident community members (n=32) and visitors (n=31). Eighteen respondents had commercial interests in the neighborhood, comprising of building and property managers, building and property owners, and business owners. In Figure 8, we see how long each respond has been affiliated with the CID, the majority of which having a connection to the neighborhood of more than 10 years.



Witnessing & Reporting of Criminal Behavior

Next, we report on respondents’ experiences with witnessing and reporting criminal behavior (Tables 1-3). In Table 1, we are presented with the results of a series of questions that asked the respondents how often they witnessed specific types of behaviors. The types of behaviors that largest percent of respondents identified as always seeing time included trespassing (23.8%), public intoxication (20.3%), and graffiti (20.0%). Although not serious crimes, these behaviors can contribute to a general sense of disorganization in the neighborhood and impact the community’s perceptions of safety. On the other side of the scale, respondents most often indicated that they never witnessed gun violence (53.3%), vehicle theft (47.0%), or robbery (44.8%). It is important to note, however, that these are serious criminal offenses, two of which are violent in nature, and still approximately 50% of respondents stated that they had witnessed these criminal acts in the CID neighborhood.

Table 1. How often respondents witnessed certain behaviors in the last year.

How often have you witnessed...		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always	Total
Dangerous behavior	N	29	49	112	92	33	315
	%	9.2	15.6	35.6	29.2	10.5	100
Panhandling	N	30	57	115	72	41	315
	%	9.5	18.1	36.5	22.9	13.0	100
Drug dealing	N	52	63	102	53	45	315
	%	16.5	20.0	32.4	16.8	14.3	100
Robbery	N	141	88	53	23	10	315
	%	44.8	27.9	16.8	7.3	3.2	100
Trespassing	N	29	45	80	86	75	315
	%	9.2	14.3	25.4	27.3	23.8	100
Public urination	N	42	43	97	78	55	315
	%	13.3	13.7	30.8	24.8	17.5	100
Gun violence	N	168	72	56	11	8	315
	%	53.3	22.9	17.8	3.5	2.5	100
Drug use	N	56	60	84	71	44	315
	%	17.8	19.0	26.7	22.5	14.0	100
Public intoxication	N	22	37	107	85	64	315
	%	7.0	11.7	34.0	27.0	20.3	100
Car prowls	N	86	64	85	49	31	315
	%	27.3	20.3	27.0	15.6	9.8	100
Burglary	N	130	74	70	30	11	315
	%	41.3	23.5	22.2	9.5	3.5	100
Vehicle theft	N	148	62	64	30	11	315
	%	47.0	19.7	20.3	9.5	3.5	100
Prostitution	N	122	80	66	24	23	315
	%	38.7	25.4	21.0	7.6	7.3	100
Graffiti	N	57	56	72	67	63	315
	%	18.1	17.8	22.9	21.3	20.0	100
Illegal dumping	N	76	52	70	60	57	315
	%	24.1	16.5	22.2	19.0	18.1	100
Shoplifting	N	137	86	60	20	12	315
	%	43.5	27.3	19.0	6.3	3.8	100

In Table 2, we are presented with the reporting behaviors of the survey respondents. For non-violent crimes, 41.3% of the respondents stated that they had witnessed a non-violent criminal act of some kind and 72.9% of those who witnessed the non-violent crime did not report it. Of that number, 40.4% stated that they did not report because they did not believe there would be any follow through by the police, 35.1% did not believe the criminal act they witnessed rose to the level of needing to contact 911, and 31.9% believed that the police couldn't do anything. It is important to note that for this question, respondents could select multiple reasons for why they did not report a crime they witnessed. Thirteen point five percent of respondents witnessed a violent crime and nearly 60% of those individuals did not report it. Although no expected follow through by police and a belief that the police couldn't do anything were once again in the top three reasons for not reporting, the top reason for non-reporting violent crime was a belief that someone else called 911. Table 3 disaggregates reporting behaviors by language and demonstrates that levels of both witnessing and reporting were similar for the two major language groups, Chinese and English.

Table 2. Crime Witness & Reporting Behaviors

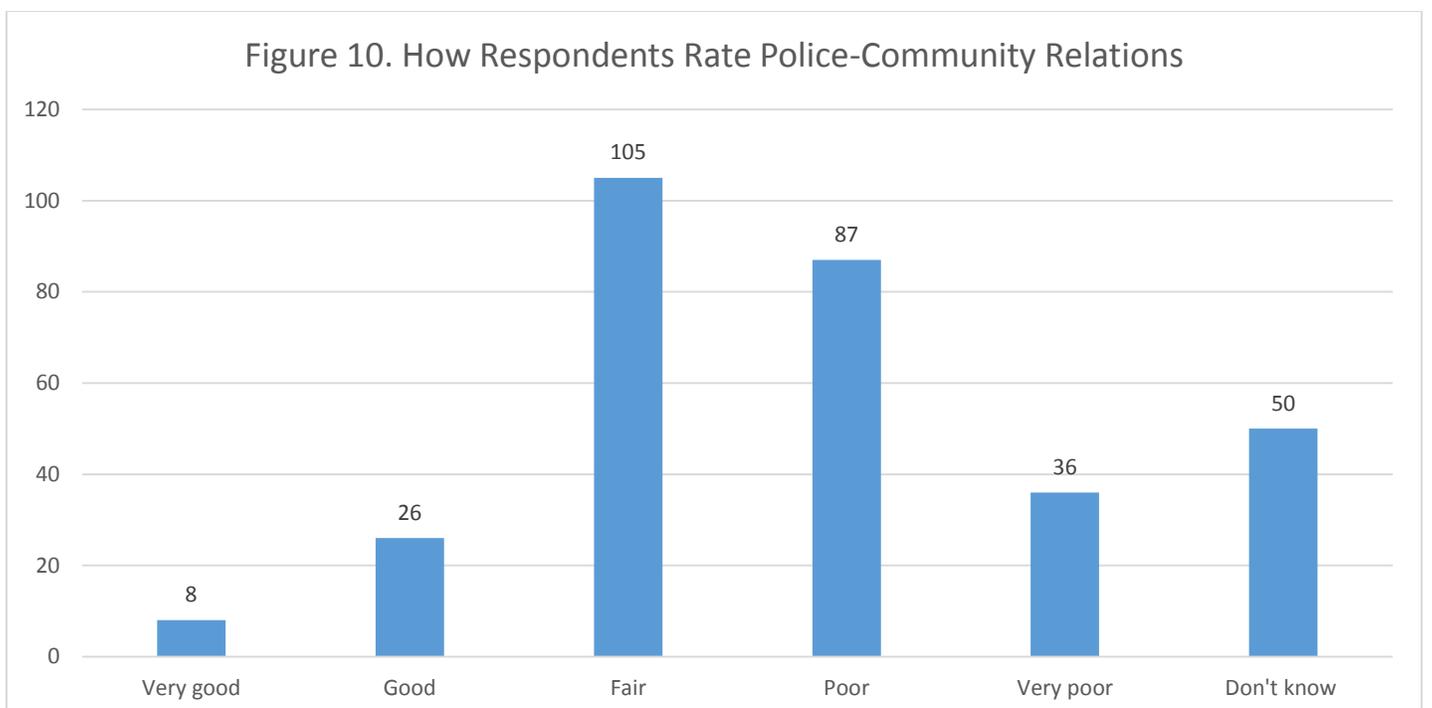
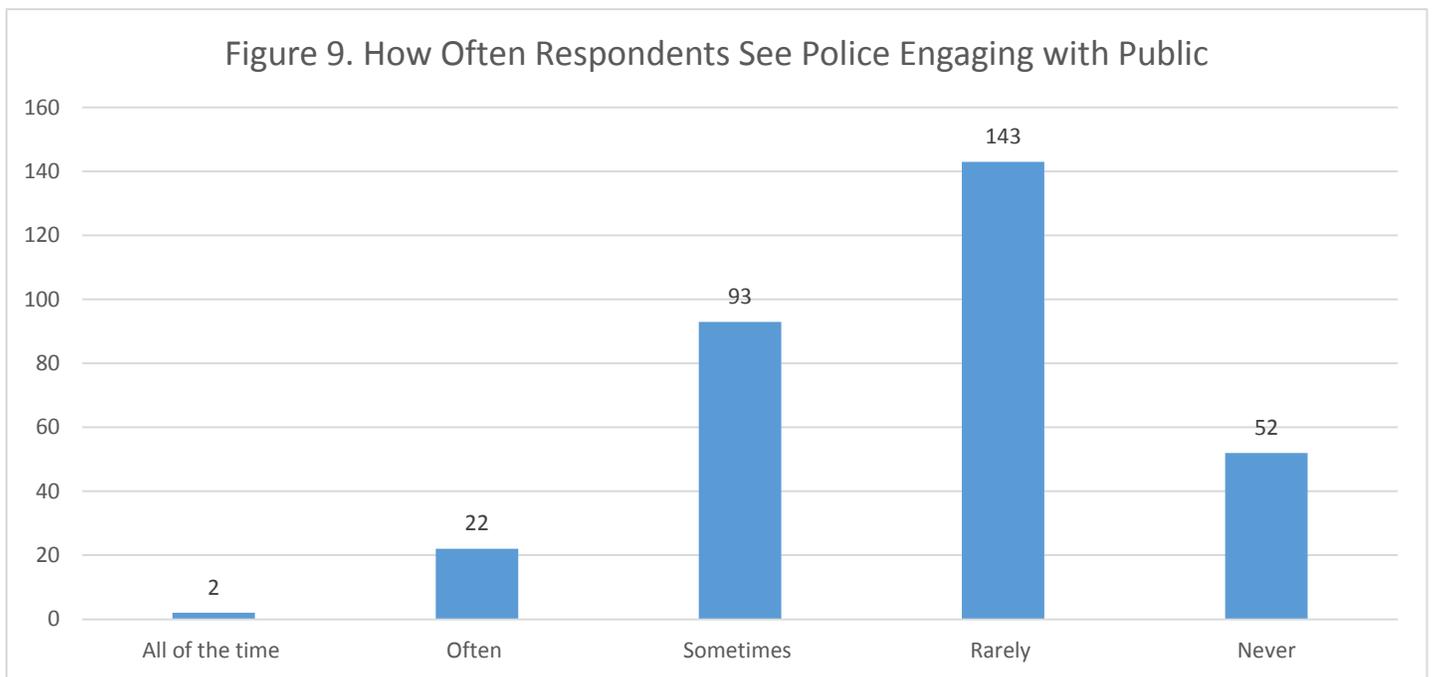
	Non-Violent Crime		Violent Crime	
	N	%	N	%
Witnessed	129	41.3	42	13.5
Not Reported (Who Witnessed)	94	72.9	25	59.5
Why Not Reported				
No Follow Through By Police	38	40.4	8	32.0
Too Busy	14	14.9	2	8.0
911 Not Take Serious	10	10.6	3	12.0
Didn't Want Involved	14	14.9	3	12.0
Concerned for Own Safety	17	18.1	3	12.0
Not an Emergency	33	35.1	1	4.0
Someone Else Called	16	17.0	10	40.0
Don't Trust Police	11	11.7	1	4.0
Police Couldn't Do Anything	30	31.9	5	20.0
Police Don't Speak Language	3	3.2	2	8.0

Table 3. Crime Witness & Reporting Behaviors by Language

		Chinese		English		Vietnamese		Other	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Witnessed	Non-Violent	34	40.0	85	41.1	6	35.3	4	28.6
	Violent	13	15.3	23	11.1	2	11.8	4	28.6
Not Reported	Non-Violent	25	73.5	65	76.5	1	16.7	3	75.0
	Violent	8	61.5	13	56.5	1	50.0	3	75.0
Police Wouldn't Follow Up	Non-Violent	1	4.0	34	52.3	1	100.0	2	66.7
	Violent	2	25.0	5	38.5	0	0.0	1	33.3
Too Busy	Non-Violent	3	12.0	11	16.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Violent	0	0.0	2	15.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
911 Wouldn't Take Serious	Non-Violent	2	8.0	7	10.8	0	0.0	1	33.3
	Violent	1	12.5	1	7.7	0	0.0	1	33.3
Didn't Want Involved	Non-Violent	3	12.0	10	15.4	1	100.0	0	0.0
	Violent	1	12.5	2	15.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
Concerned for Safety	Non-Violent	6	24.0	9	13.8	0	0.0	2	66.7
	Violent	1	12.5	2	15.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not an Emergency	Non-Violent	3	12.0	28	43.1	1	100.0	1	33.3
	Violent	0	0.0	1	7.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Someone Else Called	Non-Violent	6	24.0	9	13.8	1	100.0	0	0.0
	Violent	4	50.0	3	23.1	1	100.0	2	66.7
Don't Trust Police	Non-Violent	1	4.0	8	12.3	0	0.0	2	66.7
	Violent	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3
Police Couldn't Do Anything	Non-Violent	2	8.0	27	41.5	0	0.0	1	33.3
	Violent	0	0.0	5	38.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
Police Don't Speak Language	Non-Violent	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Violent	1	12.5	1	7.7	0	0.0	0	0.0

Police-Community Relations

Figures 9 and 10 present data on respondent perceptions of police-community relationships. For Figure 9, which visualizes the question as to how often respondents see police engaging with the public, most respondents (n=143) selected that they rarely see police engage with the public with 52 respondents selecting never. One-hundred and fifteen respondents stated they sometimes or often saw police engaging with the public in the CID, with only two stating they saw this type of police-community interaction occurring all of the time. When asked how they would rate police-community relations, most stated fair (n=105), followed by poor (n=87), don't know (n=50), very poor (n=36), good (n=26), and very good (n=8).



Perceptions of Safety

The community survey also asked questions related to public safety and the respondents' perceptions of safety in the CID. Table 3 presents the distribution of how safe respondents feel across different areas in the CID, including the three main neighborhoods (Chinatown, Japantown, Little Saigon) and two specific locations, the areas under the I-5 and the Danny Woo Community Garden and Kobe Terrace Park. Based on these results, respondents feel less safe, comparably, when within the I-5 underpass and garden and park areas and safer in Chinatown and Japantown. In order to gain a better understanding how these perceptions of safety for the community in its entirety vary based on demographics and other survey questions, a perceptions of safety scale was created. This scale, which ranges from 0-25 and the distribution of which is presented in Figure 11, aggregated all of the responses for how safe respondents felt in the different areas within the CID. For example, if a respondent stated that they always felt safe in each of the five areas in the CID, they received a score of 25, but if they responded that they never felt safe for all five areas, than they received a 0 on their perceived level of safety scale score.

Table 3. Perceived Level of Safety by Location

		Never Safe	Often Unsafe	Somewhat Unsafe	Somewhat Safe	Often Safe	Always Safe	Total
Chinatown	N	31	33	71	91	60	36	322
	%	9.6	10.2	22.0	28.3	18.6	11.2	100.0
Japantown	N	22	35	55	96	78	36	322
	%	6.8	10.9	17.1	29.8	24.2	11.2	100.0
Little Saigon	N	34	43	85	80	45	35	322
	%	10.6	13.4	26.4	24.8	14.0	10.9	100.0
I-5 Underpass	N	74	84	62	44	20	38	322
	%	23.0	26.1	19.3	13.7	6.2	11.8	100.0
Garden & Park	N	55	71	73	61	33	29	322
	%	17.1	22.0	22.7	18.9	10.2	9.0	100.0

Figure 11: Perceptions of Safety Scale

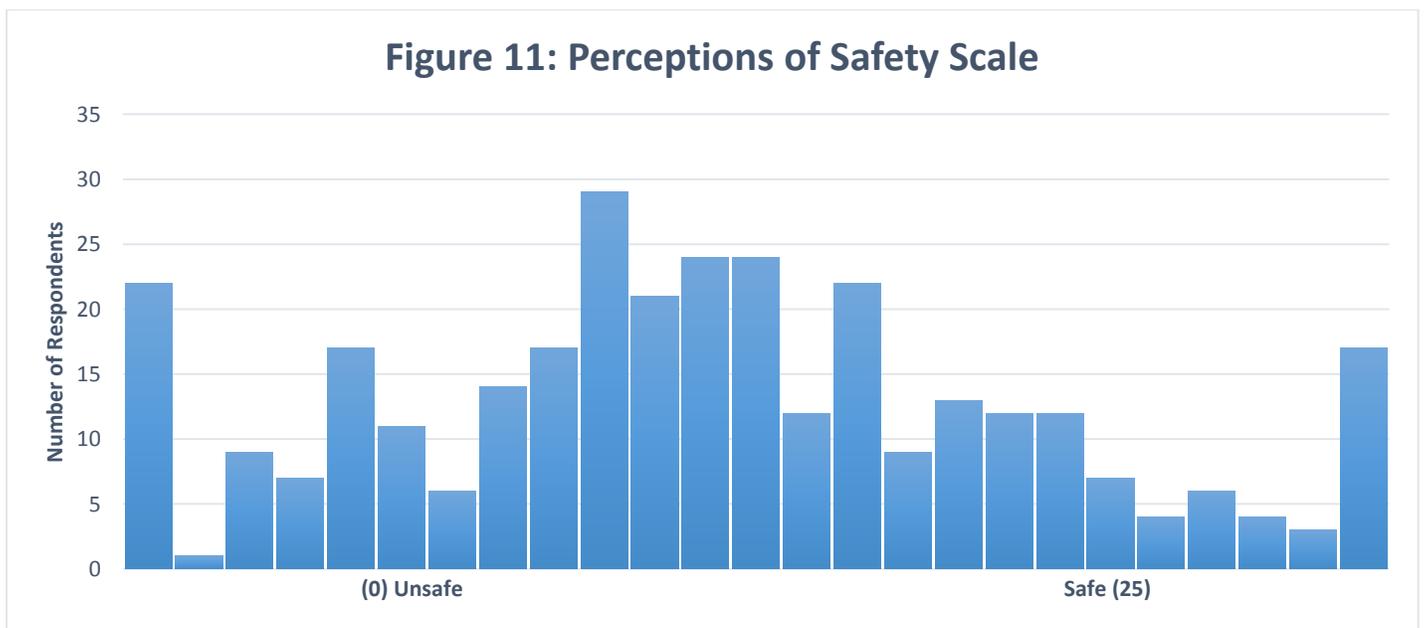


Figure 12. Perceptions of Safety by Age

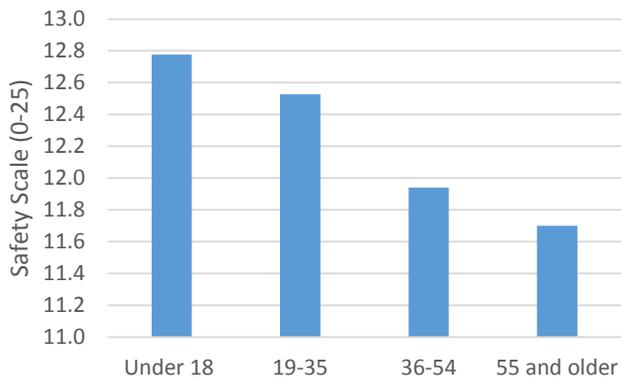


Figure 13. Perceptions of Safety by Gender

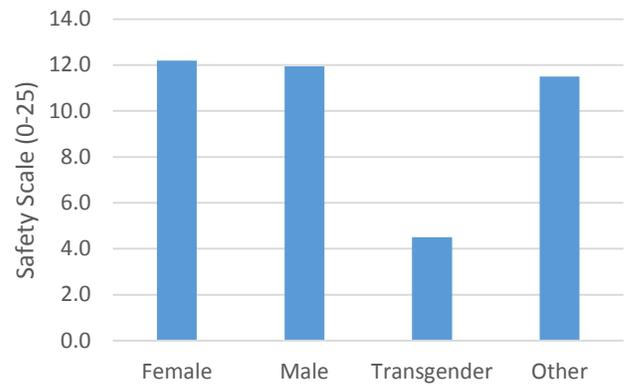


Figure 14. Perceptions of Safety by CID Affiliation

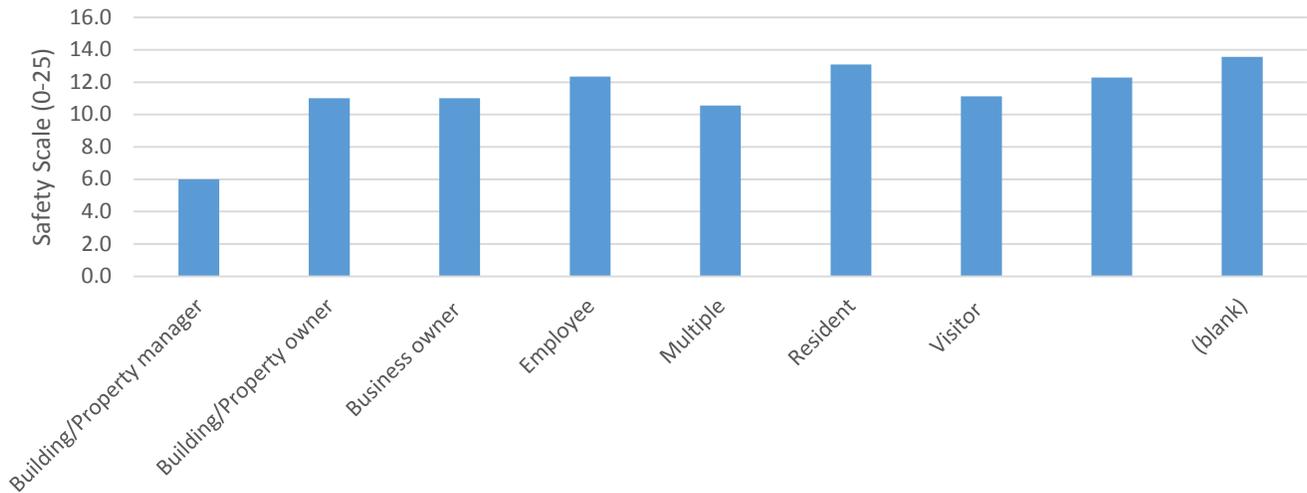


Figure 15. Perceptions of Safety by Primary Language

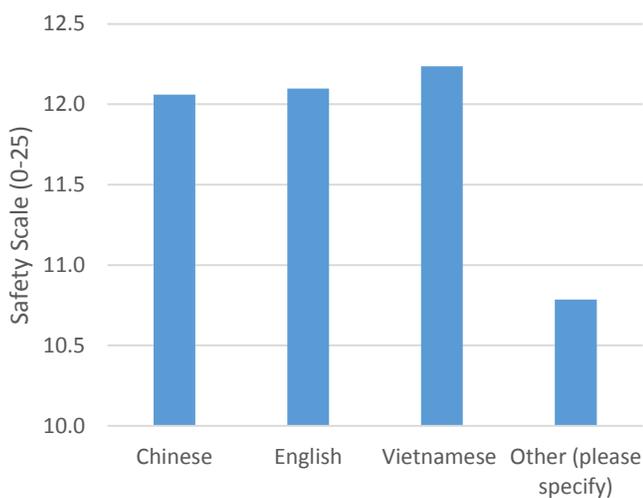
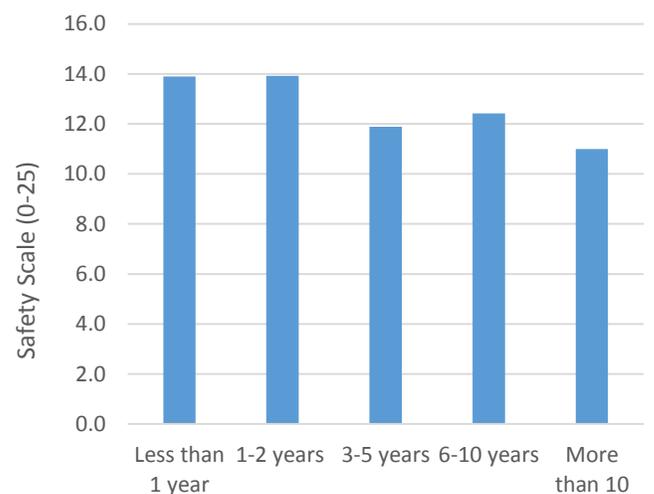
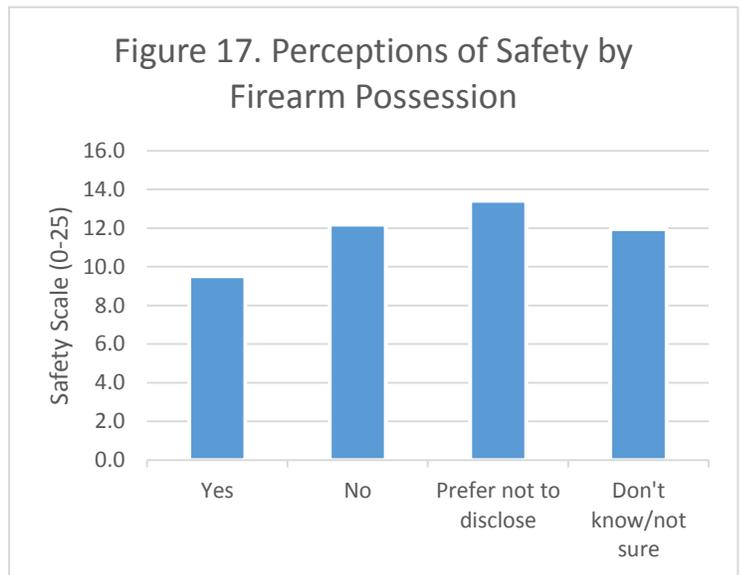


Figure 16. Perceptions of Safety by Length of CID Affiliation



Utilizing the perceptions of safety scale, Figures 12 through 17 look at differences in respondents' average scores across varying demographics. For example, Figure 12, which looks at perceptions of safety across age groups, demonstrates that the younger the respondent, the more likely they will feel safer in the community. Across gender, males and females perceive the neighborhood to be much safer than transgender respondents. When disaggregating perceptions of safety based on respondents' affiliation with the CID (Figure 14), resident felt safest while building and property managers felt least safe. Although the differences were not great, English and Vietnamese residents felt safest when compared to residents whose primary language was Chinese. However, for the minority of residents whose primary language was one other than the three already mentioned, on average they felt much less safe. Interestingly, residents appear to feel less safe in the CID the longer they are affiliated with the neighborhood, however this measure most likely also has a relationship with the age of the respondent. Finally, respondents who identified as possessing a firearm on their property felt less safe than respondents who stated they did not possess a firearm.



Related to perceptions of public safety, respondents were also asked how often they worry about being victims of specific types of crime. Table 4 shows that individuals who took the survey were most worried about motor vehicle theft as more than 46% stated that they always worried or almost always worried about that type of victimization. More than a third of respondents were worried about sexual assault always or almost always, a number that grew to more than half if often worry was included. Comparatively, respondents were least worried about someone damaging or stealing their property at home or at work or being the victim of physical assault.

Table 4. How Often Respondent Worries About Crime Victimization

		Never Worry	Rarely Worry	Sometimes Worry	Often Worry	Almost Always Worry	Always Worry	Total
Damaging or stealing items from home or workplace	N	73	45	38	61	51	54	322
	%	22.7	14.0	11.8	18.9	15.8	16.8	100.0
Motor vehicle theft of car prowls	N	54	32	37	47	80	72	322
	%	16.8	9.9	11.5	14.6	24.8	22.4	100.0
Stealing from you in a public place	N	54	50	51	69	48	50	322
	%	16.8	15.5	15.8	21.4	14.9	15.5	100.0
Sexual assault	N	41	34	55	75	57	60	322
	%	12.7	10.6	17.1	23.3	17.7	18.6	100.0
Physical assault	N	72	50	60	57	42	41	322
	%	22.4	15.5	18.6	17.7	13.0	12.7	100.0

Tables 5 and 6 look at the relationship between the demographic questions and their level of agreement with the question "The police do a good job of keeping the Chinatown-International District safe." For age, we see that the older the respondents the more likely they were to agree and somewhat agree with that statement. Specifically, 28% of individuals who were 55 or older agreed or somewhat agreed with that statement, compared to only 20.2% respondents 36 to 54, and 14.9% of respondents 19 to 35. For gender, males were also more likely to agree or somewhat agree with the statement (22.7%) when compared to females (19.2%), although the differences do not appear to be substantial. The low sample size for respondents who identify as transgender or other make it difficult to provide meaningful comparisons. For differences based on primary language, Vietnamese respondents more often agreed or somewhat

agreed with the statement (42.9%), when compared to respondents who primarily spoke Chinese (31.7%) or English (14.5%). Respondents

Table 5. Agreement with Police Keep CID Safe Statement by Demographics

			Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree	Total
Age	18 and under	N	0	0	3	4	1	8
		%	0.0	0.0	37.5	50.0	12.5	100.0
	19-35	N	2	9	12	24	29	74
		%	2.7	12.2	16.2	32.4	39.2	100.0
	36-54	N	5	11	17	24	27	79
		%	6.3	13.9	21.5	30.4	34.2	100.0
	55 and older	N	9	19	23	30	28	100
		%	9.0	19.0	23.0	30.0	28.0	100.0
	Total	N	16	39	55	82	85	261
		%	6.1	14.9	21.1	31.4	32.6	100.0
Gender	Female	N	5	24	31	44	52	151
		%	3.3	15.9	20.5	29.1	34.4	100.0
	Male	N	11	13	24	37	32	106
		%	10.4	12.3	22.6	34.9	30.2	100.0
	Transgender	N	0	1	0	1	0	2
		%	0.0	50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	100.0
	Other	N	0	1	0	0	1	2
		%	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	100.0
	Total	N	16	39	55	82	85	261
		%	6.1	14.9	21.1	31.4	32.6	100.0
Language	Chinese	N	7	13	21	18	11	63
		%	11.1	20.6	33.3	28.6	17.5	100.0
	English	N	6	19	31	54	69	173
		%	3.5	11.0	17.9	31.2	39.9	100.0
	Vietnamese	N	2	4	1	7	2	14
		%	14.3	28.6	7.1	50.0	14.3	100.0
	Other	N	1	3	2	3	3	11
		%	9.1	27.3	18.2	27.3	27.3	100.0
	Total	N	16	39	55	82	85	261
		%	6.1	14.9	21.1	31.4	32.6	100.0
Affiliation	Building/Property/Business Manager/Owner	N	0	2	2	6	6	16
		%	0.0	12.5	12.5	37.5	37.5	100.0
	Employee	N	1	9	12	22	20	63
		%	1.6	14.3	19.0	34.9	31.7	100.0
	Non-Resident Community Member	N	0	4	3	8	13	28
		%	0.0	14.3	10.7	28.6	46.4	100.0
	Resident	N	14	17	22	16	11	66
		%	21.2	25.8	33.3	24.2	16.7	100.0
	Visitor	N	0	2	6	10	8	26
		%	0.0	7.7	23.1	38.5	30.8	100.0
	Multiple Affiliations	N	0	4	9	14	23	50
		%	0.0	8.0	18.0	28.0	46.0	100.0
	Total	N	15	38	54	76	81	249

		%	6.0	15.3	21.7	30.5	32.5	100.0
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Table 6. Agreement with Police Keep CID Safe Statement by Firearm Possession

Firearm Possession		Agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Disagree	Don't know	Total
Yes	N	0	4	3	7	7	1	22
	%	0.0	18.2	13.6	31.8	31.8	4.5	100.0
No	N	16	33	41	67	72	29	258
	%	6.2	12.8	15.9	26.0	27.9	11.2	100.0
Prefer not to disclose	N	0	1	4	5	5	2	17
	%	0.0	5.9	23.5	29.4	29.4	11.8	100.0
Don't know/ not sure	N	0	1	7	3	1	3	15
	%	0.0	6.7	46.7	20.0	6.7	20.0	100.0
Total	N	16	39	55	82	85	35	312
	%	5.1	12.5	17.6	26.3	27.2	11.2	100.0

that were residents of the CID were also more likely to agree or somewhat agree with the statement, than those with another type of affiliation with the community. In fact, non-resident members disagreed or somewhat disagreed with the statement 75% of the time, a level of disagreement comparable to visitors, those with multiple affiliations, and building/property/business managers or owners. Finally, in Table 6, we are presented with respondent agreement to the same statement on police keeping the CID safe based on whether or not they possessed a firearm. Individuals who acknowledged possessing a firearm were more likely to disagree or somewhat disagree with the statement, which they did 63.6% of the time, compared to 53.9% of the time for individuals who did not possess a firearm.

Table 7 reports respondents' level of agreement with the statement "The Chinatown-International District is a safe place to live and/or work in." For age, respondents who were 55 or older agreed or somewhat agreed with the statement 33% of the time, those between 36 and 54 agreed or somewhat agreed with the statement 29.6% of the time, and individuals who were between the ages of 19 and 35 agreed with the statement 45% of the time. Fifty percent of the respondents who were 18 or younger somewhat agreed with the statement, however this was a small portion of the overall number of respondents. Females were more likely to agree with the statement than males and English speaking respondents were more likely to agree with the statement than Chinese and Vietnamese speaking respondents. Finally, based on the respondents' affiliation to the CID, residents more often agreed or somewhat agreed that the neighborhood is a safe place to live and/or work (42.9%), 38.4% of employees agreed or somewhat agreed with the statement, 34.4% of non-resident community members, 29.1% of respondents who have multiple affiliations with the neighborhood, 27.6% of visitors, and 22.3% of individuals who were managers or owners of buildings, properties, or owners.

The final relationship presented between demographic characteristics and a statement in the survey is to what extent respondents believe that the following statement is true based on their experience: "I feel anxiety or stress because I feel unsafe going outside in the Chinatown-International District." Individuals between the ages 36 to 54 more often felt that the statement was very true or true when compared to the other groups. Comparably, respondents 35 or younger most often believed that the statement was only somewhat true or not true. Males were also more likely to identify the statement as true, when compared to females, transgender and other. For the primary language of the respondent, we find that respondents whose primary language was Vietnamese least often believed that the statement was not truth, compared to English speakers and those of other languages who most often believed that the statement was not true. Finally, when examining the relationship between respondents' affiliation to the CID and the statement, we find that individuals who were building/property/business managers or owners most often felt that the statement was very true or true, while employees were least likely to believe that the statement was very true or true.

Table 7. Agreement with CID is Safe Place to Live/Work Statement by Demographics

			Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree	Total
Age	18 and under	N	0	4	3	1	0	8
		%	0.0	50.0	37.5	12.5	0.0	100.0
	19-35	N	12	28	13	27	9	89
		%	13.5	31.5	14.6	30.3	10.1	100.0
	36-54	N	13	16	13	30	26	98
		%	13.3	16.3	13.3	30.6	26.5	100.0
	55 and older	N	12	28	13	41	27	121
		%	9.9	23.1	10.7	33.9	22.3	100.0
	Total	N	37	76	42	99	62	316
		%	11.7	24.1	13.3	31.3	19.6	100.0
Gender	Female	N	23	50	25	57	32	187
		%	12.3	26.7	13.4	30.5	17.1	100.0
	Male	N	13	26	17	40	29	125
		%	10.4	20.8	13.6	32.0	23.2	100.0
	Transgender	N	1	0	0	1	0	2
		%	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	100.0
	Other	N	0	0	0	1	1	2
		%	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0
	Total	N	37	76	42	99	62	316
		%	11.7	24.1	13.3	31.3	19.6	100.0
Language	Chinese	N	7	12	12	27	24	82
		%	8.5	14.6	14.6	32.9	29.3	100.0
	English	N	26	58	26	63	30	203
		%	12.8	28.6	12.8	31.0	14.8	100.0
	Vietnamese	N	2	2	3	6	4	17
		%	11.8	11.8	17.6	35.3	23.5	100.0
	Other	N	2	4	1	3	4	14
		%	14.3	28.6	7.1	21.4	28.6	100.0
	Total	N	37	76	42	99	62	316
		%	11.7	24.1	13.3	31.3	19.6	100.0
Affiliation	Building/Property/Business Manager/Owner	N	1	3	3	8	3	18
		%	5.6	16.7	16.7	44.4	16.7	100.0
	Employee	N	10	20	15	23	10	78
		%	12.8	25.6	19.2	29.5	12.8	100.0
	Non-Resident Community Member	N	0	11	1	16	4	32
		%	0.0	34.4	3.1	50.0	12.5	100.0
	Resident	N	17	22	11	16	25	91
		%	18.7	24.2	12.1	17.6	27.5	100.0
	Visitor	N	2	6	5	12	4	29
		%	6.9	20.7	17.2	41.4	13.8	100.0
	Multiple Affiliations	N	6	10	7	19	13	55
		%	10.9	18.2	12.7	34.5	23.6	100.0
	Total	N	36	72	42	94	59	303
		%	11.9	23.8	13.9	31.0	19.5	100.0

Table 8. Truth of Statement on Anxiety & Stress because CID is Unsafe by Demographics

			Very True	True	Somewhat True	No True	Total
Age	18 and under	N	0	0	4	4	8
		%	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0
	19-35	N	6	11	41	32	90
		%	6.7	12.2	45.6	35.6	100.0
	36-54	N	10	16	50	23	99
		%	10.1	16.2	50.5	23.2	100.0
	55 and older	N	10	18	60	35	123
		%	8.1	14.6	48.8	28.5	100.0
	Total	N	26	45	155	94	320
		%	8.1	14.1	48.4	29.4	100.0
Gender	Female	N	11	29	88	62	190
		%	5.8	15.3	46.3	32.6	100.0
	Male	N	15	16	64	31	126
		%	11.9	12.7	50.8	24.6	100.0
	Transgender	N	0	0	1	1	2
		%	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0
	Other	N	0	0	2	0	2
		%	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
	Total	N	26	45	155	94	320
		%	8.1	14.1	48.4	29.4	100.0
Language	Chinese	N	12	14	44	14	84
		%	14.3	16.7	52.4	16.7	100.0
	English	N	11	25	96	73	205
		%	5.4	12.2	46.8	35.6	100.0
	Vietnamese	N	2	3	10	2	17
		%	11.8	17.6	58.8	11.8	100.0
	Other	N	1	3	5	5	14
		%	7.1	21.4	35.7	35.7	100.0
	Total	N	26	45	155	94	320
		%	8.1	14.1	48.4	29.4	100.0
Affiliation	Building/Property/Business Manager/Owner	N	3	4	6	5	18
		%	16.7	22.2	33.3	27.8	100.0
	Employee	N	3	8	41	26	78
		%	3.8	10.3	52.6	33.3	100.0
	Non-Resident Community Member	N	3	2	16	11	32
		%	9.4	6.3	50.0	34.4	100.0
	Resident	N	8	17	45	23	93
		%	8.6	18.3	48.4	24.7	100.0
	Visitor	N	2	3	15	10	30
		%	6.7	10.0	50.0	33.3	100.0
	Multiple Affiliations	N	5	10	27	13	55
		%	9.1	18.2	49.1	23.6	100.0
	Total	N	24	44	150	88	306
		%	7.8	14.4	49.0	28.8	100.0

Survey Summary, Discussion & Conclusion

This report was formed to summarize the findings of the Seattle Chinatown-International District Public Safety survey that conducted by SCIDpda and InterIM IDA. Specific to public safety, the results of the survey identify areas of concern for the community. The I-5 underpass is perceived to be a public safety concern and has the lowest perceived level of safety out of the five locations examined. Twenty-three percent of respondents said they are never safe at the I-5 underpass. Related, more than half of the respondents somewhat disagreed or disagreed that Chinatown-International District is a safe place to live and/or work in. 70.9% of respondents found it to be between “somewhat true” and “very true” that they felt anxiety and stress because they felt unsafe going outside. Their perceived level of safety, or lack thereof, does appear to be a persistent source of stress community members, which can limit them from being physically and socially active in their community and affect their health and wellbeing.

The Chinatown-International District Public Safety Survey contained several free response sections allowing respondents to clarify the reasoning behind an answer they gave and express any thoughts/concerns they had. Condensing the responses, we found a common trend. Several respondents stated that they had a strong concern for vehicle break-ins during the day but that they feel the least safe at night. Respondents believed the police are persistently ignoring commonly occurring traffic violations such as speeding or running stop signs. In addition, respondents also believe there needs to be an increased presence and visibility of officers. Other concerns included the fact that community members feel there is a significant lack of sanitation services provided in the neighborhood. Respondents believe that this, compounded with the increasing homeless population, decreases the perception of safety in the community. Overall, respondents believe that less people are coming to conduct legitimate business in the Chinatown-International District because of these public safety concerns.

The data also demonstrates that respondents witnessed more non-violent crimes than violent crimes, which one would expect based on levels of criminal activity around Seattle. When asked if respondents were a witness or victim to a violent crime, 42 or 13.5% of individuals answered yes. Of those 42 individuals, only 17 reported the violent crime to which they were a witness or victim. When asked if respondents were a witness or victim of a non-violent crime, 41.3% reported that they had. Of that 41.3% who witnessed or was the victim of a non-violent crime, less than 30% reported. To follow up, respondents were asked why they did not report a crime to which they were a witness or victim. Respondents were given 10 possible reasons they could check for why they did not report crime and asked to check all that apply. The most frequently selected reason was a lack of confidence in the police. In addition, respondents were presented with an “other” option. After reading the specified “other” reasons, we found that most fit into two additional categories that could be summarized as the police take too long to respond and difficulties with contacting police.

Relatedly, the disparity between crimes witnessed and crimes reported is reflected in survey questions created to measure community and police relations. Respondents were asked to rate community-police relations on a Likert scale. Close to 75% of respondents rated community-police relations as being very poor, poor, or fair. The remaining 25% rated community-police relations as being good, very good, or not knowing. Further, 45.8% of respondents who answered the question “How often do you see police officers engaged in the public?” chose rarely. In light of this, community-police relations might be enhanced if there was a larger police presence. In theory, witnesses and victims of crimes might report more offenses if community-police relations were improved and confidence was increased, a measure that could be tracked in future surveys based on these questions. The Chinatown-International District is a vibrant neighborhood with a rich cultural heritage and a deep sense of community. Current public safety issues such as concerns with ones’ personal safety can only be addressed through continued outreach and relationship building through law enforcement, community based organizations, and those living, working and visiting the neighborhood.