

# **MAYOR'S CHINATOWN/INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT PUBLIC SAFETY ACTION PLAN**

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**CITY OF SEATTLE**

**July 2016**

## Introduction by Mayor Edward B. Murray



First, I would like to thank the dozens of community members who over the last six months developed the “Chinatown-International District Public Safety Task Force Report.” They’ve collectively spent hundreds of hours wrangling with intractable social issues such as the heroin epidemic and homelessness while developing a vision of a Chinatown/International District (C/ID) that is vibrant, welcoming and thriving. I am committing myself and my administration to moving forward on that vision.

The concerns expressed by C/ID residents, business owners, and community organizations are the same concerns I hear from people throughout the city. In many ways, the issues are more acute and problematic in the C/ID, necessitating new ways of how the City engages and invests in the neighborhood. Some of the proposals described in the report will be unique to the C/ID. However, many are programs or initiatives that are already in place or being developed for citywide application, and the C/ID will be among the first areas for these programs to be implemented. I am prioritizing the C/ID because, like many of our neighborhoods, it is one that is in flux. However, in just as many ways, there is no other neighborhood in Seattle quite like the C/ID.

Since the 1860s, it has served as the first haven in a new land for immigrants from China, Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Early on, immigrants were laborers working in fisheries and saw mills. Soon, many became entrepreneurs opening restaurants, general stores, and other businesses. The C/ID contains buildings that are some of the oldest in Seattle and have been home to solitary immigrants and generations of families. It has also been a place where African-Americans, Jewish-Americans, Native Americans, and people of all colors were allowed to live and thrive when covenants and redlining prevented people of color from living or owning businesses in many parts of Seattle. This led to vibrant times such as the Jazz era of the 1920s and 1940s when there were 23 jazz clubs on S. Jackson St. The mixing of these spirited cultures are deep in the fabric of the community to this day.

No other neighborhood in Seattle has been as deeply affected or changed by the failure of our federal, state, and city governments to protect residents against racist nativist movements or massive redevelopments. In 1886, white mobs forcibly expelled most of the city’s Chinese population. They were forced out of their homes and marched to a steamer ship. It took over 20 years for the Chinese population to return to its 1885 level.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> “Seattle Neighborhoods: Chinatown-International District -- Thumbnail History” found at [http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&file\\_id=1058](http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&file_id=1058)



These were not the last residents of the C/ID that would be expelled from their homes. In 1942, Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 which forcibly relocated all Japanese Americans living on the West Coast to inland internment camps. Seven thousand Japanese Seattle residents disappeared overnight; the rest of Seattle stood silent.<sup>2</sup>

Twice more the foundations of the C/ID would be uprooted and community concerns ignored by government agencies. First, when Interstate 5 was constructed, creating a literal divide in the neighborhood. And again, when the Kingdome was built on the edges of the International District despite community concerns about displacement of Filipino residents and the lack of decent housing and social services.<sup>3</sup>

I raise the specter of these dark times as the past ever informs the present. It speaks to the distrust many in the community have towards government. And it speaks to the cynicism that many also have about yet another task force and another mayoral commitment for "change."

My words alone will not rebuild that trust or reduce that cynicism. It is only through delivering on the commitments detailed in this report can that trust be rebuilt.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward B. Murray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Mayor Edward B. Murray

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Santos, Bob "The Gang of Four: Four Leaders, Four Communities, One Friendship", Chin Music Press, 2015, p. 59.

## I. Improve Communication and Coordination between the C/ID and the City

A common theme in the recommendations from the Chinatown International District Public Safety task force can be summarized as insufficient communication and unclear points of contacts with various departments of the city. The additional staff, reorganized City structure and City support for a steering committee, as summarized below, reflect Mayoral and Department Directors' commitment to addressing these concerns and improving all levels of communication and services to this community.

**Task Force Recommendation A:** *Establish a high level Mayoral position responsible for coordinating City C/ID efforts and partnering with C/ID community.*

### Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:

The C/ID community has expressed frustration with the City's historic level of attention and staffing support. This feeling is pervasive despite the fact that the City currently has three positions that have the C/ID or Asian Pacific Islander (API) community as significant parts of their professional portfolio: the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) has an assigned Neighborhood District Coordinator while Seattle Police Department (SPD) has two positions; a Community Policy Team (CPT) officer and an Asian Pacific Islander (API) Liaison.

- To address community needs more effectively, DON has been reevaluating its approach to connecting with and providing services to communities. DON will first pilot their new approach in 2016 in the C/ID.
- In addition, SPD is committed to having staff assigned to the C/ID and API community to serve as true allies and resources to address public safety concerns. As such, SPD will work to reconfigure the mission and deployment of CPT Officers in the C/ID as well as the SPD API Community Liaison.
- Before the end of 2016, SPD will allocate existing funding to hire one civilian Community Engagement and Outreach Specialist (CEOS) for a 12-month pilot. The CEOS will be tasked with ensuring that multiple aspects of this Action Plan are implemented, they will lead development of new programs to address public safety and will serve as a Co-Chair of the C/ID steering committee, along with the proposed Public Safety Coordinator. This position will have direct lines of communication with the Public Safety Operations Manager who reports to Deputy Mayor Kate Joncas, as well as with staff in the Mayor's Office of Policy and Innovation.
- Prior to the hiring of the CEOS, the Mayor has tasked his Public Safety Advisor to initiate a multi-disciplinary approach to address entrenched criminal activities in the



C/ID that will focus on addressing some of the root causes of crime and disorder in the neighborhood. This effort will bring the full weight of the Mayor's Office to bear in working with the steering committee on addressing many long-standing criminal issues with a multi-disciplinary approach. The strategy will seek to align police enforcement efforts with environmental changes and human services strategies. The Mayor has directed this effort to begin immediately.

- **Task Force Recommendation:** *Establish funding for a C/ID Public Safety Coordinator (PSC) to coordinate public safety problem solving and serve as liaison between the community and the Mayor's Office and City departments.*

**Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:** The City will commit to contribute one-time funding (proposed \$50,000) to support the creation of this position in the community. The City, through the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) will undertake a competitive RFP process to select an organization to support and advance the desired outcomes of the task force and steering committee. The selected organization will provide a match for the City's investment. The City envisions that this position would work closely with the CEOS and serve as a co-chair of the C/ID steering committee.

- **Task Force Recommendation:** *Form a steering committee of C/ID community and key City department representatives.*

**Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:** Prior to the hiring of the CEOS and PSC positions, staff from the Mayor's Office of Policy and Innovation and the Office of Planning and Community Development will co-chair the steering committee comprised of City departments and community representatives. The steering committee will, amongst other issues, work on a multi-disciplinary approach to solve entrenched criminal activities in the C/ID with the Mayor's Public Safety Advisor and look at how to redeploy City resources to address other C/ID concerns. It is envisioned that this group will identify 2-3 main priorities and meet for 12-18 months to develop and implement programs designed to address the identified public safety priorities in the C/ID. Thereafter, the PSC, DON, and OPCD staff will implement and monitor progress on projects in the C/ID.

- **Task Force Recommendation:** *Create a C/ID Public Safety Agreement between the City and C/ID organizations on a mutually agreed upon set of partnering guidelines, public safety actions, timeframe and partner roles.*

**Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:** The Mayor's commitment and partnering guidelines in this action plan will serve as the City's commitment to address the issues raised by the C/ID community. Further, the C/ID steering committee will also serve as an initial oversight body helping develop timelines for project deliverables and holding department staff accountable for commitments made in this document while city and community staff will have an ongoing role.



<b>Recommendation A</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor's Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
Community Police Team (CPT) officers working in the C/ID are issued work cell phones for ease of communication between the Public Safety Coordinator and SPD.	Community Police Team Officers serving the C/ID have cell phones with call capability. SPD will work to ensure that the CPTs are actively giving out their contact information and letting the community know that they are available via phone.
A community public safety survey should be conducted annually by the PSC.	The C/ID steering committee will lead development of this survey.
The PSC facilitates the monthly public safety forum for broad community input and education. Youth representatives will be invited to participate.	The PSC and the C/ID steering committee will work to develop and manage this forum.
The steering committee prepares a brief annual progress report and shares it with the community.	Soon after it is convened, the C/ID steering committee will develop specific metrics and outcomes which it will track over the course of its existence. These metrics and outcomes will be included in the final report drafted by the steering committee at the conclusion of its work (12-18 months after the publication of this document). Ongoing work will be monitored and implemented by the PSC, DON and OPCD staff.

**Task Force Recommendation B:** *Create a regular public safety presence by opening a Public Safety Center in C/ID.*

**Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- SPD is open to having CPT and other patrol officers use a space to complete paperwork. However, SPD has requested to meet with the C/ID steering committee to understand expectations of how and when the space will be used by SPD. For example, it would be against best safety practices for the general public to walk in and request officers to respond to an immediate situation. Response to emergencies and non-emergencies would still have to occur through the existing dispatching procedures via 911 or the non-emergency line.
- This space could potentially be used by the SPD CEOS or API Liaison and DON staff which would allow residents of the C/ID to interact and make requests of City staff in person on a regular basis.
- The Mayor's Office would like to discuss the possibility of utilizing a desk in the SCIDpda space adjacent to Hing Hay Park.



**Task Force Recommendation C:** *Reinstate the Community Service Officer (CSO) program as a pilot program to create an ongoing channel for communication between C/ID and the Police Department.*

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- The CSO was a program that ended in 2004 that utilized civilian SPD staff. This program seemed to meet the non-emergency needs of the community at the time, but since then sworn CPT officers have stepped in to address many of the same concerns. It is clear from the Task force report that there are gaps in addressing concerns of the community. Due to budgetary constraints, however, the recommendation from the Mayor is that SPD should not move forward with reinstating the CSO program.
- To address the underlying concerns reflected in the request for the reinstatement of the CSO program, SPD will takes steps to ensure there is consistent interaction with the Community Police Team, Neighborhood Response Team and the Neighborhood Corrections Initiative, and the newly created CEOS that each have roles and responsibilities within the C/ID.
- As previously mentioned, in order to address chronic public safety problems that the C/ID has identified, SPD will also be evaluating how to ensure CPT officers and the API Liaison are seen as community resources and trusted points of contact.

**Task Force Recommendation D:** *Strengthen efforts to recruit and hire more officers with sensitivity to residents of the C/ID and communities of color.*

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- It is clear that the C/ID task force is interested in having more diverse SPD staff serving the community with enhanced cultural competency. The Mayor agrees with this recommendation and has instructed SPD to work with the Workforce Equity Interdepartmental Team that he convened, along with Seattle Fire Department (SFD) and Seattle City Light (SCL), to improve recruitment, hiring, and retention practices to ensure increased diversity and cultural competency amongst their recruits.
- In addition to hiring diverse officers, SPD is committed to the recruitment of diverse dispatchers in 911 call centers.

Recommendation D	
Task Force Action Description	Mayor’s Action Plan & City Response
SPD utilizes the Race and Social Justice Tool Kit for its recruitment/hiring.	The measures listed by the C/ID task force, including use of the Racial Equity Toolkit, are among the many aspects of the work plan that SPD and the Workforce Equity IDT will be considering as it approaches ways to increase diversity in the workforce for SPD as well as SFD and SCL.



<b>Recommendation D</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
SPD and C/ID community identify effective approaches to reach and recruit diverse police officer candidates. SPD recruiters partner with the C/ID to hold recruitment open houses in the C/ID.	Diversity has been a priority for Chief O’Toole and SPD recruiting and hiring has already been increasing the diversity of new hires under her leadership. Since her arrival, the percentage of diverse police officer candidates has increased from 24% to 33% and SPD continues to focus on improvements to its recruitment processes. In addition, she has hired one of the most diverse command staffs in the U.S. consisting of three women and three men, two of whom are also African-American.
SPD should consider resource investment in C/ID community organizations to help with recruitment efforts.	This summer, SPD will be conducting numerous events in the C/ID focused on recruiting. SPD will also engage with the steering committee to identify ways to educate the community in overcoming cultural barriers when working for the police department.
The Public Safety steering committee reviews annual recruiting metrics as part of tracking its impact measures.	The steering committee will include this component in their final report.
Officers serving the C/ID, including patrol, undergo required training about the C/ID neighborhood history in order to understand its unique place in Seattle history, past and current social justice issues, the vital role played by Donnie Chin, and current community assets.	SPD officers currently undergo a variety of training programs, such as those addressing implicit bias. SPD will work with the steering committee to more specifically identify types of trainings that will address this task force recommendation.
SPD incentivizes police officers to choose neighborhoods to serve where they have in the past or currently reside, and provides financial incentives for officers proficient in a second language.	This item is subject to collective bargaining. SPD will discuss ways in which to implement some of the recommendation but is cognizant that research on the benefits of these types of incentives has shown mixed results.

**Task Force Recommendation E:** *Move the Little Saigon area of the C/ID neighborhood from the East Precinct into the West Precinct to provide better tracking of patterns of crime and address public safety needs in the whole neighborhood.*

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- SPD would like to meet with the steering committee to ensure that there is a





clear understanding of some of the benefits and potential drawbacks with having to C/ID in a single precinct. One benefit of the current structure is that both the East and West precinct officers respond to certain priority issues. If the C/ID is combined into a single precinct, then only one precinct would respond. In addition, SPD would like to discuss the timing of changing this specific boundary, how it impacts other precinct boundaries, and the interplay of the regular precinct boundary redrawing process which occurs every two to four years.

- SPD can begin the process of integrating the C/ID into a single precinct. SPD estimates that this process could take approximately 18 months to complete, largely due to significant associated logistical and financial considerations.
- The re-drawing of precinct boundaries does come with significant cost. A 2014 estimate indicated that the costs, excluding consultant contracting costs, would be approximately \$200,000. Re-drawing one boundary means that the department will have to re-calibrate all other boundaries to balance for population, call load, etc. Costs incurred include but are not limited to:
  - Consultant contract to determine re-allocation and calibration;
  - Re-printing all development, outreach and training materials;
  - Replacing web content;
  - Staff time to implement changes to CAD/RMS/MDT/MRE/GIS, Infoview and other applications that use geographic parameters;
  - Updating applications such as Common Operating Picture Database and APEX applications.

**Task Force Recommendation F:** *Improve 911 responsiveness to C/ID incidents and increase public safety awareness education efforts.*

#### **Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- The Mayor and Chief O'Toole had identified the poor 911 service and antiquated systems of the 911 Communications Center as a problem to be address in 2015. Such a search for a new translation service provider was undertaken. The new service provider, Voiance, has made commitments towards improving responsiveness and began providing services in early 2016.
- In addition, SPD will work with the steering community on how to ensure 911 dispatchers can better serve the non-native English speaking community in Seattle. A part of that work would be to develop a public education plan to ensure diverse communities understand how to best utilize 911 services.
- The Mayor and the Chief will extend an invitation to the C/ID steering committee to meet with representatives from the 911 call centers and the new city language line contractor.
- Regarding adequate staffing, the revenue generated by the Mayor's April 2016 proposed change to Business and Occupation tax rates and business licensing fees will support, in part, significant hiring of civilian staff at the 911 center; the proposed funding plan supports an additional 40 staff at the 911 Communications Center (an approximately 30% increase in staff).



- In May 2016, the 911 Communications Center completed a technology and capacity upgrade. Later in 2016, the center will complete an upgrade to the phone system.



## II. Target Criminal Activities and Related Environmental Factors

The issues of heroin addiction and homelessness, and the subsequent quality-of-life issues and poverty-based crimes that sometimes accompany both of these larger social issues, are concerns that the Mayor and Chief of Police have heard from communities throughout Seattle, though the issues appear to be more acute in the C/ID. The City is facing unprecedented growth in both homelessness and heroin addiction. Seattle's homeless population is higher than that of any large metropolitan area other than New York and Los Angeles.<sup>1</sup> The latest one-night count identified 4,505 homeless people in the three-hour survey, up 19 percent since the same count in 2015.<sup>2</sup> Meanwhile, according to King County Public Health, in 2014, there were 156 overdose deaths in the Seattle-King County area from opioids, including heroin. That is the highest level ever recorded.

While SPD and other City departments continue to find ways to address the consequences of addiction and homelessness, the City will continue to struggle to fully address these issues unless the state and federal governments begin to reinvest in mental health services and drug addiction treatment so that mental hospitals, drug treatment centers and other diversion programs are adequately funded to meet this ever growing need.

SPD and the City are committed to ensuring that the C/ID is a safe, vibrant neighborhood to live and visit. In addition to current efforts, all City departments will work together to find innovative solutions to the issues identified by the C/ID Task force.

### MICRO COMMUNITY POLICING PLANS (MPP)

The Seattle Police Department's Micro Community Policing Plans address many of the concerns raised by the C/ID Task force and reflect the department's awareness of the issues identified by the community. MPPs are "living documents" meant to be updated to address changing issues.

### WEST PRECINCT MPP

- Utilize SPD Patrol resources in "hot spot" areas to increase police presence
- Request Bike Squads to conduct operations in high activity areas directed by data.
- Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) reports: Encourage victims to report all incidents

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<sup>1</sup> Johnson, Kirk, "Seattle Underbelly Exposed as Homeless Camp Violence Flares", New York Times (March 1, 2016).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*



promptly so an accurate picture of activity can be developed, and work with community organizations to further educate residents via translators and translated documents.

- Continue to clean up camps with SDOT and WSDOT crews, and notify future clean up areas at the same time as clean up to facilitate a quicker response.
- Work with WSDOT/SDOT to improve lighting under freeway and in high car prowling areas.
- Since this neighborhood crosses precinct boundaries, continue to keep open lines of communication with East CPT Officers to increase coordination of efforts and sharing of information.

## EAST PRECINCT MPP

### Car Prowl

- Ensure that officers are trained and processing crime scenes to the best of their abilities via use of evidence kit equipment and evidence technician skills.
- Maintain and enhance communication between auto theft detectives, patrol officers, and the community.
- Ensure CAU Detectives are coordinating, communicating, and collaborating with Patrol officers and the community.
- Use local and SPD media to keep community informed.
- Ensure stakeholders such as the King County Prosecutors Office are kept abreast of repeat offenders.

### Vice Activity

- East Precinct officers will conduct proactive visible patrolling in areas that have been hit hardest with prostitution, gambling, narcotics, fraud, and stolen-property trafficking.
- Ensure that the community is informed via PSA and electronic media sources on safety tips for property and personal safety.
- The East precinct 911 officers will engage with the public whenever possible to inform and foster the police/community partnership enforcement strategy.
- Ensure that the SPD Vice, Narcotics, Gang Unit, Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF), and others are actively investigating issues in known "hot spots."

### Trespass

- Ensure proper enforcement of enforceable areas.
- Ensure CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) information is distributed to residences and businesses that would like to know more about the trespass program.
  - *NOTE: The trespass program is an SPD program that business owners can enroll in that authorizes SPD officers to engage with individuals not permitted on private property without having to gain specific authorization for each instance. Business owners in the C/ID that are interested in this program should contact their CPT officer assigned to the C/ID.*



- Confer with other City departments regarding the enhancement of the “Sit & Lie” areas of the East Precinct.

**Task Force Recommendation A: Reduce chronic drug dealing and drug use in C/ID.**

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- The Mayor’s Public Safety Advisor will work closely with SPD to ensure that the concerns regarding drug dealing are addressed. The response will be inclusive of diversion programs such as LEAD and Drug and Veteran Courts. Currently, SPD is conducting operations to address street dealers in the C/ID and will work to develop additional tactics to address this concern.

<b>Recommendation A</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
The Seattle Police Department takes action to directly address drug dealing using all of the tools available, including diversion programs such as the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program and drug court for low level drug offenders and those engaged in sex work, and enforcement for drug dealers.	These actions are currently being undertaken by SPD to address this concern.
SPD focuses on high impact areas and dealers.	SPD efforts are currently focused on areas identified by the task force and other areas known to SPD to be hot spots.
SPD and the City Attorney’s Office work with King County Superior Court to impose Stay Out of Drug Area (SODA) orders, as appropriate, for key individuals convicted of drug dealing in the C/ID. Task force recognizes challenges with SODA orders for individuals living in or receiving services in the C/ID.	In order for SODA orders to be imposed, the cooperation of the King County Prosecutor’s Office (KCPO) is needed as drug charges need to be filed by the KCPO in order for a judge to impose a SODA order. Currently, the KCPO is reluctant to file criminal charges for low-level drug offenses. The Mayor’s Office and SPD will engage the KCPO to address this request from the task force.
C/ID community makes new social contact referrals in coordination with the Community Police Team and shares information about individuals in the LEAD program who continue to have a presence in drug dealing hot spot areas to help the neighborhood become safer and ensure program success.	The Community Police Team will work with the steering committee on how to best develop protocols regarding this item.



<b>Recommendation A</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
City departments work with community partners to address the elements that contribute to drug dealing “hot spot” ecosystems.	City departments on the steering committee will work to identify areas in which changes to the built environment can be made to address these concerns.

**Task Force Recommendation B: *Address proliferation of unauthorized encampments and tent shelters.***

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- Unauthorized encampments are an issue facing many neighborhoods in Seattle. The City is working to address the problem with a combination of outreach to find services for the homeless living in encampments and clean-ups of certain encampments which pose particular public health and safety concerns. For the past several months, the City has addressed the situation under I-5 by cleaning up the encampments every few weeks. Clearly, this effort has been insufficient to discourage or prevent the homeless or addicts from returning to the area.

The City acknowledges the challenges that residents of the C/ID face as a result of homelessness and open drug use in their community. The Mayor’s Office working with WSDOT, HSD, SPD, and city-funded organizations will explore ways to curtail the proliferation and reappearance of encampments in the C/ID. However, it should be noted that, homeless service providers and advocates have opposed an increase of these efforts in other parts of the City.

In addition, Chief O’Toole has had officers conduct crisis interventions and make referrals to social services when engaging the homeless and those in crisis and she has issued a directive for officers to enforce applicable laws related to encampments and RVs.

<b>Recommendation B</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
The City and other agency partners (e.g., WSDOT) take steps to streamline the response to unsanctioned encampments and camping in the C/ID community, following protocols in attempting to connect individuals in encampments with shelter and/or services. The City ensures that outreach workers have language/ cultural competency skills to engage with limited English speaking individuals camping in the area.	The City is currently engaged with a range of service providers and government agencies in trying to address these concerns in a coordinated manner. City departments will continue to develop and refine current efforts.
The City permanently posts and prohibits encampments/camping in the hot spot areas.	Posts that permanently prohibit encampments are currently against City protocols for City public property.



<b>Recommendation B</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
City-funded outreach resources help prevent reestablishment of camps by informing people that camping is not permitted in those locations and calling the Customer Service Bureau when new camping activity is observed.	There are a range of City departments currently engaged in this work. In addition, the Metropolitan Improvement District is conducting outreach in the C/ ID to help connect the homeless with services including shelter.
Community organizations collaborate to reclaim the areas under I-5 through activation and/or other efforts to encourage positive/desirable activity. WSDOT should support community activation efforts.	Recently, the Seattle Department of Transportation submitted an application for the US Department of Transportation “Every Place Counts” Design Challenge to look at the area between S. Jackson St. and S. King St. under I-5 in the C/ ID. If successful, USDOT will provide technical assistance in the form of a 2-day design charrette in July. Four grants will be awarded nationwide. The USDOT is expected to announce their decision on June 30th. The Mayor, WSDOT, SCIDpda, and Interim CDA provided letters of support. If Seattle is not chosen, SDOT will work with WSDOT and the steering committee to develop a plan on how to reactivate this area.
City and WSDOT agree on management/maintenance responsibilities to foster success and clarify accountability. City and community collaborate on design and programming elements to activate the space.	

**Task Force Recommendation C/D/E:** *Ensure that hookah bars operate legally and without disruption to neighborhood residents, shut down illegal massage parlors, and address trafficking in stolen goods and EBT fraud.*

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- *Hookah Lounges:* The Mayor’s Office of Policy and Innovation is working with the Department of Finance and Administrative Services, the City Attorney’s Office and community stakeholders to refine a regulatory license for all types of smoking lounges which would address questions around public accessibility, operating hours, and security.
- *Massage Parlors:* The SPD High Risk Unit has active investigations underway in cooperation with the FBI and the U.S. Attorney’s Office. SPD hopes to resolve those cases as soon as possible. In addition, SPD, the multi-jurisdictional Joint Enforcement Team and the Mayor’s Office are exploring other regulatory options to address the problems of prostitution being connected to certain parlors.
- *EBT Fraud and Trafficking in Stolen Goods:* SPD has active investigations regarding these concerns underway.



**Task Force Recommendation F: *Target high incidence crimes such as shoplifting and car prowls.***

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- This issue is also identified within the Micro Community Policing Plans; deterrence and enforcement strategies are in progress from the SPD. The rise of both of these property crimes is closely tied to homelessness and the heroin/opioid addiction epidemic. The City as a whole will continue to work to address these concerns in partnership with county, state, and federal agencies. SPD will continue working with residents, businesses, and community organizations to identify strategies to address this concern.

Recommendation F	
Task Force Action Description	Mayor’s Action Plan & City Response
SPD prioritizes arresting suspects. Property crime negatively impacts stores and likely helps support the drug market.	<p>The efforts that are being recommended by the task force are current SPD and City policy. SPD is committed to continuing to work with the community on public education and best practices on how to deter and prevent crime and will work with the steering committee and the PSC to refine their public information efforts.</p> <p>Currently, SPD has six bicycle officers assigned to patrol the C/ID from 10:30AM to midnight every day.</p> <p>In addition, SPD Anti-Crime Units of each precinct are working on these issues and their work is being supplemented with city-wide units to deter, enforce, and investigate crimes in the C/ID.</p>
Make referrals as appropriate to mental health and/or addiction treatment providers.	
The CAO recommends referrals to specialty courts such as drug court or mental health court as appropriate. Coordination between SPD, the public safety coordinator and the Precinct Liaison Attorney is critical to ensure this works well.	
Deploys high visibility police patrol between calls to deter criminal activity from resources provided by SPD.	
Increases coordination with the Crime Analysis Unit to determine “hot spot” areas to focus efforts.	
Conducts thorough investigations, to include fingerprinting, to maximize prosecution.	
Deploy Anti-Crime Team and bicycle squad emphasis in hot spot areas during the week.	
Provides best crime information/ education/best practice tips to community members/victims of car prowls through outreach with the crime prevention coordinator to the PSC and affected businesses.	





**Task Force Recommendation G:** *Reduce chronic problems of public drinking, trespassing, public urination/defecation, and indecent exposure.*

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- SPD will continue to encourage writing tickets for drinking in public, urinating/defecating in public, and indecent exposure. It should be noted that under existing law these are non-arrestable offenses and that officers must see the behavior firsthand in order to issue a citation. Current practice, developed in conjunction with the City Attorney’s Office (CAO), allows that after the issuance of three or more citations to which there is no response, the CAO Precinct Liaison Attorney can recommend filing charges for failure to respond. Prior to referring cases to the CAO, SPD officers attempt to refer persons to diversion programs, treatment centers, and shelters. Given the limited resources and overburdened nature of those programs, however, many people are unable to obtain services.

<b>Recommendation G</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
City-funded human service providers, with support from City departments such as the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, connects with East African community service providers to seek human service support in addressing core issues that manifest as group public realm drinking.	The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and the SPD East African Liaison will engage with the C/ID Community and develop a plan on how to conduct outreach with East African community members.
City departments such as the Mayor’s Office and the Office of Intergovernmental Relations partner with King County and community organizations to advocate for resources to greatly expand alcohol treatment resources.	Increasing public funding from state and federal governments for mental health, alcohol and drug treatment services are a priority for the Mayor. The Office of Intergovernmental Relations has long-standing relationships with King County, other governmental bodies and community organizations that they partner with on their advocacy efforts.
Design for the planned public restroom near Hing Hay Park must address public safety concerns.	The public restroom being designed for Hing Hay will only be open while a Park Ranger is on-site. The current plan is for a Ranger to be on-site for 35 hours a week. Seattle Parks & Recreation (SPR) is evaluating whether to increase the amount of staffing, the department will engage the steering committee to gain their insight on staffing levels. Further, Hing Hay Park is being designed utilizing CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design).

### III. Foster Public Safety through a Vibrant and Healthy Neighborhood

**Task Force Recommendation A:** *Invest in physical and safety improvements, maintenance and ongoing program activities in parks, alleys and plazas, and green spaces.*

#### **Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- There are a number of projects that have been in the planning stages that will begin construction in 2016. While many of them very specifically meet the recommendations from the task force, some do not. The projects described below are funded but additional physical enhancements and maintenance enhancements are not currently budgeted. However, should the steering committee identify infrastructure investment projects, an assessment could be completed to identify costs.
- The Mayor has recently instructed the Directors of the Office of Planning & Community Development (OPCD) and the City Budget Office to develop and co-chair a capital subcabinet of department directors. A subcommittee of this subcabinet will work closely with the steering committee to guide the development and decisions on the nature, timing, and location of planning and infrastructure investments, as well as monitoring and reporting on related sensitive non-infrastructure related issues that need immediate attention and coordination. After the steering committee concludes its work (in 12-18 months), this subcabinet, along with staff from DON, OPCD, and the PSC, will be tasked with implementation and continued engagement with the C/ID community on infrastructure needs and investment.
- Current Infrastructure Projects in the C/ID:
  - Construction of curb ramps to meet ADA guidelines will be installed at two locations in the C/ID.
  - S. King St. Greenway: An East-West neighborhood greenway between 5th Ave. S. and 20th Pl. S. along S. King and S. Weller streets.
  - A North-South neighborhood greenway between S. King and S. Dearborn streets is being designed in 2016, with construction slated to begin in 2017-18.
  - Stamped asphalt and decorative crosswalks will be installed at 5th Ave. and S. King St. during the summer of 2016. This project is funded through the "Only in Seattle" program after significant community involvement.
  - 10th Ave. and S. Jackson St. decorative crosswalk is under review.



- 9 scarlet oak trees were installed on the West side of 10th Ave from Weller St. to Dearborn Ave.

<b>Recommendation A</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
Fund concierge for maintenance of Hing Hay Park.	<p>There is currently a part-time concierge working limited hours at the park and they will continue to do so after the expansion of the park is completed.</p> <p>The public restroom being designed for Hing Hay will only be open when a Park Ranger is on-site. The current plan is for a Ranger to be on-site for 35 hours a week. Seattle Parks &amp; Recreation (SPR) is evaluating whether to increase the amount of staffing; the department will engage the steering committee to gain their insight on staffing levels.</p>
Manage and maintain a public restroom in Hing Hay Park.	
Ensure neighborhood parks and public spaces are well-maintained and well-lit.	<p>SPR will work with the steering committee to identify which parks have insufficient lighting and work to develop a proposal to address those concerns. Seattle City Light (SCL) is working on pedestrian lighting fixtures and LED conversion and is doing a lighting analysis on arterials west of I-5 using SDOT standards.</p>
Support alley rehabilitation and activation.	<p>The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is currently planning to repave the northern half of Canton Alley which will include drainage installation. SDOT will work with the steering committee to identify other alleys for improvement, identify proposals for redevelopment, and assist in identifying diverse funding sources for improvements.</p>

<b>Recommendation A</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor's Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
Fund capital improvements to Danny Woo Garden.	In response to safety concerns, SPR obtained a Community Development Block Grant in 2015 to address problems in the easternmost portion of the SPR-owned section of Danny Woo Community Garden. Using the Conservation Corps, SPR removed deteriorating stairways, railings, retaining walls, and debris piles, and replaced with native plantings. SPR will continue to work with InterimCDA, SDOT and the steering committee to determine what capital investments or other restructuring of operations can be done to improve the functionality of the garden.
Discuss street vacation process with Parks, Interim, and Woo Family.	SPR will work with the steering committee, SDOT, InterimCDA, and the Woo Family to discuss a street vacation.
Incorporate CPTED for all public space projects.	CPTED is utilized when urban parks are designed, but SPR can work with the steering committee to identify and conduct assessments of specific parks with concerns and can develop cost proposals.
Incorporate CPTED for all public space projects.  Consolidate annual street permits for projects designed to enhance public realm.	Since January 2016, SDOT has been bundling annual permits for projects that benefit the public realm and will continue to do so.

**Task Force Recommendation B/C:** *Install new quality lighting throughout the area (especially in dark and crime-prone pockets) and expand and improve garbage pick-up and street cleaning.*

**Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:**

*Lighting*

- Seattle City Light is currently analyzing lighting on arterials and non-arterials west of I-5, including pedestrian fixtures. Actual SCL installation/conversion of existing fixtures is expected in mid to late September. After the analysis is complete, Cobrahead lighting fixtures will be converted to LED, and the historical King lighting fixtures (red with gold ball) will be replaced with an LED equivalent this fall. The lighting replacement materials will be purchased in 2016 with replacement to begin in 2017.



SCIDpda, with funding from “Only in Seattle”, will coordinate a lighting analysis that will emphasize pedestrian lighting and safety in the entire district. The result will be a detailed analysis and implementation plan. SCL, OED, SDOT, and SCIDpda are coordinating projects to ensure maximum benefit to the neighborhood. Some of the implementation will be incorporated into SCL’s 10-year infrastructure replacement plan.

### *Garbage and Street Cleaning*

- Multiple departments have been working to improve trash collection, litter pick-up, and street cleaning.
  - Seattle Parks & Recreation has added a third garbage pick-up at C/ID parks.
  - Seattle Public Utilities
    - The C/ID is included in SPU’s Clear Alley program. Currently, garbage is collected three times per day and recycling two times per day. SPU will review the garbage collection plan that covers the alleys and side streets for adequacy and adjust the program as needed.
    - Recently, SPU met with representatives from the C/ID area several times to discuss issues. Issues discussed include litter, illegal dumping, dumpster diving, business owners using street side litter cans, and Little Saigon. In response, SPU has increased outreach, education, and more frequent inspections. SPU is also reviewing service related issues.
    - In addition, SPU met with the collection service provider for the C/ID. Specific items discussed with the service provider included cleanup of litter near waste collection areas, litter overall, and illegal dumping. The contractors agreed to address extreme litter situations and proactively pick up illegally dumped items. SPU will monitor the situation closely to ensure accountability. Additionally, SPU is reviewing options to address similar issues in Little Saigon as it is not covered by the Business Improvement Area.
    - SPU has been piloting a new program focused on providing garbage bags to those residing in homeless encampments underneath I-5 as a way to reduce litter and then periodically collecting those bags once full.
  - Office of Economic Development (OED)
    - OED is providing assistance to the C/ID Business Improvement Area on a proposed increase to the ratepayer assessment in order to provide a broader range of services. The focus is on funding daily street cleaning and litter pick-up in the core district. Additional funds will also be focused on marketing, promotion of the district, and public safety initiatives.

**Task Force Recommendation D:** *Expand funding support, hours, and program offerings at two key City institutions, the International District/Chinatown branch library and International District/Chinatown Community Center, to provide accessible safe spaces and activities for youth, seniors, and families.*

**Mayor’s Action Plan & City Implementation:**

*Library*

- The Library is restoring Friday hours, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the C/ID branch library beginning July 1. The added day of service is funded by the Library Levy.

*Community Center*

- Seattle Parks and Recreation is in the process of completing a city-wide community center strategic plan. The C/ID Task force’s findings and recommendation will be reviewed in the context of this broader strategic plan. In addition, a new coordinator/manager has recently been hired and leadership within SPR will work with the new manager to improve communication with the community and seek input in developing activities.

**Task Force Recommendation E:** *Encourage and support a good mix of small businesses and non-profit activities that operate day and night, seven days a week, with the goal of attracting desirable pedestrian/consumer activity that, in turn, will promote a safer, more inviting environment for residents, visitors, and others.*

<b>Recommendation E</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor’s Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
Expansion of “Only in Seattle” helping to spur development by providing technical assistance, marketing support, and guidance to small businesses.	The Office of Economic Development Small Business Team will continue to work with community partners to support small businesses in the C/ID and assist with business issues. “Only in Seattle” supports organizing in the business district, retail recruitment, business development, marketing, and clean & safe activities. OED has partnered with DON and SCIDpda to do a business outreach project in Little Saigon starting this summer.
Consolidate design review. Currently, three entities involved.	Currently, design review in the C/ID is split between the ISRD (within the historic district boundaries) and the East and Southeast design review boards. OPCD and SDCI have sent legislation to Council that would fold the East and Southeast and have them be consolidated into the Downtown Design Review Board.



<b>Recommendation E</b>	
<b>Task Force Action Description</b>	<b>Mayor's Action Plan &amp; City Response</b>
Revise and strengthen International Special Review District regulations.	The Mayor's Office will analyze the potential need for changes to ISRD regulations.
Implement programs to incentivize positive businesses, including help with tenant improvements.	Consistent, coordinated funding to meet the needs of the neighborhood is important. "Only in Seattle" is one piece and the in-development BIA expansion could provide some additional funding. OED will continue coordinating with Yesler Community Collaborative small business work group. In addition, the recently launched Commercial Affordability Advisory Committee may identify additional strategies in this area.
SPD to be more proactive to inform property owners of problem business tenants.	SPD will instruct CPT officers to work more closely with landlords to educate them about the broader problems their tenants are causing in the community.
Finalize and pass expanded BIA.	OED is providing assistance to the BIA to develop and expand the assessment to meet a broad range of needs.

**Task Force Recommendation F:** *Develop a comprehensive framework and implementation plan for City investment in long-term preservation and development of the C/ID as a culturally-diverse, historically significant area of Seattle.*

**Mayor's Action Plan & City Implementation:**

- The Department of Neighborhoods and the Office of Planning and Community Development are working collaboratively to develop a new vision on how the City most effectively work with communities and neighborhoods to best guide City investments and neighborhood development. The C/ID will be a priority neighborhood to utilize this planning tool once it is fully developed.
- Unreinforced Masonry: The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections continues to explore potential funding options for owners to come into compliance once standards are adopted.



## Appendix: All City Departments C/ID Project List

In addition to the projects described in the body of this Action Plan, the following are additional projects that various City Departments are undertaking in the C/ID.

Project	Dept	Description
A-frame signage legislation	SDOT	Proposing new regulations to manage A boards. 2017 target.
Arts at King Street Station	Arts	The Office of Arts and Culture is conducting outreach for community input on the future use/type of community need for King Street Station.
Bridge Painting: Bridge – Pedestrian Rail Paint Projects	SDOT	Project consist of 5 different project sites. One of the project sites is the re-painting of the pedestrian and vehicular barrier for the Main St. Bridge over the Railroad. Outreach is localized.
Bridge Painting: Seattle Blvd S Bridge (4th Ave S to 5th Ave S)	SDOT	Re-painting of the Seattle Blvd S Bridge. Majority of the work is located within the Union St Garage and within the DSTT. Outreach is localized.
Bridge Replacement: 2nd Ave Extension Bridge Replacement Planning	SDOT	Planning study regarding the replacement of the 2nd Ave Extension Bridge.
Bridge Retrofitting: 4th Ave S (Main St to Seattle Blvd S) Bridge Seismic Retrofit	SDOT	Seismically retrofit segments of the bridge that has not been seismically retrofitted.
Building Tune-Ups	OSE	POEL conducting outreach in C-ID for OSE's building tune-up outreach.
Center City Connector Streetcar	SDOT	Connection of First Hill/C-ID line through downtown/First Ave to SLU. Streetcar track, intersection upgrades, utility upgrades, re-channelization, overhead wiring from Jackson to Stewart along 1st and from 1st to Westlake Ave along Stewart. New cars will also be added to the Streetcar system that will need to be stored and maintained.
Center City Mobility Plan	SDOT, Sound Transit, DSA	Multi-modal master planning process for 10 Center City neighborhoods. Long-range transportation (multi-modal) and public realm plan.





Project	Dept	Description
Charles Street campus	DON, OPCD, OED, SPU, OIRA, FAS	Inter-departmental discussion by internal stakeholders about future use.
Charles Street Master Plan	FAS	
Climate Mitigation Work	OSE	Seeking feedback on the strategy that lays out the steps the city should take to prepare for the impacts of climate change.
Connections Project	OWF	Proposing pedestrian connection improvements to south waterfront.
Dearborn bike facilities	SDOT	
Denny Substation to Massachusetts Substation Transmission Line	SCL/ OCR	Preliminary design of the Route Alternatives TL-1 (east edge of downtown) and TL-3 (east of I-5) for the future transmission line will be completed in 2016. A racial equity toolkit will be conducted with OCR.
Equity TDR study	OPCD	Determine feasibility of TDR and other tools to create long term commercial stability for Chinatown/ID/Little Saigon.
Ethnic Business Coalition	OED	Contract to provide marketing assistance and other technical assistance to ethnic businesses.
Freight Master Plan	SDOT	Long-range plan to identify and prioritize freight investments.
Global Green USA Neighborhood Sustainability Assessment	OPCD, OAC	Assessment of Chinatown/ID/Little Saigon based on LEED Neighborhood Development standards.
Little Saigon Business District Planning	OPCD	Plan elements: 1) Neighborhood Identity/ character, 2) Affordable Commercial Space, 3) Public Safety, 4) Community Voice.
Little Saigon Landmark Project	OED	New Market Tax Credit pipeline project; mixed use (community center, childcare, night market, banquet hall, housing). Community completed feasibility plan 2014 and preferred site is Acme Poultry site. – late 2017/ early 2018 (pending NMTC allocation).
Little Saigon proposed development - 1032 S Jackson- Asia Plaza redevelopment	SDCI	Going through Early Design Guidance reviews with Board.



Project	Dept	Description
Little Saigon Street Concept Plan	OPCD/ SDOT	Focused on S Jackson Street, S King Street, S Weller Street and 10th Avenue S, between I-5 and Rainier Avenue S. SDOT is partnering with OPCD to design a streetscape concept plan to leverage public and private investment to implement community-desired safety and placemaking improvements. This project was born out of ongoing OPCD community planning.
Louisa Hotel (669 S King St) New Market Tax Credit	OED	New Market Tax Credit pipeline project; mixed use, potential affordable housing – 2017 (pending NMTC allocation).
Parklet	SDOT	Existing parklet at the corner of 6th Ave S & S Weller St. Hosted by CIDBIA and Oasis Tea Zone.
Pedestrian Master Plan	SDOT	Long-range plan to identify and prioritize pedestrian investments.
POEL/Only in Seattle	DON/ OED	Focus is in Little Saigon.
Port of Seattle grant	CIDBIA	CIDBIA will redevelop and update their website in addition to initiating a cooperative advertising program for local visitor related businesses that will run in WHERE magazine, which is distributed in over 15,000 hotel rooms in Seattle and the Eastside. Port of Seattle funds would be used to design and implement a website, interactive map, itineraries, logo, and brand for the region.
Sound Transit - Eastlink Connection	"FAS Sound Transit"	Sound Transit will be reinforcing the express lanes piers as part of the Eastlink Connection project. There are 3 piers on the Charles Street campus that will be reinforced.
Street Car (Environmental Assessment)	SDOT	Outreach to C-ID community regarding release of EA for C3.
Street Concept Designs	SDOT/ OPCD	
Yesler Hillclimb Connection to S. Jackson Street	SDOT	Upgrade street tree and planting strip for safe pedestrian access & neighborhood benefit.
"Yesler Way Over 4th Ave S Bridge (SE quadrant in C/ID)"	SDOT	Rehabilitate bridge while preserving its principal historical elements.

