



Minneapolis Police Department 2009 Neighborhood Policing Plan *Como Neighborhood*

Introduction:

The Como Neighborhood is in the Minneapolis Police Department's Second Precinct.

Neighborhood Map:



Precinct Contacts:

Second Precinct

612-673-5702

Crime Prevention Specialist --- Nicholas Juarez

612-673-2797

Sector Commander --- Lt. Gregory Reinhardt

612-673-3587

Precinct Commander --- Insp. Bob Skomra

612-673-5702

Overview:

The Como neighborhood (also called Southeast Como) is named after Como Avenue, which runs through the neighborhood. Como neighborhood is in the University community, about one mile north of the Dinkytown commercial area and the east bank campus of the University of Minnesota. Its boundaries are the city limit to the east (33rd Avenue SE), the Southeast Industrial Area to the south of Elm Street, Interstate 35W and the Burlington Northern main line to the west, and East Hennepin Avenue and Winter Street NE to the north. The housing stock consists of modest early 20th-century bungalows and Victorian and 1920s-era homes with a scattering of newer duplexes and single-family homes. Many of the larger homes have been converted into student housing. Como has an elementary school, three churches, a mosque, Van Cleve Park and small retail stores. The Como neighborhood population grew faster than Minneapolis' between 1980 and 2000. The neighborhood population increased 12 percent during this period compared to 3.1 percent in Minneapolis. Its close proximity to the University of Minnesota has a significant impact on the age composition of Como residents. The 18 to 24-year-old age group, the largest age group in 2000 at 41 percent of the population, was the only age group to increase between 1980 and 2000. It rose 71 percent.

Crime Statistics 2008:

Como Neighborhood had an overall decrease of 15% in crime in 2008. Robbery was the only crime that showed an increase from 10 to 14. Burglaries saw a decrease from 108 to 94 as well as thefts from 179 to 137. Noisy parties continue to be a high concern in the neighborhood. One party patrol was completed in Como resulting in 28 tags for alcohol related violations, which was down from 2007 where there were 787 tags for alcohol related violations. The lack of funding and the scheduling of the Republican National Convention affected the amount of party patrols this year. Crime Prevention Specialists continue to issue Warning Letters for violations of the Noisy or Unruly Assembly Ordinance. There were 62 Warning Letters sent out the second half of the year.

Focus for 2009:

- Burglary of dwelling – Inspector Skomra has set this as a priority to maintain our reductions in 2008
- Crimes of Violence – Inspector Skomra has set this as a priority to maintain our reductions in 2008 (Reduce the number of Robberies)
- Keeping parties within the scope of Minneapolis City Ordinances

Neighborhood Concerns for 2009:

- Parties
- Burglary of Dwelling
- Theft
- Unreported crimes to 911
- University of Minnesota Football Stadium

2009 Policing Strategy:

The Minneapolis Police Department will implement the following:

- Officers will be deployed by the Sector Lieutenants based on intelligence and identified crime trends.
- The police and neighbors will participate in the 3rd Ward CARE Task Force and the 2nd Precinct Police and Community Council (PAC).
- The Precinct will work with the neighborhood in defining issues at properties and assist in making appropriate referrals to Housing Inspections, Animal Control, Licensing, Community Response Team, Child Protection, Adult Protection, mediation, and other city, county, and independent resources to solve problems.
- The Crime Prevention Specialist and Precinct will:
 - Work with Block Club Leaders to recruit and train new block club leaders to establish new block clubs where there are vacancies in the neighborhood.
 - Distribute crime alerts when necessary.
 - Educate the community to the online resources that are available to them.
 - Educate the community on the proper uses of 911 and 311.
 - Administer the Citation Program for noisy assembly under Minneapolis City Ordinance 389.65.
- The Crime Prevention Specialist will continue to work with the University of Minnesota Student Ambassador Program to stabilize relations between students and long term residents.

2009 Neighborhood Engagement:

While the Minneapolis Police Department has committed to a number of steps to improve policing service in Como Neighborhood, policing is a team effort and residents are a key part of that team. The collaboration with the MPD, the Como Residents have committed to the following:

- Report problems in the community by calling 911, 311 and their Crime Prevention Specialist to discuss the concerns and other possible resources available.
- Will reestablish the walking group to help connect with neighbors.
- Will continue its Safety Committee to address crime and safety concerns in the neighborhood.
- Encourage residents to organize block clubs in the neighborhood and assist the Crime Prevention Specialist in recruiting Block Club Leaders.
- Distribute crime alerts to community members when requested and encourage community members to complete community impact statements when appropriate.
- Will have a representative to the 2nd Precinct Police and Community Council (PAC).

2009 Performance Measures:

We will use the following criteria to measure our success in the Como Neighborhood:

- There will be a decrease in burglaries and theft of at least 3%.
- There will be a decrease in robberies of at least 3%
- There will be at least 3 individuals from the neighborhood who will attend block club training and will create new or reestablish existing block clubs.
- There will be two (2) informational meetings to educate the public on how and when to call 911 and 311
- Increase the number of Noisy and Unruly Assembly Ordinance Warning Letters

COMO – 2008 NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN RESULTS

Neighborhood Concerns for 2008:

- Parties – Parties continue to be an issue for the neighborhood. MPD is using all its resources as well as partnering with other City agencies to get the parties to come into compliance with City Ordinances
- Burglary of Dwelling - Burglaries saw a decrease from 108 to 94
- Theft - thefts from 179 to 137

2008 Policing Strategy:

The Minneapolis Police Department:

- Conducted patrols in the neighborhood to address curfew and truancy. **Completed**
- Worked with the neighborhood in defining issues at properties and assist in making appropriate referrals to Housing Inspections, Animal Control, Licensing, Community Response Team and Directed Patrol, Child Protection, Adult Protection, mediation, and other city, county, and independent resources to solve problems. **Ongoing**
- Addressed problem properties as appropriate including locations where drugs are being sold. **Ongoing**
- Offered block club training to organize the community, so neighbors know each other and watch out for each other. The Crime Prevention Specialist did encourage neighbors to hold a National Night Out Event, so neighbors become acquainted. The Crime Prevention Specialist did provide information to the community by working with block clubs and other groups in the community, distributing information and sponsoring programs in the city such as the Rental Property Owners Workshop, Liquor Industry 'N the City, the Student Housing and Police Exchange, personal safety workshops and more. Information about these programs, safety tips, crime alerts, and other material were distributed to the community via the email alert network. **Completed / Ongoing**
- "A Message from the Police Department" was made available for students and for neighbors to give to students who live in the neighborhood. This provided students with information about the party laws and about safety in the community. **Completed**

2008 Neighborhood Engagement:

While the Minneapolis Police Department has committed to a number of steps to improve policing service in Como Neighborhood, policing is a team sport and residents are a key part of that team. The collaboration with the MPD, the Como Residents have committed to the following:

- Reported problems in the community by calling 911, 311, and their Crime Prevention Specialist to discuss the concerns and other resources available. **Ongoing...There are some issues on when to call 911 and 311.**
- The neighborhood did have a walking group to connect with neighbors. **The walking group has been very sporadic. There is no stable chain of leadership for the group.**
- The neighborhood did continue its Safety Committee to address crime and safety concerns in the neighborhood. **The Safety Committee has continued to meet but membership is very small, usually only 2-3 people.**
- Encouraged residents to organize block clubs in the neighborhood and assist the Crime Prevention Specialist in Recruiting Block Club Leaders. **The MPD has found new block club leaders and interested people on the East side of the neighborhood and have been successful.**
- The neighborhood did assist in connecting youth to resources in the area. **Ongoing**
- Distributed crime alerts to community members when requested and encourage community members to complete community impact statements when

appropriate. The MPD has found success in this area with the new University of Minnesota Student Ambassador Program and some reenergized residents in the East side of the neighborhood.

- The Neighborhood did have a representative to the Police and Community Council (PAC). This individual will attend the monthly meetings at the precinct and provide updates at the neighborhood meetings. **Completed**

2008 Performance Measures:

We will use the following criteria to measure our success in the Como Neighborhood:

- There will be a decrease in burglaries of at least 3%. **Reduced by 13%**
- There will be a decrease in theft of at least 3% **Reduced by 23%**
- There will be at least 3 individuals from the neighborhood who will attend block club training. **Completed – we had 5 people trained**

--- End of 2009 Plan, 2008 Results for Como Neighborhood