

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK


2006 JUL - 6 AM 10:41

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Deborah Edgerly
From: Police Department
Date: July 18, 2006


Re: **A Supplemental Report to the Proposed Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator, on Behalf of the City of Oakland, to Accept and Appropriate Grant Funds in an Amount Not to Exceed Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, for Fifth Year Program Implementation of the West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative, and Appropriate Said Funds to the Police Department**

The attached additional information is provided at the request of the Public Safety Committee which convened on June 27, 2006. Included is a six month progress report of the West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative. This report covers the period of July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,


Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE CITY COUNCIL:


Office of the City Administrator

Item: _____
City Council
July 18, 2006

**City of Oakland – Oakland Police Department
Six Month Progress Report
July 1, 2005-December 31, 2005**

West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative

Name of Weed and Seed Site/City & State

West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative - Oakland, California

Implementation Period

The West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative is currently in its **fourth year** of program implementation relative to its five-year strategy.

1. **Program Partners**

The West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative (WOWSI) partners for the reporting period are as follows: Alameda County Department of Public Health, Alameda County District Attorney's Office, Alameda County Probation Department, Attitudinal Healing, Beat 6 & 7 Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils, City Attorney's Office, Oakland's Office of the Mayor, Oakland City Council, Community & Economic Development Agency, Code Enforcement, Covenant House, Hoover Elementary School, Oakland Housing Authority, Oakland Unified School District, Office of the City Administrator, Port of Oakland, East Bay Community Foundation (Safe Passages), St. Andrews Catholic Church, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California, Alameda County/City Violence Suppression Task Force, East Bay Community Recovery Project and West Oakland Neighbors.

WOWSI includes residents involved with the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils, local churches, and Home Alert groups in the target area. Outreach to members of the community is done by solicitation and notification at community meetings, churches, schools, phone trees, and by posting fliers in appropriate public places. The Weed and Seed Coordinator continues to visit schools, churches and merchants to advise of the overall Weed and Seed strategy, inclusive of the detailed program specifications associated with the WOWSI program. Fliers are distributed at schools and at general public meetings. Bulletin boards and websites are used as well. Additionally, resident involvement is solicited through Weed and Seed community-based projects and direct Steering Committee member involvement.

2. **Steering Committee Meetings**

The Weed and Seed Steering Committee held bi-monthly meetings throughout the reporting period, with the Executive Board and all Sub-Committees meeting on alternate months. General Steering Committee meetings were held on July 20, September 21 and November 16.

3. **Award Balance**

The current unobligated balance for the West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative is \$65,440.

4. **Sustainability**

The Weed and Seed Steering Committee continues to seek new partners to join the Committee. The development of new partners continues to be a daily task, with the Weed and Seed Coordinator researching new programs and groups in the area. Since our last reporting period, the West Oakland Weed and Seed Initiative has added the **Home of Comfort and the National Guard** as part of the Steering Committee.

5. **Status of Goals and Objectives**

Law Enforcement:

Activity implementation by the WOWSI Law Enforcement Coordinator is currently functioning effectively. The following arrests were made during this reporting period: drug related arrests **49**; felony on-view/warrant arrests **50**; misdemeanors on-view/warrant arrests **32** auto theft arrests **6**; guns recovered **0**.

Drugs

The following crimes are associated with drugs: (1) murder; (2) assaults with deadly weapon; (3) robberies; (4) burglaries; (5) prostitution offenses, and (6) auto thefts.

In order to combat these crimes, the Police Department's Patrol Division coordinated efforts with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Agency, Oakland Housing Authority Police Department, Highway Patrol and the Alameda County Sheriff's Department. The following operations were initiated: Buy-bust and reverse-buy operations; prostitution decoy operations, drug nuisance abatement services; FBI Gang Task Force designed to develop information and arrest members of "BGF/415" prison gangs.

The Oakland Police Department (OPD), along with several other regional law enforcement agencies, conducted **279** probation/parolee searches and **828** field contacts. Further, there were **269** vehicle enforcement citations issued for speeding and various traffic violations.

Domestic Violence

In Community Policing Beats 6 and 7 (the target area) the OPD's Family Violence Intervention Unit (FVIU) meets the needs of Oakland's victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The FVIU is an active, ongoing project that has built a strong foundation of collaboration with the WOWSI initiative.

Throughout the current program term, the OPD's FVIU has:

- Provided direct services on more than 1,000 domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking cases
- Contacted over 1,400 victims of domestic violence and provided on-scene crisis assistance to more than 800 victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking
- Provided assistance via issuance of a restraining order and/or emergency protective orders for more than 300 clients
- Issued a Client Evaluation Survey to gauge the quantity and quality of services provided by the FVIU. Over 95% of the client respondents indicated that the FVIU was instrumental in stopping a future incident of domestic violence
- FVIU staff developed a strong network of local service provider links for victim services. The FVIU and WOWSI are involved in formal collaborations with local hospitals, area shelters, and low-income legal service providers, ensuring that victims receive direct client referrals to the appropriate public and private agencies.

Prostitution

Police Officers working in the target area conducted enforcement activities that consisted of prostitution decoy operations, Stay Out of Area of Prostitution (SOAP) operations, vehicle checkpoint operations, and towing of vehicles. As a result of this increased enforcement, there were **(137)** prostitution arrests. Random vehicle checks resulted in twenty-three **(23)** vehicles being towed and stored, with the owners paying

several hundred dollars, per automobile, to retrieve their vehicle. One hundred and twenty (120) vehicles were cited for various vehicle code violations.

Steering Committee members and WOWSI residents provide Police Officers with specific location information on hot spots for drug, gang, and prostitution offenses. This input served as a vital tool toward the coordination and implementation of special task force (policing) operations. Additional hotspot referral information was garnered from Oakland City Council staff, City of Oakland staff, crime data for the area, and informants. There were a total of 243 officers who worked 5-10 hours each during this period. The Weed and Seed grant provided supplemental funding for extra patrols and enforcement activities in the target area.

Obstacles: During this reporting period Police Officers were required to work mandatory overtime to fill open patrol beats throughout Oakland, on all three watches. This presented some difficulty in servicing the Weed and Seed target area.

Community Policing:

Collaborations and coordinated efforts included the Service Delivery System, wherein all City Agencies work together on neighborhood problems. Participants included the Neighborhood Law Corps, the Beat Health Unit, the Alcohol Beverage Action Team (ABAT) and the Problem Solving Officers. These individuals and associations have identified blighted properties, drug hotspots and problem liquor stores in the Weed and Seed targeted area. Weed and Seed activities planned and implemented include Problem-Solving Officers (PSOs) attending community meetings, direct target area interaction by the Beat Health Unit and the Alcohol Beverage Action Team (ABAT), as well as obtaining assistance from residents in prioritizing blighted properties, drug hot spots, and nuisance liquor stores.

Beat Health & Alcohol Beverage Action Team

- 331 drug hotline calls reviewed and investigated
- 7 complaints regarding blighted properties, and drug sales from properties
- 15 blighted properties closed/abated

Obstacle: Liquor Stores continue to plague the community with sales of fortified alcohol, extended hours of operation, and other negative elements around the stores.

During this reporting period, the Beat Health Unit was eliminated. The Problem Solving Officers will monitor blighted properties and properties associated with drugs.

Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment:

The objectives under Prevention, Intervention and Treatment are to further establish Hoover Elementary School as a safe community center; involve parents in their child’s education and school activities; increase volunteer participation by the parents; offer safe supervised after school programs; and provide for the academic needs of students and families.

Progress continues to be made at Hoover Elementary School through the utilization of a Student Study Team. The Student Study Team is a program where caseworkers provide many services to at-risk students and their families. Services are provided on an “as needed” basis. Student Study Team services include mental health counseling, grief counseling, food vouchers, dental health, vouchers for transportation, housing referrals, tutoring and mentoring.

The following list includes the activities and services at the Safe Haven:

Social and Emotional Support (40 students)

- Case Management 25 students
- Group counseling 15 students

Tutoring and Enrichment 100+ students

- Art and Photography 70 students 8 volunteers
- Sports 4 Kids 25 students
- Super Stars Literacy program 50 students 10 parents participated
- African Dance 30 students
- Gymnastics 25 students
- Gardening 30 students
- Asthma Club 50 + identified

School wide Family Events

- Safety & Health Night 80 adults
- Health & Safety Night 150+ families
- Science Night 350 parents and kids
- After School Showcase 200 + parents, visitors from US Attorney’s Office
- Family literacy Night 200+ children, parents, staff and volunteers

Safe Haven Community Programs

- Parenting/Women’s Group-- 8-10 women

- English as Second Language --8 adults weekly
- Gardening 20 students and 1 Volunteer
- Grandparent Support Group continues to meet and support each other as the need arises for more grandparents to become care providers to their grandchildren

Health Faire

In partnership with the Market Street Church, Healthy Oakland, and the Alameda County Public Health Department, Hoover Elementary School - the WOWSI Safe Haven - presented their Fourth Annual Health Fair. Representatives were on hand for free prostate screening, blood pressure checks, pediatric examinations, and dental check-ups. There were more than twenty five informational booths, and the WOWSI Coordinator issued free WOWSI t-shirts and brochures describing the WOWSI strategy. More than 300 community residents of the WOWSI target area attended the event.

Drug Education for Youth (DEFY):

The National Guard and Healthy Start staff continued with Phase III mentoring. The planning for the next DEFY camp started in September.

Neighborhood Restoration:

Members of the Neighborhood Restoration sub-committee continue to work collaboratively with the City of Oakland's Community and Economic Development Agency and other Special Delivery System team units in order to identify and rehabilitate dilapidated properties in the target area. Code Compliance Inspectors maintain a matrix of problem properties, citizen complaints, and the status of said complaints. This information is shared with the Service Delivery Team on a bi-weekly basis.

Weed and Seed partnered with Rebuilding Oakland, the Alameda County Public Health Department, community volunteers, and high school students to make a difference on one street in the target area. Community volunteers painted several homes, installed lawns, repaired fences, mended stairways and replaced broken windows. The project was conducted on two weekends in September. The Weed and Seed van (MCOPS) was also on display and many additional community residents/stakeholders were informed about WOWSI strategic planning efforts and program implementation criteria.

In partnership with the Community and Economic Development Agency, Residential Lending Services, the following programs were implemented in the Weed and Seed target area: four homes repaired; one wheelchair ramp installed; and five Lead Safe

Housing Paint projects finalized. During this reporting period there were no first time homebuyers.

Clean-Up

Neighborhood clean-up events were held in the target area in September and November. Resident volunteers from Community Policing Beats 6 and 7 participated in the events.

Window Surveys

Members of the City of Oakland's Service Delivery System (SDS) Team conducted quarterly window surveys throughout the Weed and Seed target area. SDS Team members include members of Oakland's City Council, the Office of the Mayor, Public Works Agency, Code Enforcement, and other City of Oakland agencies. Implementation of the surveys help the SDS Team to focus on blighted properties, illegal dumping, freeway underpasses, graffiti, drug hotspots, abandoned vehicles and parks. All complaints are kept in a matrix by the responsible agencies and updates are provided bi-weekly at the regular staff meeting.

6. Public Housing Safety Initiative

Contractor: East Bay Community Recovery Project (Serious and Violent Offender Re-Entry Initiative)

The East Bay Community Recovery Project's Oakland Outpatient program is based on a modified therapeutic model. Services are rendered for adult clients, (and in certain instances, their children) in a drug-free environment with emphasis placed on substance abuse and one or more psychiatric disorders. Client meetings occur up to five days per week. The daily programs are started with community meetings, peer-to-peer mentoring, and motivation from counselors. On Wednesdays, clients are offered "Safe Pathways" which includes housing information, benefits assistance, community resources, social services and an extended follow-up with each client's primary counselor. Currently, the East Bay Recovery Project has Interns from Samuel Merritt & Occupational Therapy programs that provide clients with health and nutrition related information, as well as stress reduction techniques. Also, the Oakland Unified School District's Adults with Disabilities Program conducts Life Skill groups at the facility at a minimum of two days per week.

The East Bay Community Recovery Project (EBCRP) enrolled twenty-eight (28) WOWSI residents in its re-entry program over the last 90 days. Clients received a wide spectrum of day treatment and other counseling services. Since October 2005, fourteen (14) male inmates currently residing at Santa Rita Jail have been enrolled in the WOWSI/Public Housing Safety Initiative program. These individuals have participated in psycho-education groups and drug counseling sessions. Since August

2005, a total of fifty three (53) men and thirty-one (31) women from Santa Rita Jail's "Breaking the Chains" program who meet the Public Housing Safety Initiative residency criteria have received psycho-education and relapse prevention information.

EBCRP also conducted community outreach to forty-nine (49) additional service providers throughout Alameda County, informing them of the availability of new client enrollment possibilities; specifically additional target area residents currently on felony probation and parole.

In November 2005, staff from EBCRP set-up informational booths near their primary facilities to advise West Oakland residents on the availability of prevention, health care, and psychological services available within the community, as well as throughout the City of Oakland. Handouts and contact numbers were issued.

**Contractor: Oakland Housing Authority Police Department
(Targeted Policing Patrols)**

Enhanced Patrol - disrupt the use of guns, gangs, drug dealing and other violent crimes in and around the target area's seventeen federally funded housing units.

Narcotic Surveillance - arrests of offenders, gain information that will lead to future operations, possible lease and subsidy violations.

Buy Bust Operations – Offender arrests, follow-up with search warrants, or parole and probation searchers

Surveillance Video Taping – Identification of offenders, gathering of information, lease and subsidy violations. The end result will be a collective mass arrest operation with all police agencies involved.

**Contractor: Oakland Housing Authority/Resident and Community Services
(Community-Based Prevention and Intervention Services)**

Program Activity: Youth trained in video and web music production:

Project Outcome: 10-15 youth ages 14-24 trained in multi media arts 1st level for certification. Completion of a market quality youth design and development of a film documentary focused on the WOWSI target area.

Program Activity: Youth Documentary- "Taming the West: Drug, Guns and Youth Speaking Our Reality in West Oakland." Youth design and facilitate focus groups with other youth regarding drugs, gangs and guns.

Program Outcome: 20+ at risk and unengaged youth participate in structured programs

Program Activity: Youth and Young Adults trained in community mediation. Youth trained as volunteers and peer counselors

Program Outcome: 8-10 youth trained in conflict resolution and as peer counselors

7. **Weed and Seed Truancy Program**

The Oakland Police Department's Weed and Seed Truancy Program continues its efforts related to truancy prevention at Lowell Middle School and McClymonds High School. Currently, the East Bay Community Foundation (Safe Passages) provides primary program coordination relative to the delivery and implementation of truancy prevention and intervention services.

The Oakland Police Department continues to conduct truancy sweeps throughout the area; escorting children to pre-designated Truancy Centers. Officers then coordinate with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office on youth arrested and charged with a crime to determine if community-based prevention and intervention services can be utilized as viable service and/or treatment options.