Chapter 10:
Safe Neighborhood and Communities: From Traffic Problems to Crime
Learning Objectives

• LO 1 Explain the role crime prevention plays in community policing.
• LO 2 Identify what is usually at the top of the list of neighborhood concerns and what behaviors are involved.
• LO 3 Summarize what engineering and enforcement responses can address the problem of speeding in residential areas.
Learning Objectives (cont.)

• LO 4 List how various community policing efforts have addressed citizens’ fear of crime.
• LO 5 Understand the three primary components of CPTED and how CPTED directly supports community policing.
• LO 6 Describe the two side effects of place-focused opportunity blocking efforts.
• LO 7 Define the risk factor prevention paradigm.
• LO 8 Know what partnerships have been implemented to prevent or reduce crime and disorder.
• Community policing stresses using partnerships and problem solving to address making neighborhoods and communities safer.
• Crime prevention is a large part, in fact a cornerstone, of community policing.
• Crime is usually not the greatest concern of a neighborhood—traffic-related problems are.
• Why is crime prevention so important to community policing?
• What makes this aspect of community policing so difficult to quantify?
• Speeding in residential areas
• Street racing
• Red light running
• Use (or nonuse) of seat belts
• Impaired drivers
• Police pursuits
• Safe communities
Discussion

• Why are traffic issues such an important part of community based policing and crime control?
BEYOND BEAUTIFICATION

- Allowing neighborhood disorder to go unchecked creates “broken windows.”
  - Attracts more disorder, crime, criminals, and destructive elements
- Crime and disorder problems begin to disappear when:
  - Communities clean up the neighborhood
  - Report crime
  - Improve security
  - Look out for each other and work cooperatively
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE OF PUBLIC PLACES

• Unintended consequences of video surveillance
  • Displacement, increased suspicion or fear of crime
• Public concerns regarding video surveillance
  • Civil liberties unions object to video surveillance.
  • Claim it is an invasion of privacy
• Evaluation of video surveillance
  • Research results are mixed.
USING TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME

- Maps and geographic information systems
- Statistical tests
  - CrimeStat III
  - GeoDa
- Biometric identification systems
THE IMPORTANCE OF PLACE

• The risk factor prevention paradigm
  • Seeks to identify key risk factors for offending
  • Implements prevention methods designed to counteract them
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
• Increasing the numbers of police officers across the country
• Raising awareness of community policing resulted in

COMMUNITY POLICING CONSORTIUM
• International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
• National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
• National Sheriffs’ Association (NSA)
• Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)
• Police Foundation (PF)
WEED AND SEED

• Weed
  • Identify, arrest, and prosecute offenders

• Seed
  • Simultaneously working with citizens to improve quality of life
SPECIFIC NEEDS OF A COMMUNITY ARE DIVERSE

• Partnerships to prevent or reduce crime and disorder:
  • Business anticrime groups
  • Local government–community crime prevention coalitions
  • Community coalitions
  • Grassroots organizations
  • Landlords
  • Residents in public housing

• Crime and disorder problems
  • As diverse as the communities themselves
Addressing Specific Problems

PREVENTING BURGLARY IN PUBLIC HOUSING
• Cocoon neighborhood watch

PREVENTING BURGLARY AND THEFT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES
• Police should establish working relationship with builders.

PREVENTING THEFT OF AND FROM VEHICLES
• Police furnish citizens with prevention information.
• Focus on removing keys from ignition and locking car
PREVENTING ROBBERIES AT AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES
• Lighting, location, CCTV, devices to summon police

PREVENTING WITNESS INTIMIDATION
• Multiagency partnerships

PREVENTING IDENTITY THEFT
• FTC has made available online an ID Theft Complaint form

ADDRESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
• Police are seeking to improve their effectiveness in dealing with the problem of domestic violence.
PREVENTING STREET PROSTITUTION
• More and more police departments develop websites.
• Many are posting photos of johns.

PREVENTING ASSAULTS IN AND AROUND BARS
• Reducing alcohol consumption
• Making bars safer

PREVENTING ROBBERY OF TAXI DRIVERS
• Job-related risk factors that increase chances of becoming robbery victims
• Strategies to prevent robberies
• Driver practices
PREVENTING VIOLENT CONFRONTATIONS WITH PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

• Mental health community
• Emergency hospitals to which police may take those in crisis

PREVENTING CRIMES AGAINST BUSINESSES

• Police–Individual business partnerships to prevent shoplifting
• Areas-specific police business partnerships
• Issue-specific police business partnerships
• Business-specific police-business partnerships
Discussion

- Divide the class into groups and assign each group one of the specific problems discussed. Have each group develop a strategy to address the problem and whom they would partner with, then report back to the class.
Partnerships in Action against Crime and Disorder

- PACE initiative in Norfolk, Virginia
- Minnesota Crime Prevention Association’s campaign against youth violence
- Safe Haven program in Trenton, New Jersey
- Community Crime Patrol in Columbus, Ohio
- Virginia Crime Prevention Association working with Danville, Virginia Housing Authority
- Boston’s Neighborhood Justice Network partnership with the Council of Elders, Jewish Memorial Hospital, Boston Police Department, Department of Public Health, Commission on Affairs of the Elderly
Summary

• Synergism occurs when individuals channel their energies toward a common purpose and accomplish together what they could not accomplish alone.
• It can greatly enhance community policing efforts to prevent or reduce crime and disorder.