

To: **Public Safety Committee**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Brian Sturgeon, Chief of Police**
Date: **August 12, 2020**

Manomin Area Public Safety and Traffic Concerns

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In June, a few residents in the area of Manomin and Dodd raised concerns about crime and traffic in their neighborhood. The concerns include:

- Increased violent crimes such as robberies and burglaries.
- Lack of police in the area.
- Speeding vehicles.
- Conditions of 966 Smith Ave S.

Staff completed the following during the month of June:

- Speed and vehicle count surveys.
- Compiled statistical information on crimes in the area.
- Compiled statistical information on crashes in the area.
- Temporarily installed speed bumps in the alley between Manomin and Smith.

A neighborhood meeting was organized at Dodd Park that was held on July 8, 2020 with about 25 attendees. Staff was present along with the two ward representatives from the City Council. Statistical information was provided to the attendees and we listened to their concerns.

The topic of increased crime was discussed for a bit. Statistics show this area is not a high crime area compared to the other 5 areas of the city as it consistently ranks fourth in both Part I and Part II crimes. Concerns are still active with the residents.

Lack of visual police presence was an additional concern. A couple of weeks before and after the meeting, the department saturated the area with officers when they were available. We utilized our reserve officers as well as the community service officers. We have also placed an unoccupied reserve squad in the area to make a visual statement.

The main concern, based on the amount of time dedicated to the topic, was traffic related concerns. This mostly included speeding vehicles, especially vehicles that turn onto Manomin from Dodd Rd.

There were eight suggestions that were brought forth that residents would like staff to look at to address their traffic concerns. They are:

- Make Manomin a dead end road.
- Create a one way street.
- Utilization of bump outs.
- Added trees on the boulevards.
- Additional signage such as speed radar signs.
- Narrowing the roadway.
- Utilization of the speed / radar trailer.
- Request assistance from State Patrol for more enforcement on HYW 149.

As stated above, traffic surveys were done in the alley, 900 block of Manomin, 900 block of Dodd Rd, and at Dodd and Ottawa. Based on the surveys all the areas experienced a low rating of enforceable speed violations except for the area of Dodd and Ottawa which had a medium rating for southbound traffic at a rate of 8.9 percent of enforceable speed violations.

The last topic that was discussed was the condition of 966 Smith Ave S. Attendees showed concern for the tenants of this apartment building due to the condition of the building. Residents reported that the laundry facility was not operational, some appliances were not working, and broken windows were not being addressed.

Code enforcement was asked for information regarding this property. The property is being maintained just enough to stay in compliance with city code requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

		Amount
Fund:		Unknown / TBD
Department:		
Account:		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss the issues presented to staff by the residents.