



MEMORANDUM

Austin Police Department
Office of the Chief

TO: Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Brian Manley, Chief of Police
DATE: August 8, 2019
SUBJECT: Violent Crime Initiative Downtown Austin

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information on Austin Police Department's (APD) plan to address the significant increase in violent crime that has taken place in our downtown this year. While violent crime is down citywide, the increases in aggravated assault and robbery in the Downtown Area Command (DTAC) over this past year, along with the recent high profile shooting incidents, require some immediate changes to APD's operations. Since the beginning of 2019 there have been 107 aggravated assault incidents downtown with 28 of those being shooting incidents. In addition, there have been 19 stabbings, 22 arrests for unlawfully carry of a weapon, and 10 felons in possession of a firearm. Additionally, APD has seen the responsibilities assigned to DTAC personnel significantly increase over the past several years as the "entertainment district" has expanded to include West 6th street, East 6th street east of the Interstate, Rainey Street, the Red River district, and expansions to the 4th Street entertainment venues. While APD has not reduced the number of officers within DTAC, their geographic area of responsibilities have increased so much that the officers are spread extremely thin at times.

To achieve a safer downtown and address the increase in violence, APD began an initiative last week that has DTAC officers working a smaller geographical area and utilizing bike patrols to the greatest extent possible. This will increase visibility and mobility within the district. During this initiative, the adjacent sectors will assume responsibility for the areas outside the focus area of this initiative. DTAC will maintain full staffing during this initiative and the adjacent sectors will adjust staffing as necessary to handle their additional responsibilities.

In addition to these patrol resources, support units from Organized Crime (Street Narcotics and the Gang Unit), Mounted Unit, Metro Tactical Units, Real Time Crime Center (HALO-Public Safety Cameras), and Air Support will assist in the initiative. Texas DPS also volunteered to assist and will be working traffic in the downtown area and downtown IH35.

APD portable light trailers (2) are currently deployed in strategic locations inside the target area to improve lighting in areas where that may impact crime.

APD will monitor the impacts of the initiative and will shift or add resources as needed. The initiative began on August 1, 2019 and our department has seen positive impacts within the target area.

Our planning effort highlighted the need for our department to re-evaluate the geographic boundaries and the staffing needs for DTAC. APD will be working on long-term strategies to address the changes within the downtown area.

Summary of Activity from August 1st through August 5th:

- Officers handled 605 calls for service, 69% were self-initiated (416 self-initiated vs. 189 dispatched).
- There have been 90 reports written with 45 arrests. Narcotics-related arrests (13) are the highest, followed by public intoxication (6) and requests to apprehend-warrant (5).

We will continue to track data throughout this initiative, to include violent crime trends and gun crimes/seizures.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager
Troy Gay, Assistant Chief

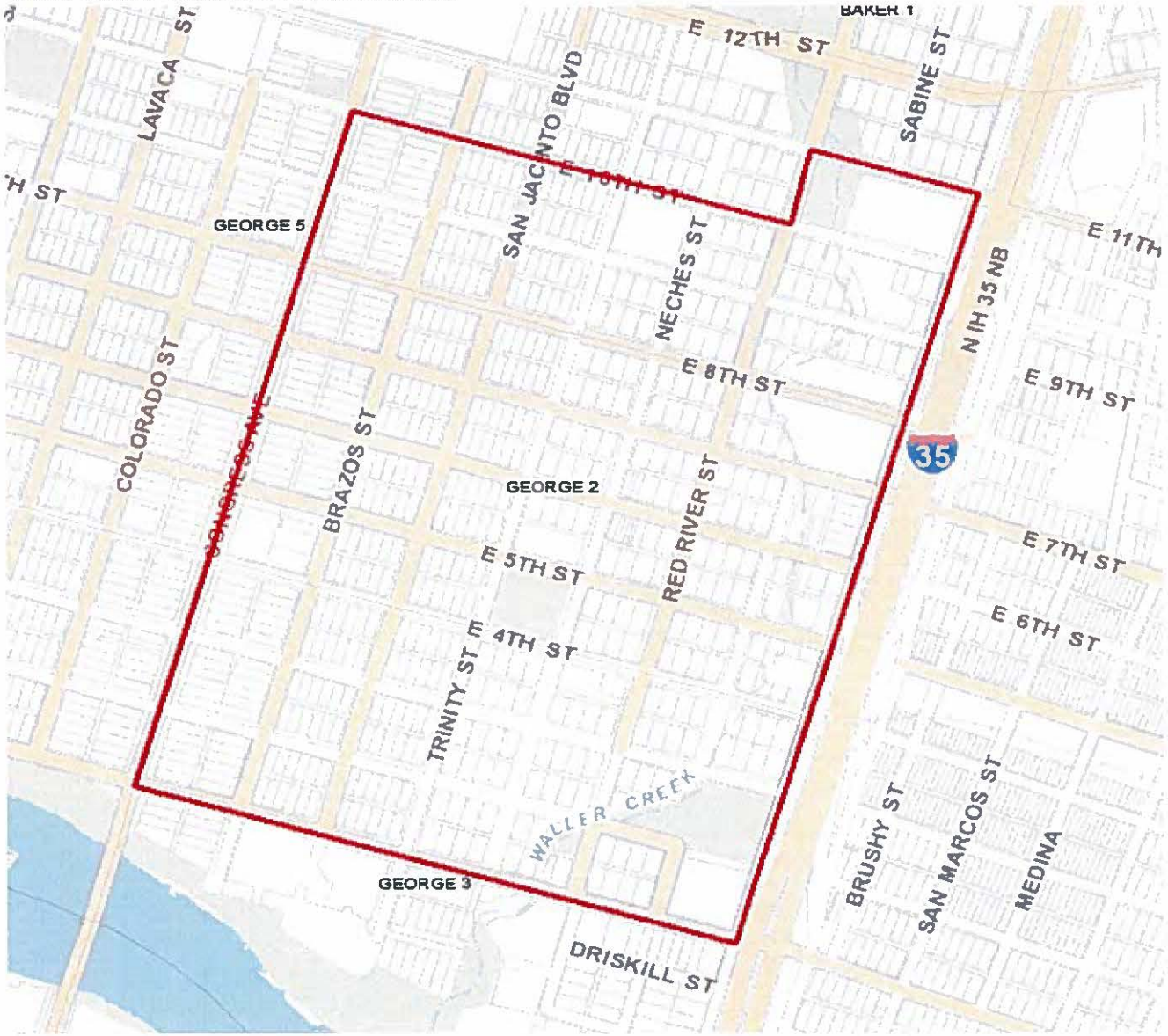
Attachment 1 – DTAC Activity August 1-5, 2019

DTAC Violent Crime Boundary - All Offenses: 8/1-8/6/19*

Months Aug

Highest Offense Description	Total
ASSAULT WITH INJURY	7
POSS CONTROLLED SUB/NARCOTIC	7
PUBLIC INTOXICATION	6
CRASH/LEAVING THE SCENE	6
REQUEST TO APPREHEND	5
POSS OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA	5
THEFT FROM PERSON	4
THEFT	4
DEL CONTROLLED SUB/NARCOTIC	3
WARRANT ARREST NON TRAFFIC	3
EDP INTERVENTION WITH CONTACT	2
FAMILY DISTURBANCE	2
EDP VOLUNTARY	2
ASSAULT BY CONTACT FAM/DATING	2
BURGLARY INFORMATION	2
DWI 2ND	2
FOUND PROPERTY	2
AUTO THEFT	1
DOC EXPOSURE	1
RESISTING ARREST OR SEARCH	1
DOC FIGHTING	1
PEDESTRIAN ON ROADWAY	1
EMERGENCY DETENTION	1
DEBIT CARD ABUSE	1
VIOL CITY ORDINANCE - OTHER	1
CRASH/CITY VEHICLE	1
AGG ASSAULT	1
MISSING ADULT	1
FAILURE TO REG AS SEX OFFENDER	1
AGG ASSAULT WITH MOTOR VEH	1

DTAC Violent Crime Initiative Boundaries



DWI .15 BAC OR ABOVE	1
POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA	1
THEFT OF BICYCLE	1
BURGLARY OF VEHICLE	1
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	1
RETALIATION	1
IDENTITY THEFT	1
ASSAULT BY CONTACT	1
INTERFERENCE PUBLIC DUTIES	1
LOST PROP	1
HARASSMENT	1
EVADING VEHICLE	1
FAILURE TO IDENTIFY	1
Grand Total	90

37% of all DTAC crime from 8/1/19 thru present* (query returned data thru 8/5/19) occurred within the violent crime initiative boundary.

All DTAC Crime = 246
Within boundary = 90

DTAC Violent Crime Boundary - All Offenses Arrests: 8/1-8/6/19*

Months Aug

<i>Highest Offense Description</i>	<i>Total</i>
ARRESTED	45
AGG ASSAULT	1
ASSAULT BY CONTACT FAM/DATING	1
ASSAULT WITH INJURY	3
AUTO THEFT	1
DEL CONTROLLED SUB/NARCOTIC	6
DWI .15 BAC OR ABOVE	1
DWI 2ND	2
EVADING VEHICLE	1
FAILURE TO IDENTIFY	2
INTERFERENCE PUBLIC DUTIES	1
POSS CONTROLLED SUB/NARCOTIC	7
POSS OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA	2

*Data was queried on 8/6/19 and may include some incidents/arrests that occurred on 8/6/19 but it is not a complete and full representation of all incidents that occurred on this date.

The above is a representation of the number of persons arrested - it is a count of persons, not a count of offenses or charges.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION	6
REQUEST TO APPREHEND	5
RESISTING ARREST OR SEARCH	1
THEFT FROM PERSON	1
VIOL CITY ORDINANCE - OTHER	1
WARRANT ARREST NON TRAFFIC	3
ARRESTED-SOBERING CENTER	2
ASSAULT WITH INJURY	2
VICTIM/ARRE	2
DOC FIGHTING	2
Grand Total	49

AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT DATA DISCLAIMER

1. The data provided are for informational use only and may differ from official APD crime data.
2. APD's crime database is continuously updated, so reports run at different times may produce different results. Care should be taken when comparing against other reports as different data collection methods and different data sources may have been used.
3. The Austin Police Department does not assume any liability for any decision made or action taken or not taken by the recipient in reliance upon any information or data provided.

AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR SERVICE DISCLAIMER:

Understanding the following conditions will allow you to get the most out of the data provided.

Data from CAD is based on a monthly download.

This data includes the record for the PRIMARY unit responding to the incident.

This data includes both self-initiated and dispatched calls for service. Officer Initiated call for service is defined as calls with a response time of < 10 seconds.

Due to methodological differences in data collection, different data sources may produce different results.

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Source: CAD/Datawarehouse - August 6, 2019, All Calls with final Call types listed.

****Data queried on 8/6/2019 for all offenses and calls for service occurring on or after 8/1/2019. Offense data queried returned thru 8/5/2019. Calls for service data only returned thru 8/4/2019.**

****The violent crime initiative boundary was defined as Congress Ave west to S IH 35 SVRD SB and E Cesar Chavez St north to E 10th St (to Red River) and the 1 block from Red River St to S IH 35 SVRD SB (map above).**

****Duplicate, unfounded & 311 canceled reports were excluded.**

****The count of arrests is the number of persons arrested during the above time frame and only within the above noted boundaries.
The offenses listed are not necessarily the offense the arrested person was/is charged with.**