

## Little Safety Summit II organized by Friends of South Park Blocks

### Time:

Thursday, February 11, 15:30 – 17:00 pm

### Location:

City Hall, 2nd. Floor, Pettygrove Room

### Participants:

Galina Burley, Security Manager, Parks and Recreations

Michelle Timfichuk, PPS

Alan Pendergrass, PPS

Jacob Brostoff, ONI

Carole Barkley, FoSPB

David Newman, FoSPB

Gunnar Sacher, FoSPB

### Minutes:

- Park ranger coverage for SPB in 2016
  - a. FoSPB noticed significant less coverage
  - b. Some gaps in the services
    - Initially caused by loss of ranger supervisor
    - Galina is looking for permanent supervisor
    - Hire two seasonal rangers to complement full time staff, who were lost in Jan
    - Two more rangers assigned to Central Business District in March
    - Right-sized by May – 4 full-time, 2 seasonals
  - c. Can we get back to meeting once a week during a foot patrol
    - Karras Kalivas, Lead Ranger
    - Sam Sachs, off at 3:30 on Fridays
- New Camp Criteria Policy and its impact on SPB
  - a. See separate document for policy
  - b. Council had work session to discuss mayor's office work on new initiatives
  - c. Mayor's office moving forward with implementation with bureaus that the mayor's office controls
  - d. Park's excluded from mayor's guidelines – Park's commissioner owns that decision and instructed office to comply with old rules
    - No permission to camping in park – no structures allowed
    - Option to clean up larger camps
    - Send CBD SOP (**Galina**)
  - e. One point contact: [portlandoregon.gov/campsites](http://portlandoregon.gov/campsites)
    - Objective: more data gathering and to provide social services and cleanup
- Crime prevention through environmental design: Behavioral changes through environment design
  - a. Vincente's and Jacob's SPB review (see report below)
  - b. High priority
    - Move benches in Clay and Columbia Park Blocks (2016 FoSPB project??)
    - Fencing close to Child Development Center
    - Additional signage (PPR)
    - Lighting around loo (PPR)
    - Program activities in Shemanski – expedited permitting
  - c. Pass on recommendations to Children Development Center (**Gunnar**)
    - School teachers in SPB wear Hi-Vis Vest, set out boundary signs, cones or Crossing Flag Kid to set up boundaries while at play.
    - Check with Emerson School use of North Park Blocks
- Finalize metrics and agree on cadence of collection and exchange

- a. Continue collecting type of data as presented in November
  - Patrol hours
  - Warnings issued
  - Exclusions issued
  - Breakdown of violations
  - Calls for Service
- b. Share with all participants on a quarterly basis (**Galina, Michelle**)
  - Send a reminder for report (**Gunnar, 3.31., 6.30., 9.30., 12.31.**)
- Input for follow-up letter to mayor and city council
  - a. FoSPB will send a follow up letter to mayor and city council pressing for continued, balanced changes documented in a broad plan rather than ad-hoc, loosely connected initiatives
  - b. Fragmented policies put forward are confusing to homeless population and residents
  - c. Plans for administration for camping policies
  - d. ROI
  - e. Time has gone by but not much has changed
  - f. Advocate for budget – signs, programming, security
  - g. Change in defining what behavior is acceptable and what not and how to enforce
  - h. Invite to the summit
- Idea – invite mayoral candidates to walk in the park
- Safety Summit III
  - a. Time – Spring (April or mid-June) or Fall (October)
    - 3.29., 2- 4
  - b. City Hall, 30 people, projector (Jacob)
  - c. Invitees – start with participant list from last Summit
    - Chad Stover
    - Send list to Jacob and Galina (**Gunnar**)
  - d. Agenda

#### Future topics

- Agree on park survey strategy and time of survey
  - a. Whom can we talk to what we can and cannot ask?
  - b. Survey example
    - Work with PSU – contact Ashley at greenloopswpdx@gmail.com
- Develop metrics for adequate park coverage by rangers (Galina)
  - a. What do we need to do this?

#### **SPB Walk-Thru Report**

**Overarching Theme** – activate South Park Blocks with permitted activities. Parks could set the precedent in the SPB with activities. We didn’t notice any significant environmental design changes that can be made cost effectively.

#### **Block by Block Improvement:**

- CLAY PARK BLOCK (aka commemorative OKC block) – remove benches on NORTH END of block, west side of park benches have been destroyed by falling tree limb. Placement of garbage can in previous spot of benches. Plant Crocus Flowers in grass to discourage excessive sleeping.
- COLUMBIA PARK BLOCK (aka Loo block) – LED Lighting in the “Portland Loo;” Signage to indicate “1000 Feet of SCHOOL;” Improved Signage to indicate “ART BLOCKS;” Removal of the 4 benches that are closest to the “Portland Loo.” Reposition the placement of garbage can in previous spot of benches. Plant Crocus Flowers in grass to discourage excessive sleeping.

- JEFFERSON PARK BLOCK (aka Roosevelt) – Signage to indicate “1000 Feet of SCHOOL,” and Plant Crocus Flowers in grass to discourage excessive sleeping. In addition, add LED Lighting on lamp post that spotlight Teddy Roosevelt monument.
- MADISON PARK BLOCK (aka Lincoln block) – Signage to indicate “1000 Feet of SCHOOL,” and Plant Crocus Flowers in grass to discourage excessive sleeping. In addition, add LED Lighting on lamp post that spotlight Abraham Lincoln monument.
- MAIN PARK BLOCK (aka Shemanski block) – Activate NORTH END OF PARK WITH Food Vendors along Salmon Street / or in block on elevation on north end of park. Keep all seating due to usage by neighboring theaters.

**Safety Recommendations:**

- School teachers in SPB wear Hi-Vis Vest, set out boundary signs, cones or Crossing Flag Kid to set up boundaries while at play.
  - Encourage Friends of South Park Blocks to increase patrols and representation from neighboring businesses.
  - Encourage Friends of South Park Blocks to start a Cel.ly group to share intelligence and emergency information administrated by the Friends of South Park Blocks.
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## **Little Safety Summit I organized by Friends of South Park Blocks**

### **Time:**

Friday, November 13, 11:00 – 12:05 pm

### **Location:**

City Hall, 2nd. Floor, Pettygrove Room

### **Participants:**

Galina Burley, Security Manager, Parks and Recreations  
Michelle Timfichuk, PPS  
Jacob Brostoff, ONI

Jo Durand, FoSPB  
David Newman, FoSPB  
Gunnar Sacher, FoSPB

### **Summit Objective:**

1. Improve safety and livability in the South Park Blocks for all to enjoy by increasing effectiveness of managing visitor behavior and by enforcing existing rules and ordinances
2. Generate positive activities to bring in more positive activities to SPB

### **Minutes:**

1. Welcome
2. Park status with focus on past Summer 2015 in comparison to Summer 2014 (Score Card)
3. Ordinances and their enforcement
  - a. Coverage analysis (PPR, PPS)
  - b. What to do after park closure and during kids presence (PPS, PPR)
    - i. No overlap between PPS and PPR, 4 PM changeout
    - ii. Weekly checkins to coordinate
  - c. Smoking rules can only be enforced by Park's staff
    - i. Security vendors were removed from the law
    - ii. FoSPB does not see great compliance
4. Strengthen services in the park
  - a. Develop metrics for adequate park coverage by rangers (Galina)
    - i. Exclusions went down by 50%
      1. Does not include Police exclusions - get Police data
    - ii. Rangers – 1 hour per day
    - iii. Decrease in coverage
      1. PPS – 10%
      2. Ranger – 6%
    - iv. Disconnect between data and FoSPB observations
    - v. Provide spreadsheets (Galina, Michele)
  - b. Service calls
    - i. Some frustration about response time and results
    - ii. Document rather than expect resolution
    - iii. Daily email report of Park conditions - from Foot Patrol, Turf Group, Rose Group
  - c. Crime prevention through environmental design (Jacob, Galina)
  - d. Ask Asa for impression when comparing 2014 and 2015 (Galina)
5. Updated Action plan
  - a. Agree on metrics being tracked by Park Rangers and PPS
  - b. Improve coverage / hours spent in the park by dedicated rangers to North and South Park Blocks
    - i. No dedicated rangers for SPB assigned to downtown area
      1. 2 teams of 2

2. 3 team of 2 in Summer
      - ii. Group of rangers that rotates
      - iii. Can a team be more dedicated to SPB for example consistent staffing or smaller area (Galina)
    - c. Demographic assessment of park population
      - i. Rangers not collecting / or planning at this point in time
      - ii. Not setup for it operational and charter
      - iii. Contact Sharon Singleton, homeless outreach (JOIN?)
      - iv. Baseline survey / park usage survey - PSU- Jason (Galina)
  6. Conclusions and next steps
    - a. What are we trying to accomplish
    - b. What is adequate coverage
    - c. How do we manage behavior
      - Enforcement
      - Establish a culture top down
  7. Next meeting
    - a. Safety Summit - Spring 2016
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Issue	City ordinances / Rules / Tools	Discussion	Score Card Comparison Summer 2014 to Summer 2015
Physical Assaults			
Aggressive Panhandling			
Theft			
Dogs off leash and failure to scoop	Have ordinances		
Public human defecation / urination	Have ordinances		
Graffiti and littering including cigarette butts	Have ordinances		
Consumption of alcohol	Have ordinances		
Sale and use of illegal drugs	Have ordinances		
Camping / establishment of unsightly “campsites”	Have ordinances	<p>Tents on sidewalks not allowed</p> <p>Grey topic – working on clarity, current ordinance hard to enforce</p> <p>Ordinance defined by intent of person to create a temporary place to live - Fuzzy line</p> <p>Sympathy by elected officials e.g. commissioner in charge</p> <p>Quicker, urgent response when children are present</p> <p>Advocate facility based shelter, organized camping in downtown at churches or non-profits?</p>	
Profanity / aggressive behavior / harassment / threats	No ordinance		

Loud, excessive noise / shouting	Noise ordinance but not enforced against unamplified human voice	Call police on emergency 911/ non-emergency line who partner with police bureau  Cascadia Health Unit Intensive street outreach	
Skateboarding (on public art)	Have ordinances		
Smoking	Have ordinances starting after July 1, 2015	Illegal to smoke anything in any park – tobacco and tobacco products  Unlawful to possess / smoke marijuana in public  Uneasiness of enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no 30 day exclusion</li> <li>- Unclear what level of enforcement</li> </ul> Education first Peer pressure	
Vandalism	Have ordinances		
Car break-ins' / bike theft	Have ordinances		
Activities associated with people of mental illness	No authority to address the issue	Almost impossible to assist people with mental illness  Homelessness an issue that police force is struggling with  Police service level down in the night (12 people)	

**Action Plan:**

An actionable visitor management plan supported by stakeholders and participants of the Summit

- Understand sentiment in the neighborhood
  - Conduct survey
  - Petition on change.org to enforce existing city ordinance that address behavioral issues
  - Data critical – obtain police data

- Strengthen services in the park
  - Collect and analyze data from Police, PPS and Park Ranger program
  - Develop metrics for adequate park coverage by rangers (Galina)
- Crime prevention through environmental design (Jacob, Galina)
  - Time consuming
  - Focus on other actions first
  - Be clear about ideas
  - Ask for funding
- Advocacy
  - Reach out to Commissioners including commissioner Fritz to discuss concerns (David, Gunnar)
    - Support improved funding and enforcement tools for the ranger program to reflect increased area of responsibilities
  - Reach out to mayor and commissioners to advocate Police pressure (David, Gunnar)
    - for walking beats (Police foot patrol) at certain times of the year – letter and/or meeting
    - for stings at certain parks to counteract dilution of ranger program and other forces
  - Reach out and testify at city council
  - Policy advocacy
    - Advocate for improved level of funding for mental health service
    - Promote culture of civility
      - Rangers as ambassadors
  - Include Park Safety at quarterly PP&R meetings
  - Focus on behavior of park users
- Ordinances and their enforcement
  - Enforcement
    - Will keep problems in check
    - Not solve problems
  - Enforce existing laws and guidelines by enough eyes
    - Camping ordinance
  - Strengthening / creating new city ordinances guidelines
    - Sidewalk management plan
  - More presence in the park
    - Coverage analysis (PPR, PPS)
  - What to do after park closure and during kids presence (PPS, PPR)
    - Limited to no coverage between 1 am and morning
- Improved signage
- Call in issues to create log of activities / build statistics
  - Non-emergency then dial 0
  - Decisions being made based on numbers of calls for service