Mt. Scott-Arleta Community Safety Project Evaluation Report Summary

Major Findings

The project aimed to increase safety and reduce shootings and traffic speeding by using a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) approach. It came about due to a network collaboration between local community members and a multi-bureau response from the City of Portland, which was successful due to community organizing efforts. This process was a significant and unintended outcome that led to creating the project model.

Findings are promising and suggest that the project may have contributed to the decrease in shootings during the project timeline. Analysis of Portland Police Bureau (PPB) shooting data in Figure 1 shows the number of shootings decreased in the 'project area' (where joint patrol missions with Portland Parks & Recreation took place) during the implementation timeline (Sept-Dec. 2021) - within a trend of overall increase. An increase in shootings post-intervention suggests the intervention may had an impact and demonstrates the need for the project to continue with more comprehensive data analysis to determine outcomes.

Challenges to determine whether the intervention caused or contributed to the change include that statistically; shootings decrease in the summertime, there is inconsistency in reporting the number of shootings per month, and it is unclear how the project work area was defined by all sources. Complimentary data on space use and sense of safety would have aided the analysis to determine project outcomes and impact.



Strategic Recommendations

> **Project Management & Structure** - Continue the project, consider a collaborative governance management structure and build a more representative network. Create a communications strategy and strategic plan **naming safety as an outcome**. Continue and expand coordination with City, County, and local organizations who provide culturally-specific support. Continue to apply an equity lens and include a trauma-informed approach throughout the project.

> Evaluation & Data Collection Design - Consider an experimental research and evaluation design such as action research, and data collection methods like outcome harvesting and network mapping. Along with crime data, neighborhood perceptions of safety are important evaluation metrics and indicators of change. Community members should be involved in all aspects of the project, particularly during evaluation design to define what 'safety' means to them, and to use that definition as a metric.

About the Evaluation

The evaluation is a retrospective review of the 2021 pilot project. It seeks to better understand the project's processes and outcomes - with an aim to make recommendations for learning and adaptation to potentially replicate and/or scale the project.

Data & Methods

The analysis is based on findings from Key Informant Interviews with staff from City of Portland Bureaus and Community Members, and a desk review of project documents provided from the City of Portland. This is a descriptive analysis only.

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