



WESTSIDE SECURITY PLAN

A NEW DIRECTION FOR AN HISTORIC COMMUNITY



GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR THE WESTSIDE

Broken windows. Boarded-up houses. Trash-covered, empty lots. Graffiti scrawled across doors, walls, telephone poles and just about any other surface. These are the images that tell the story of drugs, crime, prostitution and decay. Despite its prominent history and proximity to Atlanta's most famed institutions and attractions, the Westside community today is plagued by crime, addiction, joblessness, and poverty due to a lack of opportunities.

However, there is also much pride within this community. In its heyday, the area was a thriving family-based community and boasted a prosperous commercial district. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called the area home after moving into the community in 1967, and his widow Coretta Scott King continued to live in the area until 2004.

The Atlanta Police Foundation (APF) is spearheading a public safety strategy to attack the criminality plaguing the area by introducing proven tactics including: deploying Operation Shield in the community, expanding the Secure Neighborhoods program to increase police visibility, and creating an opportunity for local youth with the @PROMISE Youth Initiative. The APF's Westside program is a collaborative effort that brings together community and private sector partners to implement sustainable initiatives that will revitalize the Westside community.

KEY PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS:

Operation Shield

Secure Neighborhoods

@PROMISE Youth Initiative

EXPECTED OUTCOMES BY 2020:

- **10% reduction in crime** on the Westside over three years
- More efficient, real-time processing of information and **crime analytics**
- **Faster response times** of first responders
- **Increased police visibility** and presence in all Westside neighborhoods
- **Improved collaboration** with all public safety stakeholders
- Improved **community relationships** and **engagement**
- Decrease in **youth arrests** and recidivism rates by 10% annually
- 90% of @PROMISE participants **complete the program**
- **75% reduction in the truancy rate** of @PROMISE participants

OPERATION SHIELD

CREATING CHANGE THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Technology is changing the way the Atlanta Police Department operates. The APF's Westside initiative will expand **Operation Shield**, throughout the Westside communities by growing the number of cameras and License Plate Readers to facilitate criminal investigations, improve situational awareness and function as a crime deterrent. This network of advanced technologies creates more efficient policing through the citywide network of surveillance cameras and LPRs, predictive policing platform and criminal analytics software. **Operation Shield** will enhance security for the residents and businesses in the area.



SURVEILLANCE CAMERA NETWORK

The Loudermilk Family Video Integration Center (VIC) is a cutting-edge facility that serves as the hub for **Operation Shield**. The VIC houses a team of analysts who manage the City's more than 7,600 surveillance camera network that yields unprecedented crime deterrence potential, and has the capacity to solve crimes and take criminals off the streets faster. The system is unique in that it allows existing video surveillance cameras owned by private business partners to be integrated and monitored in a centralized location. The network will expand to more than 10,000 cameras by 2018.

Through public and private partnerships, more than 100 cameras were installed and integrated in the Westside Tax Allocation District in 2016.

STRATEGIES:



Install and integrate **cameras** into the VIC as well as place Atlanta Police Department **signage** in targeted areas.



Utilize **advanced analytics** and **product development** through commitment to research and development of cutting edge technology.



Identify **strategic locations** on the **Westside** and the **Atlanta University Center** for additional cameras to be installed.

SECURE NEIGHBORHOODS

INCREASED POLICE VISIBILITY

The APF has created new opportunities for officers to purchase homes in strategic neighborhoods throughout Atlanta, to increase police visibility and enhance engagement between the APD and the citizens they serve. Studies by the APF have shown a 10-15 percent reduction in property crimes in neighborhoods where officers have moved. Through partnerships with local builders and contractors, the APF will build 20-25 homes on the Westside by 2020, and will continue to provide incentives to officers who move into the City.



WESTSIDE SECURITY PATROL

The Westside Security Patrol, known as **Westside Blue**, is a community policing initiative comprised of off-duty Atlanta Police officers who provide additional police presence and security in targeted areas. This model allows officers to engage with the community on personal level to strengthen and enhance community and police relationships.

Westside Blue works in conjunction with the English Avenue and Vine City neighborhood associations and public safety committees.

Through financial support from the Arthur M. Blank Foundation, the Atlanta Police Department and Westside community members will provide administrative oversight for the Security Patrol. The program enhances police patrols currently assigned to the English Avenue and Vine City communities; it will not take the place of established community officers.

AT-PROMISE, NOT AT RISK

Youth are the future of our community; and we envision a city that positively embraces and provides dynamic opportunities for growth and development. Ultimately, **AT-PROMISE** brings police and community partners together to create pathways to success. This model focuses on three major areas:

1. **DIVERSION** - an alternative to arrest
2. **INTERVENTION** - strategies to address behavior
3. **PREVENTION** - to promote and foster personal growth and development.

AT-PROMISE empowers youth to realize their full potential to become the future leaders of Atlanta.

The @PROMISE Youth Center will be transformed into a state-of-the-art learning and community facility with specialized services for youth and a gathering place for residents, group activities and other purposes. Located in historic English Avenue, is an opportunity to participate in the revitalization efforts of this neighborhood.

AT-PROMISE YOUTH INITIATIVE

PROGRAMS:

- Arts and Media
- Educational Services
- Family Support (Peer/Parent Support Group)
- Full Range of Abuse Counseling
- High-Risk Behavior Prevention Programming
- Life Skills and Individual Career Planning
- Mentoring /Relationship Management/Conflict Resolution
- Employment Services

Westside Security Map

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|---|---------------------------|
|  | Atlanta University Center |
|  | Vine City |
|  | Ashview Heights |
|  | Castleberry Hill |
|  | English Avenue |

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