



URBANA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFUSING COMMUNITY POLICING STRATEGIES INTO HOT SPOTS POLICING PRACTICES: THE IMPACTS ON POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS IN A MID-SIZED CITY

National Institute of Justice Award Number 2017-R2-CX-0012

Understanding the Impacts of Policing Strategies and Practices (Beyond Crime Reduction)

SUMMARY: The Urbana Police Department, as a research partner with the University of Illinois, has been awarded funding from the National Institute of Justice to conduct Phase I of a research project. **(Phases II and III may be funded in future fiscal years.)** We seek to mitigate potential negative consequences and realize positive outcomes by integrating community policing strategies into the implementation of the established best-practice of hot spots policing. A mixed-methods evaluation of the impact on police-community relations will be conducted, as well as assessing the impacts on crime outcomes.

PROJECT OVERVIEW: The purpose of the proposed project is to implement a police practice found effective in reducing crime while improving police-community relations and police legitimacy.

With hot spots policing practices, concerns have been raised about potential “over policing” in high-crime hot spots, and the associated collateral consequences to residents living in those hot spots. The goal of this project is to enact hot spots policing in areas of high reported crime while both minimizing negative collateral consequences and realizing positive collateral consequences. The Urbana Police Department will introduce hot spots policing, utilizing two different strategies (targeted patrol and community policing), and the research team will evaluate the differential effects of these two strategies on residents’ perceptions of police. Furthermore, the effects on reported crime and crime perceptions in the hot spots treatment areas will be considered. The project design is interdisciplinary, combining theoretical perspectives from police research, anthropology, social psychology, and intergroup relationships research.

POTENTIAL IMPACT: The potential impact of the proposed study are substantial, covering: (1) the effects of traditional hot spots policing on police-community relations; (2) the effects of hot spots policing with community policing strategies on police-community relations; (3) exploratory qualitative and quantitative analysis on the relationship between social identification, intergroup relationships, procedural justice, and police legitimacy; (4) the effectiveness of hot spots policing on crime reduction in a mid-sized city; and (5) translating research into practice in a smaller police agency.

METHODOLOGY: This project is broken into three discrete phases. NIJ has awarded funding for Phase I, and may award funding for Phases II and III if Phase I is successful.

- Phase I (funded), January 1, 2018 – August 30, 2018
During Phase I, hot spots will be identified and randomly assigned, officers will receive training, pretest surveys will be administered to residents in hot spots, and qualitative data will be collected.
- Phase II (potential for future funding), September 1, 2018 – August 30, 2019
During Phase II, officers will conduct the treatment, and both qualitative and quantitative data from Phase I will be analyzed. Ethnographic interviews will be conducted.
- Phase III (potential for future funding), September 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020
During Phase III, a second wave of surveys will be administered, as well as follow-up focus groups and interviews. Quantitative and qualitative data analysis will occur, as well as drafting the final report, disseminating results, and archiving the data.

URBANA INVOLVEMENT:

Project Manager, Melissa Haynes

As the project manager, Melissa Haynes will manage all aspects of the project to ensure tasks are completed with quality and in a timely manner. She will monitor budget and expenditures and organize regular meetings with project team. Ms. Haynes will consult with SRL for survey development and assist with IRB approval. She will oversee the undergraduate GIS intern to map violent and property crimes and calls for service to both street segments and hot spots using Kernel density. She will work with patrol lieutenants to identify hot spots and clear boundaries, and randomly assignment of hot spots into treatment/control groups. Ms. Haynes will work with 911 call center to create and pilot dispatch tickets, and oversee kick-off block party planning. Ms. Haynes will participate in patrol officer roll-call training and coordinate and conduct Q&A sessions for all shifts.

UPD Community Policing Officers

Six UPD officers will be selected to participate in training at the Police Training Institute.

Undergraduate GIS Intern, Jerry Huey

The undergraduate GIS intern will work under the supervision of the Project Manager. He will test different methods of coding violent crime calls for service, property crime calls for service, and disorder calls for service, as well as violent, property, and disorder crimes from police reports. He will geocode this data for at least the past year. The GIS intern will remove commercial locations, and work with UPD personnel to discuss apartment complexes for street segment analysis. Mr. Huey will use Kernel density analysis as well as aggregating to street segments. He will also use spatial autocorrelation to determine which crime types are correlated across space in Urbana.

Graduate Quantitative Intern, Lingxiao Zhou

The quantitative intern will work under the Project Manager to assess crimes and calls for service in the identified hot spots and contiguous areas. He will also set up processes to track changes in these areas. Furthermore, Mr. Zhou will do an in-depth analysis of crime types and patterns in the community policing treatment hot spots, and develop a format for reporting these to UPD community policing officers.

Graduate Qualitative Intern, Chibundo Anwuli Ekwuatu

The qualitative intern will work under the Project Manager to examine historical crime trends in hot spots. She will consider not only statistics, but, pending IRB approval, will also read redacted

police reports to learn about the nature of crime occurring in these areas. Ms. Egwautu will also participate in interviews with the Research Director and Associate Research Director.

Undergraduate Intern, Ansley Jones

The undergraduate intern will provide general project support to both graduate interns and the project manager. Ms. Jones has previous experience as a UPD intern, and thus has an understanding of the department, as well as rapport with officers and personnel. She will work with Ms. Haynes to pilot the dispatch procedures and setting up the infrastructure for log sheet entry and tracking, and will work with both the graduate interns to provide assistance as needed.

UPD Patrol Officers (Not grant-funded)

As part of their regular duties, UPD patrol officers will participate in roll-call training.

City of Urbana Human Resource Staff (Not grant-funded)

As part of their regular duties, the City of Urbana Human Resources Staff will assist with media coordination for messaging about the upcoming project, will plan block party kickoffs for community policing hot spots (nothing will be purchased in Phase I), and assist with identification of key stakeholders in hot spots.

UPD Administrative Assistant (Not grant-funded)

The UPD administrative assistant, as part of her regular duties, will coordinate UPD command staff involvement.

UPD Command Staff (Not grant-funded)

As part of their regular duties, UPD command staff will advise on hot spots boundaries, advise for dispatch tickets, advise on content of log sheets and select community policing officers. They will write pre-intervention survey administration letters and assist with media coordination for messaging about the upcoming project. They will also assist with identification of key stakeholders in hot spots.

FUNDING: The University of Illinois is the recipient of this grant, and the Urbana Police Department is a research partner. Personnel from the Police Training Institute, Department of Anthropology, College of Business, College of Law, and Survey Research Lab comprise the project team. Melissa Haynes, the Crime Analyst for the Urbana Police Department, is a co-principal investigator and will serve as the project manager for this grant.

The below figures represent the funding for the Urbana Police Department. NIJ has awarded funding for Phase I (\$316,125.00). Funding for Phases II (\$451,096) and III (\$286,467) may be awarded in FY 2018 and FY 2019. Future funding is predicated on the success of Phase I.

Phase I: Urbana Police Department	Personnel	Fringe	Other
Melissa Haynes, Crime Analyst	\$14,601	\$4,395	
UPD Community Policing Officer Training	\$1,590	\$1,240	
3 UPD Interns	\$10,640	\$814	
Geospatial Software License			\$1,400
Indirect Costs			\$3,468
UPD Total		\$38,148	

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-12-076R

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
(City of Urbana and University of Illinois Hot Spot Policing Study)**

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana (the “City”) is an Illinois home rule unit of local government pursuant to Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the statutes of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois (“University”) is a body corporate and politic of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Section 10 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 *et seq.* enable the City and the University to enter into and execute agreements among themselves and provide authority for intergovernmental cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that it is appropriate and beneficial for the City and its departments to apply for and/or receive grants from private, state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice has awarded the University a National Institute of Justice Grant Award No. 2017-R2-CX-0012 entitled Infusing Community Policing Strategies into Hot Spots Policing Practices: The Impacts on Police-Community Relations In A Mid-Sized City (hereinafter, the “Grant”); and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid Grant requires that studies of hot spot policing practices be conducted within a municipality of approximately the size of the City of Urbana, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the University seeks to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City so that the University can pass through Grant funds to and so that the City can accept Grant funds from the University in order for the University and the City to undertake the studies and work required by the Grant relating hot spot policing; and

WHEREAS, the Grant is more fully described in Exhibit A which will provide the basis for the terms and conditions of the aforesaid intergovernmental agreement so that the University and the City can undertake the work related to and required by the Grant; and

WHEREAS, the City and the University will draft, enter into and execute an intergovernmental agreement consistent with the description of the Grant contained in Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, resolves as follows:

Section 1.

The City shall and is hereby authorized to enter into an intergovernmental agreement, to be negotiated and drafted, with the University which intergovernmental agreement shall spell out the roles of the University and the City in connection with their studies and work in connection with the above-referenced Grant.

Section 2.

The Mayor shall be and hereby is authorized to enter into and execute an intergovernmental agreement by and between the University and the City in order to undertake the studies and transfer of Grant funds provided for in the above-referenced Grant so long as the terms of such intergovernmental agreement shall be consistent with the Grant description provided in Exhibit A appended hereto and made a part hereof.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this ____ day of _____, 2017.

Charles A. Smyth, City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this ____ day of _____, _____.

Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor