

METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION-RECREATION COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 154

Authorizing the expenditure of \$7,500.00 to assist in the support of the second year of the "Holladay District Special Prosecutor Pilot Project" to address and respond to Public Safety Issues in the Holladay District.

The Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission finds:

1. That in November of 1990 the captioned "Pilot Project" was initiated by the Multnomah Count District Attorney's Office through a one year grant of \$90,000 from six business in the Holladay/Lloyd District.

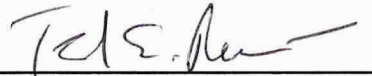
2. That on August 8, 1990, the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission (MERC), the MERC authorized the expenditure of \$15,000 total for the Pilot Project.

3. That for the current year, it is expected that \$45,000 in matching funds will be made available through the Mayor's office to support the Project, leaving \$45,000 needed to again fund the project for one year.

4. That contingent upon commitment of the matching funds, MERC and five other area business would commit to providing the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office \$7,500, one sixth of the remaining money needed to fund the project for one year.


BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer are authorized to sign on behalf of the Commission an agreement which authorizes the expenditure of \$7,500.00 to assist in reducing crime through a neighborhood base prosecution project.

Passed by the Commission on November 13, 1991.


Chairman


Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

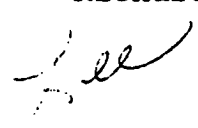

Metro General Counsel

Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 2746 • Portland, Oregon 97208 • 503/731-7800 • Fax #731-7870 • 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

November 8, 1991

TO: METRO ER Commission
Richard Ares Ted Runstein
Sam Brooks Mitzi Scott
Ron Kawamoto Richard Waker
Ben Middleton

FROM: Lee Fehrenkamp 

SUBJECT: Holladay District Special Prosecutor - Pilot Project

Background

In November 1990 the captioned Pilot Project was initiated by the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office through a one year \$90,000 grant (cash and in-kind) from six businesses in the Holladay/Lloyd District (Pacific Development Incorporated, Lloyd Center, Red Lion Lloyd Center, MERC, ERC and Bonneville Power Administration).

This special prosecutorial effort clearly had a positive effect on Convention Center community by increasing both the actual and the perceived safety of this environment. All contributing member businesses agree this program should continue and be funded by Multnomah County.

Understanding that Ballot Measure #5 has impacted Multnomah County's existing programs and therefore will leave no funding for new programs such as this Holladay District Special Prosecutor, the members of this Public Safety Committee have agreed to fund half of last years grant for the second year of this Pilot Project. The City of Portland (Mayors' office and Portland Police Bureau) also favors the continuation of this program because of the positive effects on the District and because it has unified and coordinated the business sector's resources and stands as a good example of Community Policing.

Through the Mayors' office it is expected the matching funds of \$45,000 will be found to continue this special prosecutor program in the Holladay district for a second year.

Recommendation:

I recommend the Commission grant the sum of \$7,500.00 (1/6 share of the Holladay District \$45,000.00) to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office for the continuation of the Holladay District Special Prosecutor Pilot Project year two. The granting of this sum of money is contingent on the remainder of the \$45,000 business sector funds being raised and that matching funds from the City of Portland are committed to this program. Further, I would recommend the City and/or Multnomah County fund this program totally in the future.

LF/dp



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Office of
J.E. Bud Clark, Mayor
1220 S.W. 5th
Portland, Oregon 97204
(503) 823-4120

October 14, 1991

To:
LEE
Fehrenkamp

Mr. Ted Runstein, Chair
Metropolitan Exposition and
Recreation Commission
777 N.E. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.
Portland, Oregon 97232

Dear Ted:

As you know, the Holladay District Demonstration Project was developed last year as a community policing partnership among private enterprise, the Portland Police, and the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office. Financial support came from Pacific Development Corp., Simon Management Company (Lloyd Center), and the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission. The money was used to fund a full-time Deputy District Attorney position; however funding for the position ends October 31, 1991.

Chief Tom Potter has met with Matt Kline of Pacific Development and Larry Troyer of the Simon Management Company. Each expressed great satisfaction with the program and both Mr. Troyer and Mr. Kline agreed to raise half the funding (\$45,000) necessary to continue the position. I would request that MERC continue its funding for the position in the amount of \$45,000.

The reduction of criminal activity experienced by the Holladay District did not result from increased arrests. It happened because of the coordinated effort between the Police Bureau Neighborhood Response Unit, the Holladay District Association, and the Deputy District Attorney assigned to the project. The Deputy DA played a major role in planning and coordinating an innovative multi-jurisdictional response to illegal camping in Sullivan's Gulch and the associated car prowls, assaults, thefts, robberies, and general street disorder.

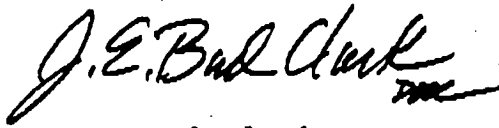
It is important that we continue this partnership in this redeveloping part of our community so that patrons of the new Convention Center, the Coliseum, and eventually the new arena feel comfortable, safe, and secure while in the area.

Mr. Ted Runstein
October 14, 1991
Page 2

I would be happy to discuss this request with you further if you wish or provide you with information on the project's first year accomplishments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J.E. Bud Clark". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a small flourish at the end.

J.E. Bud Clark
Mayor

JEBC:jh:8

cc: Lee Fehrenkamp
Chief Tom Potter
District Attorney Mike Schrunk

Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 2746 • Portland, Oregon 97208 • 503/731-7800 • Fax #731-7870 • 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

October 28, 1991

Honorable J.E. Bud Clark, Mayor
City Hall
1220 S.W. 5th Suite 303
Portland, Oregon 97204

RE: Public Safety Program

Dear Mayor Clark:

I am responding to your letter to Ted Runstein, Chair, of MERC and the request for \$45,000.00 from MERC to fund the full time Deputy District Attorney position.

Close to two years ago, the Holladay District formed a Public Safety Committee prompted by major redevelopment in the area and the construction of the Convention Center. This committee was made up of citizens groups, businesses, law enforcement and representatives from governmental jurisdictions, to identify safety issues and frame strategies for improved public safety in the district. This committee produced a Public Safety Plan and presented the plan to each of the governmental units involved.

The establishment of a Holladay District Special Prosecutor position, carried a high priority within the plan and was seen as a proactive way of dealing with crime in the area and improving public perception of safety within the district. When governmental funding for this element of the Public Safety plan was not forthcoming, six businesses in the district stepped forward to cover the \$90,000.00 necessary to launch this project for the first year.

MERC represented one-sixth of this groups' financial responsibility and when committing to grant \$15,000.00, MERC specified this was for a "one year pilot project", and that payment for a Deputy District Attorney was a government responsibility, and that continued funding by MERC beyond one year was not a consideration.

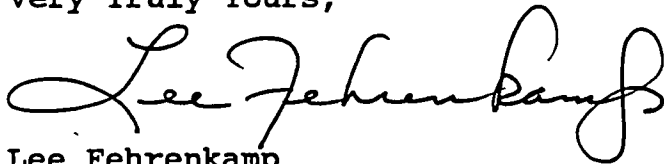
We all agree this prosecutorial program benefitted the Holladay District in both tangible and intangible ways and should be continued. We also know that ballot measure 5, has impacted government spending across the board. The group of businesses that sponsored this pilot project last year:

1. Believe the Holladay District prosecutorial effort should continue.
2. Agree it is a responsibility of government and not the responsibility of businesses in the district.
3. Are concerned the project will be dropped, because government funds are once again lacking.

The sponsor group of Mr. Troyer, (Lloyd Center); Mr. Kline, (Pacific Development Incorporated); Mr. Anderson, (Red Lion Lloyd Center); and Mr. Fehrenkamp, (MERC); have considered solving this problem by meeting the government half way, and as a group fund \$45,000.00 of the \$90,000.00 needed to continue this prosecutorial effort for another year. MERC's potential commitment as part of this group would then be \$7,500.00 beginning in November, 1991. I am willing to recommend the METRO ER Commission grant this amount as an equal share for the second year of this Holladay District prosecutorial project. My request to the Commission will be with the understanding that in future years government will fund this program fully, and the Commission will not shoulder this responsibility.

I hope this information identifies MERC's involvement with this Pilot Project, as part of the Holladay District Public Safety committee, and to what extent MERC may be involved with the second year of this project.

Very Truly Yours,



Lee Fehrenkamp
General Manager

cc: MERC
Holladay District Committee
Dave Kish - Mayors' Office

INTERIM REPORT: HOLLADAY DISTRICT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

The Holladay District Demonstration Project was begun with grants from Pacific Development, Simon Management Co., Inc. (Lloyd Center), and the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission (MERC). The Bonneville Power Administration provided clerical support for the project. These supporters, along with the Public Safety Committee of the Holladay District Association, joined the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office in conducting a demonstration project aimed at jointly developing solutions to local crime problems.

In the fall of 1989, Metro Councilor David Knowles initiated a series of monthly meetings comprised of all the significant commercial and neighborhood agencies in the district. After six months of study, the committee produced the Holladay District Public Safety Action Plan. Included in the plan was a specific proposal to implement a one-year pilot project for a special prosecutor to act as coordinator between the community and the adjudication system. The long range goal was to arrive at coordinated solutions to problems affecting the livability and security of the target area using existing resources, both public and private.

The Holladay District in Northeast Portland is primarily a commercial district. Its general boundaries are the Broadway/Weidler couplet on the north, the 15th/16th Street couplet on the east, I-84 and the interchange with I-5 on the south, and the Willamette River on the west. The district is bordered by residential neighborhoods on the north and east and by Sullivan's Gulch on the south. Since the late 1980's, private and public investment has promoted the rejuvenation of a previously deteriorating residential area into a dynamic commercial district. Private development has been extensive, including the Lloyd Center development and several hotel/motel/dining establishments. The Oregon Convention Center is located in the area and public transportation transfer stations have been added.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The Holladay District Demonstration Project formally began in November, 1990. It was apparent that there were two particular problems that were affecting the area and influencing not only the perception of crime but also the actual level of crime. These were the high level of reported car prowls and illegal campsites which are frequently accompanied by aberrant street behavior. These crime problems contribute significantly to the livability of the area. The following examines the approach taken to eliminate the problems.

PROBLEM AREAS

CAR PROWLs

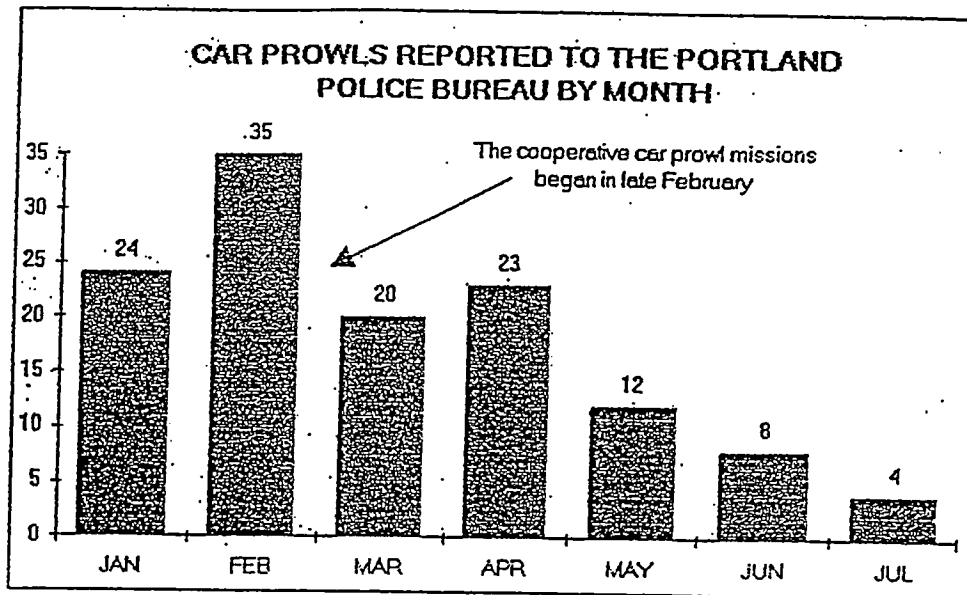
A total of 59 car prowls was reported to the police during the months of January and February, 1991. By any measure, this is a significant problem in the geographic target area not only for those who live and work in the district but also for those who visit the area. The traditional approach to this kind of problem has taken the form of requests to the Portland Police Bureau from local residents and business people for additional law enforcement. The Portland Police Bureau constraint allows only one officer to be available.

The Deputy District Attorney assigned to the project was able to examine the situation further. A review of the data allowed for the identification of the times of day and days of the week when the majority of the car prowls occurred. They were especially heavy in and around the Memorial Coliseum and on nights of major events.

While there was only one PPB officer available, there were private security officers who could assist in helping to identify individuals engaged in car prowls. By combining these resources, the Holladay District Demonstration Project was able to develop a coordinated plan involving one to three private security guards and the available PPB officer. Private security personnel act as spotters. They are in direct radio contact with the PPB officer and can communicate immediately over the radio when they note a possible car prowling or car theft in progress. The PPB officer is able to make contact with the suspect and follow through as appropriate.

As a result of the combined effort of public and private resources, there has been an overall decline in reported car prowls and thefts in the Holladay District area. In January there were 24 reports, in February, 35; in March, 20 reports; in April, 23; in May, 12; in

June, 8; and in July, 4 reports. During these months, 18 arrests have been made as a result of the 18 separate missions conducted in the manner described.



ILLEGAL CAMPSITES AND ABERRANT STREET BEHAVIOR

The second problem area receiving attention focused on illegal campsites. Illegal campsites create sanitation, refuse, and litter problems. Traditional means of eliminating this problem involved expensive, labor-intensive sweeps requiring additional police officers to dismantle the illegal campsites.

Solutions to this problem required a high level of coordination among landowners on whose property the campsites are located, the Portland Police Bureau, volunteers, and the private security personnel in the area. Agreement has been reached among these parties identifying everyone's individual responsibilities. Those involved in the solution were provided maps and are responsible for daily reporting any illegal campsites within their geographic target area. Reporting parties notify the District Prosecutor of any unlawful campsites. The information is forwarded to the PPB officer. The PPB officer is scheduled to check the campsites during the time of the lowest call rates, posts notices requiring dismantling and removal of all materials, and encourage transients to contact social service agencies and to relocate to shelters. Additionally, the transient is requested to clear the campsite of litter before leaving the area.

Early results are encouraging. Illegal campsites have been cleared and the litter removed without the need for more formal action from the criminal justice system. There have been no arrests or prosecutions but there has been a reduction in aberrant street behavior such as panhandling, dumpster diving and minor thefts and vandalism.

SUMMARY

The following observations can be made as a result of the first seven months of the Holladay District Demonstration Project. These include:

- o There are concrete signs of improvement. Clearly there has been a reduction in the number of car prowls and theft reports and a reduction in illegal campsites. This was accomplished without adding significant resources or increasing the law enforcement services to the area. It was accomplished through a strong partnership among private and public agencies and organizations.

The perception of safety within the geographic target area has increased. This appears to be a result of a combination of factors which include the presence and visibility of the deputy district attorney in the area, an increased attention to the issue and an actual reduction in problems and reported crime.

- o Training has been provided to private security personnel and citizens on how to interpret observations and how to use that information. This has enhanced their ability to detect and respond to crime. Long-held myths about what private security officers and citizens can or cannot do were corrected. As a result the consumers of public safety services in the geographic target area now know more about criminal justice resources as well as how to best utilize these resources.

The project also has been able to answer questions on legal matters regarding criminal activity, offered civil actions when appropriate and acted as a direct link to the criminal justice system. The ultimate outcome of these kinds of training and community education activities is increased responsibility and ownership on the part of those who live and work in the district.

In the few short months that this project has been operating, it does seem to have had a positive impact on what the criminal justice system would term as less serious crime problems--misdemeanors, livability issues, and low-grade felonies. It is clear that maintaining attention on the problems and encouraging continued individual responsibility is an important aspect of keeping these kinds of problems in check. It has also demonstrated that people can develop workable solutions through partnerships when they combine ideas, energy and resources.