

Feb 6, 2013

EPD sees results with data-driven approaches to crime & traffic safety

EVERETT – Mayor Carlo DeMaria Jr. and the Everett Police Department are pleased to report on the continued integration of DDACTS, or Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety, a crime analysis program developed by the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration.

DDACTS integrates location-based crime and traffic crash data to determine the most effective methods for deploying law enforcement and other resources with the goal of reducing crime, crashes, and traffic violations throughout the City. Focusing on the prevention value of extremely visible traffic enforcement and the knowledge that crimes often involve motor vehicles, the EPD's goal with DDACTS is to reduce crime, crashes, and traffic violations across the City.

According to both Mayor DeMaria and Chief Steven Mazzie, the addition of DDACTS into the department has reduced crime throughout the City. "This program has continuously helped in our efforts to provide efficient methods to offer the residents a safer community," states Mayor DeMaria, "Since it was put in place last July, we have started to see a visible reduction in crime in those targeted areas."

A .5-mile stretch along Broadway was selected for the implementation of DDACTS. This area was chosen because it represented 19.6% of reported robberies, 15% of accidents, and 15% of motor vehicle citations in the City within the past three years. When compared to the same time period the year prior, DDACTS patrols resulted in a 169% increase in citations and a 110% increase in arrests in the target area.

The target area also saw a 28% decrease in motor vehicle accidents, no increase in robberies, and a 32% decrease in Part A crimes, which includes major crimes, such as homicide, burglary, robbery, assault offenses, sex offenses, and weapon law violations. In addition, 21 arrests were made pertaining to unlicensed operation, warrants, OUI, suspended licenses, and drug possession.

Chief Mazzie concurs that DDACTS has assisted the department in making substantial progress in identifying and monitoring high concentrated areas of crime. "Having the ability to look-up records and cross reference data has helped our department recognize and properly address illegal violations in an expedited manner," states Chief Mazzie. The EPD was the first Police Department in the area to implement the DDACTS operational model. DDACTS is designed to be a long-term operational approach. A review of results and activities in DDACTS areas will be conducted every 6 months and adjustments will be made as needed.