

Public Safety, Homelessness, Panhandling, Quality of life issues

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Police as warriors or.....



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Police as *guardians* of community defined standards of public safety
Our image of police is very much influenced by our experience of police
Impacted by race, class, ethnicity & politics in different countries



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Think of a continuum from guardians



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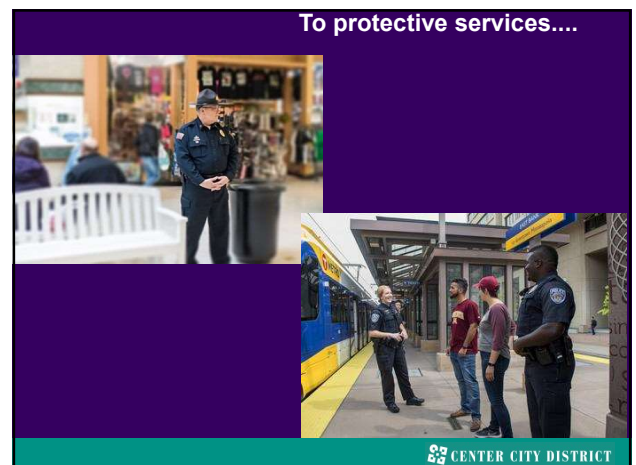
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To massing for show of force



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To assertion of authority



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From use of force...



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Appearance of police violence



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Continuum from community policing
Assisting communities to achieve their objectives



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to occupying army

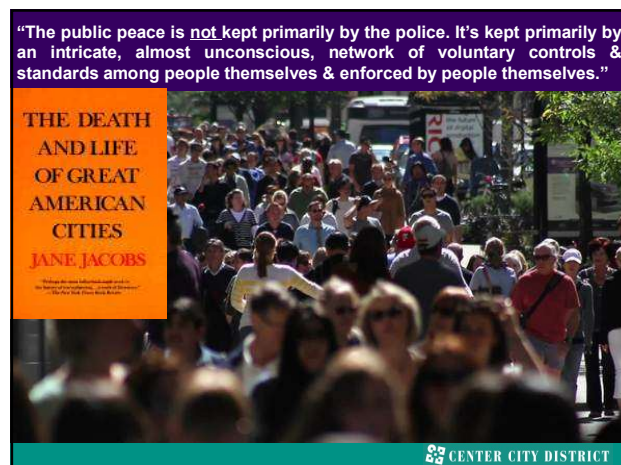


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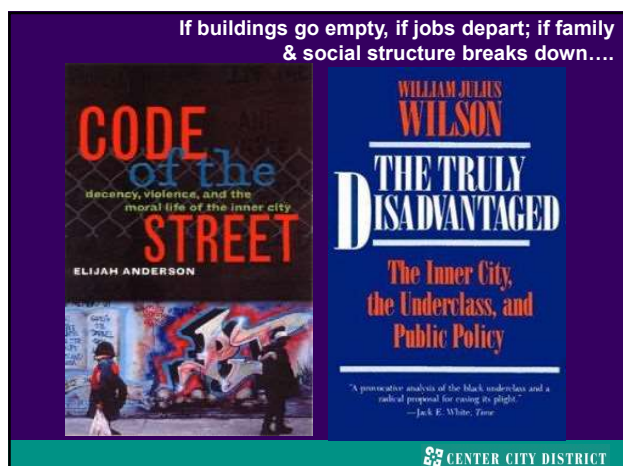
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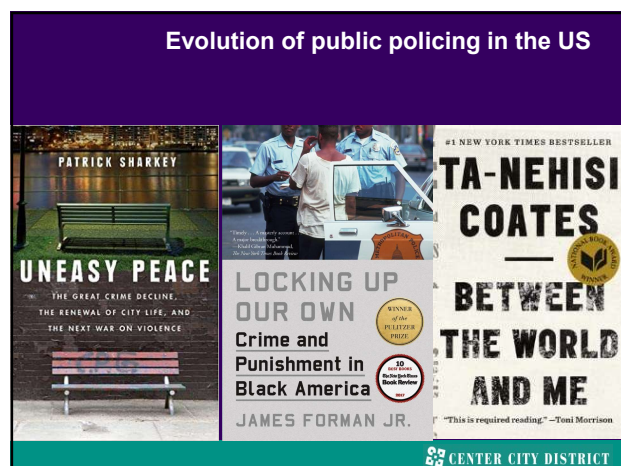
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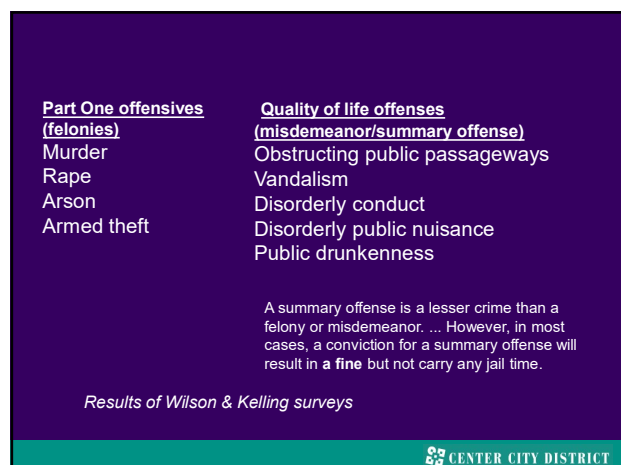
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Recommends community policing
Assisting communities to achieve their objectives
Focus on quality of life offenses



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Role of BIDs

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Early BIDs: A response to decline

By the 1970s [Bryant Park](#) had become a dangerous haven for drug dealers and was widely seen as a symbol of New York City's decline. Bryant Park Corporation was founded in 1980

In 1984 Mayor Ed Koch, at the behest of executives from many of the Fortune 500 companies that are headquartered near Grand Central Terminal in New York, asked Dan Biederman to bring his efforts to bear on making the downtrodden area around the terminal commensurate with the offices nearby. the [Grand Central Partnership](#), a Business Improvement District was formed

The 34th Street Partnership was founded in 1989 when Mayor [David Dinkins](#) and property owners on 34th Street asked Biederman to bring his expertise to the area around [Madison Square Garden](#) in order to prepare it for the 1992 Democratic Convention

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Formed 1990: Declining federal resources for cities A degraded public environment:



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1991: CCD 1.0 - focus on the basics: cleaning *Doing the job; being seen doing the job*



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Manual sweepers with lobby pan & broom



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Mechanical sweepers:
efficiency balanced with visibility:
Reassurance that someone is managing things



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Public safety
Community Service Representatives



- 52 CSR's
- 6 Supervisors
- 7 days per week

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Continuum from Security to Hospitality
Grand Central Partnership, NYC; Tampa, Florida



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Names

Ambassadors
Community Service Representatives
Downtown Watch
Guides
Public Safety Officers
Safety Team

99.9% of programs - unarmed; no powers of arrest

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34th Street Partnership, NYC
www.34thstreet.org

34th St Partnership's in-house security team consists of 44 dedicated members who patrol the District 16 hours every day of the year.

At a central monitoring station, our operator is in direct communication with NYPD dispatchers from the Midtown South Precinct, ready to alert them to any disturbance in the District. We also assist the NYPD by identifying illegal activities, preventing felonies, making arrests, removing illegal street vendors, & eliminating quality-of-life offenses.

As a result of the combined efforts of 34SP and NYPD, 34th Street has been a low-crime area for nearly two decades.



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Downtown Center, Los Angeles, "Purple Patrol"
www.downtownla.com/



The Down Center BID's Safe & Clean team, the "Purple Patrol", is committed to assisting those who work, live, and play within the district.

Team members are highly visible in their purple shirts and provide 24-hour supplemental services to maintain safety, cleanliness, and hospitality within the district.

All team members are provided enhanced training to ensure that your time spent in the Downtown area is memorable and safe



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Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Downtown Watch Ambassadors"
<http://downtownwinnipegbiz.com>



Easily recognized in red and black, Downtown Watch ambassadors have been walking the streets seven days a week, year round, during the day and evening since 1995. This goodwill team patrols downtown, offering directions, tourist info, first aid (CPR-certified), and assistance wherever needed. They also participate in community events and act as additional "eyes and ears" for the Winnipeg Police Service.

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Tampa Florida

www.tampasdowntown.com

Tampa's Downtown Guides

Tampa's Downtown Guides offer their presence for additional safety by being the eyes and ears for the downtown community. The Guides offer directions, assist stranded motorists with flat tires and dead car batteries, provide restaurant suggestions and even parking options. The services are FREE. Their "good-will ambassador" role is a vital part of the Downtown Security Network, working closely with the Tampa Police Department to observe and report suspicious activity.

Their mission is simple - to provide a safer & accessible environment for people in downtown. The Guides patrol downtown on foot, via bicycle and in an electric vehicle called the GEM car. They receive training by some of the best organizations in the area, including Busch Gardens, the American Automobile Association (AAA) and Tampa's finest - The Tampa Police Department and Tampa Fire Rescue. Next time you are out and about, look for their signature pith helmets and bright yellow shirts.

Tampa's Downtown Guides are also available for hire to assist at special events by directing attendees, distributing event information and greeting customers. To apply for assistance, please fill out the [Special Event Assistance Application](#) and/or contact Lynda Remund at (813) 221-3686 or via email at LRemund@tampasdowntown.com for more information.



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Downtown Alliance; Lower Manhattan

www.downtownnyny.com

"Red Coats"

The Downtown Alliance's Public Safety officers, known locally as "red coats" thanks to their distinctive & recognizable uniforms, are our community-facing ambassadors. They patrol the streets every day, constantly on alert to identify & help resolve any incidents or hazardous conditions. Additionally, they provide directions to local points of interest to any inquiring visitors.

The Downtown Alliance's public safety department operates a "Safe Corridor to the Subway" program that offers extra protection for homeward-bound commuters, especially those returning to their Lower Manhattan residences late at night. From evening rush hour through 9 PM, our public safety officers are stationed on the streets near key subway entrances and nearby residential buildings. Our aim is to create a safer atmosphere for Lower Manhattan residents, workers and visitors heading home for the night.



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Liverpool, England,

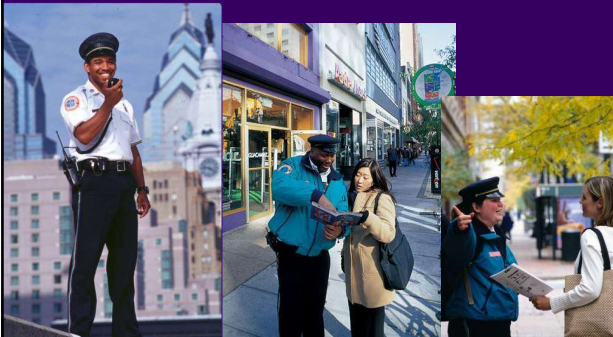
www.liverpoolbidcompany.com



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Deployment of unarmed civilians



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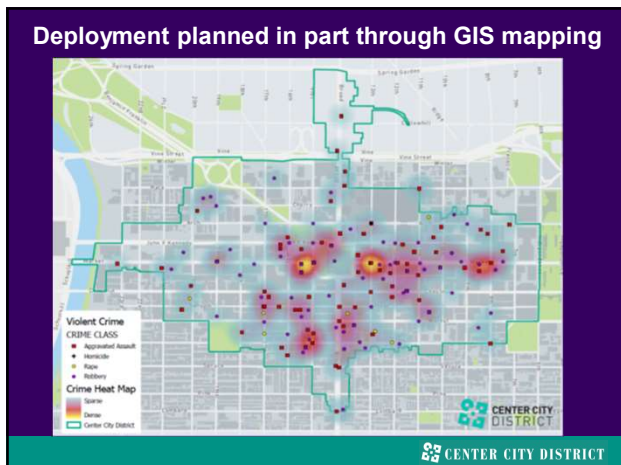
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A welcoming presence & source of information on the street



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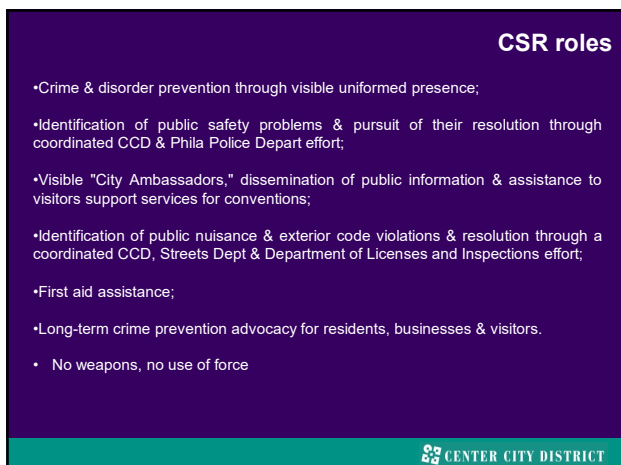
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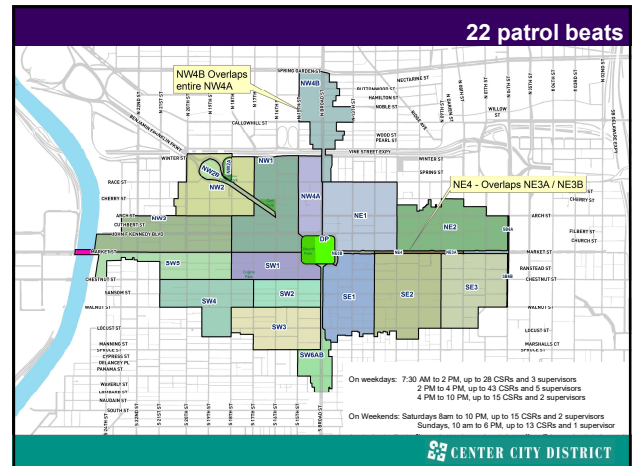
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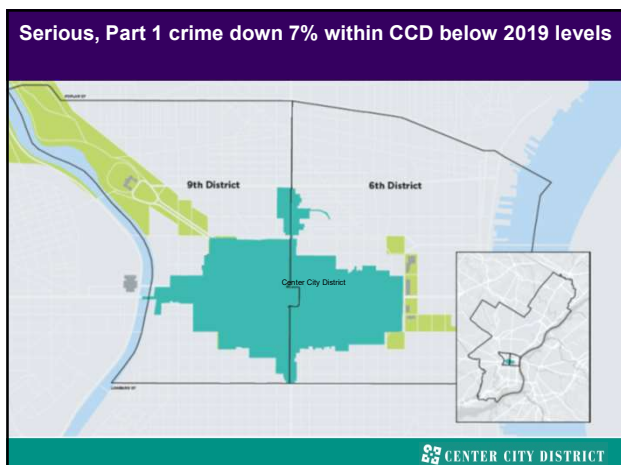
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Customer Satisfaction Survey

CCD conducts a Customer Satisfaction Survey through survey monkey

8 intercept surveys were administered at various locations throughout Center City

In 2022 4,639 people responded

Tell Us What You Think

Center City District is fully committed to downtown's recovery.

In order to address the new challenges of the last two years, we expanded our clean and safe programs with new day and evening bike patrols, ramped up graffiti removal services and expanded our homeless outreach partnership with Project HOPE, cross intervention trained police officers and our own specially trained outreach staff who help those in need come off the street. We added more trees and sidewalk planters, upgraded lighting, improved our parks and brought new entertainment and educational programs to Dilworth Park and Sister Cities Park.

What can we do better or differently? Please let us know by taking a 5-minute survey.

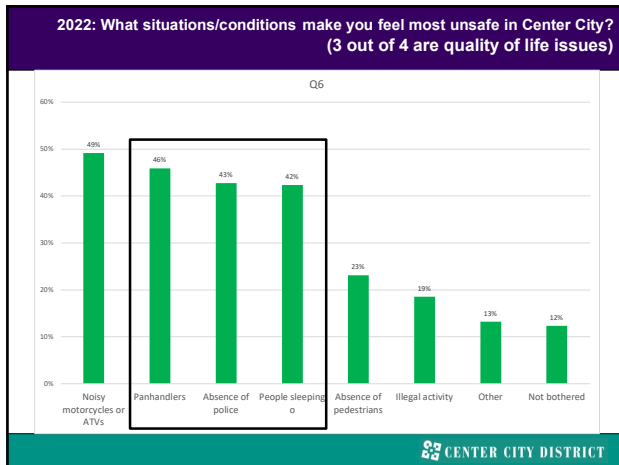
[COMPLETE OUR SURVEY](#)

You will be entered for a chance to win \$250 in restaurant gift cards. Five winners will be selected at random.

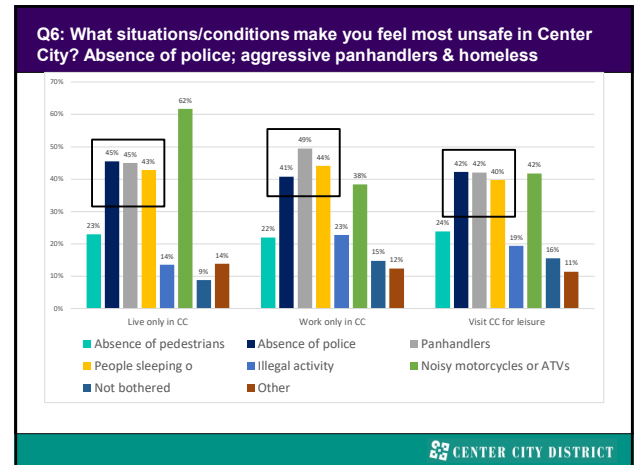
Please give us your opinions and suggestions today!

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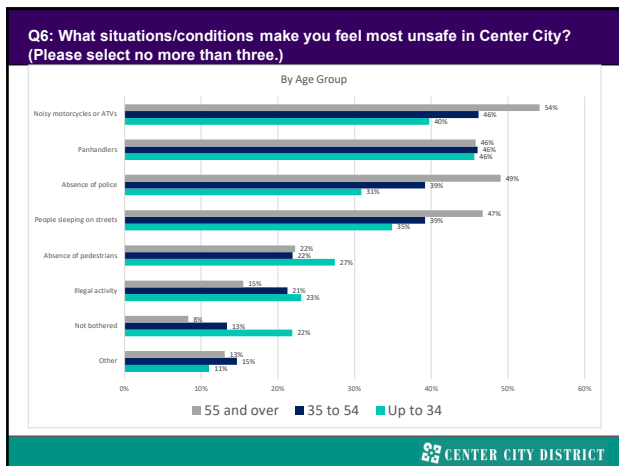
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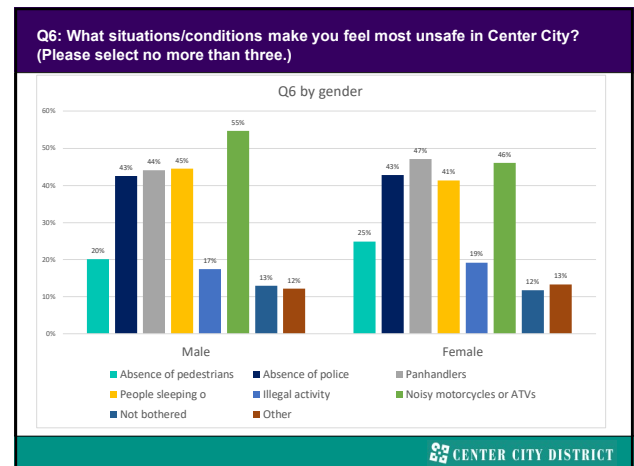
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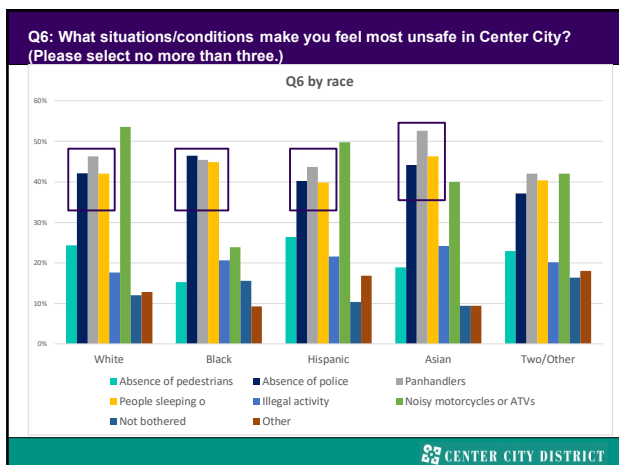
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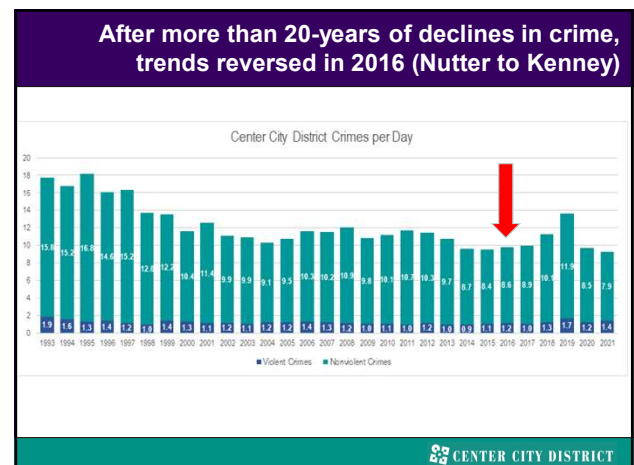
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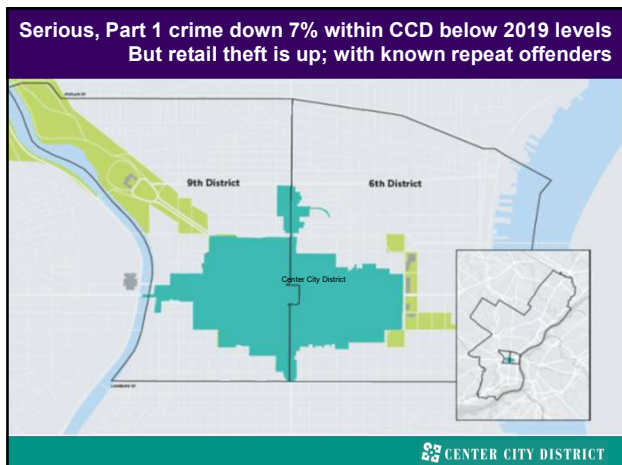
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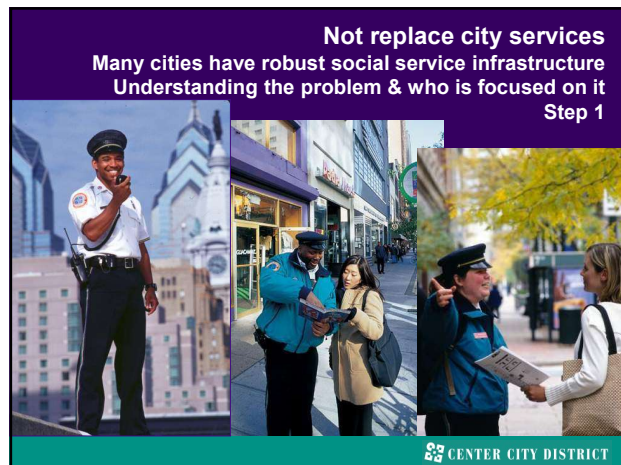
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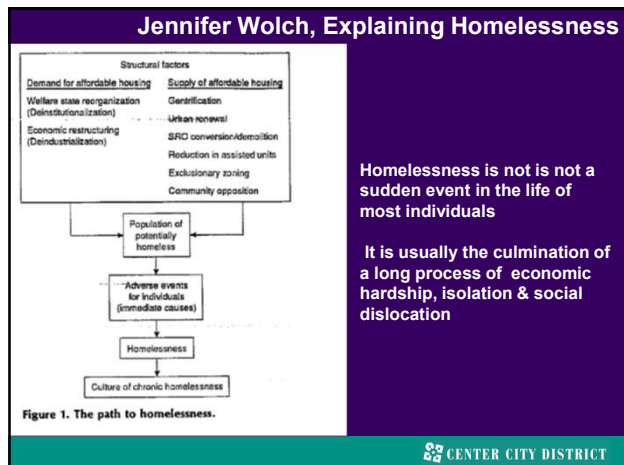
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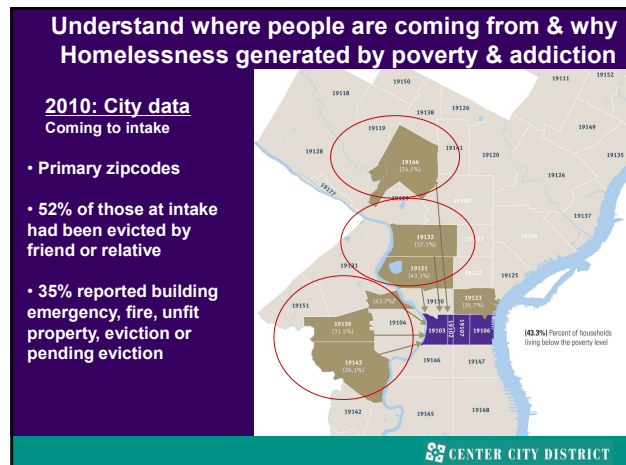
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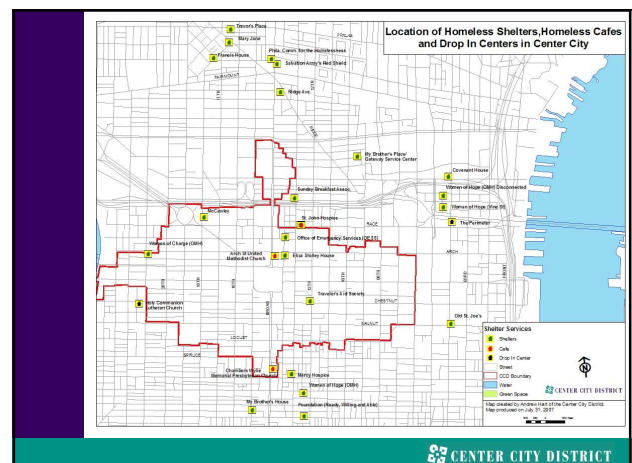


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What is the attraction of downtown?

- (1) anonymity – it is everyone & no one's neighborhood
- (2) the location for intake for shelter system
- (3) on-street feeding programs
- (4) commercial dumpsters
- (5) people who give to panhandlers
- (6) Changes in regulatory environment

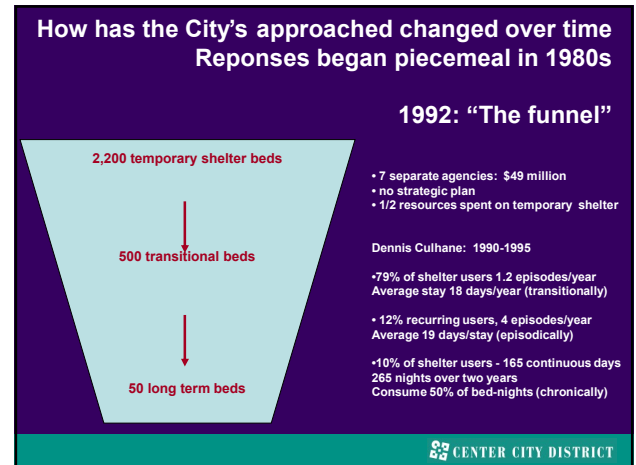
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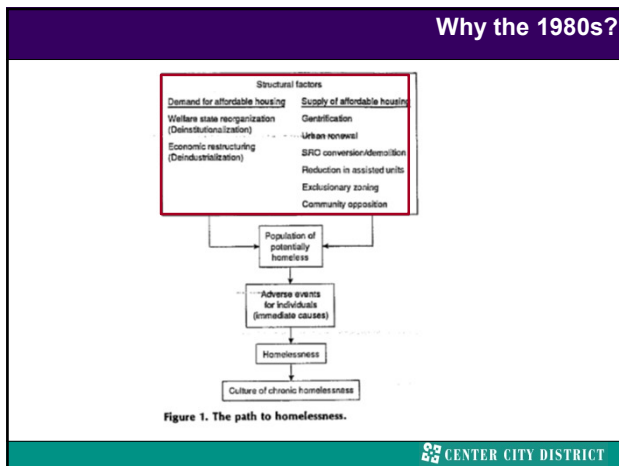
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1996

(1) open up the end of the funnel

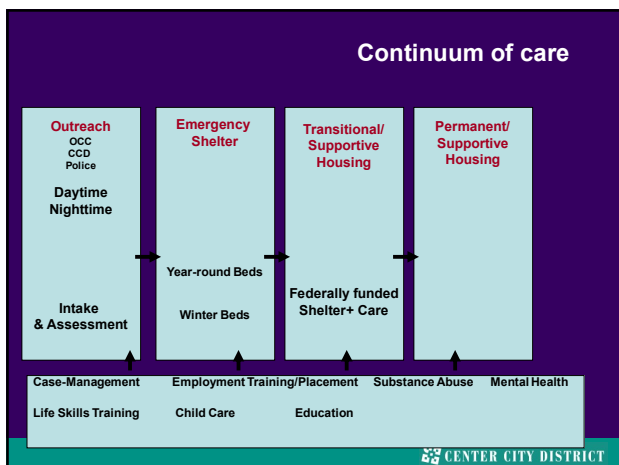
- "homeless czar"
- strategic plan to coordinate 7 departments
- unified homeless budget: "continuum of care"
- increase in funding on back end by 50% -- \$80 million/yr
- shift in emphasis from shelter to recovery programs

substantial funding from Clinton Adm. "shelter + care"

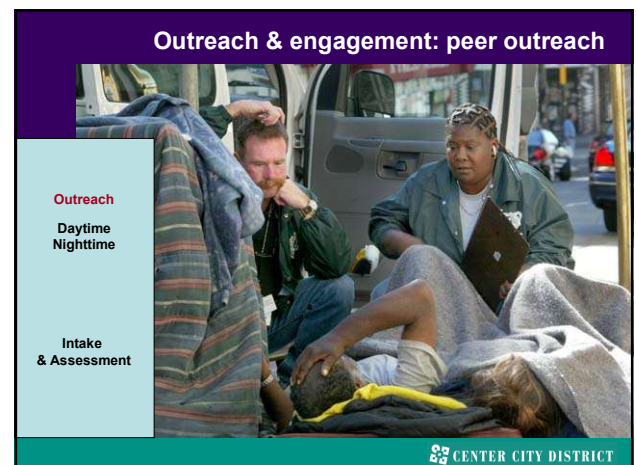
(2) on-street enforcement

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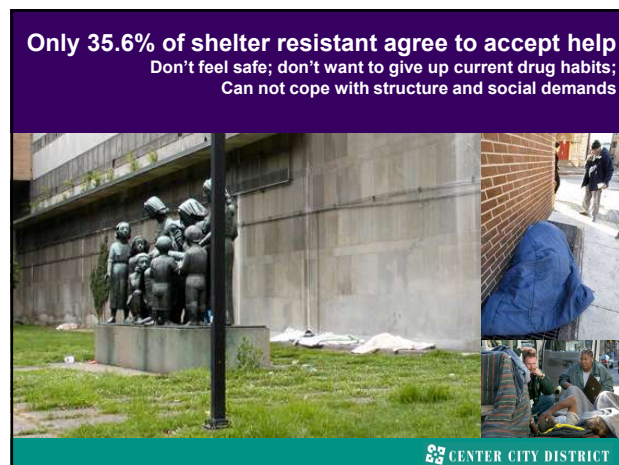
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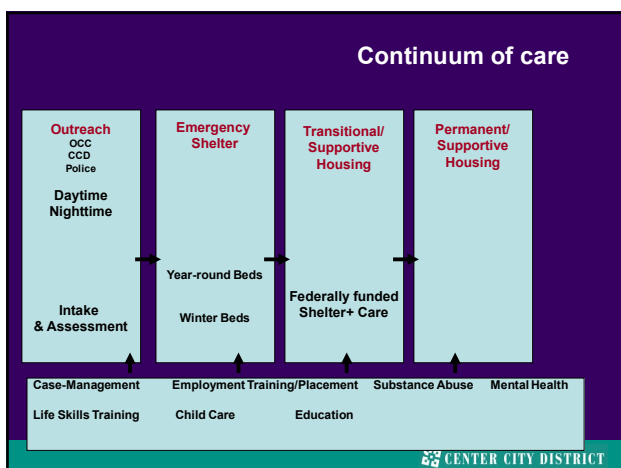
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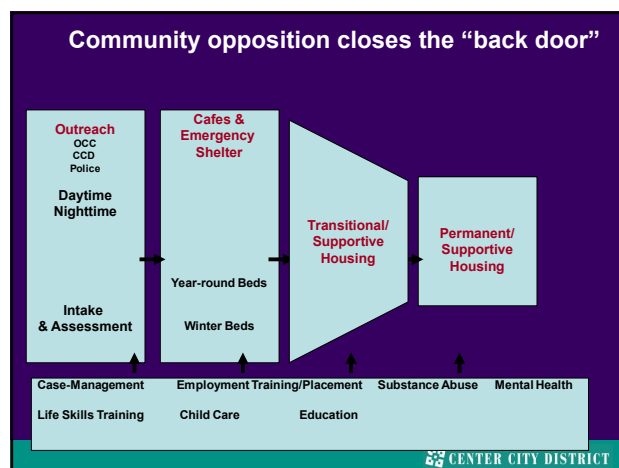
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Analysis of existing city statistics

2009, the City of Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health spent \$6,000,000 on outreach services.

Outreach workers made 30,202 contacts with 4,506 unduplicated individuals. These 30,202 contacts resulted in a 1,509 people being placed into various programs including shelter and detoxification programs.

A number of people were placed multiple times, as the total placements during the time period was 2,424.

outreach workers contact each individual on the street almost seven times and that 35.6% of them choose to enter shelter

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Logic of Housing First

Traditional approaches to helping the homeless begin with engagement and the offer of group living situations with the goal of gradually progressing toward individual, independent housing.

Option fails 68% of time for people with a chronic mental illness that includes a personality disorder. Their illness severely limits their ability to manage social interactions with people they do not know, let alone live among a group of "strangers."

Housing First: New York City, Denver, Seattle, San Diego, San Francisco, and Chicago,



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Logic of Housing First

Housing First = direct placement of people who are homeless into permanent rental housing without first requiring period of sobriety or the acceptance of a specific set of services after admittance.

Recognizing debilitating physical & mental effects of remaining on the street, the approach seeks to initially reduce harm.

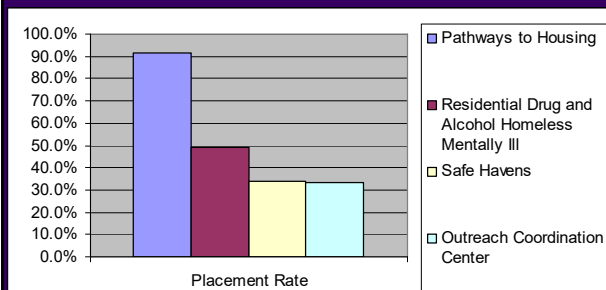
Clients agree to be visited by case managers regularly & are offered appropriate substance abuse & harm reduction counseling. But, they are not required to participate in congregate living in order to have a place to call home. (section 8 units)

Even if client lapses back onto the street, the housing is held for short periods. Rather than erect barriers to obtaining a roof and a bed, the program literally places *housing first*.



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Significant higher placement rate 92.5%



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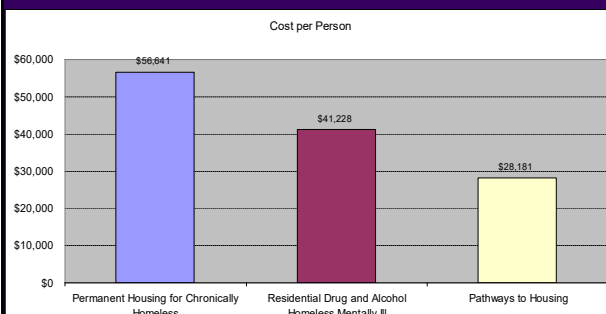
Substantially lower recidivism among 100 individuals who participated in a pilot program funded by the City

Shelter episodes decreased by	88%.
Number of shelter nights decreased by	87%.
Crisis Response Center episodes decreased by	71%.
Mental Health Court episodes decreased by	11%.
CBH hospitalizations episodes decreased by	70%.
CBH hospitalization days decreased by	46%.
Philadelphia Prison System episodes decreased by	50%.
Philadelphia Prison System days decreased by	45%.



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Annual cost per person significantly lower



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What variables influence homelessness

- (1) the overall state of the city's economy/poverty
- (2) Funding for welfare & assisted housing
- (3) new addictive drugs
- (4) Climate: Los Angeles
- (5) quality, philosophy (Santa Monica), availability & location of city services
- (6) the extent to which outreach teams are present & regulatory environment



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What are the rules on the street
For those who choose not to come in?



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Language from vagrancy statutes

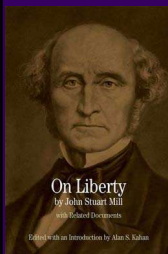
1. a person who wanders about idly and has no permanent home or employment; vagabond; tramp.
2. an idle person without visible means of support.
3. person who wanders from place to place; wanderer;
4. wandering idly without a permanent home or employment; living in vagabondage

Virtually all determined to be discriminatory/unconstitutional

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John Stuart Mill, On Liberty



1. Right of individuals to freedom of speech & opinion
2. The need to protect free-speech even if it is offensive to current standards
3. Limitations on government's ability to constrain free speech
4. Qualification that your rights end at the point they become harmful to others. (Crying fire in a crowded theater; swinging a giant ax on crowded sidewalk)

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Regulatory framework: "302 commitment process"
Court order to transport: danger to oneself or others
Available facilities, ability to detain



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"Code blue" procedures
It is not an expression of freedom if your behavior
causes you to freeze to death



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Philadelphia Changes in enforcement policy: 1999



Throughout the 1990s, special homeless detail of the Philadelphia Police department worked in tandem with outreach teams, indicating that they would cite an individual for criminal violation of "obstructing the highway" should that individual refuse to accept help from an outreach team & move from a sidewalk to shelter.



Very few individuals were ever arrested, but this approach provided leverage, similar to the approach during *code blue*, encouraging individuals to accept the services that the City provides. Lawsuit brought this to an end in 1999.

Settlement agreement has expired; policy continued.

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Changes in enforcement policy: 2001

Police were given a directive not to enforce park curfews & instead to allow individuals to sleep on the Parkway, in Rittenhouse Square & in other public parks. Police were directed to wake up individuals & ask them to move along at dawn.



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Changes in enforcement policy



With inception of the Sidewalk Behavior bill in January 1999, which reduced violations to civil offenses, & with all subsequent directives, police authority to enforce standards of conduct was significantly curtailed.

Police must provide oral & written notices, call civilian, social service outreach teams, who must concur before officers can use their authority. If no outreach team is available, a police officer is unable to take any action. If an outreach team does come and the individual still refuses services, police can only write the equivalent of a parking violation.

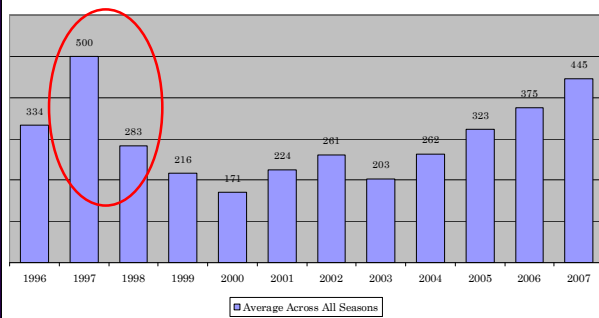
One practical effect of this process of oral & written notices is that homeless encampments simply relocated around the corner, requiring the process to start over again, discouraging the police & the citizens who requested help originally.

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52% decrease in on-street homelessness 1997-98 Following deployment of police outreach team

Street Homelessness in Center City by Year

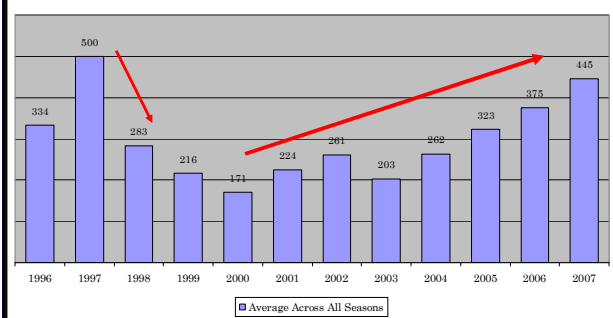


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A steady increase after sidewalk behavior bill

Street Homelessness in Center City by Year



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Since 2018: Deployed Ambassadors of Hope CCD funds: CSRs, Project Home & CIT trained police CCD provides dedicated van to transport to shelter



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- Combined training
- Inter-disciplinary approach
- Outreach workers always lead
- Police in background – for safety purposes
- Mental health commitment process/weapons
- No arrests no citations

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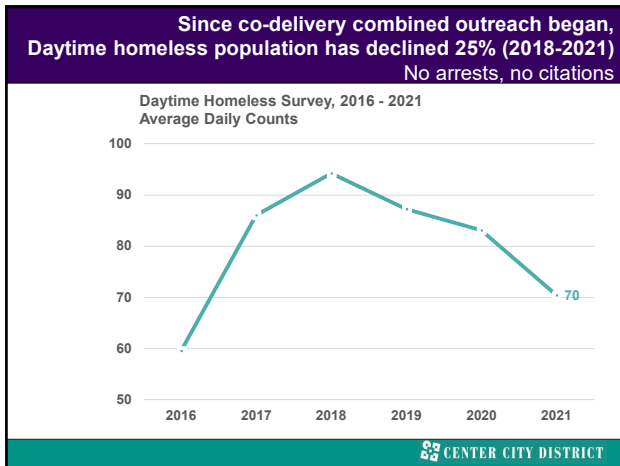
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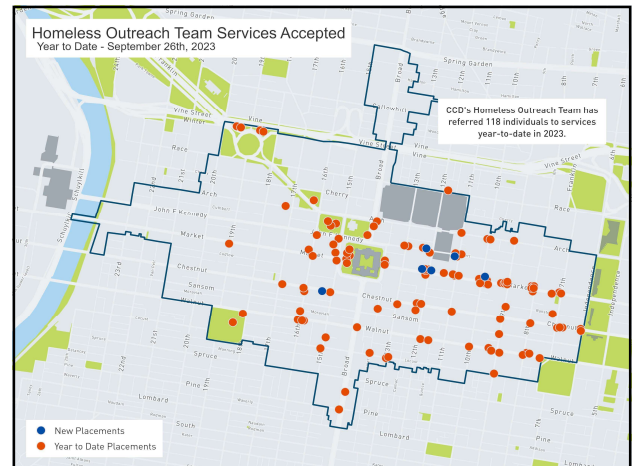
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2023: Daytime Homeless Averages
Up 35% YTD

Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	5-Year Average
January	16.50	26.00	39.00	58.00	34.00	43.00	69.50	47.00	62.00	51.10
February	15.50	39.00	49.50	62.00	52.00	58.50	45.00	49.00	75.50	56.00
March	24.50	43.33	62.00	62.00	38.33	60.00	54.00	57.50	56.66	57.04
April	32.33	58.50	50.00	101.50	81.00	70.33	82.00	64.00	83.50	76.17
May	33.00	55.00	43.50	110.67	104.66	110.50	101.00	68.00	100.00	96.83
June	35.00	54.50	46.50	127.00	93.50	85.00	77.50	70.00	95.00	84.20
July	46.00	71.00	73.00	108.00	113.50	89.50	87.50	98.50	102.50	98.30
August	66.50	90.50	180.67	137.00	109.50	91.00	89.50	60.50	125.66	97.50
September	56.00	80.67	135.50	115.00	134.00	120.50	81.66	84.00		107.03
October	45.33	75.00	151.50	89.50	133.66	99.33	71.50	75.00		93.80
November	28.00	52.68	78.00	81.00	72.50	84.00	35.00	71.00		68.70
December	53.50	63.50	84.00	78.50	80.00	81.50	51.00	52.00		75.00
Yearly AVG	37.68	59.14	82.76	94.18	87.22	82.76	70.43	66.38	87.60	80.14

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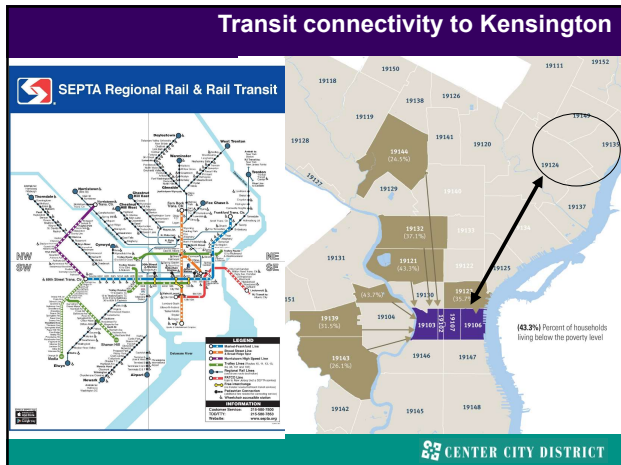
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Panhandling down 41.5% 2018-2022;
Back up 39.3% YTD 2023

Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	5-Year Average
January	21.50	13.50	29.40	44.80	48.80	38.25	36.25	28.75	34.50	37.31
February	20.75	24.75	31.00	63.75	56.75	31.75	25.50	26.25	48.50	37.75
March	25.40	30.20	26.33	55.75	64.75	45.80	42.40	36.30	49.25	47.70
April	25.00	33.75	35.00	55.25	60.20	30.50	46.25	44.00	67.00	49.59
May	34.75	35.20	31.40	69.20	59.00	24.00	53.75	42.80	61.60	48.23
June	28.40	33.25	34.00	81.50	71.50	45.33	48.40	34.25	52.00	50.30
July	29.75	35.50	42.00	74.00	60.00	33.00	69.50	45.25	68.00	55.15
August	31.75	43.80	47.60	86.75	54.60	38.50	63.80	41.40	52.20	57.01
September	28.40	48.75	77.25	70.75	71.25	50.40	55.00	46.50		58.62
October	27.00	48.25	60.40	79.60	62.00	58.75	41.00	47.50		57.77
November	33.00	39.20	54.00	54.75	50.25	44.00	32.60	42.75		45.27
December	24.00	39.25	53.75	59.67	37.75	37.00	37.75	30.50		45.18
Yearly AVG	27.48	35.45	43.75	66.48	58.07	39.79	46.02	38.85	54.13	49.17

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Campaign pledge

02/04/2023 5:05 PM
If message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

NEWS ALERT
The latest news and pressing matters

The National Guard will be 'part of the solution' in Kensington, Cherelle Parker says

Democratic mayoral candidate Cherelle Parker said she may call on the National Guard to help shut down the open-air drug market in Kensington, if elected. The guard will be "a part of the solution," Parker said. Her embrace of dispatching militarized forces to Philadelphia would represent a significant shift in how the city works to address drug sales and violence.

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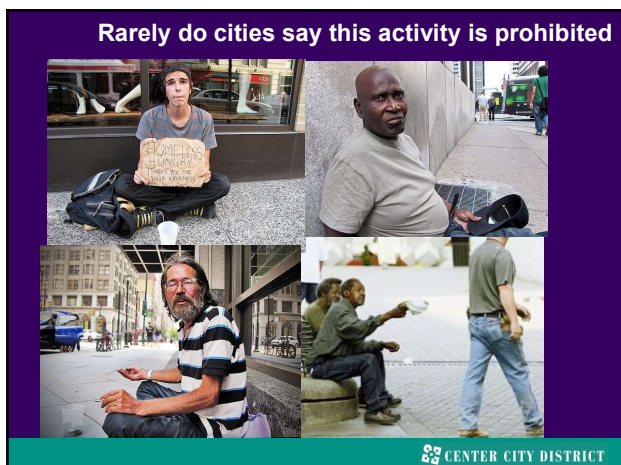
Legal Framework

First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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Initial Consideration

Restrictions must be Content Neutral

IF NOT, then there is an overwhelming likelihood that they will be illegal

Snyder v. Phelps, et al.
(Westboro Baptist Church)

Legal Challenges: Street Disorder and Civil Liberties

Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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How is this different from panhandling?



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Additional Requirements for Content Neutral Restrictions

IF: Restrictions are Content Neutral

THEN: Restrictions Need to be:

- ✓ Narrowly Tailored
- ✓ Permit open, ample alternative channel for communication
- ✓ Serve a Significant Governmental Interest (a sufficiently important governmental interest that it can justify incidental limitations on First Amendment freedoms)

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Examples of Loitering/Panhandling

Prohibitions being Ratified as Constitutional

- ✓ OK – to prohibit intentional impediment to pedestrian traffic
- ✓ OK – to prohibit solicitation near public transit centers and sidewalk cafes
- ✓ OK – to prohibit aggressive panhandling
- ✓ OK – to prohibit begging on beach (FL, 1999)
- ✓ OK – to prohibit solicitation of drivers and passengers in cars (NY, 2006)

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Examples of Loitering/Panhandling

Restrictions being Deemed as Unconstitutional

- ✓ NOT OK – to prohibit all forms of begging (FL, 1984)
- ✓ NOT OK – to prohibit begging in public places – too broad (MI, 2012)
- ✓ NOT OK – to prohibit begging upon public way – too broad (FL, 1995)

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Panhandling: Public information campaign Newspapers, bus shelters Alternative message

Give your change to the people that make Real Change.

Giving change to people on the street only helps keep them there. Giving to Real Change helps the organizations below fund efforts that provide housing, meals, drug and alcohol treatment, and job training so that those who are homeless can get off the streets permanently and rebuild their lives.

Make your direct donation at MakeRealChange.org or send your check payable to: Center City District Foundation, 660 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Your tax-deductible contribution of \$_____ will support job opportunities for the homeless and other disadvantaged workers, cleaning and maintaining public spaces in Center City.

REAL CHANGE PROCEEDS BENEFIT: Project N.O.M.E. • Mary Stewart Health Center • SELE, Inc. • Bethesda Project
Ready Willing and Able • Horizon House • Mental Health Association • Center City District Foundation
The official signature and financial information of the 6 operating 501(c)(3) organizations may be obtained from the Homeless Department of State by calling toll free: 800-767-6888

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Counter cards and change collection boxes

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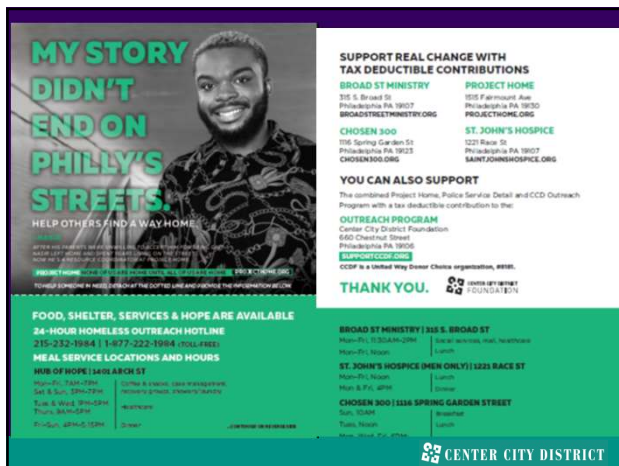
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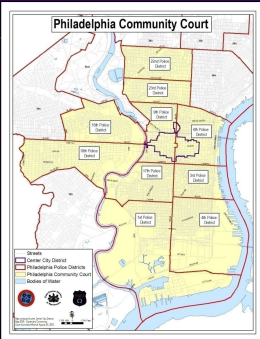
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Misdemeanor & Summary Offenses

26 sq miles
420,738 residents

Within Court boundaries, adjudicates following offenses, subject to the approval of the District Attorney

- Criminal Mischief
- Vandalism, Graffiti
- Possession of instrument of graffiti
- Theft from Auto
- Obstructing the highway
- Prostitution
- Disorderly Conduct
- Theft of services: Fare jumping/Cabs/Meals
- Retail Theft
- Defiant Trespass
- Possession of Instrument of Crime
- Possession of Drugs (sections 1316 and 1331)
- All Summary Offenses



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Those arrested for specified offenses within boundaries were brought to Court



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Following arrest: Social service interview



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Community Court Resources

Address underlying causes of crime & break downward spiral

- Drug & alcohol assessment, placement & case management.
- Drug treatment readiness & anger management classes.
- Health screening, education & referral.
- Referrals for other social service needs:
 - GED classes
 - Housing
 - Employment
 - Civil legal services
 - Clothing bank



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Hearing & disposition

Defendant can plead not guilty & have traditional hearing

80% accept the Court's disposition

Judge can sentence individual

- to drug & alcohol treatment
- counseling
- community service

Record Expunged



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Since Opening Day (Feb. 25, 2002) – December 31, 2005	
Total # New Cases Heard:	23,026
• Summary Offenses	18,419
• Misdemeanors	7,676
• Clients Accepting the Court's Disposition	c. 80%
• Clients Suffering from Drug and/or Alcohol Addiction	c. 70%
Total Individuals Needing & Receiving Court Social Services:	
• Drug/Alcohol Assessments	1,298
• Clients Attending Treatment Behavioral & Anger Management Classes	6,267
• Referrals to Other Social Service Agencies	1,014
• Clients Completing Court Mandated Treatment	1,540
• Clients Completing Long-Term Treatment	371
• Clients Seen by Court Nurse	1,773
Recidivism Rate for Misdemeanors	16%

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Court is recovering 31% of its operating costs					
Revenue Generated by Community Court, 2004–2005					
Year	Community Service		Fines & Costs	Restitution Collected	Total
	Hours Completed	Value to Community @ \$5.15/hr			
2004	69,470	\$357,770	\$157,988	\$9,446	\$525,204
2005	67,603	\$348,155	\$102,913	\$5,802	\$456,870
The Community Court generated an average \$491,037 in court costs and community service over the last two years, equivalent to 31% of the Court's total operating budget. It cost \$1,588,583 to operate the Court in 2005; 67% came from the City of Philadelphia, 27% from Center City District and 6% from grants.					
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2002-2015: Philadelphia Community Court Extended “Community Policing” philosophy Into the court system



- Offered a comprehensive response to quality-of-life crimes
- Reduced caseload and prison overcrowding
- An innovative approach that blended criminal justice & social services.
- Emphasized community service sentences & treatment programs instead of jail time.
- Helped reduce repeat offenses by addressing underlying social service needs.

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